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University of South Florida St. Petersburg.

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The scheduled demolition of the campus police department's former headquarters and nearby buildings may have been delayed, but USF St. Petersburg’s overall residential construction project is still on track.

Nasser said that a small portion of the campus police department’s old building, which all buildings of that vintage seem to have, said Sergeant Jon Wierzbowski. “I’ve been told that there is no hazard unless the tiles are broken up, so they had to be removed before demolition,” Wierzbowski said.

According to the medical examiner’s report, the asbestos found in the buildings is a mineral fiber that has been used commonly in a variety of building construction materials. The fiber is a fire-retardant, and is mostly found in the older homes and buildings. Most of the older buildings at USF St. Petersburg have asbestos in them, Nasser said.

The asbestos was just in the floor tiles of the police department’s old building, which all buildings of that vintage seem to have,” said Sergeant Jon Wierzbowski. “I’ve been told that there is no hazard unless the tiles are broken up, so they had to be removed before demolition,” Wierzbowski said.

Improperly cut materials can release asbestos fibers into the air. They are safe as long as they are contained, Wierzbowski said.

The University took precautions during the demolition of the inn and buildings on the campus over the past few years. “I am happy to say she is happy there,” Nasser said. “The University took precautions during the demolition with a building, you need to inspect it,” Nasser said.

The buildings at USF St. Petersburg have asbestos in them. “The minute you want to start messing with a building, you need to inspect it,” Nasser said.

An estimated cost of $18.3 million.

The campus police department moved on Feb. 3 to a building on the southeast corner of Fifth Avenue South and First Street South. “In a building on the southeast corner of Fifth Avenue South and First Street South. "Oasis is a shortage of nurses in the country and in the state," Durand said. "And clearly there is a shortage in Pinellas County. Nurses are desperately needed." If the proposal is approved, money would be used to hire new faculty and staff along with new equipment. Microbiology, anatomy and physiology would be those new classes added.

"This will allow us to have our first opportunity to have a formal relationship with the surrounding hospitals," Durand said.

For Denise Maguire, director of nursing education at All Children’s Hospital, the relationship couldn’t come at a better time. "This shortage of nurses has been going on for a good seven to eight years now," Maguire said. "So we are very much in support of this. That's a need for new nurses. Right now there are many open positions, which is a need for new nurses. Right now there are many open positions."
USF Tampa has teamed up with the National Eating Disorders Association to respond to the large number of college-age students developing eating disorders. The university is preparing for the 18th annual National Eating Disorders Awareness Week, which runs from Feb. 27 through March 5. The National Institute of Mental Health reports that "10 percent of college-age women have a clinical or near-clinical eating disorder." The National Eating Disorders Association states that "anorexia and bulimia affect nearly 10 million women and 1 million men (primarily young adults) in reported cases in the United States and can be deadly." According to aned.com, "these disorders usually appear in bright, attractive young women between the ages of 12 and 25, although there are both older and younger exceptions."

Kim May, senior dietician with Student Health Services at USF Tampa, said eating disorders tend to strike women more in general, but there is a trend of older women being affected as well. The theme for this year's National Eating Disorders Awareness Week is "Get Real: Unmask the Problem." According to a released statement from the National Eating Disorders Association, "our society's obsession with weight loss, exercise and appearance has likely started a vicious cycle of body dissatisfaction, extreme dieting and obsessive exercise which can lead to a life-threatening eating disorder. To fight these dangerous attitudes and behaviors and encourage healthy body image and balanced eating habits, NEDA is working to encourage individuals to 'Get Real' expectations, 'Get Real' information and 'Get Real' help."

According to a released statement from NEDA, "Get Real" refers to rejecting unrealistic media images and finding real role models who have admirable traits of real substance. May is coordinating the events, along with USF Tampa's Counseling Center for Human Development, Psychiatric Services Center and Campus Recreation.

"Eating disorders don't happen overnight," May said. "They take months or even years of experiences. It's a psychological disorder that is not about the food. Eating disorders involve other issues in a person's life. Things that can trigger an eating disorder are school, making your own decisions, social pressures and anxiety."

Eating disorders always interfere with quality of life and if left untreated, anorexia can lead to coma and even death. May said. "Some serious medical consequences can include abnormally slow heart rate; low blood pressure; reduction of bone density; muscle loss; weakness; severe dehydration; fainting, fatigue, overall weakness, and dry hair and skin."

May said the sees more students with bulimia than any other eating disorders. Health complications resulting from bulimia can include heartburn, reflux, enamel erosion of teeth, hemorrhaging eyes, swollen lymph glands, pancreatic problems and chronic bowel difficulties due to laxative use.

The association stresses that "people with eating disorders seek treatment, the greater the likelihood of physical and emotional recovery."

For more information about National Eating Disorders Awareness Week or to contact dietician Kim May, call (813) 974-4036.

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**Briefs**

**Campus planning student-faculty retreat**

Jim Maliek, USF St. Petersburg's vice chancellor of academic affairs, is planning a retreat for students, faculty and school administrators that is tentatively set for March. Retreat attendees will discuss issues surrounding USF St. Petersburg's identity, including what the school is known for; what it does well, and what it can improve.

"We anticipate a broad, comprehensive, far-reaching discussion," Maliek said.

A list of invitees to the retreat has not yet been made.

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**Fitness center renovation update**

The planned renovation of the fitness center will be starting soon, said Jim Stull, program specialist for the center. Nautilus has been chosen to provide the new exercise equipment.

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**Stull's on the waterfront**

Anthony J. Salveaggi
Assignment Editor

Jim Stull became USF St. Petersburg's new waterfront coordinator the second week of February. His appointment ends a two-month vacancy in the position since former waterfront coordinator Mike Kirschner left in mid-December.

Stull, who is also the program specialist for the fitness center, has worn many hats for the university in recent months. Because of other vacancies, he is currently the acting director of student life as well as the school's dock master.

"Without a coordinator, we haven't been able to support recreational sailing," Stull said. "The programs in the waterfront really need direction. I know how to support the program and provide the administrative structure to help it flourish."

Stull ideas for enhancing the waterfront include offering one-on-one swimming instruction for adults, starting a canoe club, and working with the College of Marine Science to give lectures during kayaking excursions.

Stull also brings personal and professional experience to the waterfront position, and was the dock master three years ago when he first came to the university. He has certifications to teach sailing and power boating, and also has been a lifeguard.

"Water-related activities and aviation are the two areas I enjoy a great deal," Stull said. "Water's been a big part of my life."

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**Attention all USF St. Petersburg students, faculty and staff:**

Do you have news we can use? If there's an issue or event you think the school and community should know about, contact The Crow's Nest with your story ideas. Call 553-4113 or e-mail USFCrowsnest@usf.edu.

The Crow's Nest staff needs dedicated contributing writers and photographers to help fill the pages of our weekly publication. No experience necessary, just a strong sense of curiosity and good story and photo ideas. (A notepad, pen and digital camera wouldn't hurt, either.)

Interested? Bring your ideas to our weekly meetings at 5 p.m. in the Campus Activities Center (Room 135), call 553-4113 or e-mail USFCrowsnest@usf.edu.
Editorial
By Jim Grinaker

Why not Wal-Mart?

People just can't stand it when I suggest that shopping at Wal-Mart is not a good idea. Most people seem to operate as if the products they buy simply fall from the sky untouched by human hands. We don't want to think that they were made by real people just like us. That products they buy simply fall from the sky.

Wal-Mart's ultra-cheap products are killing manufacturing jobs. They are also driving locally-owned retail stores out of business. What have been numerous family-owned businesses, which generally treated their workers fairly and kept profits in the community, are now being replaced by a single Wal-Mart Supercenter.

Small stores can't compete with Wal-Mart's ultra-cheap products made by slave labor. Wal-Mart has also been known to intentionally drop its prices to drive small shops under, only to raise their prices when it is the only retailer left.

Wal-Mart's preference for non-union labor isn't limited to Communist China. Wal-Mart has put incredible efforts into keeping its workers' "associates" (i.e., workers) from unionizing. Not surprisingly, the workers are paid relatively low wages with poor or no health benefits.

Studies have shown that after a Wal-Mart moves into an area, the average wage in the whole community drops.

There are other companies that do some of the same things, but it's fair to say none has done, or continues to do, as much harm as Wal-Mart.

A new Wal-Mart recently opened on 14th Street S. in St. Petersburg on a plot of land that was the last piece of privately-owned, old growth forest in south Pinellas County.

You can do your part in stopping these abuses. Do one simple thing. Don't shop at Wal-Mart.

If you have to shop there, please, just think about what your purchase is doing: hurting others, and even hurting yourself.

Jim Grinaker is an undergraduate student in political science and journalism. He can be reached at pgrinak1@tampabay.rr.com.

Condons protect the outside, neglect the inside

Condoms may reduce the risk of sexually transmitted or receiving diseases and increase the pleasure of the whole. And the whole is that sex-like the physical act of sex by making free choices, wills, hearts, minds and souls.

Saying this with body, mind, heart and soul involves risks and potential dangers that no piece of latex can guard against. Can condoms protect people from the inner turmoil they may experience when their bodies say, "I am yours forever," but their hearts, minds and souls don't? By distributing condoms and information on contraception, USF St. Petersburg probably hopes to encourage students to be responsible and informed about sex. But making condoms and pamphlets the only "protection" available limits students' views of sex and of themselves to a physical one.

The word "university" from the Latin "universitas," means "the whole." And the whole is that sex is not merely a physical act. The whole is that humans are more than just physical beings. The whole is that while condoms may keep people safe on the outside, they don't protect what's on the inside - their hearts, minds and souls.

As we learned in grade school, "What's on the inside is what matters." We shouldn't be re-learning this in college.

--- Kristie A. Martinez is an undergraduate student in journalism. She can be reached at USCrowesNest@aol.com.

The Crow's Nest wants to hear from you!

If you've got something to say about an issue affecting the campus, the nation or the world, write a guest editorial for The Crow's Nest.

Guest editorials should be between 500 and 700 words in length. Editorials may be edited for length and clarity.

Please include full name, position (student, faculty, etc.), e-mail and telephone number. Guest writers will be contacted before publication.

E-mail guest editorials to USCrowesNest@aol.com.

Letter to the Editor Policy

- The Crow's Nest welcomes letters to the editor.
- To be considered for publication, letters must be 150 words or less. Letters will not be cut unless they exceed 150 words.
- Should a letter be selected, it will not be edited in any way and the author will be contacted for publication.
- Please include full name, position (i.e., student, faculty, etc.), e-mail and telephone number for verification purposes only.
- Letters can be e-mailed to USCrowesNest@aol.com and are chosen at the discretion of the editorial board.
many graphic design students are upset that the graphic design program doesn't have its own lab space as advertised in the program's initial website and some of the programs early brochures. Originally, the USF St. Petersburg designated the Williams House located at 444 Fifth Ave. S. as the headquarters for the graphic design program. In 2003, one year into the program, graphic design students and faculty were told that the Williams House would house the university relations instead.

"I'm pretty sure it came from the top," said graphic design student Zach Mulikin. Graphic design students are now forced to share the Florida Center for Teachers building and its computer lab with the journalism students. The Department of Journalism and Media Studies shares the facility with the Florida Humanities Council.

"We don't have our own lab. We don't have our own studio," Mulikin said. "We really don't have a home."

USF St. Petersburg offers a bachelor's degree in Studio Art with concentration in graphic design. In Fall 2002, the program in graphic design welcomed its first class of students. Each fall, a maximum of 20 students are admitted to the program.

Graphic design program director, Joani Spadoro said that when she was invited to the USF St. Petersburg for a job interview and campus tour, members of the search committee told her that office would be on the second floor in the Williams House.

"It was thrilled because I thought the house was lovely, and also because I felt that the upstairs area would provide an area for the graphic design students to work, hang out and have a sense of place," Spadoro said.

Spadoro said that after she was offered the position, she asked about moving into her office in the Williams House, but was told that it would not be available until very close to the start of the fall semester. Later in the summer, Spadoro called again about moving into her office and was told that she would no longer have the Williams House for her office or for the graphic design program.

"I was truly disappointed. Actually, I was furious," she said. Spadoro was given an office in Davis Hall. "When I saw that office for the first time I wanted to run screaming from it." It lacked visual appeal, something that is very important to a designer, she said.

The lack of proximity to her students became the biggest problem to Spadoro. She carried a lot of heavy materials for her students to look at, so I would have to drive from Davis hall to FCT building just to go to class, Spadoro said. "I also encountered the lack of a sense of space for my students that is so desired from the Williams House."

The graphic design program currently has a very strong relationship with the journalism program.

"They graciously offered me an office space in the FCT," Spadoro said. "The FCT building has provided a home for the program."

Graphic design student Sarah Sargent said that the overall sentiment of students in the program is one of frustration. Sargent, a senior, is also the vice president of the campus' chapter of the American Institute of Graphic Arts.

"I think we all feel that it is very frustrating not to have a facility with lab equipment like other graphic design programs have," Sargent said. "It's not a matter of sharing a space. She said that the main problem is that graphic students are lacking a flexible space for different types of work they do. "For every project we do, we really don't teach a computer for the first few weeks."

Junior Merri Fink said that many graphic design students feel betrayed or led on by the university.

"I feel cheated. It was as if the graphic design program had no say. Our voice was not heard," Fink said. "Our classes integrate hands-on artistic techniques like drawing, photograpy, silk screening, painting and collage—messy stuff that can't be done in a computer lab."

Like Fink, many graphic design students were under the impression that the lab fees they paid, upwards of $100 per person per semester, would translate into a graphic design lab, not a shared computer lab. Many people assume that graphic design is learned mostly on computers. This is not the case. Graphic design encompasses many different studio art mediums.

"A computer is a tool. I could throw all of the computers out of this room and still teach graphic design. A designer needs his or her own space," Hashey said. "When you try to teach in environments that are more homogenized, it hinders the learning experience. It doesn't provide a fertile ground to explore because people aren't relaxed."

Fink agrees.

"We don't feel free to be creative here," Fink said. "We feel like when we allow ourselves to get messy, it's a burden on the other classes who also use the lab space."

Hashey said that the graphics design program, the only studio art major offered at USF St. Petersburg, needs its own building in order to attract new students.

"I think that the school from a recruitment standpoint is going to have a hard time competing with other schools that have a designated graphic design space," Hashey said.

The university relations staff said that they don't know why the Williams House changed its use. Assistant university relations vice president

Holly Ecklitter said that she had no idea that the Williams House once belonged to the graphic design program. She tried to find out who had made the decision.

"I called all over the place trying to find out. It's not been familiar to anyone," Ecklitter said. No one on campus, who is in an administrative position now, was part of the campus at the time we were designated the Williams House that would have been involved in that decision, she said.

Community relations coordinator Alyson Seidman said that although she doesn't want to speculate, she heard that the Williams House was better suited for the office space.

Graphic design student Mike Reiter said that he is not sure that Williams House is the right place for graphic design programs.

"I think that university relations needed it more than we did," Reiter said. "The Williams House is really nice, too nice for us." Reiter said that he wondered if the house had what they needed. "We need a place that has a lot of power outlets, space for our printers and that can support high Internet usage.

Graphic design program director Spadoro says that although things were rough at first, for the most part, things have been resolved.

"In the end, all has worked out, although we could always use more space," she said. "I do still wonder what it would be like to be in the Williams House, but I'm over the frustration I once felt about it."

Although many graphic design students feel strongly about acquiring their own space and working out the kinks of the new program as soon as possible, Reiter said that the future of the graphic design program looks bright, but that it will take time.

"The design program is only two years old," USF St. Petersburg is experiencing some growing pains, but every semester it gets better," Reiter said. "The first year, we didn't even have printers or paper."
Dance Dance Revolution fanatics, Halo 2 addicts gather for first video game night

The rapid footwork on plastic can barely be heard over the techno music bouncing from wall to floor to chair. Neon flashing lights permeate the big screen as the figure of a Japanese dancer moves to the rhythm of the beat, beckoning to the players to keep the boogie going.

Dance Dance Revolution, better known as DDR, and Halo 2 were the two most popular games at USF St. Petersburg’s first video game night held Friday, Feb. 18 at the Campus Activities Center. DDR is the latest video game craze and is hitting arcades everywhere. Halo 2, on the other hand, is all the rage in terms of home-play and online home-play. Other games that were available were Gran Turismo 3, Mario Kart Double Dash, Madden 2005, Perfect Dart and GoldenEye 007.

The free event, sponsored by the Harborside Activities Board, was open not only to students and faculty, but to their friends and family as well. Approximately 20 people attended.

The board said that they had been able to do more advertising, the event probably would have had a better turnout. Although video game night was listed on the school’s calendar of events, fliers were not put up until a couple days prior to the event.

“The students came up with the idea. It was the first time that they wanted to try something like this,” said student affairs coordinator Jennifer Quinn, who is the adviser for the Harborside Activities Board. “It was all kind of an experiment. Originally it was going to be a tournament, but we’ve turned it into kind of just a video game night because of lack of prizes and things like that. And it was just easier logistically than having sign-ups and trying to figure out different skill levels because some people are very skilled at games, where others just want to come out and have fun.”

Initially, the board had video game night set up so that people would be able to play the games on big screen TV sets. Harborside member Heather Willis said that the rental company canceled the night before the event was supposed to take place.

Willis said Harborside considered canceling the event, but decided against it.

“We figured we had the two projectors, and yes they’re smaller TV’s, but they work,” she said. “We’re going to try it again next semester and hopefully try a different company.”

Many of the games and game consoles used at the event belong to Willis and her 16-year-old brother, Robert. Willis said she is not a big gamer, but her brother is.

“My little brother is the obsessive one,” Willis said. “So I stole all of his stuff.”

Willis said she likes DDR because it’s fun for dancers of all different skill levels.

“The top of the screen will be the four arrows, and as the arrow to do the step enters, you just stomp,” Willis said. “It’s a timing thing, but if you just get the beat down it’s pretty easy. You have to pick a song and it tells you the beats per minute, so the less beats the slower it’s.”

Stewart Sandler, 20, heard about the event through friends. His game of choice was also DDR.

“This is my first time playing it,” Sandler said. “Your body just gets into it. You start forgetting about everything else.”

USF St. Petersburg junior Brian Wood said he rarely plays video games at home and this is his only his third time playing DDR.

“It’s a work-out,” Wood said. “I’m just dancing to whatever.”

Junior Kevin Rogers said that although it’s fun to watch people play DDR, some people take it too seriously.

“There are people that treat it [DDR] like a religion,” Rogers said.

Rogers likes to play action games. He said that he usually only plays when he gets bored.

“Halo 2 is awesome. So are the best games to play right now is Desert Combat. You can hook up to the Internet. You can fly stuff. You can drive tanks. You can be a sniper.”

Junior Paul Schult sat on a couch for much of the evening playing Halo 2, a game where you’ve been dropped on an alien planet and your mission is to try and save the human race. Schult likes to play Madden 2005 at home when he has the time between work and school.

“I play occasionally but I don’t have much time anymore,” Schult said. He said the event was a great idea.

“Video games are pretty expensive, so to be able to come to a place like this for free, it’s available to everyone, and have the big screens, you get to sample all the new stuff, and it’s pretty fun,” Schult said.

Seniors Daniel Cole and John Terrana tried their hands at Halo 2.

“I usually like action games like Tony Hawk Pro Skater and Madden 2005,” Terrana said. “It’s a good homework break, a good stress reliever, and sometimes it just feels good to shoot things.”

Cole, who likes to play Tiger Woods and Jeopardy, said although he plays a little PlayStation 2, he enjoys old-school games like Duck Hunt.


Freshman Danielle Hathaway, who plays flag football on Friday evenings, thought it would be fun to drop by video game night when he and his teammates were finished playing football. He likes to play James Bond GoldenEye 007.

“I love this game because it’s just like the movie,” he said.

Coordinator of student events Don McCarty also attended video game night. He likes to play video games at home with his 14-year-old son.

“I don’t have a favorite. I play whatever my son is playing,” McCarty said. “That’s one of the things we do together. Right now he’s into Star Wars Knights of the Republic and that’s what we’ve been playing. We see more or less take on each other. We compete with each other.”

Bobby Browning, 20, was parked on a couch playing Mario Kart Double Dash, a fun-land racing game where Mario races his cart in the Mushroom Cup. Browning plays video games when he’s bored or when he’s not working at the Suncoast Bowling Alley.

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Front left: Stewart Sandler, 20, (left) and Brian Wood, 21, (right) dance furiously while playing Dance Dance Revolution during video game night at the Campus Activities Center on Friday, Feb. 18.
February 25, 2005

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who are about to retire and they aren't being replaced," Waite said.

A lack of educators in the nursing field has also contributed to the dilemma, said Nancy

who are about to retire and they aren't being

learn', where the student works

hours a week

and to address the issue, Bayfront focuses on the recruitment and retention of future nurses, Waite said. And despite the

shortage, she believes that the hospital is making great strides. Waite said Bayfront provides over 30

different scholarships for potential nurses in hopes of reducing the widespread shortage.

"We have one scholarship, basic as you learn, where the student works 20 hours a week and is paid for 40 hours," Waite said. "They also receive full benefits and money to assist with tuition and books."

The proposed program would require students to be residents of Florida, and attain an

SAT score of 1200 or an ACT score of 28. Their high school GPA would have to be a 3.5 or higher.

While enrolled in the program, a student would have to have a B or greater in each course. The GPA would have to remain at 3.5.

This program would be selective at attracting the brightest of potential students," Durand said.

"But all of this depends on timing," Durand concluded. "But I know that everyone

supports this."

Joshua Blevins

Okahoma Daily (University of Okahoma)

(U-WIRE) NORMAN, Okla. - Each year it seems there is at least one film which receives major award nominations and sets itself apart as being important to watch. Amid the dramas, comedies and biopics of 2005, "Hotel Rwanda" puts a human face on a horrific event in recent history — the genocide of nearly 1 million people in Rwanda in 1994.

The film addresses a multitude of topics. It's about a father fighting for the survival of his family. It's about staying human in the face of such utter madness. It's a political attack on organizations that let the event escalate to a level that could have been prevented.

"Hotel Rwanda" is the most important film of this year's Oscar season.

"Hotel Rwanda" follows Paul (Don Cheadle), a hotel manager who risks his life trying to protect his family and others in the face of rampaging ethnic violence.

Cheadle's terrific performance is the backbone of the movie.

Without a solid, charismatic lead, the film's emotional impact would have been greatly lessened. Cheadle, relegated to character roles for too long, has finally gotten the chance to burst out and deliver an epic, career-defining performance and was rewarded with an Oscar nod for best actor.

The film nicely lays out the ethnic conflict between the Hutu and Tutsi clans early on, and it was not as confusing as I had thought it might be.

We see the tensions slowly rise as Hutus march and spout violent rhetoric about exterminating the Tutsi "cockroaches."

The early parts of the film could have been a mess as it tries to tell us who the Hutu/Tutsi people are and why they hate one another.

Thankfully, "Hotel Rwanda" was written and directed by Terry George. George is a specialist in this kind of emotionally political style of filmmaking, as he wrote films including "The Boier" and "In the Name of the Father."

Those films involved complex Irish political situations that have lasted for centuries, so this kind of story is a good match for his storytelling style.

When the slaughter begins, Paul rushes to protect his Tutsi wife, Nick Nolte plays a frustrated businessman who wanders the streets chopping people up by the thousands with machetes.

Paul has spent a long time bribing corrupt generals and businessmen with the hope that favors would be called in if he ever needed help. Now is the time to call in those favors.

One emotion I was struck with as I watched this was one of anger. The genocide that occurred in Rwanda and the lack of con­cern or aid given to the situation after it started gives evidence to the idea that a country's wealth — or lack of it in the case of Rwanda — is the most important element to receive help from Western powers.

There are poor Africans from a country most people in the West couldn't find on a map. Nobody dare a gue ss about these people because they have nothing to offer Western nations economically.

If they did, that bastion of peacekeeping — the United Nations — would not have pulled out. If they did, support from "freedoms" loving countries such as the United States would have sent con­victs in to stop the slaughter.

But no help came. The Tutsi were left alone to face the geno­cide. The slaughter lasted for over three months.

How many hundreds of thousands of men, women and chil­dren would have been saved had this small country in Africa been deemed worthy of some kind of intervention?

Terry George continuously brings this idea into the film's story as we see agents of various world powers turn their backs on the Rwandans.

This adds to the film's intensity and causes you to not only be tremendously moved by Paul's fight for survival but to become angry that genocide on this level was allowed to occur without help from other nations.

There is a fine supporting cast at work in "Hotel Rwanda," Sophie Okonedo (who was nominated for best supporting actress) plays Paul's Tutsi wife, Nick Nolte plays a frustrated UN colored, a braved Joaquin Phoenix plays a cameraman and Jean Reno plays a hooker who Paul enlists for help.

They were nice support but this was Cheadle's film from start to finish and he delivers a controlled, subtle performance that is wonderful to watch.

"Hotel Rwanda" works as a gripping thriller, a story of human­ity and as a powerful history lesson on events that took place a decade ago in a region of the world largely ignored. It is anchored by a terrific performance and will likely win no Oscars, but who cares.

"Hotel Rwanda" can claim rightful ownership of the title of most important film this year. Luckily, it's not only important, but it's also very good.

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Much like Alfred Hitchcock's film "Rebecca," released in 1940, a year before "Citizen Kane," the film opens with an eerie passage through a gate and into a desolate, crumbling kingdom.

Within this kingdom called "Xanadu" lies the drying and elusive Charles Foster Kane, a man who was once the world's most powerful newspaper tycoon. As Kane dies, he utters one last word: "Rosebud."

The plot of the movie is based on a search to discover the meaning of "Rosebud," and leads us on a journey through Kane's life. Through interviews with his close friends, Kane's life is revealed from his boyhood all the way to his lonely end.

When Kane is a young boy, his family inherits a fortune, and he is sent away to learn the ways of the world. In his early twenties, Kane decides to run one of the papers he owns, the New York Inquirer. Here, Kane increases his fortune and reputation by writing outlandish (and not so truthful) headlines. A failed marriage to the president's niece ensues, followed by a failed attempt to run for governor and a failed life with his mistress. Without giving away too much of the film, the end leaves you wondering whether Kane would have preferred to live a simpler life.

As a whole, this film offers something for everyone. The images in this movie and the cinematography were ahead of its time. Framing angles and lighting techniques never seen before in film.

Welles himself is a powerful force, a dynamic actor with a voice like velvet and looks that would give Brad Pitt a run for his money if Welles were a young actor today. Most compelling about this film is its blunt portrayal of the life of newspaper mogul William Randolph Hearst.

This film almost didn't see the light of day when it was first cut because Hearst was insulted at the way his mistress was portrayed. Although the character of Kane was blatantly based on Hearst (Hearst at one time even sued RKO for $5 million, claiming their filmizzy was a libel), the studio prevailed, and the film was released in 1941.

In short, the film is a must-see and a cautionary tale for those who plan to become journalists or politicians. In short, the film is a dramatic account of one man's greed and his persistence to stop at nothing to see his vision complete.

This movie reminds you that you cannot buy love, no matter how much passion or drive you have. "Citizen Kane" is a great American classic, and you can't call yourself a movie fanatic until you've seen this one.

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**Poncho back from the late '60s**

• The poncho has stormed the fashion world (again), making blanket-wear popular.

**Wendy Owen**
Staff Writer

In the world of fashion, anything Goes. Sometimes it goes really fast. But this isn't the case with the poncho. Made popular by people of Central and South America, as well as these parks everywhere as a rain deterrent, the poncho is back with a vengeance. It was a hot fashion item in the late '60s and early '70s, and is gracing the shoulders of celebrities like Jennifer Aniston today.

So why is this blanket-turned-jacket back in style? "They were brought back because the fashion industry wanted to get away from the fitted jacket look," said Tammy Barthlett, a USF St. Petersburg journalism major and closed fashion critic. "By wearing the poncho, it makes the lower body look slimmer."

Before last fall, whenever someone said the word "poncho," they instantly thought of an bulky woolen blanket probably came to mind. The recent comeback of the poncho has made it available in many different fabrics, from silk to-cashmere and soft, lacy cotton blends.

Although the winter months in Florida are slowly winding down, there's no reason to put away a perfectly good poncho. In light enough fabric, they can be great beach cover-ups and are highly portable jackets for chilly classrooms and movie theaters.

For free vintage poncho patterns, visit http://home.inreach.com/marthac/po­ncho.html, or to get an affordable, unique vintage poncho, check out the listings at www.ebay.com.

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**History Today**

• Feb. 25, 1862 - President Abraham Lincoln introduces paper currency to the U.S. (national banking system created exactly one year later).
• Feb. 26, 1956 - Poets Sylvia Plath and Ted Hughes meet for the first time.
• Feb. 27, 1933 - Fred Rogers of "Mr. Rogers' Neighborhood" dies at 74.
• Feb. 28, 1935 - Dr. Wallace H. Carothers discovers nylon.
• March 1, 1864 - Rebecca Lee becomes the first black woman to earn a medical degree.
• March 2, 1983 - Phillips and Sony introduce the first CD recordings.
• March 3, 1845 - Florida becomes the 27th state.

**Calendar of Events**
Feb. 25 - March 3
* Dinner & a Movie: Hero
  - Friday, Feb. 25
  - Time: 7 p.m. - 9:30 p.m.
  - Location: Campus Activities Center
  - Info: Chinese food served.

* Spring Career Expo
  - Thursday, March 3
  - Time: 12 p.m. - 4 p.m.
  - Location: Campus Activities Center
  - Info: A great opportunity to connect with area employers.

* Monet's London: Artist's Reflections on the Thames, 1859-1914
  - Now through April 24
  - Hours: Tue through Thurs - 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., Fri - 10 a.m. to 8 p.m., Sat - 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., Sun - 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.
  - Location: Museum of Fine Arts, 253 Beach Drive NE, St. Petersburg
  - Info: Exhibit features works by Claude Monet. Admission: adults, $12; seniors 65 & older, $10; college students, $10; ages seven to 18, $5; children six and younger free.
Left: A student relaxes on the lawn near Bayboro Harbor Feb. 17.

Right: "Kirk Mitchell, 42, an assistant in the Shoto Kan class offered in the Campus Activities Center, leads a group through an exercise, also known as a "kata." Shoto Kan is a Japanese martial art that emphasizes deep stances and powerful linear techniques.

Above right and left: Marine science students and faculty test the Sipper 2.5, a high resolution underwater camera.

Soundoff

What is your favorite video game?
(See full story, page 5)

"It's either Resident Evil or Spore (for PlayStation)... I can't make up my mind."
Elizabeth Rehse, 18

"Golden Eye 007 (for Nintendo 64), it's the only game I have and the only one I ever bought."
Danesh Hathiram, 19

"I don't have time for games... I never played. You know, I like to travel around with my time."
Bill Miles, 75

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