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Homecoming brings out spirit

By Erin Buchanan and Andrea Dennin
Contributing Writers

Homecoming week started with rain and ended with sunshine, although the USF Bulls lost the Homecoming football game Oct. 16. The weeklong celebration included events for students, faculty and staff, including USF St. Petersburg's traditional cardboard boat race and Homecoming Festival.

At USF St. Petersburg's Oct. 11 Homecoming Kickoff, the nationally ranked co-ed sailing team was recognized, as was the USF St. Petersburg Homecoming Court. Daniel Cole and Shelby Graham, both representing Student Government, were crowned Duke and Duchess.

Regional Chancellor Karen A. White announced that this is be the first year the Duke and Duchess will also serve as honorary student chairs of the USF United Way campaign to extend the Homecoming spirit.

"I'm glad it's more than just giving this year," Graham said. "I'm the first elected African American in the homecoming court, it's important to make a difference with that."

Cardboard Boat Racing

In its fourth year on campus, the unique tradition of cardboard boat racing has become the biggest attraction of Homecoming week.

Homecoming teams had eight hours to build boats using cardboard, plastic wrap, hardboard, wood strips, duct tape, string, one ruler, one pencil and one pair of scissors.

"I've never seen anybody do this," said Marcela St. Oge of the Legal Eagles Homecoming team, which included members of the Law Society at USF St. Petersburg. St. Oge built a boat for the first time this year. "I should have looked stuff up on the Internet," she said.

Spirit Day

Students came and went through Davis Lobby on Spirit Day Oct. 12, but the school spirit never left thanks to Homecoming banners, ice cream and students sporting USF green and gold.

Tom Piccolo, USF St. Petersburg's Student Government president, said he thought the turnout was good.

Freshman Chantel de the Legal Eagles said, "It's good to see so many people out here."

Friends and family honor student's life

By Kristie A. Martinez
Editor in Chief

Friends and family remember Ricky Tripolino as a person who loved drawing, reading Clive Cussler novels and wearing Rainbow brand flip flops - even to church.

Tripolino, a 19-year-old USF St. Petersburg student, died Oct. 1 while driving to Tampa. As he approached the Howard Frankland Bridge, his silver 1999 Infiniti G20 collided with a tow truck parked on the side of the road.

Heather Linton, a USF St. Petersburg student who was Tripolino's closest friend, said she admired Tripolino's confidence and his "don't sweat the small stuff" attitude.

"When I met him I was very self-conscious. He had said, 'Why do you care what people think? You're a great person,'" Linton said. "He was pretty much everything I wasn't. I'm always worrying about tomorrow. He said, 'If you're always worrying about tomorrow, you're not going to enjoy today.' He always balanced me out."

Tripolino shared Linton's passion for the written word.

Local candidates vie for student votes

By Allen Spence
Contributing Writer

There are many issues, ranging from student loans to the war in Iraq, for young people to consider for the upcoming general election on Nov. 2. Although there has been much media focus on the presidential race, there are also many candidates running for office to serve and represent Pinellas County. The following are profiles of a few local candidates running for office. None of them are incumbents and all have websites voters can access to learn more about them.

Bob Derry, 10th Congressional District

Bob Derry is a Democrat running in the 10th Congressional District against Republican incumbent Bill Young, who has held his seat in Congress for 17 terms, or 34 years.

Derry has proposed a system where college graduates could work off their student loans through public service. He also would like to see Federal Pell Grants fully funded, these grants are awarded to undergraduate students and do not have to be repaid. Derry also wants to develop a government-sponsored scholarship program to help middle-income students. He said these changes might help reduce the debt students face after they graduate from college.

Derry is running for Congress because he said Pinellas County is moving in the right direction.

See Candidates on page 7
Partisan bickering will kill us all

Ann Coulter's latest opus is selling like hotcakes. Michael Moore is working on a new movie. Al Franken is inviting us all to dinner, and Bill O'Reilly has a new book out for kids. Get them while they're young, folks, and let The Party begin.

And what about all of these things we have in common? Well, they're basically saying that you, dear reader, viewer, devotee, aren't getting the Truth, that the Truth has been hijacked and is currently dust-taped and blindfolded in the back of a Peterbuilt somewhere out on the I-9, and that only they, these partisans of freedom, can restore to her her former glory.

So who is the thief? Why, the super liberal/con­servative media, of course. Which they've at some point all stood in the past for, so they should know.

In relation to the 1992 presidential campaign, for­mer journalist Robert Shogan said, "Beating up on the press was a way to win support from various ele­ments of the public that had their own reasons for resent­ing the press. It was also a way to keep the press back on its heels and off the backs of the candidates."

I find this quote to be of particular interest, as it seems like the current rash of partisan books and docu­mentaries from both sides of the fence are doing just this. They serve to shift the focus of the debate away from issues of actual substance and render the press incapable of doing their job necessary for the pres­ervation of democracy.

Lately, the media have been excluded from both sides due to their supposed bias. They are in large part unable to actually interro­gate the candidates, who seem to prefer to surround themselves with raving cyco­plants. I don't blame them. It does wonders for the ego, and helps politicians get their crystal-clear vision of the world, which of course bears no relation whatsoever to the one in which we actu­ally live.

However, as this inter­rogation is vital to the press' role in a democracy, it seems understandable that the media need a way to com­ment on what individuals in government are saying. Straight reporting on what is said by those in and seeking public office is no longer enough. If reporters were forced to report on this alone, arguments between candidates would break down into a "He Said, She Said" mash of clichés and innu­ensions that benefit no one.

Thus, the analysis so disparaged by many as "bias" is a necessary develop­ment, given the con­straints placed upon the press by those they are meant to cover due to the charge of "bias." Joseph Heller would be proud.

Reporters are obligated in their role as messengers to the public to point out what is actually happening, as opposed to what others say is happening. In today's dizzying world of spin, it is a distinction that has unfortu­nately become all too neces­sary.

— Heath Hooper

Despite debate rhetoric, you need to vote

Well, the debates have come and gone and here are a few things I've learned:
Sen. Kerry reminds me of the teacher from "Charlie Brown" with his long-winded answers, while President Bush makes me think of the Tasmanian Devil with his quick, snappy retorts.

Bush is to Bluto Blutarski of the Delta House as Kerry is to Doug Neidermeyer, the commander of the ROTC pro­gram at Faber College in the movie "Animal House."

Kerry and Sen. Edwards both took the President Clinton course in pointing — that is, strategically bending the index finger around the thumb and repetitively bouncing the "pointer" up and down while they speak.

Bush likes to pound on the podium a lot.

Before the debates, Kerry was the flip-flopper in his issues; Bush flip-flopped in his style from debate to debate. Bush wants to work harder in Iraq while Kerry wants to work smarter.

Kerry enjoys "plays-hatin" on the top 1 percent of the pop­ulation in America.

Bush winks indiscrimi­nately whenever he feels like he's one-upped somebody.

Kerry supposedly never shows up in Congress, and when he does, all he's doing is taxing the rich. Well, it does sound like that's what he enjoys doing.

Kerry was an altar boy while Bush makes a lot of his decisions based on prayers.

Kerry lectures Bush the same way I could see Kerry lec­turing Edwards the same way I could see Cheney lecturing Bush.

That being said, couldn't you see Kerry and Cheney run­ning together?

Also, couldn't you see Clinton rushing the Delta House along with Bush?

If Kerry wins, I sure hope nothing happens to him. Just envision John Edwards as our president?
The news networks all over the covers of the debate like ESPN covers the Triple Crown horse races.

"Who won? By how much? When was the turning point? And down the stretch they come!" Hey, hello, isn't that when there's an election day?

Democrats believe if Bush wins then fraud is involved, while Republicans believe if Kerry wins they better invest in off-shore banking.

Next time, let's have the makers of "Survivor," "Fear Factor" and "The Apprentice" run the debates. Just envision Bush, Cheney, Kerry and Edwards running a lemonade stand in Times Square. (As a side note, does Donald Trump put his applicants in the real world outside of television through such rigorous scrutiny? Whew, that's a tough interview.)

There are still a large percentage of "undeclared" voters. What? So what it's gonna be? Are you gonna get to the voting booth and flip a quarter? Well, I guess Nader gets my vote. Wink (see, I learned from Bush).

But seriously folks, our founding fathers didn't hide out in bushes waiting for the whites of those English brutes' eyes for nothing. Sure, in the end a vote here or there might get lost in the equation, but the right to vote is what counts most of all. So, whatever you choose or decide on at the last second, just get up from playing Madden 2005 or from watching Oprah and VOTE!

— Chris Girandola is a graduate student in the Dept. of Journalism and Media Studies. He can be reached at crgirand@yahoo.com

WHERE WILL YOU BE ON ELECTION NIGHT?

For the first time in Crow's Nest history, our staff will cover a presiden­tial election live.

If you'll be at the Democratic, Independent or Republican Party headquarters in Pinellas County on Tuesday, Nov. 2, we'd like to include you in our coverage.

Students, faculty and staff, please call the Crow's Nest at (727) 553-4113 or e-mail us at USFCroweNest@aol.com.
Local columnist shares views on politics

By Genessa Poth
Senior Staff Writer

With the elections right on our heels, candidate campaigns are growing more and more vicious by the minute. Many students already know whom they're voting for on Nov. 2.

But others remain undecided.

In a nation where politics have become polarized and negative campaigning is commonplace, it is no wonder that many students on a quest for truth find themselves disillusioned.

This was the point stressed by St. Petersburg Times political columnist Howard Troxler, who spoke to about 40 USF St. Petersburg students and staff in Davis Hall on Oct. 6.

"I believe there is a need for clear and intellectually honest discussion of the law and politics, instead of the rhetoric of 'Your side is wrong and my side is right,'" Troxler said.

Much emphasis was placed on the upcoming elections. Troxler compared President Bush and his opponent Sen. John Kerry to two school kids running around on the playground beating each other up.

"The art of dislike of one's opponents is practiced by both sides," Troxler said. "I encourage students to size up the candidates for themselves, and try to learn about the facts for themselves, rather than relying on party label or superficial considerations."

Many of Troxler's comments poked fun at Bush.

"The American people pretty much know the truth," Troxler said. "This guy we've elected isn't studying brain surgery in his spare time. I almost would rather Cheney be president instead of Bush."

But Troxler noted the might and organization of the Republican Party and of Vice President Dick Cheney.

Troxler spoke for roughly two hours, always giving the audience some sort of comical insight as he touched on topics such as Terri Schiavo's Law, the immunity of the Florida Legislature against the will of the people and redistricting.

In 2001, Troxler made a New Year's resolution to stop doing TV panel discussions and radio appearances to focus more time on his column. But he said he always tries to accept requests to speak at libraries and schools because he believes that students are more open-minded than most people.

"I am hopeful that students are still engaged in learning how the world works and might still be open to new or different ideas," Troxler said. "I am afraid that most folks reach certain conclusions about the world and then never revisit those conclusions - in fact, resent being asked to."
EVENT REVIEW:

Ghouls, ghosts, goblins ask: ‘What’s your breaking point?’

By Heath Hooper
Contribution Writer

The team at Universal Studios’ Halloween Horror Nights is a dedicated bunch of people. They work year-round with one goal in mind: scaring the pants off their guests. And they are good at what they do.

Spread over Universal Studios and Islands of Adventure, this year’s Horror Nights features seven houses and four scare zones, each inundated with atmospheric flourishes that surprise, shock and disorient the park attendees. The houses focus on the psychological scare as opposed to “Boo!” moments.

The houses range from a tour of Castle Vampyr, where ghouls and ghosts creep around and over unsuspecting visitors, to Horror Nights Nightmares, a best-of from previous years and my personal favorite. Of the others, Hellgate Prison features one of the most sadistic props I’ve ever seen, the pleasure to witness and Disorientium did its job well. The zombie-filled Deadopolis, the wild-west themed Ghost Town and the classic Universal Monsters of Horror Nights in Wax were certainly effective, but one needs to pick houses carefully. One night simply isn’t enough to see all seven, and after a few a kind of “fright fatigue” sets in, and it’s time to hit the roller coasters.

The Scare Zones are bigger, badder and all-around better than anything Universal’s offered before. From the Mad Max-like industrialized scariness of Fright Yard to the redneck nightmare of the Field of Screams, these unavoidable open-air zones are incredible to experience. If the giant fireballs erupting out of overturned tankers don’t get you, the pumpkins crawling out of the homegrown fields of corn will.

Borg-like stickwalkers greet guests a the Point of Evil scare zone at the park’s entrance, and is somewhat of an unwelcoming place, while Midway of the Bizarre doubles as a staging ground for Festival of the Dead, the back-from-the-grave, crowd-pleasing parade featuring a Mardi Gras-like run of themed floats.

Aside from the parade, Universal also offers “Bill and Ted’s Excellent Halloween Adventure,” a PG-13 show based on the popular movie and aimed at an older, and perhaps rather inebriated, audience.

My only complaint about the park would be that there’s too much to see for one night, and the lines can sometimes be something of a bother. But if you’re having trouble deciding where to spend your hard-earned Halloween dollars this year, you could do much worse than Halloween Horror Nights.

Grade: **

*Photo by Shannon Regnier

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**ENTERTAINMENT REVIEWS**

**BY JASON MERRITT**

Real heroes return in ‘Ladder 49’

With almost every comic book character coming to the big screen in recent years, the term ‘hero’ may be used too freely. “Ladder 49” could be the first film in a few years to remind its audiences what a true hero is.

“Ladder 49” tells the story of Jack Morrison (Joaquin Phoenix), a Baltimore firefighter who becomes trapped in a burning industrial building after a collapse plagues him several floors to an unknown location. As he drifts in and out of consciousness, Jack flashes over the recent years of his life.

Meanwhile, Morrison’s good friend, Chief Michael Kennedy (John Travolta) and dozens of his fellow firefighters desperately attempt to reach and pull him from the doomed building.

When viewers first meet Jack, they only know him as a firefighter who has just been put in a life-threatening situation. It’s hard for viewers to sympathize well with a character they have not yet bonded with. Throughout the course of the film, though, the use of flashbacks helps viewers get to know the person inside the uniform.

Director Jay Russell’s use of flashbacks give the film a unique suspense. From the beginning of the movie, viewers know the dangerous situation that Jack has found himself in. However, it takes a few flashbacks to really know what is on the line and feel compassion for Jack.

Joaquin Phoenix does a decent job of inviting the audience work harder to connect with his character. Phoenix’s portrayal of an “average guy” may have been overplayed and left a little something missing from the character.

This film is definitely worth admission.

Grieving mom seeks truth in ‘The Forgotten’

Telly Paretta (Julianne Moore) has spent the past fourteen months grieving over the loss of her 9-year-old son Sam. She never would have believed that her husband Jim (Anthony Edwards) would try to make her forget Sam; but to her, it appears that’s exactly what he is doing.

Or is it?

After Telly finds a few pictures missing and family videos erased, she confronts Jim and demands an explanation. His response is shocking.

With the help of her psychiatrist, Dr. Jack Munce (Gary Sinise), Jim tells her that Sam never existed and that she created all of her memories in her mind.

Refusing to believe that her son was a figment of her imagination, Telly sets out to find the truth.

When she does, it’s out of this world, literally.

This film is very suspenseful and filled with moments that will make even the most hardened moviegoer jump. Some viewers may find it a little slow at times, but the overall pace of the film keeps the audience fairly interested.

The high point of the film is found in Julianne Moore’s performance. The audience is easily attached to Moore’s character and it’s a thrill to watch her as she plays off as a quiet mother grieving for her son, then seamlessly transforms into a tough heroine out to find the truth. Her strength is clearly prominent, but not overdone.

“The Forgotten” is thrilling, suspenseful and definitely a good film.

Grade for both films: **

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Grade for both films: **
BAND REVIEW:
Weak Sauce's music is anything but weak

By Wendy Owen
Staff Writer

Erie Dothurt, 23, is more than a USF St. Petersburg student assistant at Academic Affairs. He's not just a psychology major. He's also lead guitarist for the local band Weak Sauce, and their music and style is anything but weak.

Follow band members Justin Vilardi (vocals and bass), Brad Gilmore (trumpet and vocals) and Paul Liparto (drums) have been together playing as a live band for one year.

The band members come from different musical backgrounds. Gilmore is trained in jazz trumpet and Dothurt started out playing piano.

But Dothurt said it was the guitar that stuck with him. Classic rock influences such as Pink Floyd and The Beatles, and more recent bands like Soul Mama Janis Joplin, The Band, The Grateful Dead and more recent bands like Weak Sauce have had an effect on the lives and style of the band members.

Dothurt describes Weak Sauce's music as reggae, punk rock, alternative, jazz and hip-hop, and the band compares its sound to Incubus, Sublime and Blind Melon with funk and jazz infusions.

The band's name was brought over from Los Angeles by lead singer Vilardi. According to band legend, "weak sauce" is slang for when something is bad.

Weak Sauce's onstage mantra is to have fun and not be too serious. One time the band went on stage wearing only adult diapers.

Dothurt said he loves to play in the band because it's a way of artistically expressing himself.

"Music has been in my life forever," he said. "I don't know when I haven't played music."

While Weak Sauce hasn't been around for long, it's already finding a niche in the Tampa Bay area.

In July of this year, Weak Sauce won the Battle of the Bands at the State Theater in downtown St. Petersburg.

Their usual venue is The Martini Club in Dunedin, but on Oct. 11, they hit the stage at the USF Homecoming Kickoff Carnival in Tampa.

Weak Sauce will also play at The Masquerade in Ybor City Nov. 12. Dothurt said they plan to tour Florida in the future to visit other colleges.

So far, Weak Sauce is working on a demo CD, merchandise and a website.

The band's wide range of musical influences has created a sound that's all their own. And even though their stage presence portrays them as a bunch of guys just out to have fun, Dothurt is optimistic about the future of his band.

"We have very high aspirations," he said.

For more information about Weak Sauce, e-mail weaksaucesmusic@hotmail.com.

By Genessa Poth
Senior Staff Writer

"Festival Express" caters to a nostalgia that some youngsters may just not be able to fully comprehend. Music has changed tremendously over the past few decades and the MTV generation will probably not enjoy this film.

"Festival Express," a documentary, created from some recently recovered footage, depicts a rock 'n roll train ride from the summer of 1970.

The film features top-notch rock bands of the day including soul mama Janis Joplin, The Band, The Grateful Dead and The Buddy Guy Blues Band.

Although there are some great scenes of the Grateful Dead's Jerry Garcia and The Band's Rick Danko, Joplin is without a doubt the highlight of this film. Whether you like her or not, as she belts out her song "Cry Baby" you can feel her emotion radiating from the big-screen.

The party scene was always present, especially on the train in between shows.

Bob Weir of The Grateful Dead talks about the new surge of alcohol, but reveals that there were some hallucinogenic drugs present.

The majority of the bands featured in the film. Although Woodstock was great that the Festival Express tour was all around a more fun time for the performers.

The tour experienced some problems along the way with protesters fighting "the pigs" and climbing fences to get into the show for free.

At the end of the film, one of the promoters declared that the public got more acts than it deserved. Although, through-out the film the festival's promoters confessed that the tour had turned out to be a financial flop, everyone was in consensus that all the jammin' was more than worthwhile.

"Festival Express" will indeed be compared to the movie "Woodstock."

The muted colors, use of split screen narrative and hazy screens were well-edited and helped capture the flavor of the period.

For those who were not able to attend the shows or for those who had not even been born yet, this film is the next best thing to being there.

Grade:

HAPPENINGS
Calendar of Events
Thursday, Oct. 21
Midterm Massage
When: 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.
Where: University Housing
Info: Ed-toc students will be providing stress-relieving neck massages for students.

Thursday, Oct. 21
Disability Awareness Week
When: 10 a.m. - 2 p.m.
Where: Terrace 200
Info: Take part in Disability Awareness Week by using a wheelchair or power scooter to navigate campus.

Friday, Oct. 29
Dinner & Movie: Texas Chainsaw Massacre
When: 7 p.m.
Where: Campus Activities Center
Info: Free for students; $5 for faculty, staff, and guests. Tickets available week prior to event at the Campus Activities Center. Advance ticket guarantees grade.

Saturday, Oct. 30
Kayak Trip - Night Paddle
When: 5 p.m.
Where: Shell Key
Info: Open to students, faculty, staff, and their guests. $10.00 for students, $20.00 for non-students. Please register in advance. Visit the Waterfront Office in Coquina Hall 108 or call (727)553-4597.

Saturday, Nov. 6
Fall Fest
When: 11 a.m. - 2 p.m.
Where: Harborside Lawn
Info: This family fun day includes moonbounces, pony rides, a petting zoo, spin art and kiddie games. Open to USF students, faculty, staff and their children.

Tuesday, Nov. 9
Laser Tag Lunch
When: 11 a.m. - 2 p.m.
Where: Harborside Lawn
Info: Lunch on the lawn and laser tag for students, faculty and staff. Free for USF students; $2 for faculty and staff.

To have your announcements listed in Happenings, send event date, price, location and phone number to USFCrowsNest@aol.com.
Student activity fee helps pay for free stuff

By Wendy Owen
Staff Writer

Students swarmed around artist Lars-Erik Robinson in Davis Lobby during Caricature and Photo Button Day on Sept. 30. As he drew caricatures of students with his black felt-tipped pen, others waited to have their own portrait drawn. Robinson made quick strokes on his easel and joked with the students in a display of what he calls “artist-ment.” Students received a caricature of themselves for free—something that would cost $25 or more at a fair or theme park. Caricature and Photo Button Day were funded by the mandatory activity and service fee that all students pay as part of their tuition. The student activity fee this year is $9.16 per credit hour. The fee may seem pricey, but it’s stretched a long way.

The fee covers more than you may realize. Upcoming events, made possible by the fee, include the following:

- **Midterm Massage**, Oct. 21
- **Laser Tag Game**, Nov. 9
- **Guest Hypnotist**, Nov. 19

Extra-Ed classes at the Campus Activities Center are at a deep discount.

On Nov. 19, the Harborside Activities Board arranged for hypnotist Tom DeLuca to visit the campus. Hypnotists generally charge $1,000 or more per show, but students also get to visit this event for free.

Coscia said the Harborside Activities Board is continuing to work on expanding programs and getting students involved.

Daniel Zook, 21, a USF St. Petersburg student, said he was just walking by and decided to get his picture drawn during Caricature and Photo Button day. He said the event was fun and that he liked the drawing because “it’s a comic view of me.”

Another USF St. Petersburg student, Krystin Nicely, 18, said she was sitting in Davis Hall studying for class and decided to get her caricature drawn. If there is something going on in Davis Hall, Nicely said she usually attends.

Coscia said the Harborside Activities Board keeps in mind students’ schedules and interests when organizing events.
he wrong direction.

Derry identified the "insuf-
icient resources allotted to our
security, the runaway fiscal
and the near failure of the
system," as the three major problems
Santelina County faces. Derry
said there are over 200,000
people in the county who do not
have health insurance. He
pro-
poses fixing this by allowing
people to buy into Medicare.

Derry is a veteran who
served in the U.S. Navy and
graduated from the sailors' School of Banking at
the University of Wisconsin.

According to the Center for
Responsive Politics, an organi-
ization that researches cam-
paign finance and its effects on
elections and public policy, Derry had raised $45,389 for
his campaign and had $1,959 in
cash on hand as of Sept. 30.
Congressman Young had raised $771,882 and had $678,324 on
hand for his campaign as of
Aug. 11.

For more information on
Bob Derry's campaign, visit

Bob Johnson, 11th
Congressional District

In the 11th Congressional District, Libertarian Bob
Johnson is running for office
against democratic incumbent
Jim Davis.

Johnson said the largest
problem the country faces is
the economic consequences of
the war in Iraq. He said the price
of oil is above $50 a barrel and
that the tax burden this year will be $1,200 per family
to fund the Iraqi War. Johnson said that if U.S. troops are
withdrawn from Iraq, America's
electric and gas prices could fall.

If elected, Johnson said he
would push to have all U.S.
troops withdrawn from abroad
within two years. He said the
savings of this action could allow 20 percent of the federal
budget to be cut. Johnson also
supports a national sales tax on
goods and services. He esti-
mates that the tax rate would be
no more than 10 percent. With
the tax, Johnson argues that
the IRS could be eliminated
for citizens, including stu-
dents, would be able to keep all
of their paychecks. He said the
sales tax would alleviate some
of the loopholes that wealthy
people currently utilize in the
current system.

Johnson holds a master's
degree in economics from the
University of Chicago.

According to the Center for
Responsive Politics, Johnson had raised $11,050 for his
campaign and had $1,718 on hand as of June 30. Congressman
Davis had raised $511,616 and had $218,530 on hand as of
Aug. 11.

For more information on
Johnson's campaign, visit
www.bobjohnson4congress.org

Jim Coats, running for
Pinellas County Sheriff

Jim Coats is a 33-year vet-
eran of the Pinellas County
Sheriff's Department and the
position of county sheriff
vacated by Everett S. Rice.
Coats is running against ex-
Sheriff's Department running
candidate Bernie McCabe.

Despite his experience and
endorsements, Coats is taking
his opponent as seriously as
any other candidate.

For more information on
Coats' campaign, visit

Getting informed about local
candidates

A good non-partisan place to keep informed is www.vote-
smarts.org, where you can look up your congressperson, sena-
tor, or candidate and see how they voted and where they
stand on issues that effect you.

Another good place on the
Internet is www.opensecrets.org.

This website, operated by
The Center for Responsive
Politics will allow you to find
where politicians and candi-
dates get their campaign
money from.

For example, Colman
Sachs is the highest donor to the
Republican Party and the
Democratic Party for this elec-
tion cycle. These are just a few
places to get started. All of
these candidates did agree on one
issue, they all think that young
people should inform them-
selves on the issues and go out
and vote on Nov. 2.

Troxler, from page 3

hear from the movers and
shakers of our community. The
university has not been very
good at doing that. We are fill-
ing our need.

Troxler has been a political
reporter for more than
30 years. After graduating from
college, he said he "figuratively
threw darts at the map and
sent out a bunch of
audience he must convince.

Troxler said his readers are
always looking for political
bias, and "if you give them a
world to see how other people
read it so he could talk to me
about it."

"Whenever you asked about something that was two
weeks in the future, he had this
shrug that he'd always do that
was quite amusing, actually," Linton said. "He'd like
this noise, he'd click his mouth
and he'd just quickly pop up his shoulders with a lit-
tle smile on his face. That was
part of his careless attitude —
what's the worry right now?

"He was one of those peo-
ple who had the potential to do
anything. But he also knew that
you have to enjoy life."

The Crow's Nest election issue will be on stands Nov. 5.

THE CROW'S NEST

VOL. 33 No. 2 UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH FLORIDA ST. PETERSBURG

YOUR VOICE. YOUR VIEWS. YOUR NEWS.
Daniel Cole and Shelby Graham were named USF St. Petersburg's Duke and Duchess.

Photo by Jim Grinaker

USF St. Petersburg student Brian Wood swam his cardboard boat around Bayboro Harbor after it collapsed during the Homecoming team competition Oct. 13.

Homecoming, from page 1

Tsannenstiel stopped by Davis Lobby to get ready for the Homecoming game.

"I came over and got some stuff so I can have school spirit when I go to the game," Tsannenstiel said.

Team Competition

Three Homecoming teams gave their all in an Olympic-style competition Oct. 13. The Student Government "Horny U's" team dominated the events, taking first place in the water balloon toss, four-legged race, "izzy dizzy," USF trivia, and both the kayak and cardboard boat races.

"The Cru," the Campus Crusade for Christ team, took first place in the remote control car race and the obstacle course.

The Law Society "Legal Eagles" team was a consistent and close second in most events.

The Horny U's enjoyed yet another victory in the cardboard boat race, using their defending championship design and paddler Chris Koenig.

The Cru team's boat sank as the race started, but paddler Brian Wood showed determination and swam the boat around the course.

"I was going to finish no matter what," he said.

Alumni Celebrate Homecoming

USF St. Petersburg alumni met at Harborside Oct. 14 to celebrate Homecoming. The Herd of Thunder Show Band performed while old friends visited and new friends were made.

"Alumni events are a nice way to stay connected," said Audrey Gilmore, who graduated from USF St. Petersburg and has been active in the alumni association for the last six months. "It's fun to come back and see how the campus has changed."