3-30-2009

Crow's Nest : 2009 : 03 : 30

University of South Florida St. Petersburg.

Follow this and additional works at: https://digital.usfsp.edu/crows_nest

Recommended Citation
https://digital.usfsp.edu/crows_nest/574
The Grand Prix makes pit stop in St. Pete

Larissa Mone'  
Staff Writer

It is that time again, for hot wheels screeching and excitement running rampant in downtown St. Petersburg.

The recent construction of the 1.8 mile, temporary track near USF St. Petersburg states the obvious: The 2009 Honda Grand Prix is back to take over the quiet waterfront from April 3-5.

A few events are planned April 2 to kick off the weekend. The recognized St. Petersburg Festival of States Honda Grand Prix Illuminated Night Parade, a tradition since 1969, begins at 7:30 p.m. and will wind through Central Avenue to 5th Ave. N. After catching some beads and grooving to music, parade-goers can watch the fireworks display.

Guests can purchase general admission, three-day admission with a Saturday and Sunday reserved seat, or the IndyCar Series Paddock Admission. Ticket holders can mingle at the Grand Prix Yacht Club, which has a floating bar large enough to fit 500 people.

Non-ticket holders can enter the Bright House Networks Speed Zone for family-fun entertainment. Get sun-kissed by watching air shows, concerts, the Miss Honda Grand Prix competition and get an autograph at one of the sessions. Keep your eyes peeled for celebrity sightings too.

In the event that a weekend job or school work prevents you from joining the race events, stay up to date with live timing and scoring, real-time video and race alerts by signing up with IndyCar Mobile. To get this phone application, visit the official Web site of the IndyCar Series, www.indycar.com. Click on ‘multimedia’, ‘podcasts’ and follow directions.

Offered through the Web site, IndyCar lovers can join IndyCar Nation for free. Here you can start a public or private fantasy racing league, earn points and redeem them for tickets, passes and more. Check out IndyCar Race Control where you can watch the race action through in-car cameras, hear driver and team radio, plus more insider technology.

If IndyCar Nation is not enough for the avid race fan, join Indy Downforce, the official fan club.

Thursday, April 2
* VIP Green Flag Luncheon 11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.
* Firestone Indy Lights practice 9:25-10:25 a.m.
* IndyCar Series practice 10:45 a.m.-12:15 p.m.
* Drifting exhibition 12:20-12:45 p.m.
* Air show 12:45-1:05 p.m.
* American Le Mans Series driver autograph session 4:30-5:30 p.m.

Friday, April 3
* Acura Sports Car Challenge of St. Petersburg 10:50 a.m.-12:20 p.m.
* IndyCar Series qualifying 12:20-12:45 p.m.
* Air show 12:45-1:05 p.m.
* American Le Mans Series 1:20-3:15 p.m.
* Honda Indy St. Pete 2:45-5 p.m.
* Michael Andretti Foundation Gala 7-9 p.m.

Saturday, April 4
* Firestone Indy Lights Race #1 4:45 p.m. 40 laps
* IndyCar Series qualifying 10:50 a.m.-12:20 p.m.
* IndyCar Series Driver autograph session 3:45-4:45 p.m.

Sunday, April 5
* Firestone Indy Lights Race #2 10 a.m. 40 laps
* Drifting exhibition 11:30 a.m.-12 p.m.
* Air show 1:30-2 p.m.
* Live music 12-1:30 p.m.
* Honda Indy St. Pete 2009 IndyCar Series season-opening 2:45-5 p.m. 100 laps

CORRECTION: The word robbery was used incorrectly in the article "Car robberies alarm RHO residents". The proper term is theft.
We asked... 

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Question</th>
<th>Brian Rogers</th>
<th>Danielle Yarn</th>
<th>Marielis Kirk</th>
<th>Megan Fox</th>
<th>Christian Mendosa</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Studied abroad?</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Yes, Peru</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Are you voting in the student government elections?</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Can you name anyone running for a student government position?</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Last school function you attended?</td>
<td>USF football game</td>
<td>Ronda Barber, guest speaker at USF Tampa</td>
<td>USF Ambassadore Dale Sade</td>
<td>Campus Fair</td>
<td>USF Ambassadore Dale Sade</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Favorite sport?</td>
<td>Tennis</td>
<td>Swimming</td>
<td>Basketball</td>
<td>Swimming</td>
<td>Sitting</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

THE CROW'S NEST

POP CULTURE GRID

by Ashley Jones

PAGE 2

THE CROW'S NEST CN USF ST. PETERSBURG

Week of March 30th, 2020
Four new amendments to the school constitution were introduced and voted in by the student senate during a meeting on Feb. 11.

One of the new bills voted in by the senate mandated that student government should always maintain a minimum of five percent in the Student Activity and Service Fund.

Another bill voted in further defined the regulations involved if an elected member of student government is placed on disciplinary probation. According to the new bill, the Student Judicial Court must rule that the person is eligible to maintain their office. This bill defined eligible as "capable of fulfilling their responsibilities with discipline and integrity."

The third bill reviewed by and voted on in the Senate allowed the senate president to preside during the summer semester.

The final bill voted on by the senate mandated that a more comprehensive budget report is required on a regular basis to ensure that students are always aware of where their fees are going.

"I think these amendments will help student government spend more time working on issues more pertinent to the student body," said Senate President Pro Tempore Alanna Lecher.

Matt Morrin, director of Student Life and Engagement, cautioned the senate against rushing in bills the senators may not have time to fully review.

"The purpose of the way the system works is that you bring stuff in and people have more than three minutes to think about it," Morrin said.

"While under optimal circumstances, senators would have more time to think about amendments, sometimes exceptions have to be made," Lecher said.

"Congress can debate bills all day, but that is their job. We don't have that kind of time," she said while also pointing out that the senate members are not paid and donate their time to student government.

"Matt's caution was essentially precautionary," said Christian Haas, student government vice-president.

"When looking at SG as a whole, with all of the busy students in it, and how valuable their time is, I don't think the amendments were rushed through," Lecher said.

Senator Lauren Roberson said during the meeting that she sometimes did feel rushed when the senate reviewed and voted in new bills.

Senators Nicole Crankshaw and Renee Milevoj pointed out that all senators have the right to call a recess in order to give him or herself more time to review a new proposition.

"You have the power to not let it go through," Milevoj said.

It is unknown how all senators feel about this issue; according to Haas only about half the Senate was seated during this meeting.

Most senators present at the meeting said they did not feel rushed with the new bills.

"Constitutional amendments require a process that takes three weeks in total," Haas said.

"By the time we realized changes were pertinent, the elections were four weeks away, not including spring break." While debate ensued during the introductions of most of the bills, it usually centered on grammatical errors and a clarification of wording.

The senate first voted to immediately vote for each bill. Once this took place, the votes for the amendments were cast by a show of hands.

Some senators needed clarification on the "voting to vote" procedure.

According to Lecher, the senate engaged in parliamentary procedure training during a retreat in the fall semester.

"There, we worked on team building, parliamentary procedure training on how to write bills and resolutions, what is expected of a senator and we set goals for the year," she said.

During the executive report, Haas mentioned that the student government has a greater responsibility to the student body because it is the only organization on campus not subject to budget cuts.

Haas later clarified by saying: "The idea of SG being seemingly unaffected, relatively, by all of these budget cuts comes from the idea that we get a certain amount of money for each enrolled student. Unless I misunderstood, SGA will be allocated just as much if not more than we were the previous year."

"You need to make an effort to figure out why you are here and what you want to see done," Haas said in the closing remarks of his executive report.

"If a representative does not know why they are a part of the organization," Haas said, "what good can they do in accomplishing the overall goals and visions of student government?"

"It is my hope that the student body will get out and vote in the election," Lecher said, "because the core of student government is student involvement."
Religious leaders enlighten students

Knell Conforti
Staff Writer

Students gathered on Tuesday, March 24, to witness a discussion between six panelists representing six different religions: Islam, Buddhism, Vedanta Hinduism, The Unity Church, Judaism and the Bahá’í Faith. The event drew a large crowd, nearly filling the classroom. Throughout the Interfaith dialogue, students were invited to ask questions and actively participate in the discussion.

The main theme was how each religion viewed civic and community engagement, leading into a talk about how most religions are working towards the common goal of achieving justice and peace in the world. “All of these people here have dedicated their lives to these faiths and taken them around the world,” said Dr. Keith White, instructor of literature and moderator of the Interfaith dialogue. Each panel member was asked to give a brief introduction to their religion and talk about their particular faith’s view point on community service, while answering questions from the audience.

Imam Aziz, representing the Tampa Bay Area Muslim Association, was the first person to speak. “By religion as a whole, I’ve become disenchanted. In many cases, religion has failed the world. Religion has failed the people.”

He discussed how humanity has become increasingly materialistic and divided over time and emphasized the need to unite and stand up for what we believe is right. Aziz expressed urgency for religious reform that would start in the home and extend further into our communities.

“Those who are driving the society to be right have to be right themselves,” he said, describing how all individuals must strive towards justice and peace in their everyday lives.

Next, Richard Ferriss, representing the Tampa Bay Area Muslim Association, talked about the basic ideas of Buddhism, discussing how the religion is based more on the spirituality and interconnectedness of all living things. “In the U.S. it’s mostly up to individuals,” Ferriss said, describing how people often turn to the teachings of Buddha. “We’re all going towards enlightenment. For different people it means different things.”

Ferriss also discussed how statues of Buddha often serve as a reminder “that there was a person who overcame their sufferings,” and reminded the audience that only in some forms of Buddhism is the statue used for the purposes of idolatry.

The next speaker was Patricia Myers, a representative of the Bahá’í Faith. She discussed how her religion believes in working for justice and urges humanity to unite in this endeavor. “We work in the community to learn how to treat one another in a just way. This is the beginning of a time where all people of all religions will have a greater involvement in civic engagement.”

Myers discussed how the Bahá’í Faith believes in one God and that all religions are based on worshiping the same God. She used the image of the sun to exemplify this notion, describing the sun’s rays as the different religions that emanate from the one true God. “We recognize and study all religions,” Myers said. “My goal is to study them intensely, all of them.”

Next, the Reverend Temple Hayes discussed the life affirming spiritual teachings that formed the Unity Church and how the movement has grown since the late 1800s. “We have people from all walks of life,” Hayes said. “We really focus on what we have in common. Our true mission is to tell people how to treat themselves.”

Hayes talked about the various community service activities members of the Unity Church do on a regular basis, ranging from mission trips in Cuba to helping the poor and homeless in our own community. “We look at the life of Jesus as an example,” Hayes said. “God is available to all of us equally and simultaneously at any time.”

The next speaker was Swami Istananda, representing the Vedanta Center of St. Petersburg. He gave the audience a detailed description of the key points of Hinduism, focusing on the importance of the sacred teachings in the Vedas. “Any good or bad deed will not go without reward or punishment,” Istananda said, discussing the beliefs in reincarnation and karma that are shared by most people who practice Hinduism.

Istananda said Hinduism also stresses the idea that all humans worship the same God. “It is the one fruit that all people call by various names,” Istananda said, quoting the Vedas. “We all are equally worshipping the same God everywhere. Even if they don’t accept it, that is what we accept.”

It was only Rabbi Michael Torop, the last speaker of the panel, who stressed the idea that not all religions are the same. “While there are some things we do share, I think it’s important to not gloss over the differences,” Torop said. “We are not the same and I think to ignore our differences would be doing these religions a great injustice.”

Torop explained that like the other religions discussed so far, Judaism also shares the same desire to work for justice and peace. “We do not embrace and recognize the divinity or revelations of any religious faiths that developed after Judaism did,” Torop said, explaining how the traditional Hebrew Scriptures—more commonly identified as the Old Testament—are emphasized. Torop also suggested the different religions should acknowledge the separate paths chosen and described how we all have an obligation to help others in the community.

After the Interfaith Dialogue, the panelists stayed around to answer any further questions from audience members.

“It was nice to just get a little overview of their beliefs,” Brian Sleevi, English education graduate student, said. “I thought it was good.”

“It was what I anticipated,” said Dr. Keith White, moderator of the Interfaith dialogue. “The idea is an introductory meeting to sort of see what works and what doesn’t work. This is the first of what we hope will be many more.”

White said the Department of Language, Literature and Writing in the College of Arts and Sciences, which sponsored the event, hopes to host another Interfaith discussion during the fall 2009 semester.

“I’m sure this is only the beginning and not the end of our interaction,” Istananda said. “As we already know, we learn a lot when we sit back and listen to members of other faiths.”

A panel of religious figures within the community gathered to take part in Interfaith dialogue in Davis 130 on Tuesday, March 24. The panel discussed religious views and held an open forum for questions and comments.
Roundtable reveals sensitive issues

Emmalee Schmidt  
Assistant Editor

The colorful buffet of fruits, sandwiches and cookies greeted guests at the Woman to Woman roundtable discussion on March 12. The Office of Multicultural Affairs hosted the event and guests discussed various issues that affect women.

Each participant was asked to submit a question relating to women's issues to stimulate conversation. Director of Multicultural Affairs LaTart Canty facilitated the discussion.

"Questions are open to the group and I hope that this is a safe place and that we can all be adults," Canty said.

The first anonymous question was "Is the dream of the equality of women lost to this generation?" The 17 females and 1 male in the room pondered the "deep" question while eating chips and drinking juice.

"I don't think the dream of equality has been lost. People have been misguided. It is up to us as women to decide what we want and need. There are consequences to what we do. If we have a child then we have to balance motherhood and working," said Dr. Vikki Gaskin-Butler, Diversity Officer and Visiting Assistant Professor at USF St. Petersburg.

The mood in the room took a slight change as politics and what outfits Hillary and Michelle wore during the campaigns dominated the conversation. "HA HA HA... that is so true!" along with a few claps were heard throughout the room.

"We have to stop letting men set the agenda," said Unit Research Administrator Pat Scott. "We have to stop competing against each other on trivial stuff."

A controversial question was then asked upon the group. "Do women from different racial and ethnic backgrounds face different obstacles? "Let me just get this ball rolling," said Erica Echols, environmental science and policy graduate student. "Women as a whole face issues. Once you throw ethnic backgrounds into the mix the situation becomes more complex. Religion also is a factor."

This question created friendly controversy between the participants. An agreement was made to recognize the differences among women and understand that different ethnic, racial and religious backgrounds can affect a female and how they handle situations. "If you aren't in the minority and you haven't lived it then you can't understand," Canty said.

Smiles and support were shown when "what has been your proudest moment as a female?" was asked as the closing question. "Overcoming adversity," said Admissions Recruiter Advisor Marketa Teal.

"The times when I had to stand up, speak out and shut-up," Scott said. "Not being a statistic," Canty said.

---

Work for the CN

Staff is needed for the 2009-2010 academic year. Please visit www.usfstpetecrowsnest.com for details and to download the application.

---

Advertise with the CN

If you would like to purchase advertising space please contact Nicole Groll at ngroll@mail.usf.edu
COMMUNITY

Art Center features modern artist

Amanda Smith
Staff Writer

St. Petersburg residents and USF students are privileged with world-class art exhibits right in their own backyard, this time from a Southern boy turned infamous artist.

Johns' work represents two poignant aspects of 20th century American culture: patriotism and entrepreneurship. Some of his most famous paintings are literal representations of a relatively simple image, the American flag.

Johns took something most of us learned to draw in elementary school and turned it into a million dollar machine, selling his 1998 painting, "White Flag," to New York's Metropolitan Museum of Art for over $20 million.

In 2007, Johns broke the record for the highest grossing painting ever from a living artist; his 1959 piece entitled "False Start" was privately auctioned for $80 million.

The exhibit at the St. Petersburg Arts Center features neither "White Flag" nor "False Start," but provides viewers with a few choice flag pieces and most importantly, an explanation of his commercial success.

A true modern artist, Johns' subject choice may turn off some traditionalists. The Arts Center showcases Johns' paintings of a light bulb, a coffee can filled with paintbrushes and even a canvas dedicated to a coat hanger and a spoon. Still, the Arts Center provides ample background information about Johns, shedding new light on a post-modern art pioneer.

Discovered in 1958, Johns' fascination with American flags and target symbols is often traced to his time in Japan. From 1952 to 1953, Johns was stationed in Sendai, Japan serving in the U.S. armed forces during the Korean War.

Suddenly, his paintings of the flag seemed less trivial, suddenly more legitimate. Arts Center visitors must then wonder, how many times did he see this flag at war? What significance did it represent to him abroad?

According to the artist's quotes provided by the Arts Center, he claims no such compelling post-war drive to paint flags; no Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) to treat with art therapy.

Johns is quoted at saying, "One night I dreamed I painted a large American flag, and the next morning I got up and I went out and bought the materials to begin it. And I did. I worked on that painting a long time."

"Everyone is of course free to interpret the work in his own way. I think seeing a picture is one thing and interpreting it is another," Johns said, in an interview with Geijutsu Shincho in 1964, provided by the Arts Center.

And so fitting then is the exhibit's title, "Things the Mind Already Knows." Johns work is the best kind. A free-for-all of interpretation from anyone who views it.

The exhibit is open until May 30 at the St. Petersburg Arts Center, 719 Central Ave. For more information about the exhibit call (727) 822-7872 or theartscenter.org.
THE CROW'S NEST DIRECTORY

WEBSITE www.usfstpetecrowsnest.com BLOG usfcrowsnest.wordpress.com

Editor-in-Chief
Erica Hampton
erhampton@mail.usf.edu

Assistant Editors
Nicole Grill
nogrill@mail.usf.edu
Emmaline Schmidt
eschmidt@mail.usf.edu

Design Editor
Jimmie Blevins
jblevins.usf@gmail.com

Staff Writers
Peter Pupello
peterpupello@tampabay.rr.com
LaRissa Mone'
lmone2009@usf.edu
Kaely Connors
kaely3003@live.com
Sara Palmer
s掌armail@usf.edu

Photographer
Ashley Jones
ashleyjones@gmail.com

Office Assistant
Manuel Carrasco
mcarrasco@usf.edu

THE CROW'S NEST is a student-run publication that has served the faculty, staff and students of USF St. Petersburg since 1969. The newspaper is published in the fall and spring semesters and is funded each semester by a portion of revenue generated from advertising. The Crow’s Nest is committed to providing its readers and news relevant to the University of South Florida St. Petersburg, abiding by the highest ethical standards in the process. We strive to reflect a diverse range of student interests, including controversial topics. Our goal is to present the facts in an unbiased fashion in each of our news stories, so that readers may rely on us as a news source and make informed decisions on career issues.

Vol. 43...No. 23
THE CROW’S NEST CN USF ST. PETERSBURG Page 7

Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

Place a number in the empty boxes in such a way that each row across, each column down and each small 9-box square contains all of the numbers from one to nine.

DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ★★★

© 2009 King Features Synd., Inc.

Solutions are available online under Variety.
Lady Bulls miss the big dance

Peter Pupello
Staff Writer

The last thing the USF Lady Bulls basketball team wanted to do was wait after finishing a successful season, with an overall regular season record of 22-10. The team found itself playing the waiting game after losing in the quarterfinals of the Big East Conference tournament to an undefeated UConn team, favored win the national championship April 7.

It is what college basketball teams fear the most entering the post-season: the fate of a playoff appearance, not to mention the own destiny. Destiny simply controls them. The term "on the bubble" is a polite way to express a team awaiting their fate of either making or missing the NCAA tournament. A more accurate description would be "on pins and needles".

"It's a very tough position to be in," avid USF women's basketball fan Peter Pupello said. "You work hard the entire season, get some big wins, and then it all might end suddenly and be for nothing if other teams don't do their part. All of a sudden, you find yourself cheering for teams that you've never cared about in your life, but for one day, you care a whole lot. It's very suspenseful."

Indeed, the Lady Bulls have worked hard all season and appeared deserving of a tournament berth. Unlike their male counterparts, the women's team got off to a strong start to begin the season that included four consecutive wins - the Lady Bulls outscored their opponents 94 to 185 before losing their first game to Pac-10 stronghold California. After the defeat, USF regrouped and went on to win the next nine games in a row. The final game of the long winning streak came on Dec. 30, giving the Lady Bulls a 13-1 record in 2008 through the first two months of the season.

USF faltered in 2009 to kick off the New Year once conference play began, losing their first four of five games. Three of them, however, came against not only some of the Big East Conference's best, but the nation's top-ranked teams in UConn, Louisville and Pittsburgh.

"The beginning of the season is really more of an indication of how your team looks, rather than the others," Tampa resident Pam Swafford said. "But once conference play begins, you start to get a sense of who the really good teams are, and the Big East has a lot of them. Those are the two most grueling months of the season. That's the true test."

USF finished the regular season with a mediocre 9-8 record in conference play that included no wins against the Big East perennial powerhouses that sat atop the rankings. Different from the uncharacteristic nature of uneasy feelings associated with having the Bulls' fortune riding on other teams, the waiting game actually worked in USF's favor.

Texas Christian University was handed the worst defeat of the season in the quarterfinals of the Mountain West Conference tournament. As a result, the Horned Frogs fell two spots behind USF in the RPI, which favors the Bulls because of its superior conference schedule.

In the Horizon Conference, two of the top-four seeds lost in the early rounds of their tournament and Wisconsin-Green Bay routed Wright State. And as an added bonus, both Texas Tech and Kansas failed to make deep runs in the Big 12 tournament, keeping a steady pace behind USF as "on the bubble" teams.

"It's very surprising that things seemed to work out our way like they did," USF student Rachel Washington said. "It's rare that a team benefits as much as we did from other teams, but who knows, maybe it's a sign that we really belong in the NCAA Tournament."

On Selection Sunday, the NCAA selection committee denied the Lady Bulls a berth in the Big Dance. Instead, USF settled for their sixth consecutive post-season appearance via the National Invitation Tournament (NIT). Even though the honor might not serve justice to the team's pre-season goal, USF learned one thing from their season: they are willing to wait to complete an unattained goal. They are willing to wait until next year.

1. When pitcher Ben Sheets became the all-time leader in strikeouts for the Brewers in 2008, whose franchise mark did he pass?
2. True or False: Of the top three pitchers in the 1990s with the most victories, all three pitched for the Atlanta Braves during that decade.
3. Name the last major-college team before Navy in 2006 to not attempt a pass in a football game.
4. Name the last major-college team before Navy in 2008 to not attempt a pass in a football game.
5. Entering this season, name the last NHL defensemen to tally at least 30 goals in a season.
6. In 2008, American goalkeeper Brad Friedel set the record for the longest streak of consecutive-games played in soccer's Premier League history. What was the old mark?
7. Which of the two heavyweight boxing champions Klitschko brothers is older: Wladimir or Vitali?