HIGHLIGHTS

SG ELECTIONS
APRIL 6-9th

A “Phenomenal” Event
Women of the USF St. Petersburg community were recognized for their achievements

» story on pg. 4

Spring Break in Guatemala
College of Business students work with coffee farmers

» story on pg. 3

Farewell to Arms
The MLB says goodbye to three award winning pitchers

» story on pg. 8

THE CROW’S NEST

Vol. 43 No. 24
THE STUDENT NEWSPAPER OF USF ST. PETERSBURG
Week of April 6th, 2009

Meet your SG Presidential Candidates

Sara Palmer
Staff Writer

Who will you vote for on April 6-9: James Scott or Austin Arias?

James Scott has been Student Government Senate President since Fall 2008. He is a member of many clubs and organizations such as the Technology Fee Advisory committee and is in the honors program, where he and the administration created the honors council. Scott attended the American Student Government Association conference last year where he participated in workshops on student government and leadership.

As SG President, Scott plans to complete a long list of changes that he feels will make a positive impact on the student body.

“T will build ties between SG and the administration which gives students the ability to get things done,” he said. “I will be promoting sustainability, environmental awareness and diversity on campus.”

Scott recognizes that there are limitations as well as recognitions that come along with the role.

“Being independent takes a lot of time. I’ll have to balance my personal and professional responsibilities,” he said.

Scott said he is the best choice for the presidency because he can make a difference on campus.

“I am much more experienced, have much more knowledge of our campus, and have much more know-how when it comes to getting things done,” he said.

“When I think of how SG, the student body and our campus will change during my time in office,” Scott said, “I see SG becoming a visible, reliable resource that the student body can rely on to make tangible changes on their behalf.”

Austin Arias is the Director of Marketing and Public Affairs for the USF St. Petersburg student government.

“I am qualified to be SG president because I have worked a great deal within the Department of Student Life & Engagement, including Student Government, in many leadership capacities,” Arias said.

If elected, Arias says he will make students and the university community student government’s number one priority. He wants to ensure responsible spending of the Activity and Service Fees, the student government budget. He also wants to help student government connect more with the students.

“I feel that I can bring some new and creative ways to network,” he said. “I feel that the student voice is not being heard as effectively as it could and by developing a strong outreach plan, this can be overcome.”

“I am someone who is truly dedicated to our university. I have worked hard to get to know all facets of our community and I feel that I can truly make a difference,” Arias said.

USF St. Petersburg student body it is time to make a choice.

Voting polls open April 6 at 10 a.m. To vote, log on to your Blackboard account.

SG presidential candidate says he learned from bad decision

Kaeli Conforti
Staff Writer

Student Government presidential candidate James Scott recently admitted to drinking underage last fall on a university-funded trip, saying he failed to recognize his responsibilities as a student leader.

Scott, a junior majoring in environmental science & policy, said he made a bad decision when attending an SG conference in Washington D.C. last September.

“I was in my hotel room; I had showered and was ready to settle down to watch the Palin-Biden debate before bed,” Scott said. “I got a rum and OJ from the lobby, brought it to my room, and sipped it as I watched the debate. Then I went to sleep.”

Scott was still 20-years-old at the time.

Scott, who had been elected SG senate president a few weeks earlier, described how he had not considered the consequences of his actions.

“At the moment it didn’t cross my mind,” he said. “I don’t think I had been senate president more than a month at that point, and I was naive as to the line between my public and private life.”

Joel Van Horn, senior political science major and former SG president also attended the conference. He remembered seeing Scott drinking and decided to do nothing about it.

“When he was drinking, it never actually hit me that I should say something,” Van Horn said, adding that at first he had doubts as to whether Scott was underage.

Story continued on pg. 3
Dear Crow’s Nest:

Along I am a full-time student and on-campus resident at USF St. Petersburg. I park in the parking garage on the assigned resident levels and as one would expect, I frequently drive various places, multiple times a day. I believe the school’s parking garage needs to be changed. The cost of resident student parking decal compared to a non-resident parking decals in extreme. The cost is almost $40 more expensive. At the current price it is about 33 percent more expensive. I understand why our decals cost more, because residents keep their vehicles parked in the garage overnight. However, since we pay more, why are we forced to park on the top two floors?

I measured the distance, the entrance of the parking garage, until an average parking spot for me was 0.6 miles. That means just to leave and come back, I need to drive at least 1.2 miles. If I make that trip once per day, for 180 days, I will drive an extra 216 miles. If I am paying an extra 33 percent for a parking decal, I should have priority parking.

Here is a solution: make the second and third floors resident parking only. This has another added benefit, the cars that stay overnight, are now also four to five floors closer to the campus police station. If parking services do not want to make the second and third floor resident only floors, then perhaps residents should be allowed to park on any floor in an open parking spot.

I believe that many accidents happen in our parking garage versus other parking garages because of poor placement of directional signs. Going down the ramps in the parking garage, the sign says to exit by turning left (counter-clockwise). That exit, however, is meant for pedestrians, not for cars. Another smaller sign, which is located in an awkward position, directs cars to turn right, or clockwise. If all the cars going both up and down went clockwise, then the paths of opposing directional vehicles will never cross. However, most students, upon descending, simple turn left or counter-clockwise which means having to drive around another vehicle which quite often is not visible until very late. Placing a large sign with an arrow facing right which directs the descending vehicles clockwise would more than likely end many preventable accidents.

If you park within the first two parking spots of a floor, you will also see a small sign saying “Compact Car Only.” I have seen a full-size pickup truck parking in the “Compact Car Only” spot, making the turn difficult to navigate and see around. If Parking Services actually enforced this rule with a small ticket, the visibility of many turns in the parking garage would also be greatly increased.

The recent breaking and entering of the cars left in the parking garage over spring break also give further incentive to move the assigned Resident parking levels lower. The cars that need the police protection the most are the cars that are left overnight or for long periods of time. Moving the resident parking levels closer to the police station, the likelihood of another series of break-ins is greatly diminished. As students on a college campus, it is the campus police system’s responsibility to afford every student the maximum safety and protection possible.

These changes should not be difficult to implement. To avoid any last minute confusion, it would be appropriate to wait till fall 2009 to change the resident parking levels. The signs displaying the speed limit can be changed, or even covered up, to display the updated speed limit. A large arrow directing traffic the appropriate direction shouldn’t be difficult to add, or costly. And of course, enforcing the “Compact Car Only” rule could easily provide enough revenue to implement all the changes I have suggested.

Sincerely,

Alex Smith

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**THE CROW’S NEST**

**POPCULTURE GRID**

by Ashley Jones

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**We asked . . .**

**Are you attending the Honda Grand Prix?**

- Ian Miller-Evans: Contemplating it
- Leigh Cavanaugh: No
- Michael Day: I am not
- Katie Swingo: No
- Linnea Fisher: No

**Do you use public transportation?**

- No
- No
- Very rarely
- No
- No

**How often do you use the campus pool?**

- Never
- Never
- Never
- Only once
- A lot

**Worst movie?**

- Twilight
- Les
- Napoleon Dynamite
- The Fourth of July
- Raymond & Donnar

**Have you visited any museums downtown?**

- Yes, Dali and Museum of Fine Arts
- No
- Yes, Museum of Fine Arts
- Yes, Dali and Holocaust
- Yes, Holocaust
"I voluntarily resigned," Scott said. "Joel [Van Horn] had minimized so many individuals that at the conference I was told be inaccurate. I very well could have been let go, but I didn't want to put my supervisor in that position."

Van Horn said he had often worried about having to implement Scott's actions at the conference.

"I didn't do it to further my career or anything," he said. "If we're going to become leaders of the school, we have to have some kind of morals and ethics."

According to Van Horn, administrative and members of SG from other universities felt that the conference was a stark reminder of how easy we have it from the whole senate at all."

"I learned a lot about being a leader from the whole experience," Scott said. "I learned that as a leader I am held to a higher standard than the average student when acting as senate president."

"I learned that even unintentional thoughtless mistakes have significant ramifications if they're made in an official capacity," said Kristina Giese, a junior majoring in mass communications, said Scott has always been at SG to this year, helping to keep the senate on task and being there to ease them through the many changes in presidency this past year.

"I have been a senator now for two years and I have never seen the senate so unified," Giese said. "James really goes above and beyond to make sure that there is proper communication among the branches and to make sure that the entire senate is on the same page. He supports and respects every senator."

"She added, "Nobody is perfect. Everyone makes mistakes. I mean we are human after all."

According to Van Horn, Scott often organized activities for SG members to get them acquainted with one another outside of meetings.

"Some things were good and open boosters," he said, adding that Scott was "pro-active" as Senate President, often spending long hours in the SG office.

"He'd come down there and always want to be involved. He always had the first one to ask," Van Horn said, describing Scott's initiative in office.

The SG senate was busy this year, tackling the budget and implementing a new constitution in addition to working on a recycling program and approving plans for a new student union.

"I have no issue with how James has run the senate all," Kaeli said.

"From what I've seen, the meetings have been run very well. The senate had gotten through their agenda in a decent amount of time and it looks like they're trying to grapple with many, many things."

Scott expressed his desire to continue to serve the USEF St. Petersburg community.

"I admire a 'newbie' leader, made a thoughtful, irresponsible decision six months ago, and I paid for it," said Scott, "but I have always meant well, and I have continued to wholeheartedly fulfill my commitments to SG.

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**Trip to Guatemala teaches MBA students**

Kaelli Conforti Staff Writer

While most students spent their spring break relaxing on beaches, a group of graduate students worked with local coffee farmers in the shadows of volcanoes.

As part of the Master's of Business Administration (MBA) class, Economic Development and Sustainability in Latin America, a group of 19 students and two professors traveled to Guatemala, from March 14 to 22, taking in the sights as they focused on the economic, social and environmental aspects of the country's sustainability.

"The students climbed the Pacaya Volcano, helped the coffee farmers with their daily chores and ate dinner in small groups with the families," said Dr. Tom Arnoosh, and associate professor of marketing, who was a wonderful learning experience for all of us.

"Prior to the trip, the students attended lectures on two Saturdays, providing them with background information about what they would encounter once they arrived in Guatemala.

"They thought they'd appreciate it a lot more," said Dr. Todd Shank, associate professor of finance, "I think that's what people in foreign countries like - when you have done some research about the place."

The trip, which cost roughly $2,700, included airfare, lodging and most meals.

"During the trip, the group met with members from ANACAPE, a Government Organization for the Promotion of Guatemalan Coffee, where they learned that Guatemalan coffee is the third best coffee in the world behind Ethiopia and Kenya.

"They were also given the opportunity to spend a day working with coffee farmers at the Santa Ana Farm, assisting farmers in a day's work.

"Everyone was assigned a family to help with the coffee," Shank said. "We spent two days going out and helping, which was great because we got to see how these people live and how your life would be if you were a coffee farmer."

"The trip traveled around "coffee country," an area to the south of Guatemala City, where coffee adds to the local economy. Since coffee is grown at high elevations.

"We really get a sense of what it's like to go out and work for a living," Shank said. "It was a real eye-opening experience.

Alexander Assouad, graduate student with a concentration in finance and international business, said he enjoyed getting to "know the locals they worked with, and now has a new appreciation for the things we have back in the United States."

"It was great to find out exactly how it was done," Assouad said. "It was a privilege to learn about something we simply take for granted."

Erica Rogers, graduate student with concentrations in marketing and corporate social responsibility, also enjoyed the time they spent in Guatemala.

"It was a stark reminder of how easy we have it in the States, where we go ballistic if there is a problem," Rogers said. "I also reaffirmed my belief that people are so much more resilient and adaptable than we give them credit."

Rogers described how a man named Rigoberto Ribagorza spoke to the group at one of the coffee cooperatives they visited, saying that guerilla fighters had taken up coffee farming since the civil wars were over.

"I was impressed by the amount of work that goes into it and disheartened by the fact that farmers gave up so little for their product," Rogers said. "Also, it's hard to believe that Wall Street sets a one world price for coffee. It doesn't matter who has the best coffee, everyone gets the same set price."

The students also traveled to Parajachel near crossing Lake Atitlan on their way to San Juan, where they met with the leadership of La Vea Fair Trade Coffee Cooperative.

Shank said the group was surprised by the weather where they were staying.
ROTNC at USF St. Petersburg celebrates first graduate

Amanda Smith
Staff Writer

It's 5:45 a.m. on Monday morning, and Cadet Kenneth Luu, 22, just arrived to the USF St. Petersburg campus, ready to begin his workout. Luu is surrounded by the early morning darkness and 60 other USF St. Petersburg Reserve Officer Training Corps (ROTC) members, all of whom will greet the run with sweat and pain. As many of his fellow USF St. Petersburg students are tucked under the covers nearby, sleeping in Residence Hall One, Luu spends his early mornings, Monday through Friday, completing Physical Training (PT) as a part of USF St. Petersburg's ROTC program.

On May 3rd, 2009, Luu will have two degrees to show for it. A double major in marketing and European history, Luu will join hundreds of other USF graduating seniors at Mahaffey Theatre for Commencement, where he will receive a special honor: a scholarship. Luu will be recognized as the First Commencement University Commendation of the USF ROTC program at St. Petersburg.

The program started in Fall 2007, and Cadet Luu is the first USF St. Petersburg student and ROTC member to graduate. "Our program is still pretty new at USF St. Pete," and Cadet Luu is a first and prime example of what our program promotes," said Major Scott Macksam, director of the ROTC program at USF St. Petersburg. "He is leaving here with a degree, but also a competent leader and a true gentleman."

Luu said he enlisted in the Army about a year after graduating from Northeast High School in St. Petersburg. A high-school wrestling star, Luu received an athletic scholarship to wrestle at Cal-State Fullerton, but was forced to return home to Florida after an injury left him unable to wrestle.

"That was obviously a hard time for me," said Luu, "but I knew I wanted to continue school."

"Why did I join the Army and ROTC? Honestly, I don't know. I just think serving your country is something every person should do," said Luu. "After I got hurt and came home to Florida, the Army just seemed like the right fit."

Members of the ROTC program receive a scholarship and a stipend from the United States Army, in exchange for a commitment to years of active duty or active drilling reserve with the Army. The amount of funding and duty commitment varies depending on the program and record of prior military service, said Macksam.

"I'm so glad I chose to do the ROTC program," said Luu. "I'm leaving with my education paid for and with a lot of lessons in leadership."

Luu said he continues his military training, but also hopes to pursue a graduate degree and find a job outside of the military.

"I'm not sure where I'll end up working. I'm leaving with a double major in Marketing and European History—one degree for my parents, and one for myself. Whatever I end up doing, I'll take so much of what I learned in the military. It's a whole plethora of knowledge of how to deal with people, and I will take that with me for the rest of my life."

Luu said he is not phased by the recognition he will receive at graduation, which includes a write-up in the Commencement pamphlet and on-stage acknowledgment as the First Commendation Recipient.

"Honestly, I don't think too much of it," said Luu. "If this was anybody else they'd do the same thing. It's graduating that really matters."

"Luu is one of those people that always looks out for everyone else," said Michael Mach, 22, a criminal justice major and fellow member of ROTC. Mach said, "Luu will go out of his way for others, and he always made sure we younger guys stay on the right track."

Macksam said Luu took personal time out to teach younger cadets the founding leadership skills that ROTC promotes. "Luu has taken a lot of his own time to individually train junior cadets," said Macksam, "and he has volunteered for organizations within the St. Pete community, including the VA and local high schools and middle schools."

With his wrestling injury behind him, Luu still enjoys the sports of wrestling and football by volunteering with local schools Seminole and Northeast. "It's awesome to see these kids and help them develop technique. It's really rewarding," said Luu.

While Luu's days as a college athlete are over, his fellow ROTC members Mach and Benjamin Tanner, 22, criminology, said they still see his athleticism in the early morning PT sessions. "We call him 'high-speed,'" said Mach, "He's definitely squared-away."

Sara Palmer
Staff Writer

The Coquina café was filled with an array of phenomena women, March 24.

The first Phenomenal Woman awards reception, hosted by the Black Student Association and Office of Multicultural Affairs, recognized women on the USF St. Petersburg campus.

"We acknowledge and honor faculty, staff and students that go above and beyond," said Erica Eschols, graduate student in environmental science and policy.

Eschols, alongside BSA President Abrand Cary, were the mistresses of ceremony for the event. USF St. Petersburg faculty, staff and students nominated all the women for the Phenomenal Woman award.

The awards were divided into four categories: Behind the Scenes, Essential Piece, Each One Teach One and Lending a Hand.

Behind the Scenes category recognized women on campus "dedicated to seeing that tasks are completed from start to finish with out acknowledgment."

Nalini Soni, USF staff member with Student Disabilities Services and USF student Nicole Lawrence were each awarded a Behind the Scenes award.

The Essential Piece category acknowledged USF St. Petersburg women who helped to ensure effective communication, faculty, and staff. and students. "And who ensure the needs of the university and community are met through assistance, care, and supervision," said Sullivan, "Journalism graduate student Pam Hogle and Dr. Diane McKinstry with Student Affairs and Enrollment Services were presented with the Essential Piece award.

"I think a lot of people do 'phenomenal' things and go unnoticed," Hogle said. "It is a wonderful idea to call attention to some of these people and offer other students the chance to meet them and learn from their experiences."

The third category, Each One Teach One, recognized women on campus who offer opportunities and assistance for students to aid in their academic success.

Dr. Mya Breitbart, faculty in the College of Marine Science and Bridgett Nickens, staff member with the Department of Journalism and Media Studies received Phenomenal Woman awards for this category.

"My mom has been my inspiration. She raised eight children and was a county elected official for more than 30 years," Nickens said. "She taught me that it costs nothing to help someone, and the gratitude you receive in return is priceless."

"Among all the stress and chaos of day-to-day life, it is always nice to hear that you are making a positive impact and doing a good job," Breitbart said. "I think the recognition with these awards is important not only to the person receiving the award, but also for members of the student body that are looking for mentors and role models, and who will benefit from hearing others' experiences and stories."

The final category, Lending A Hand, acknowledged USF St. Petersburg women who offer assistance through emotional support. In academics and in the community.

Diana Caball, student and member of the USF St. Petersburg sailing team, Harriet Fletcher with the College of Arts and Sciences and Dr. Kathleen Carvalho-Knighton, assistant professor in chemistry, all received an award in this category.

Prior to the presentation of the awards, Vanessa Rendon prefaced a vivid rendition of Maya Angelou's poem "Phenomenal Woman," a fitting choice for the atmosphere of the evening.

"When you see me pass ing, it ought to make you proud," said Rendon, reciting Angelou's poem. "Cause I am a woman phenomenally phenomenal woman, that's me."

"Our keynote speaker is a phenomena woman herself," said Cary as she introduces the reception's speaker—Dr. Margaret Sullivan, USF St. Petersburg's interim regional chancellor.

Sullivan spoke with humor and intellect as she described events in her life that led her to where she is today:

"From an art teacher in the 60s to the most beautiful campus in the Southeast and none of it was planned," Sullivan said.

Other nominees for the evening include Paul White, Kay-Lynne Taylor, Jennifer Worner, Jennifer Quinn-Taylor, Jonelle Hasso, Renee Miller, Catherine Uphoff, Christine Uphoff, Dr. Susan Toler, T. Lynn Hawkins, Dr. Anita Sahgal and Erica Hampton.

The event wrapped up with an original poem entitled "Untitled" performed by its author, Tavena Guyton.

"If I don't think I'm best," Guyton said in her poem, "nobody else will."

Week of April 6th, 2009

Kenneth Luu, taken in 2009 when Luu was enlisted as a specialist in the Army Reserve.
NEXT WEEK
MON * CARNIVAL
TUES * FAT TUESDAY
WED * MARDI HA!
THURS * MASK YOURSELF
FRI * MASQUERADE

HAB
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University of South Florida, St. Petersburg

multicultural affairs

SG
Spring Fling

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COMMUNITY

EVENTS CALENDAR

Monday, April 6
"Why the Academy Needs Womanism, Now More Than Ever," Theatre 1, 8:00 p.m.

Tuesday, April 7
Women in Research Roundtable, location TBA, 10:30 a.m.
Environmental Economics Forum Series: "Green Jobs: Myth or Reality?" USF Sarasota-Manatee, 11:30 a.m.
Bell Horn Radio Meeting, CAC Club Room, 5 p.m.
Poetry with Dana Levin, TECO Room, 6:00 p.m.

Wednesday, April 8
Research Town Hall Meeting, CAC, 9:30 a.m.
Wednesdays at Williams, Williams Park, 11 a.m.
"Can Black Men Be Feminists?" 4th Floor - Tampa Campus Library - Grace Allen Room, 3:00 p.m.

Thursday, April 9
USF Trombone Troupe, FAH 101 - Music Recital Hall, 8:00 p.m.

Friday, April 10
Stampede to Success, Marshall Center, 8:30 a.m.
Homecoming: The Return of Jeff "Left Hook" Lacy, USF Sun Dome, 8:00 p.m.

Saturday, April 11
Saturday Guided Hikes, Weedon Island Preserve, 10 a.m.
New Found Glory, Jannus Landing, 6:00 p.m.

If you would like to post an event please contact
Manuel Carrasco at mcarra2@mail.usf.edu

COMMUNITY

Employment options post graduation

Emmalee Schmidt
Assistant Editor

There are exactly 27 days until graduation. The class of 2009 will walk proudly across that stage and take pictures with friends and family that will last a lifetime. Then reality sets in: No career post-graduation. Still living with your parents; well, maybe not living with your parents, but you get my drift.

Graduating seniors have a couple choices. First, look for a job. If you have not started scouting out the monster and hotjob Web sites, now is the time. This economy is hurting people with jobs. It is causing people to lose jobs and college students to fight for work at a fast food restaurant.

Don't fret. Your wonderful college degree is not going to waste. Let's just say it is in hibernation mode. Now, if you are applying for full-time positions and are getting nowhere, there is hope.

The second choice you soon-to-be graduates have is getting a part-time job in the meantime. Working at night has its advantages. You have your day hours free for applying for full-time jobs and setting up interviews.

Employers are looking for more part-time employees than ever. Part-time associates normally do not receive health benefits which helps the employer out in this economic situation. But sometimes you have to do what is necessary in a time of crisis.

If you are competent with a computer and have at-home access to a home computer there is a job industry for you. Working a part-time job from home helps to save the money you spend on that gas guzzler in your driveway and working in your pajamas saves money on business-casual attire.

Some of the jobs that are thriving in this economy and are currently hiring are call center representatives, home agents, mystery shoppers, online tutors, transcription jobs and virtual assistants. A useful Web site to scour is craigslist.com. This online database has job postings on their site. Some of their clients include Bright House Networks and Papa Johns. Just think, a free pizza for following simple directions. Who wouldn't want to do this job?

If you are struggling to find a job check out the at-home position that pay a decent wage. Who else can say they wear PJs and work for a fortune 500 company?
Three great MLB pitchers wave good-bye

Peter Papello
Staff Writer

Alex Rodriguez, Manny Ramirez, Albert Pujols. In addition to being arm candy to Madonna, a one-man walking stimulus package and the main attraction of St. Louis' New Busch Stadium, these guys are also the best hitters in baseball. Unfortunately, now is not the time to be the best anything in baseball, right now baseball needs a good story about heroes.

Long before the rampant free-agency trend, outrageous salaries and steroid controversies, professional baseball players were idolized in the imagination as sporting icons, champions of competition or just simply good guys who just did things the right way. Today, they are merely seen as social arm candy to Madonna, a one-man accurate probe of the game's great legacies on baseball.

But like every beginning to a hero story, there lies a villain. And like every conclusion, there lies adversity that is conquered.

"Those guys were awesome," USF St. Petersburg biology major Luke Louse said. "Especially in the mid 90s, the Braves used to play on TBS a lot and I remember seeing Maddux all the time. In my opinion, he's one of the best ever."

Maybe it's Maddux's four Cy Young Award trophies or his 18 Gold Glove awards. Perhaps it's his 355 career wins and his 3,771 strikeouts. Actually, it's neither.

"My most famous memory was Game 1 of the 1995 World Series. He threw a complete game and only allowed two hits and no runs. It was the kind of performance that was like a kid in Little League, you dream of doing." Atlanta Braves fan and Marietta, Georgia resident Matt Parrow said.

For Mike Mussina, it is not his .368 career ERA or his five All-Star selections. Nor is it the fact that in an era where we may never again see a 300-game winner, Mussina would have been next to accomplish the feat with his current mark of 270 wins. In 2008, Mussina extended his American League record of completing 17 consecutive seasons with at least 10 wins. But that is not it either.

Curt Schilling, on the other hand, is the best post-season pitcher in history with an 11-2 record. He only has 216 wins, but is a member of the 3,000-strikeout club and owns three World Championship rings. Those too, are merely just statistics.

Schilling's "bloody sock" masterpiece in Game 6 of the 2004 ALCS matched his personality: gritty and gutsy. But what truly defined Curt Schilling as the best player was the paradox of his personality: controversial, yet charismatic. Clutch, yet comfortable.

"People think he's kind of a jerk, but when the game was on the line, he could pitch. As a Red Sox fan, there was no one else I wanted on the mound when we faced elimination. After Game 6 in 2004 against the Yankees, he gave us all something to believe in. At that point, anything was possible," said Chris Ryals, USF St. Petersburg student and Medford, Massachusetts native.

And yet, that is what allows this motley trio of baseball pitchers to attain their roles as heroes. It's not about statistics or phenomenal pitching performances or even anything to do with baseball. They made fans believe again. That is something that the game needs more than ever right now.

With their retirement, baseball has indeed lost something special over the past few months, but it has gained a lot more: the rediscovered faith of the fan and the feeling of not knowing what you've got until it is gone. It is manifested in their absence.

It's the stuff that defines the presence of legends: the finesse of Maddux, the competitive drive of Mussina, the heart of Schilling.

In this baseball story, heroes are always remembered. But legends never die.

1. Who won more league MVP awards during his career — Cal Ripken Jr. or Tony Gwynn?
2. Enter the 2009 campaign, how many consecutive seasons had the Chicago Cubs pitching staff led the National League in strikeouts?
3. In 2007, Cincinnati's Carson Palmer became the fifth fastest quarterback in NFL history to toss 100 touchdown passes for his career (59 games). Name two of the four ahead of him.
4. When UConn basketball player Hasheem Thabeet set the Big East single-season blocked shots record of 137 in 2007-08, whose mark did he break?
5. Which NHL conference advanced more of its top four seeds through the first round of the playoffs in 2007-08 — the Eastern or the Western?
6. Name the last time a U.S. male swimmer did not win an Olympic gold medal in the 100-meter backstroke?
7. In 2009, Phil Mickelson became the fourth golfer to win back-to-back PGA events at Riviera County Club in California. Name one of the three others to do it.

PAGES 8, 9, 10, 11 . . .

SPORTS QUIZ

By Chris Rebbeck
Answers can be found online under sports.

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Week of April 6th, 2009