Skip Holtz ushers in a new dynasty

By Greg Lindberg
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For the first time in its short history, a new leader of the USF football program is in town.

On Jan. 15, Skip Holtz was officially sworn in as the new head coach of the Bulls.

Holtz, the son of renowned college football coach Lou Holtz, spent five seasons as head coach at East Carolina where he compiled a 38-27 record before being wooed to Tampa. He won back-to-back Conference USA championships and led the Pirates to four straight bowl games. Earlier in his career, he served as head coach at Connecticut and as an assistant under his father at Notre Dame and South Carolina.

Holtz replaced Jim Leavitt, who was fired on Jan. 8 after 13 seasons as the school's only football coach. An investigation into allegations of misconduct by Leavitt determined that he had physically assaulted Joel Miller, a walk-on sophomore running back for the Bulls during halftime of a November home game against Louisville.

After his dismissal, Leavitt demanded that he be reinstated as head coach, claiming that the allegations were "misreported" and that he wanted to continue coaching the team. USF officials, however, opted to move on with a new coach.

Holtz, 45, signed a five-year contract worth $9.1 million with USF.

He is now poised to build on a program his predecessor created and later guided to a No. 2 national ranking. At his introductory press conference on campus in front of a large, excited crowd, Holtz expressed his enthusiasm for his new job and made clear some lofty goals he hopes to achieve. "We can win conference championships here. We can win national championships here," he said to a loud applause; "I'm excited to get started."

The Bulls will immediately test Holtz in his first season at the helm. USF will play Florida and Miami on the road in 2010, in addition to its always-challenging Big East schedule. The following season, the Bulls travel to Notre Dame to face the Fighting Irish for the first time.

More contests against Miami and Florida State are also on tap. With higher-level competition slated on its upcoming non-conference schedules, USF has a chance to win some big games, and Holtz has every opportunity to get the job done.

Quarterback B.J. Daniels, who decided to commit solely to football this year, told WTSP-TV that he is pleased with the hire. "It makes me feel good because I feel like I have a coach [who] has his trust in me," he said. "To have that kind of relationship with your coach is very important!"

During the introduction of Holtz, a fan in the crowd shouted, "Beat Florida!" – a reference to the Bulls' upcoming showdown with the Gators on Sept. 11. Holtz responded, "That's why I'm here!"

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By Amy Blanton
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The alarm sounds. It is 6 a.m. First task of the day?
Immediately begin juggling appointments with faculty, students, and various university leaders. As well as finish the final edits on the reports for the many councils you serve on.

These are a few duties of being a college administrator and inheriting these countless responsibilities is Dr. Margaret Sullivan, the newly appointed Regional Chancellor of USF St. Petersburg.

Sullivan has spent the past few months as interim chancellor of the university, and when the opportunity came her way to have the permanent position, she took it.

When Chancellor Sullivan arrived on campus as Interim Regional Chancellor, her main job was to secure accreditation for the university. In doing so, she was able to evaluate the creative; and she has always loved people working with talented and brilliant people because they are so creative; and she has always loved higher administration.

Even though most people Sullivan's age is focusing on retirement, the idea of doing so herself is suppressed way in the back of her mind. She said that she has always loved higher administration.

"Before I came to St. Petersburg I worked with over 200 schools in the Southeast. One as small as 47 students and systems as large as Louisiana State University (LSU)," Sullivan said. "But no where did I find the faculty of the quality that's here. We are smaller than a large university but indeed in many ways a lot better than some."

For someone who did not see herself as an administrator when she was a student in college, her life has taken a different turn.

"Becoming Regional Chancellor of a university was the biggest surprise of my life," Sullivan said.

Sullivan feels that working in a college environment was right up her alley. She said that she has "always liked working with talented and brilliant people because they are so creative;" and she has always loved higher administration.

Even though most people Sullivan's age is focusing on retirement, the idea of doing so herself is suppressed way in the back of her mind. However, when the time comes she will now it.

"I guess with every person my age it depends on how much energy you have, the state of your health, and the relationship and concern that you have with your family, as well as the state of the institution at the time that you choose to leave," she said.

But before she decides to leave, her goal is to see the university financially stronger --have the accreditation issues comfortably assured, see the university grow and leave with a strong relationship with St. Petersburg.

Breathe easy: USF St. Petersburg prepares for emergencies

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The American Red Cross Club USF St. Petersburg will be offering CPR and AED Certification on Sunday, Jan. 30, from 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. in the Campus Activities Center.

The club wants to raise awareness to the student body, faculty, and staff on the need of emergency preparedness.

Their ultimate goal is to ensure that the student body knows how to respond to an emergency. According to the club's president, Christian Bengston, "our goal is to train every possible student on campus, and set the example as the best prepared University for emergency situations."

Bengston said that every year, over 300,000 people suffer a cardiac emergency, and 95 percent of them die before reaching the hospital.

The price for students is $25, which covers the materials needed for the class instruction such as the books, first aid kits, mannequin maintenance and certificates.

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While most students spent their winter break avoiding the thought of the upcoming semester, a select few members of Student Government, spent theirs drafting new bill proposals for Senate.

SG President Jon Ellington, Vice President Rueben Pressman, Senate President Sarah Henry and Senator Christian Haas were confirmed to have had unpublicized meetings with no minutes taken over the winter break.

According to Sunshine Law, the meetings held over winter break were in violation of Section 286.011 of Florida statutes. However, Ellington and Pressman do not feel they were in violation.

According to Pressman, "Sunshine Law only applies to voting members, which is the legislation branch. So two or more members of the legislation branch, or even the budget committee; none of them can meet because they are making vote-able decisions on policy and procedures," he said. "More than two of them cannot meet. It does not apply to myself or Jon, or anyone else on the executive branch."

-Rueben Pressman

The other issue with this bill is that a number of the positions that Ellington wants to create a department of campus culture and diversity, which "will coordinate events and initiatives in order to promote and create multicultural awareness, both within the university and surrounding community"—which are the same responsibilities of our current office of multicultural affairs. The law also states that meetings of all public boards or commissions must be open to the public at all times, reasonable notice of such meetings must be given, and minutes of the meetings must be taken and open to public inspection." Ellington did not provide notice nor minutes to the public about these meetings.

Some SG Senators wondered why changes were needed in the first place. For Matthew O'Brien, Senator of the college of arts and sciences, the idea that major changes to the laws was needed came as a surprise. "It did feel like it was kind of something that just came out of the dark," O'Brien said. "I had not heard anything about this before we went to winter break — I had not heard any plans to alter the constitution or to change anything. So it did feel like we were coming back to something completely new."

"[Sunshine Law] applies to any gathering, whether formal or casual, of two or more members of the same governmental board or commission to discuss some matter on which foreseeable action will be taken by the public board or commission."

Former treasurer John Osborne — who resigned at the Senate meeting — urged Senate members "to closely examine" each bill that comes across their table because their decision will many affect organizations and students. Students are urged to voice their favor or opposition in these matters.

SG has posted a list of upcoming meeting times and locations on their Web site, www.usfspsg.org.
Students ‘get on board’

By Sadie Hewitt
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You are not interested in joining the Debate Team, but you are looking for an excuse to get involved on campus.

On Tuesday Jan. 20, student life and engagement held its annual “Get on Board Day” to promote student involvement on campus.

Get on Board Day familiarizes students with the many clubs and organizations available on campus, while also providing the opportunity for the clubs and organizations to attract new members.

The event comprised over 40 clubs and organizations including Student Government, Harborside Activities Board, the Black Student Association, the Debate Team and Catholic Campus Ministries.

Matthew Morrin, Director of student life and engagement, believes that it “is important for all students to make a connection to the campus, and Get on Board Day helps to facilitate this happening.”

The event took place around newly built Harborwalk from 10:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m., while live music from the band The Prospect accompanied the various activities.

“It is a fun day for everyone who participates,” said Jeff Parker, graduate assistant for the department of student life and engagement.”

Daniel McDonald (right) speaks to fellow student Jasper Quach (left) about USF Student Government. A number of student organizations were on hand to explain their roles on campus.

From Left to right: Demerrio Tobler accepts donations to the Haiti Relief Fund from USF students, Ariel Szego and Dwight Morrison.
By Andrew Silverstein
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It was inevitable, the scholars prophesized.
They warned that at the rate we were going, the rapidly evolving machines would soon take over—outsmarting, outliving, and ultimately controlling all of us petty, mortal humans.

Well, the invasion's here and sooner than anyone thought. Their most common species are, Laptoptrimus Optimus and Tyrannosaurus Text—commonly known as laptops and cell phones. They have slowly crept in and wrapped their virtual tentacles around the bright, class-going minds of USF St. Petersburg.

Although seemingly innocent to many, certain groups believe that programs like Facebook and Twitter are detrimental to one's educational development when used in the classroom.

Championing the no laptop stance is Professor Deni Elliott of the department of journalism and media studies at USF St. Petersburg.

Elliott, who teaches media ethics, believes the use of computers, even for solely taking notes, is a burden on the give and take conversational structure of her classes.

"I don't want people taking notes in my class. I want them engaged in conversation," she said.

She teaches by the discovery method and Socratic process. Both rely on continual questioning and debate among instructor and students.

"I never lecture for more than five minutes," Elliott said. "But the only way the class can work is if there's undivided attention to the topic and conversation." Elliott isn't looking for a department-wide ban on laptops either. While they are not fitting to her personal teaching style, she recognizes the benefits laptops can provide in other classes.

"For some classes, like News Editing or Research Methods, I can see how computers would come in handy for research or writing purposes," Elliott said.

As for cell phones, however; she sees absolutely no place for them in a class except for certain urgent or emergency situations.

Many of her fellow teaching brethren seem to agree, as the entire department has adopted a no cell phone policy that went into effect the beginning of this spring semester.

Another professor in the department, Tony Silvia, allows laptop computers in his classes while recognizing their benefits as well as pitfalls.

"I think in this age it's not only inevitable, it's desirable that students have laptops in class. Students can instantly research the topic being discussed; they can come up with links, videos, pictures that are relevant," Silvia said.

"For other reasons they're not [desirable]. They can be distracting and disrespectful. It cheats both the student's and other students' full, undivided attention to the conversation."

But, if students are paying for their education isn't it really their prerogative to choose to zone out and harvest purple cumquats on Farnville or read Twitter posts all class?

Well, yes and no, according to Silvia.

"I understand that argument, but you have to ask, 'What is a classroom experience' said Silvia.

"If you want to define education as a commodity that one pays for then, yes, it works. If you look at it as an experience then that argument falls apart. I fully understand that education is a business, but I think we go too far when we say we are merchants and you are consumers."

So, how do students feel about controlling laptop use in their classes? Reactions appear fairly mixed.

"The students at USF St. Petersburg should be treated like adults," senior Anna Lisa Covell said. "If students are texting, googling, or whatever technical distraction and not paying attention, they are only hurting themselves. Limits or bans on laptops really defeat the purpose of being a journalism student in the era of electronic media and all its technology."

On the other hand, some see it as an unpleasant distraction.

According to senior Marissa Baker, "Sometimes it does get really annoying... when you are trying to take notes in a class and people are constantly typing, clicking and checking their Facebook or playing games it gets to be very distracting."

So the debate rolls on. In an age where technology is evolving so rapidly we're inadvertently propelled into making decisions like these. Should we embrace all new technology? Or keep the tried and true old ways?

Will this debate even matter when we are all surfing Facebook through electronic nodes surgically grafted onto our visual cortexes?
No more sleeping in until 2 p.m. or watching the old reruns of Friends and Seinfeld on the CW. Winter break is over, which means time to re-acquaint with your monstrous college algebra book that has been hiding under your bed since your finals, and pull out your trusty and maybe even rusty backpack.

The spring semester has started whether you are ready for it or not. I am sure that your winter break was wonderful, relaxing, exciting, and tons of fun; but now it is time to get back into the grind of studying, writing five to 10 page papers once a week and pulling all-nighters.

Before you set your mind completely on studying and writing papers here are a few campus programs and services that will help you get through the semester. It is essential that every college student knows the programs and services provided by the library. Here at the Nelson Poynter Memorial Library, students are able to find help with research topics, citation questions or just a good book to read.

In addition, the library also provides rooms for group study, wireless access, media services, Inter-library loan, and can service your printing needs.

Also, if you happen to forget your computer or flash drive at home, you can checkout a laptop and flash drive from the library’s circulation desk.

The library semester hours are Monday-Thursday 8 a.m to 10 p.m., Friday 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., Saturday 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Sunday 1 p.m. to 7 p.m.

When the demands of academia start to stress you out, run to the fitness center for your relief. The fitness center offers the Fit-4-Life program, which consists of recreational and aerobic classes, and is free for students.

Many of the Fit-4-Life classes incorporate a combination of intense cardio, flexibility, and invigorating muscular movement.

This semester includes classes like: boot camp, kickboxing, and a number of yoga and martial arts classes to choose from.

If exercise is not your thing, and you just want to talk your stress and pain away, The Center of Counseling, Health and Wellness grants you that option.

The center offers students personal counseling, group counseling life counseling, crisis intervention services, outreach programs, and educational programs.

Lastly, nothing relieves stress better than “good ol’” comfort food, which can be found on campus at Chick-fil-A or The Tavern.

Chick-fil-A serves breakfast and lunch Monday through Thursday 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. and Friday 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

If you are searching for something different from the norm, you might want to try the Tavern.

The Tavern offers daily sandwich specials that are fairly economical for the bargain-seeking student.

Now that you are up to speed on where to eat, study, and relax for the semester, there should be no excuses for having a stressful and long semester.
**ACROSS**

1. "Humbug!" 23. Places
2. Trade 24. History
3. Lenx's feature 25. Musical
4. Entertained 26. "La Boheme"
5. Piece based on chapters
6. Will 27. Needle case
7. Talks slowly 28. Any of the
8. Lena's work 29. Henhouse
9. German based on
11. Gyro holder 31. "La Boheme"
12. Fight the clock 32. Dramatist
13. History 33. Amazon.com
14. Places of chapters 34. Piece of
15. Sash 35. German
16. "Humbug!" 36. German
17. Subsequently 37. "Humbug!"
18. ''La Boheme" 38. "Humbug!"
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35. Fight the leak 55. "Humbug!"

**DOWN**

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2. Needing 2. Symbol of
3. Roll call 3. "Biggest"
4. Immobilizer 4. "Humbug!"
5. Dorian 5. "Humbug!"
7. Seeming 7. "Humbug!"
8. Inhumane 8. "Humbug!"
11. Homer's writer 11. "Humbug!"
12. Immobilizer 12. "Humbug!"
15. Medium 15. "Humbug!"
17. Flanders 17. "Humbug!"
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**MAGIC MAZE • CHINESE**

C E E R T U L L U C A X V T R
P N S E L Z Z U P A E L T J H
F D B V Y X V T R M G N N P O
M K I O G N E W Y E A R A E E
D Y E L S R A P B R B Z L X R
W U T U U R Q O U I B N P L T
S R E T C A R A H C A J K I A
G F R I D C T A Y A C X L W E
V O T O S S R P O N N K I L H
T K J N E D R A G S I N S G T
F E S R E K C E H C A I D O Z

Find the listed words in the diagram. They run in all directions - forward, backward, up, down and diagonally.

**Americans**

- Culture
- Parsley
- Silp plant

**Cabbage**

- Garden
- Puzzles
- Torture

**Characters**

- Ink
- Restaurant
- Zodiac

**Checkers**

- New Year
- Revolution

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MLK Jr. drum major for justice parade

From left to right: Mitchell West looks on as other students share their personal experiences and feelings about the destruction in Port-au-Prince.

Haiti vigil

From left to right: Dana Parkinson, Megan Clark and Kiara Mells observe a moment of silence during a campus candlelight vigil held for the victims of the earthquake in Haiti.

To the left: BSA students represent USF St. Petersburg in the MLK Jr. drum major for justice parade.