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By Greg Lindberg

When the leader of a team goes down, the surrounding members of that team have an obligation to come together, step up and become better leaders themselves.

For the USF Bulls football team, this scenario has unfortunately become a reality.

Starting quarterback Matt Grothe was injured in a game against Charleston Southern on Sept. 19. The Bulls won big, 59-0, against the I-AA opponent, but the lopsided victory was overshadowed by Grothe’s knee injury late in the second quarter. He was tackled on a 9-yard run and his left knee buckled, suffering a torn ACL. Grothe had a chance to do some big things in his final year at USF. In 41 consecutive starts, he earned the all-time yards record in the Big East the week before getting hurt. He could have passed those stats even more. He was supposed to play in some marquee games against Florida State and Miami. The stage was set. The lights were bright. But Grothe had to bow out of the play in the first act.

Sports fans know that storybook endings to careers seldom occur. And all of the could-haves and would-haves should be put aside. Grothe is done for now, and the Bulls must come together and battle through this adversity without their valiant leader in the huddle.

So who will be helping them through that battle?

The new kid on the block is none other than B.J. Daniels. A 19-year-old redshirt freshman quarterback, Daniels stands at 6-foot-1 and weights 215 pounds. He offers an improved ability to run the ball and an imposed presence for defenses to handle. The Tallahassee native has great elusiveness and escapability—two major assets for a quarterback.

Even though he just stepped into his new role under center, Daniels already has a nickname. Offensive coordinator Mike Canales coined it when he described the new starter to the St. Petersburg Times.

“He’s Mr. Excitement,” Canales said. “You never know what’s going to happen. The kid is built with confidence [and] it shines on his face. I think his best asset is his competitiveness. He’s so competitive.”

Daniels is also a member of the USF basketball team. He played in 19 games for the Bulls last season as a guard.

In their first three games of the season, the Bulls scored 134 points and only allowed 20. These games were against lower-level schools, but the talent for USF on both sides of the ball was clearly evident. The question will be how well that talent can shine through against conference opponents without Grothe in the game.

Backup quarterbacks are not always the worst option. In 2001, New England Patriots star quarterback Drew Bledsoe went down early in the season. His replacement was Tom Brady—a guy many considered a “nobody” who was selected 199th overall in the NFL Draft. Brady would go on to win the Super Bowl that season and earn two more rings in subsequent years.

There’s no telling that B.J. Daniels will be the next Tom Brady. But fans can always hope that one of the younger, inexperienced benchwarmers might just be a diamond in the rough.
SG increases student fees to cover athletics and health services

By Sara Palmer
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The USF St. Petersburg Student Government voted to increase next year's student fees to benefit the athletics program on the Tampa campus and begin the development of health services on the St. Petersburg campus.

The $0.68 per credit hour increase came after Andrew Goodrich, assistant director of athletics administration at USF Tampa spoke to the senate. This presentation was followed by a mild debate among senators and advice from both Matt Morrin, the director of student life and engagement, and Dr. Kent Kelso, regional vice chancellor of student affairs.

The increase was approved with a 4-1 vote that designated $0.10 for activities and services, $0.20 for the Tampa athletics program and $0.38 for health services.

In the Sept. 15 meeting, Goodrich spoke before the senate, imploring them to consider putting funds into the Tampa athletics program.

"We want to move up into the upper echelon of schools," said Goodrich. "To be the best we can be, we have to make an investment."

Goodrich said that currently USF is associated with schools like the University of Central Florida and Florida International University. However, Goodrich believes that if more money is put into the university's athletic program, USF's popularity and status will climb up to the pinnacle of Florida colleges and rank among schools like Florida State University and University of Florida.

"We want to make it the Big 4 not the Big 3," he said.

Goodrich argued that the more money put into the athletics program, the more recognition the university will receive, which will help all the campuses, not just Tampa.

"From what I understand, half of all the student athletics fees that come from the St. Petersburg campus return to the St. Petersburg campus, which they in turn give to the sailing program," he said.

After Goodrich's presentation, the senators debated how to allocate the funds. Initially, Sen. Christian Haas suggested that $0.15 be remitted to athletics and that $0.53 be set aside for a future health services program. With these numbers, Haas suggested the senate put no money into the activities and services category, which he claims has plenty of funding already.

The other senators disagreed with Haas's suggestion.

"Increasing the health fee isn't going to put a health services building on campus next year," Sen. Matt O'Brien said. He argued that because health services on campus will take time, the funds should be diversified throughout all services and not all placed into that one category.

As the senators debated how much money should be allocated into which category, Senate President Sarah Henry called order and asked Kelso and Morrin for their advice.

"As an admin, there is a good point on both sides," Kelso said during the meeting, "with this economy, if you give someone nothing, you are essentially cutting their budget."

Morrin agreed that while health services and athletics are important, that should not exclude activities and services from receiving an increase.

According to USF's 2008-2009 operating budget, Both Morrin and Kelso's salaries are covered by the activities and services budget. So are all campus clubs and organizations.

"I would encourage some being given to A and S for clubs and organizations," SG President Jon Ellington said. "A and S fees are what fund campus life."

After the discussion and advice from Morrin and Kelso, Haas agreed that some money should be placed in A and S.

However, he was adamant that a significant amount of money be used for health services, which he believes is a crucial service for the students on this campus.

The fee increases will go into effect in the next academic year, but there is no set date when the benefits to students will be seen.

Student Ambassadors forced to relocate

By Amy Blanton
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Student Ambassadors of USF St. Petersburg were forced to move bimonthly meetings out of the Williams House and into the Davis lounge. The move is due to budget cuts and the relocation of the Alumni Association.

SA is funded by the Alumni Association and each chapter advisor oversees the budget of the campus. The Student Ambassadors budget for 2009-2010 is $630.

"I really wish that they could offer us a bigger budget to operate with and more specifically a place for us to meet and conduct our business," Alicia King said.

King, a senior accounting major and president of SA said she was told toward the end of summer that they could no longer have their meetings or hold events in the Williams House.

"We would keep some of our stuff in Katie's [the SA advisor] office, but since she moved to Tampa we are not able to use any of that for storage," King said.

The SA held meetings twice a month in the dining room of the Williams House, and in the past, they hosted events that were attended by professors, members of SA from other USF campuses and alumni.

Advisor Katie Giglio had an office upstairs in the Williams House with the Alumni Association before she was told they were being relocated to the Advancement Building on the USF Tampa campus.

"We were told that the school needed the space that we were in for other functions so we had to relocate everything here, at USF St. Petersburg, back to Tampa," Giglio said.

There are chapters of SA on the Sarasota-Manatee campus and the Tampa campus.

These chapters meet together to do volunteer work on campus and in the Tampa Bay area.

"I really enjoy being a student ambassador," said Alyssa Money, a senior history major and the secretary of SA. "It's a good way to connect with the alumni and just make a difference in the school."

Money believes that moving the meeting place to Davis Lobby has its challenges.

"I'm not too excited about it because it's not an easy space to hold a meeting," she said.

"There's a lot of stuff going on around," she felt it was kind of discouraging but that hopefully they will find another space soon, if not the Williams House.

Other student ambassadors share the same thoughts on meeting in Davis Lobby.

"I think it's kind of ridiculous personally, meeting in the Davis Lounge," King said.

"I think it's pathetic that our school can't provide for us."

"It's just that the Williams House felt like we had our own space, so it's kind of discouraging but we are working through it," Money said.

The move has made them feel isolated from the school's support. "I'm disappointed in the direction that the USF St. Pete campus ambassadors are going because I feel like we don't have the support of the school," said King. "I mean we are not here for us, we are here to represent our school and I think that without the school support it makes us not support the school in the best capacity. It's disappointing but what are you going to do."
By Marisa Barbosa
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Mayor Rick Baker’s five-year plan has transformed St. Petersburg from one of the worst walking cities in the country into one of the best, and increased its bicycle friendliness in the process.

The League of American Bicyclists named St. Petersburg a bicycling-friendly community, being one of only four others to be named by the organization in Florida, according to the City Trails 2009 Status Report. Being “bicycle friendly” means that the city provides safe accommodation for cycling and encourages residents to use bikes for transportation and recreation.

A total of 95 miles of bicycle trails have been added or are under construction in St. Petersburg. Ultimately, an additional 55 miles of marked routes are planned to be added to the program, according to the City Trails Report.

Such trails connect 47 schools, 40 parks and multiple community centers. 67 percent of the major roads in St. Petersburg have bicycle lanes.

The completed trails include the Pinellas Trail (pictured at right), Downtown Trail, Island Loop Bike Trail and Downtown to Beaches Bike Route. North Bay Trail is under construction while the Skyway Trail and Walter Fuller to Coffee Pot Bike Route will be constructed later this year.

Four public figures will be given awards for their support of bicycling, including St. Petersburg Mayor Rick Baker. The other three recipients are Rays Manager Joe Maddon, Hillsborough County Commissioner Mark Sharpe and Tampa City Councilwoman Linda Saul-Sena.

There is a growing bicycle movement in the Tampa Bay area and there are many people in the public arena who are helping that movement. It was a very difficult decision to single out four individuals, but SWFBUD (South West Florida Bicycle United Deal- ers) believes these four people make the Tampa Bay area a better place to live because of their public support for bicycling,” said Alan Snel, director of SWFBUD.

No more free printing in Academic Success Center

By Amy Blanton
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Wasteful students combined with necessary budget cuts shut down free printing in the Academic Success Center, but the new pay-for-printing cost is the cheapest on campus.

“We saw that it was not the most efficient way of providing printing to students,” said Dr. Ruby Qin, managing director of the Academic Success Center. “We see a lot of unwanted print outs and duplicates. Sometimes students print like 50 pages and they didn’t care to go pick it up.”

According to Mark Fagoh, a student that works in the Academic Success Center, the cost for printer ink and paper reached $100,000 a year. “It became the primary cost of the center and needed to go away,” Fagoh said.

When the costs of printing exceeded the budget, the Academic Success Center administration decided to use a pay-for-print system.

The pay-for-print system allows students to print copies for five cents per page. “We provide printing services to students at an affordable price,” Qin said. “It’s a nickel for each page, probably the cheapest on campus right now.”

Students can upload money for printing in the Bull Bucks program. Students’ school I.D. card is the website, which is https://usfweb3.usf.edu/bullbucks. The IT department runs the Academic Success Center and other printers on campus that use the Bull Bucks program. “They provide paper, toner, they provide technical support, everything,” Qin said.

When Jessica Beider, a junior accounting major, was asked what she thought about the new price for printing copies in the Academic Success Center she said, “I would rather pay that versus going over to the library and paying almost three times that just for black and white copy”.

“I print out four pages at least once a week,” Bender said. “That’s almost over a dollar if I print it out at the library because then I have to print out the color copies too, which is even more.”

The library charges $0.15 to print out a black and white page and $0.20 to print out a color page. In the Campus Computing Center, upstairs in Bayboro, it costs $0.05 to print out a black and white page and $0.20 to print out a color page.

When Sarah Mayleven, a senior marketing major, was asked if she had ever printed copies on campus she said, “I have a few times. I went to the library the first time and it was overpriced… they told me about a cheaper place, which was the Academic Success Center, so I went there.”

“I think we pay enough that we should be able to get free copies, but I can see people taking advantage of it,” she said.

When Senita Robinson, a junior criminology major, was asked what she thought about the price changing, she said, “I have to take it as a big advantage and I will use it more often because five cents is a big difference compared to spending 15 to 20 cents just for one page. It’s expensive.”

“I just think that students and even professors should take advantage of this because not every school has this opportunity, whether it is community college, university, or even out in the public,” Robinson said.
PLAY REVIEW: FENCES

By Andrew Silverstein
asilvers@mail.usf.edu

I like to think of myself as somewhat cultured. I think it is in me, growing abnormally in a large cultured. I think it is in me, growing
treasure and their parents show up. Plays, to me, sucked, plain and simple. In a period of life where
everyone's starving for coolness, plays just were not cool.
Like in any art form though there is the experienced and the non-experienced, the good and the bad. In my
inherent laziness, I would completely dismiss all plays based on the little smidgen of exposure I would have to,
well, none of them really. Wrong? Yes. I apologize plays. I'm just glad I have
"Fences" to make me realize all this. "Fences" is the story about the Max
well family. There is the father, Troy, his wife, Rose, and son, Cory. Troy's
the breadwinner of the family working as a garbage man in the city. Once a
genreleague baseball star, Troy now works long and hard days in order to
barely provide for his family. His in
ability to make the minor leagues has
left an indelible mark of distrust and
bitterness to the world and relationships he is now a part of.
His son, Cory, on the other hand, is a
high school football star and has caught the eye of a number of college recruit-
ers. He is eager to jump head first into
the world of sports his father was so un
willingly pushed out of. As the story
unfolds the friction between their per
sonalities grows more and more abra
sive. We slowly learn about Troy's
history and the insecurities he masks so vigilantly as he tries to assert his power and principles upon his only son.
The best thing about "Fences" is that it is so inherently human. The situations are real to life and the characters so well
developed you cannot help but feel like you have made a real connection with them by the end of the play. Troy, for
all intensive purposes, is the "protago
nist." I say this because, well, the guy
is a jerk. He is a man hardened by his
years and thus, not easily swayed, even
by his own flesh and blood. Whereas
most protagonist archetypes are por
trayed as noble, making extreme sac
rifices, putting themselves in positions of
danger for the greater good, Troy sees this good all right in front of him,
and smacks it away like a ball out of the
park. Why? A plethora of different
reasons. He is a man battling with his demons and, like all of us, does not always come out on top. Sometimes he is stubborn,
and it is really frustrating but, honestly, the fact that a play can elicit this is truly a feat in itself.
Fences is a great experience. The whole thing resides solely on the Max
well's tiny front yard, but never fails in taking you a million different places emotionally. I laughed, I loved, and
most importantly I learned that plays don't suck.
Fences plays at the American Stage Theatre until October 18th, with no per
formance on Tuesday, October 13.
Tickets are $26 to $45. Student rush
tickets are available 10 minutes before
each performance for $10.
American Stage is located at 163 3rd
Street North in downtown St. Petersburg.
the cupcake

and manages properties around the Bay Area.

She proclaimed of her newfound business

A visible pink t-shirt and 5 o’clock shadow
glimmering as proof of his long

venture. Before long, they had

Whipped cream and graham cracker crumbs

It was insane.

So insane she had to immediately bring her husband, Doug Longo, onboard just to help

Doug didn’t bake cupcakes.

“I had very little baking experience on our conventional home oven, let alone with the unexpected high customer volume. There was one problem though; Doug didn’t bake cupcakes.

The Cupcake Spot’s fate? Rogers-Longo doesn’t think so. "Maybe some of the people who jumped on the bandwagon won’t be around, but our business plan is so solid and our marketing is so well-done," she said. “There are certainly people in this world that can open a company that’s trendy, but if it doesn’t have a strong foundation and a strong business plan it’s going to fail eventually.”

So, given the example of the late 1980’s when the Original Cookie Company and other similar stores grew and began selling gourmet cookies in mall food courts nationwide. According to Rogers-Longo, although not as prolific as before, they still exist in a number of malls across the nation including the International Mall in Tampa. "It’s not that they’re dinosaurs and they’re going to become extinct, but I do think that people jumping on the bandwagon without a solid foundation in place won’t succeed," Rogers-Longo said.

Today, all the evidence appears to support this idea of success she spoke to adamantly about. At both locations, Tampa and St. Petersburg, they sell an average of 500 cupcakes per day, typically selling out of the day’s batch by closing time. On Valentine’s Day they sold over 2,000 at their St. Petersburg location alone. The couple has also seen a growing line-including baby and dog "Onies" that has been successful, so far, according to Rogers-Longo.

So the Cupcake Spot trots on, propelled by one woman’s ambitions and the collective sweet tooth of Tampa Bay. For the future, Rogers-Longo plans on releasing a scented pumpkin spice cupcake for the fall and strawberry and lavender come around Christmas. As for everything else? She chuckles, "I can’t really answer that without revealing any secrets.”

Keep a close eye on this one, guys.

The Cupcake Spot is located at 405 Central Avenue in downtown St. Petersburg.
By Aaron Moe

Contributing Writer

I think I've seen it all. Girls kissing girls, profile picture posing and drunken rage, all from the discomforts of my student section seat at my first USF game. What was I expecting? You know the usual. I expected a casual evening of college football, with cheering and high-fiving, just like we did back home in New York. What I ended up getting was a hands-on lesson on football etiquette in the south.

I guess I should start off with apologizing for first not knowing what the school song is, and secondly for not standing up while it was being played. I just didn't know I had to. It wasn't until I looked around and saw the faces of disgust that I realized I had upset a whole lot of people. Unfortunatley I didn't.

At the very same time that I chose to respond to a text message, I missed my cue to put my fingers up like a bull, and twirl my hand like a lasso. This time, with some choice words, I indirectly got reprimanded by a girl who made it her business to let everyone know that she felt disrespected.

By Aaron Moe

Minutes later, with the help of a Florida State University student and a few cups of Bud Light, even the competition on the field became secondary to the altercation emerging in the stands. Like gang members representing their "crews," fans began to cheer for their favorite teams from the big three in Florida. "Let's go FSU," "it's all about UF" and "can't nobody stop the U," among with various hand gestures, turned the student section into a potential crime scene.

You see, residents of Florida told me how fierce the rivalries can get down here, but for the first time I witnessed it first hand. This brings me to lesson three: be prepared to defend your team's honor, even if it means getting dragged out of your seat by police.

After all the commotion died down, and more beers entered the mouths of the students, I began to feel more accepted. No longer were people scrutinizing me, but rather cheering and doing the wave with me, with the common goal of seeing our school win.

The last and maybe most important rule I learned was that football fans down south know how to have a good time, and if you're no fun, stay home and watch the game on TV. Go Bulls!

By Erica Hampton

Student Government approved a $0.68 increase per credit hour, per student for the Fall 2010- Spring 2011 school year. The funds will be dispersed as follows: $1.10 for activities and services, $3.38 for health services, and $2.0 for the athletics programs on the Tampa campus. Athletics: What? This budget increase can produce a minimum of $7,956 if the current 3900 students on our campus take a least 3 credit hours in fall 10, with $2340 going towards Bulls athletics. These figures can rise or fall depending on enrollment.

Andrew Goodrich, assistant director of athletics/administration at USF Tampa spoke with SG senate on two separate occasions, expressing the importance of why USF St. Petersburg students need to give money to athletics. Goodrich expressed how the funds will help all USF campuses, not just Tampa.

I raise my eyebrow to this claim for a number of reasons. First, with the budget cuts, financial aid crunch, lack of campus jobs, removal of whole departments and faculty/staff layoffs, it seems as if the money that will go towards athletics can be used for many other things.

With student enrollment increasing $25 per student per credit hour, a minimum of $2,340 could go a long way on our campus. Second, collegiate athletic programs have the ability to make huge profits and get the recognition they desire by producing winning programs. USF does not need money from USF St. Petersburg students to reach their desire status; consistent and solid teams will provide that through bowl game wins, conference wins and proud alumni donating money. Strong athletic programs also provide funding to a university in another way: through student enrollment increases.

Strong, competitive athletic programs are a huge recruiting tool for any university. Students pick the schools they want to attend for any number of reasons, and for some students, athletics is a factor in that decision. More students mean more money going towards these programs that help recruit them.

Goodrich also said, “From what I understand, half of all the student athletics fees that come from the St. Petersburg campus return to the St. Petersburg campus, which they in turn give to the sailing program.” USF Tampa is already getting half of the money that we currently pay out for athletics and activities. Why do they need more?

Which leads me to my third point: USF St. Petersburg may not have a division I football program but we have a talented sailing team which has already won a national title. As a separately accredited university, these funds from students on this campus can be used to improve that program. If improving Bulls athletics with our student fees benefits everyone, these funds can serve that same purpose here, bringing more opportunities for recruiting prospective students.

To create “the big 4”, USF’s athletic program has to look at the bigger picture. Taking fees from our university is not going to get them to their desired status. It will, however, continue to stunt the growth of USF St. Petersburg.

Athletics does not need our money

By Eric Hampton

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5:30-7:30 p.m.
ARIES (March 21 to April 19) You could be caught in a torrent of advice from well-meaning friends and colleagues this week. But remember, Lamb, you are at your best when you are your own unchangeable self.

TAURUS (April 20 to May 20) Expect strong efforts to get you to accept things as they are and not question them. But ignore all that and continue your inquiries until you're sure you have all the answers you need.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 20) Harder than usual family and workplace duties compete for your time this week. Try to strike a balance so that you're not overwhelmed by either. Pressures ease by week's end.

CANCER (June 21 to July 22) It's a good time for the Moon Child to show off your uniquely inspired approach to the culinary skills — especially if they're directed toward impressing folks who would be happy about the re-emergence of a long-deferred deal. Be sure the values you were looking for before are still there.

VIRGO (August 23 to September 22) Try to rein in your super-critical attitude, even if things aren't being done quite as you would prefer. Remember: What you say now could create an awkward situation later on.

LIBRA (September 23 to October 22) Although you can expect on-the-job cooperation from most of your colleagues this week, some people might insist on knowing more about your plans before they can accept them.

SCORPIO (October 23 to November 21) Creating another way to do things is commendable. But you could find some resistance this week from folks who would rather stick with the tried and true than try something new.

SAGITTARIUS (November 22 to December 21) You usually can keep your aim focused on your goal. But remember: Your goal is worthwhile, but it may not be the main event.
In the off-season, the Lightning acquired several key players, including left wing Alex Tanguay from Montreal, Burg feels he could be a big addition to the team. "I think putting Tanguay on the line with Lecavalier will be pretty solid," he said. "I put the two together and that should make our first line pretty solid."

She also talked about rising star Steven Stamkos and believes he could have a breakout season. "I feel that the end of last season was a great stepping stone for Stamkos," she said. "Having him on the line with Marty St. Louis should work out well."

As for head coach Rick Tocchet, Burg thinks he has finally gotten comfortable in his role after spending a full season training camp. "We've been spending a lot of time with Lawton. As a new season is opening night, I think we're going to have a great season," said Burg. "I'm very optimistic with this team. I think that with this past off-season and training camp, we should be a team to reckon with again."

Jamie Kennedy, a 19-year-old journalism major, is another big fan of the Bolts. She attended her first game when she was in middle school and has been a fan ever since. She even went to two road games last season.

Kennedy, an R.A. in Residence Hall One, shares similarly optimistic views with Burg about her prediction for this season. "I think we're going to have a great season," she said. "We've been able to solidify our defense and our goaltending. We've gotten our players healthy again, so I think we'll be a completely different team this year."

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Burg attended about half of the team's home games last season. She took advantage of the college student discount at the St. Pete Times Forum. If students show a college ID, they can get a lower-level seat for $20 or sit in the two upper levels for just $8.

Despite the team finishing at the bottom of the Southeast Division last year, Burg has much higher expectations for this season.

"The way the team is looking, and if we keep it up, I think that we have a chance to make the playoffs," she said. "I think we can make it to the first round, but I hope we make it further."

She also spoke highly of goaltender Mike Smith. "He's very passionate about the game so it makes it fun to watch him," she said. "He acts more like a third defenseman than a goaltender. He really likes to be involved in play."

Over the summer, Kennedy had the privilege of having lunch with general manager Brian Lawton. As a new season ticket holder, she won an online contest to meet and eat lunch with general manager Brian Lawton.

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Burg talked about how ruled up she gets when the Lightning scores a goal. "Let's just say that I'm surprised I haven't lost my voice," she said. "It's a time when Lecavalier passed to St. Louis, who scored a goal. I think I screamed so loud that I probably tore something."}

Kennedy said the same about herself and the girls she goes with to games. "We're definitely a vocal bunch."

Oct. 8 is opening night, where the Lightning battle the New Jersey Devils. For more information, visit the team on the web at http://lightning.nhl.com.

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