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Library displays banned books

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The latest in sports: Bucs and Devil Rays

page 6

The latest news from Residence Hall One

page 6
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Just two blocks north of The Trop!
No free skates 
for Ice Bulls

by MIKE MAHARREY
contribution writer

Who Are We? It's 5:30 a.m. and I'm sitting in a 
damp, smelly locker room with a bunch of bleary-eyed 
guys. One has to wonder, what makes a college student 
get up at such an ungodly hour? Looking around me I 
see a graduate student, an engineering student, a U.S. 
Marine finishing up his degree, a finance major who 
supplies the team with Bibles, a guy planning to go to 
medical school and a freshman who is not quite sure what he is 
doing. Then there is me... a 39 year old going back for a 
second degree whose hockey days are fast fading 
into the interview mirror.

What brought us here? The football, basket-
ball and baseball players get scholarships. They play on 
the big stage and have the potential to make multi-mil-
donions of dollar. They have trainers, equipment guys, 
managers and media people. They see their names in the 
papers and stories about their team on TV. The guys sit-
ning around me don't get any of that. None of them is 
going to the NHL. None of them can hope to get big-
time endorsements. They buy their own equipment and 
pay their own way on road trips. There are no airline 
flights; luxury is being able to ride a charter bus. They 
have a hard time even getting the USF campus paper to 
make posters, do paperwork, self-sponsorships and han-
dle all of the administrative things it takes to make 
hockey club go.

Why are we here? We are here because we love 
the game. We love the feel of the ice under our skates 
and the stick in our hands. We love the sound of the 
puck against the boards. We love to hear the fans yell 
when we score. We love the big hit. We love being part 
of a team and the feeling we get when we pull on that 
sweater.

The Ice Bulls may not play on the big stage and we 
may never be famous... at least not for hockey, but you 
will not find a harder working more passionate bunch 
of guys. We're not playing because we have to or because 
we get paid to. We don't lace up the skates in hopes that 
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\[\text{first quarter blues continued from page 6} \]

As things stand, the team figures as a long shot to make the playoffs and may 
end with one of the worst records in the league.

Gradkowski, however, serves as a wild 
card in figuring the Bucs' future. Despite 
falling to the sixth round in the NFL 
draft from the University of Toledo, 
Gradkowski's pasting accuracy and pocket-
 mobility may allow him to become a 
star early in his career. The last Tampa 
Bay quarterback who could run like 
Gradkowski was Hall-of-Famer Steve 
Young.

The other key to the season, the offen-
sive line, has played okay thus far. The 
line needs to establish solid run-blocking 
for a healthy Williams for the Bucs' play-
coff chances to remain faster than a flog-
whisker.

- Bryan W. White is a journalism major 
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Media Studies. Bryan can be reached at 
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Many books have been banned or challenged by groups of people and lawmakers who have called them "offensive" or "inappropriate." Some titles include John Grisham's "A Time to Kill," John Griffin's "Black Like Me" and Shulamith Firestone's "A Light in the Attic." The Nelson Poynter Memorial Library held a challenged and banned book exhibit last week. Books on display ranged from classics to non-fiction, including "To Kill a Mocking Bird," "The Earth," My Butt and Other Big Round Things" and the Harry Potter series. "To Kill a Mocking Bird" has been criticized for profanity, sexual content and racial themes. "The Earth" has found trouble for its language and sexual references. "The Harry Potter series is regularly accused of promoting witchcraft. All of the above books have won awards, but compared to other works, USF St. Petersburg librarian Kaya Townsend is not surprised by the controversy surrounding those. "My favorite is The American Heritage Dictionary of the English Language," Townsend said. School libraries in several states removed the dictionary in 1976, charging it with obscenity and debase the English language. Specifically, opponents were offended by the inclusion of words like "fart" and "piss." The American Library Association defines a "challenged book" as an attempt to eliminate or restrict materials based on a person's or a group's objections. It defines a "banned book" as a removal of challenged material. "Books today are rarely banned but frequently challenged," Townsend said. Administrators from Hillsborough County schools recently said Lily's Ghost and My Brother's Hero would be removed from a fourth-grade reading list because the books referenced breasts and controversial themes. "What people complain about the books great," said Townsend. Sara Bower teaches fourth-grade students in Manatee County. "I have a 10-year-old son who has read the Captain Underpants series, which is aimed toward young male readers. Other series have claimed that it encouraged misbehavior and that against authority. "They might make jokes if you don't act out because of what they said," Bower said. "The humor kept them entertained, stimulated and more likely to read." Hillsborough County also removed a book this June for removing a book day. Gay and Lesbian Pride Month advocates, including Brendan Mark Ferguson, took action. A number of speakers at the meeting Sept 25."
suicide makes

1. With regard to why Brandon Pride has been
advocating and promoting banned books exhibits,
the group's president, Mark Ferguson (pictured),
said, "We've just asking for equality – nothing more,
nothing less." Jean Batronie, a trans-gendered
in District Four.

2. Jean Batronie, a trans-gendered
in District Four.

3. Built into the stairway
members think are implicitly needed in today's
society.

"I'd have to
pick two.
Siddhartha
by Hermann
Hesse and
The Catcher
in the Rye
by J.D.
Salinger.
Both shed
light on the
human condi-
tion and
I find that
extremely
interesting."

"My favorite book is
Confessions of an Economic
Hitman by John Perkins. It
shows how horrible America
is to third world countries."

"The Cat in the Hat
because it's easy to read and it's a
classic!"

"I'm a fan of George Orwell's
non-fiction work. You know
like, 1984."

3. The Crow's Nest asks:
"What is your all-time favorite book?"

by SCOTT WACHTLER
staff writer

Banned Books
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like, 1984."

"Harry Potter 4: The Goblet
of Fire. I like them all, but
this one was a long interest-
ing story."

"Chris Dell, 18, freshman Journalism
major

"George W. Bush, 43rd President of
the United States of America, Lame-
duck, Decider!"
Devil Rays complete ninth season of futility

by CHRIS WAGAR
staff writer

This team stinks and the numbers back it up.

Prior to the 2006 season, the disease that plagued the Devil Rays could have been diagnosed as Namioli Syndrome: a condition that can be treated by an owner putting cash into his team instead of holding out his hand. Fans hoped that an injection of Stuart Sternberg would cure what ailed the team: money was to be pumped back into that lifeless baseball body.

Instead, the Rays have spent this season flat-lining on the operating table. Granted: it has only been one year under the new ownership and some autee fan-friendly decisions have been made. Who doesn't like free parking or bringing your own food into Tropicana Field?

But wouldn't a fan rather waste three-dollars in gas on a product that is actually worth seeing?

Coming out of the off-season the Devil Rays seemed to have a lot of promise. The old regime was gone; former owner Vince Naimoli, general manager Chuck Lamar and manager Lou Piniella were replaced by Stuart Sternberg, Andrew Friedman and Joe Maddon, respectively.

It seemed Major League Baseball was actually coming to the Tampa Bay area. There would be no more thoughts of having baseball's lowest payroll (thank you, Florida Marlins). The Rays were going to be able to compete with the rest of the league; not the Yankees or Red Sox mind you, but the midlevel teams with payrolls in the $50 million range - or so fans thought.

Coming out of spring training there was hope. In 2005, the Rays had the third highest team batting average in the American League and three players who clubbed more than 20 home runs. On top of that, Rocco Baldelli was coming back from an injury-plagued season. How could they not be better?

Here's how: pitching, pitching and pitching. Trades and injuries have hurt the pitching staff, and the bullpen is simply void of any talent.

The loan bright spot on the staff was Scott Kazmir. Kazmir garnered his first All Star Game appearance before a shoulder injury sidelined his season. Prior to the injury, Kazmir was 10-4 with a 3.24 earned run average and had 163 strikeouts in 144 innings.

The rest of the starting staff was in flux for most of the season with no one cementing himself in next season's rotation.

The bullpen continued to be an ongoing sore spot for the team following the off-season trade of closer Randy Cedeño to the Dodgers. Last season the bullpen was identified as a team weakness when the team blew 26 saves. This year it was even worse. With a week to play, the Rays had lost 57 games in which they held the lead and figured to break the American League record set by the 2002 Detroit Tigers.

Of course he seemed to be a true bright spot going into spring training. With a lineup that featured former All-Star Carl Crawford, speedy Rocco Baldelli, and power hitters Jonny Gomes and Jorge Cantu, the Rays were sure to score enough runs to protect the porous pitching staff.

The bright spot dimmed before opening day.

Baldelli did not run the team until mid-season due to a nagging hamstring injury, and a broken bone in Canuto's foot bothered him most of the season.

If injuries were not enough, a payroll purge through various trades took away a large part of the 25-man roster. The likes of Aubrey Huff, Toby Hall and Julio Lugo were traded for young, cheaper players leaving the 25-year-old Crawford as one of the more senior players on the roster.

The compilation of problems resulted in a ninth consecutive, 90-plus loss season - the current standard for Major League Baseball futility. Next year the Rays could be the record for the most consecutive 90-loss seasons set by the Phillies in the 1930s and 40s.

The new ownership group would like fans to believe that this team is going to get better. That is hard to argue while considering "it can not happen" because they ruined the outcomes of the first three games, all losers.

In each loss, the Rays got out to a slow start and failed to turn things around before the end of the game.

In the season opener against the Baltimore Ravens, the Rays allowed a long touchdown drive on the game's first possession, tiring the defense and setting the tone for the game.

Facing the Atlanta Falcons on the road, the Rays started slightly better after stopping the initial Atlanta drive with a turnover. Tampa Bay then drove down the field deep into Falcon territory only to miss a 45-yard field goal. The Falcons drove for the go-ahead touchdown on the ensuing possession, continuing the Rays' pattern of slow starts.

The Rays looked to break that pattern at Raymond James Stadium against the Carolina Panthers. Things started okay - the Rays won one-innings in the first quarter of each game.

Adding injury to the insult, Chris Simmons will probably miss the rest of the season after having emergency surgery to remove a ruptured spleen.

The Buccaneers have set themselves up for a disastrous 2006 campaign despite playing well at times against three tough opponents. Losing the first three games puts the Bucs in a daunting hole.

Rookie quarterback Bruce Gradkowski moves to #1 on the depth chart. Rookie starting quarterbacks usually add depth to daunting holes.

Bucs feel first-quarter blues

by BRYAN W. WHITE
assistant editor

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King Crossword

ACROSS
1 U.K. fliers
4 Hay storage site
9 Addict
12 Greek vowel
13 "Booka Booka" venue
14 "Fugheddaboudit!"
15 Imaginary
17 Silent one
18 A whole lot
19 Pal
20 Nasality
22 No stay-at-home
24 Firetruck necessity
25 Forage plants
29 Numerical prefix
30 Glitch
31 Qty. 19 Suitor
32 Sci-fi film classic
34 Dandling site
35 Abominable
36 Failed to
37 Coral creature
38 Country singer Evans
39 Serve as a henchman
40 Sci-fi text author
46 Harris' old man
47 Lotion additive
48 Wildebeest
49 Microbe
50 Claims, slangily
51 Praise in verse

DOWN
1 Ump
2 - glance
3 Film with dancing hippos
4 Untruthful
5 Luminaries
6 Winter ailment
7 - Avv
8 Straighten
9 Auctioneer's cry
10 "Zounds!"
11 Michel's high-school pal
12 Greek vowel
13 "Booka Booka" venue
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Residence hall experiencing growing pains

by SCOTT WACHTLER
staff writer

About 30 days ago, the USF St. Petersburg campus was alive with new dorm residents moving into Residence Hall One. Now, to some residents with plumbing problems, the bloom may be off the rose, and to business major Don Peters and Chris Martin, both 22, things may not smell quite as good.

According to Peters and Martin, during the second week of school they encountered something in the elevator.

"The smell pushed us away," Peters said. What Peters and Martin saw was that someone defecated on the elevator floor. They quickly told the person at the front desk about it and the problem was promptly corrected.

Although Peters and Martin say that she does not want to get into specifics on the subject.

Kevin Cartmill is the assistant custodial supervisor for the university. He would not confirm or deny Peters' and Martin's statements, but he did say that the issue was taken care of in-house.

Erinn Mills, the coordinator of residence life says that she does not want to get into specifics on the subject.

"In general, college students most of the time make good decisions, but there are times when they don't," Mills said. She also said that having an on campus dorm brings a huge change to a campus, and with that change you are going to see things that would not have happened in the past.

"I'll tell you one thing," Mills said. "In residence life, there's never a dull moment."

Although most people interviewed are happy with their new dorm, the minor plumbing problems that cropped up in the first day still dog some residents.

Freshman Political Science major, Chardonnay Singleton, 18, says that she likes living in the dorms and that it is a great environment for meeting people. She also says that her resident assistant, Karen Dregger, is fun and really helpful. Although Singleton says that she has not had problems with her bathroom, that has not been the case for her suitemate.

"She's been using other suitemates' toilets. The toilet is stopped up and it's not been fixed yet," Singleton said.

Economics major 'Taro Ito, 21, is a junior. Except for feeling that the building's air conditioning is set a little too cool, he has not had any major problems. Ro did say that his suitemate had water dripping into his room from the upstairs. The leak has since been fixed.

Both Mills and Rick Close, the university's senior security supervisor, encourage residents to let them know about problems. Mills and Close say that residents should use the residence hall's website maintenance request form to report problems.

Close says that these problems are normal for a building of its size and number of residents.

"You don't really see problems like this until people start moving in," Close said.

Besides their smelly encounter in the elevator, Peters and Martin, along with Finance major Dane Kuplicki, 20, said that overall they like the place and enjoy being around so many of the girls living in the residence hall.

However the three are planning on lobbying student government for some changes. Peters had his bicycle stolen a few weeks ago and would like to see more security. All three feel as though there is a problem with low water pressure making multiple flushes necessary even for something as simple toilet paper. None have had any problems with leaks.

Mills addressed the security issues in a follow up interview.

According to her e-mail, extensive security is in place around the entire building. Every entrance has a security camera in place, and two cameras are placed outside the building. In addition to a contracted security guard for the weekends and evenings, there is also an RA on duty to provide extra eyes and ears. Mills acknowledges that stolen bikes are a common occurrence on college campuses and she encourages residents to complement the security in place with a solid bike lock.

As for the lack of water pressure, Mills was unable to provide an explanation before the printing of this story.

Most residents interviewed felt that they would like to see more amenities added to Residence Hall One. Popular ideas are patio benches outside for smokers and others who want to sit outside, a pool table and a place for people to practice their musical instruments.

Mills says that the university is currently in the process of wrapping up the project budgets for the residence hall as well as the parking garage. After a final accounting, they will be able to identify what amenities can be added with the left-over money.