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University of South Florida St. Petersburg.

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Just when St. Petersburg gets comfy with the 3 a.m. bar-top bedtime, the City Council voted 6-2 on Wednesday to extend last call for two more hours. The catch? Bars need a food service license.

If bars choose to operate until 5 a.m., a breakfast menu will be offered next to that frosty Captain and Coke. Rumors are buzzing about the new late-night options, with locals hoping for bacon and egg combo meals, cheap mimosas and lots of omelets.

"I heard that Vintage is going to have a full-on breakfast buffet," said Brian Walsh, a senior at USF St. Petersburg. "This makes my life." Students who attend the St. Petersburg campus are within walking distance of downtown, making it an easy place to end up after a four-hour night class.

"Now, I can just stick around and recharge until my morning class," Walsh said.

Walsh added that staying up after a long night is better than only getting a few hours of sleep. "Waking up is what kills you," he said.

Officer George M. Jetson of the St. Petersburg Police Department said the new ordinance should bring a brighter side to downtown nightlife, especially if bars serve coffee with breakfast.

"We're hoping it will keep people off the streets when they've had one too many," Jetson said. "It will give them a chance to come back to reality, instead of driving off at 3 a.m. in a drunken oblivion."

Popular bars on Central Avenue are welcoming the ordinance, despite new kitchen construction. Fubar plans to dish out scrambled breakfast burritos—with the choice of sausage, bacon or ham—at $5 each. The Emerald Bar will have Bloody Mary specials after 3:30 a.m., with home-style biscuits and gravy platters. The Sake Bomb will still serve sushi, but owners say there is a new breakfast roll in the works. If you can't go home, you can stay here.

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USF institutes "sun day" policy

Koley Sheehan
Managing Editor

The University of South Florida will institute sun days beginning the summer 2011 semester. Sun days, similar to snow days common in the great north, will affect all USF campuses, including USF St. Petersburg.

USF Tampa made the decision after hearing numerous complaints over the last 10 years or so.

"The University System has grown considerably in the last decade, especially with St. Petersburg stripping out on its own," said Jane Phillips, head of the USF Tampa office for student counsel. "More students are transferring from out of state, usually very cold states."

USF Tampa decided to institute sun days to help these students cope with the shift in climate. Classes will be canceled on days of "extreme sun." Phillips said, where temperatures reach over 87 degrees.

While many northern students ignore USF's academics completely and move just for the prospect of a year-round spring break, they do not take clothes in and do not take classes walking around campus with bikini straps hanging out of their clothes in October.

"The university system is planning on adopting the policy at the beginning of the summer 2011 semester. "We plan to give out free bottles of SPF at orientation and then send them all indoors until the fall. We'll hold summer classes, but only on days that fall below the policy threshold," Phillips said.

Phillips advises that on sun days, students stay inside air-conditioned buildings, or head to the beach.

"That's where I'll be," she said. "We'll probably have a lot of these things, if you know what I mean."

USFSP welcomes Charlie Sheen to psychology program

Tom Chang
Online Editor

Famed actor Charlie Sheen will join USFSP as a visiting lecturer to the psychology department. Sheen will be teaching a number of courses starting in the summer.

"Given all his recent and past behavior, I figure he's the last person on earth qualified enough to teach psychology," said associate professor Mark Pezzo.

"Frankly I think it's a publicity stunt," said Pezzo.

Sheen graduated with honors with a bachelor's degree in psychology from the University of South Florida. He received his doctorate in the same field shortly before being cast as Charlie Harper in "Two and a Half Men."

"Charlie is such a hard worker," said Rick Vaughan, chair of the psychology department at THU. "USF St. Petersburg is gifted with such a revolutionary in the field."

Sheen is sending off rumors that CBS executives are trying to bring him back to "Two and a Half Men" to patch things up with executive producer Chuck Lorre.

"I wish him nothing but the best," said Jon Cryer, Sheen's costar on "Two and a Half Men." "I was trying to hide the truth—I couldn't deny that I am a troll."

Cryer made a recent appearance on "Conan" to raise awareness of trolls after Sheen ousted him in a statement.

"I think given everything that's been going on, it will be interesting what he brings to the table," said visiting researcher Jordan Littman. "He could very well change the face of the department, and start his 'warlock' powers with the rest of us."

Sheen was introduced to students and faculty in the Campus Activities Center on April 1.

"I'm glad to bring my expertise and knowledge to this college," Sheen said. "Thanks to me it's WINNING!"

Sheen said his tiger blood and Adonis DNA would take USF to places it has never seen.

"After I'm through with this," Sheen said, "schools like Harvard and Yale will wish they were USF from all the hot smoking goddesses and the Marian rock star lifestyle I'll bring to this campus to study under me. I will show them all."

Sheen said normal brains couldn't process him so it is time he showed the world a sample of what a Vatican assassin warlock who lives a Maritan rock star's life with tiger's blood and Adonis DNA. One gaze from my eye beams destroys anything he attempts to put up. I will unload this university with my knowledge, if you can take it, because 5 percent of me is way too much Sheen for some. I'm 'WINNING!' and if you can't take that then go home!"

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USFSP decides two campuses are better than one

Keeley Sheehan
Managing Editor

USF St. Petersburg officials recently announced plans to divide the campus into two parts—a north campus and a south campus—according to the Office of Campus Zoning and Planning. The Harborwalk fountain will serve as the dividing line. All USFSP land and buildings south of the fountain will be known as the USF St. Petersburg South Campus. All land and buildings to the north will be known as the USF St. Petersburg North Campus.

The distinction between USFSPNC and USFSPSC will become effective fall 2011. Upon completion, the new student center, to be named the Jackson M. Fitzgerald Center for Student Excellence and Civic Engagement, will be part of USFSPNC. "The change is merely cosmetic," said Elizabeth Campbell, director of the USFSP CZP office.

Last year, the university paid a St. Petersburg-based graphic design firm $475 to take on the task of adding "SP" to the end of USF St. Petersburg's official logo, making it USFSP. The university has already begun purchasing new rugs and signs affixed with the new logo, making it USFSP. The university has already begun purchasing new rugs and signs affixed with the new logo, making it USFSP.

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Guest conductor Alexander Mickelthwate is joined by Principal Second Violinist Sarah Shellman for Thomas Ades' Violin Concerto with its devilishly difficult high melodic lines on a program with Haydn's Symphony No. 59 and Elgar's beloved Enigma Variations.

Mar 25 & 27

**RATMOMARD JAMES POPS**

**Hot! Hot! Hot!**

**A Night at the Copa**

In a musical tribute to New York's famed hot spot, The Copacabana, Grammy Award-winning arranger Victor Vanacore leads the orchestra in a night of sizzling Latin dance rhythms...cha cha, tango, salsa, samba, mambo, merengue and more.

Apr 8 - 10

**MASTERWORKS**

**Elgar's Enigma Variations**

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Apr 8 - 10

**MASTERWORKS**

**Rachmaninoff's Piano Concerto No. 3**

Liya Zilberstein performs Rachmaninoff's Piano Concerto No. 3 with its cascading luscious melodies and thundering chords on a program with the melancholic beauty of Sibelius' Symphony No. 7 and his melody-rich tone poem En Saga. Stefan Sanderling conducts.

Apr 15 - 17

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**Student Tickets Only $10**

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Chick-fil-A silences Cackling Hen

Robbie Crowley
Campus & Beyond Editor

The Cackling Hen will be laughing no more. Representatives from Chick-fil-A hunted down the hen on Sunday, March 27 and turned the liberal, sharp-tongued cackler into chicken nuggets. USFSP administration and Student Government supported Chick-fil-A actions, but members of The Crow's Nest staff are grieving the loss of their feathered writer.

Copies of The Crow's Nest had been placed in the Chick-fil-A restaurant on USFSP campus, but controversy brewed louder than instant tea when Chick-fil-A liberal content of the Cackling Hen. Not President Dan Cathy heard about the paper's placement in the restaurant and the liberal content of the Cackling Hen. Not only did he want the papers removed from the restaurant, he demanded the hen be silenced permanently.

"We found this 'Cackling Hen' did not promote core family values," Cathy said. "In fact, it did just the opposite."

He said the final straw was when a recent column focused on a new Britney Spears song.

"Let's face it: Britney Spears is an icon for all that is wrong with this country - the gays, the promiscuous, and the scantily-clad," Cathy said. "Our chicken products are the tasty fuel for the good, conservative families of this land."

Cathy contacted USFSP officials about the issue and he found them willing to help.

"We think this hen in nugget form will be beneficial for the nutrition of the student body," said Regional Chancellor Margie Pallian. "While that laughing bird column did not appeal to the whole student body, who can deny the universal appeal of chicken nuggets?"

When word traveled around campus that Chick-fil-A would be serving a batch of cackling nuggets, members of Student Government were first in line.

"I'm really just hungry," student Lauren Bestman said. "The fact that that stupid hen finally shut up is a bonus."

But members of The Crow's Nest staff were distraught in light of the hen's final cluck, and they have voiced they will be actively boycotting Chick-fil-A. CROW'S NEXT COLUMN: EASTER EGG HUNT: Riddle: Why did the chicken cross the road? Answer: To get a discount on nugget form. The Crow's Nest to fill the Cackling Hen's former space. Proposed names for the column include The Family Values Foul, The Cherished Chicken, and Christian Couples' Coup. The Crow's Nest is now negotiating with Chick-fil-A to find away to receive funding but not support the company that slaughtered its cackling columnist.

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Old Dali to house zooology department

Anita C. Ochale
Contributing Writer

USFSP is starting a new zoology department to complement the existing marine sciences department through USF Tampa housed on the St. Petersburg campus. The Crow's Nest previously reported that the departments of graphic design and language, literature and writing would find new homes in the building, but officials drafted a new plan as of Friday, March 25.

A zoology master's program has been in the works for the last few years, according to Drew Gibson, director of the new giraffe, et al. department. USFSP officials think it will work well alongside the existing marine sciences and environmental policy departments.

"Many students have expressed interest in such a program over the years," Gibson said. "There has been a rising demand for zoological programs as the zoo populations surge due to increased mating."

Gibson said the old Dali building is a natural choice to house the program because of it's set up and structure.

"The open floor plan will give us plenty of space to house the species we plan to bring in to get the program off the ground," Gibson said.

The university will bring classic zoo mainstays like lions, tigers and bears. As the program grows, it will expand to other species depending on availability and insurance costs.

"We're really excited to be in the old Dali," Gibson said. "There's plenty of space for all the critters and some of the bigger species."

Representatives from Chick-fil-A have offered to write a new column for The Crow's Nest to fill the Cackling Hen's former space. Proposed names for the column include The Family Values Foul, The Cherished Chicken, and Christian Couples' Coup. The Crow's Nest is now negotiating with Chick-fil-A to find away to receive funding but not support the company that slaughtered its cackling columnist.

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Illustration by Aimee Alexiadou and Tara McCarthy / THE CROWS' NEXT
Spring fashion for the aspiring fashionista

Amanda Prelacak
Entertainment Editor

Spring break is over and so is your winter wardrobe. Update your spring clothes and vanity drawer using inspiration from Fashion Week.

Denim
Denim has already been worn in the form of jeans, jackets and shirts. Make a statement on campus and rock a pair of oversized overalls. Think Beverly Hillbillies. Complete the look with a wide belt through the loops and a side ponytail. If you’re going for a classier look, try tattered jeans. Not only are they super flattering through the leg, they sit at just the right length to stay dry in case of a flood. Graduation is coming up and for a special event outfit turn to Britney Spears from the ‘90s for a little style inspiration. Wear a denim dress paired with a denim purse for pure elegance.

Neons
Get noticed this spring by rocking the popular neon trend. This irresistible look is best worn in the form of noisy tradescunts and rompers. Optional bright accessories are sweatbands, chokers and sunglasses. Top off this look with big, crimped hair that will surely get you a double take from onlookers.

Made-over leggings
Basic black leggings are so out and stirrup pants are back in! These ever-so-flattering spandex pants that wrap beautifully around your feet were seen all over the runways. Wear stirrups with a nice oversized funnel shirt to really pull off that popular Marc Jacobs grunge look. With stirrups, you can incorporate all of these spring trends together. All you need is to find a pair of neon stirrups to wear under a denim skirt—instant fashionista.

Beauty
Bright eye shadow; colorful lips and fuller brows were just a few of the beauty trends on the runway this season. Bright eye shadow is best worn like Mimi from “The Drew Carey Show”! Prep your eyelids first with primer to ensure the shadow will last throughout your hectic day. Then apply a bright color, preferably electric blue from your eye line to your eyebrows. If bright shadow isn’t your thing, bright lips with a twist are a huge trend this season. Models walked the runways with lips similar to Queen Amidala from Star Wars. You can achieve this striking look by applying an orange-red lip color to the top lip and then to the center of your bottom lip.

If you’re more of a natural beauty, then you should embrace the fuller brow trend. Anne Hathaway from “The Princess Diaries” is the perfect inspiration for this look. It’s the easiest look to achieve because you never need to tweeze, wax or fill in your brows. Designers and makeup artists turned to the past this runway season and brought back the most flattering trends. Who doesn’t look awesome in overalls, as long as you incorporate these trends into your everyday wardrobe you can ensure you will never get nominated for “What Not to Wear” and will always make a statement.

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HAB hosts hair-raising contest

Taylor Gaudens
Contributing Writer

Have you ever considered living a double life? Here’s your chance to show the world your hidden talent, cross-dressing or simply your true passion for being someone else for the night. Habor­side Activities Board plans to host a celebrity hair pose-off pageant on Friday, April 1 at 9 p.m. in the Campus Activities Center core. The person with the best celebrity copycat hairstyle will take home the top prize.

The inspiration for this semester’s pageant came from America’s latest obsession with celebrities’ hair. Austin Arias, director of stage acts, confirmed celebrity judges including Paula Abdul, Rebecca Black, Charlie Sheen and Bruce Jenner. Abdul thinks she’s got the judging thing in the bag.

“You know, all of my years on American Idol really gave me the opportunity to pick out who has star power or not,” Abdul said. “This competition won’t be like anything you’ve ever seen. I can see a person’s true talent from the moment they walk on stage.”

Not so sure talent is what the judges are looking for, Ms. Abdul. Whatever, to each his own.

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KEEP IN TOUCH WITH THE CROW’S NEST
Now batting...Mandy Ramirez?

Greg Lindberg
Sports Editor

The well-known phrase used to describe Manny Ramirez might need to be altered a bit. Instead of “Manny being Manny,” it should probably be changed to “Manny being Girly.”

The newly-acquired Tampa Bay Rays outfielder is officially on the path to becoming a woman. In May 2009, Ramirez was suspended for 50 games by Major League Baseball for illegally using a female hormone commonly prescribed as a fertility drug. Doctors say it is typically used by steroid users to restart their body’s natural testosterone production when coming off a steroid cycle. However, a recent physical exam has indicated that the drug will turn Ramirez into a female at some point in the next few months, most likely during his tenure with the Rays.

Assuming he stays healthy in 2011, the 38-year-old is expected to become the first female to ever play professional baseball at the major league level.

“This will be a historic season for baseball,” said MLB commissioner Bud Selig in a statement. “Having our first woman compete in America’s pastime will bring a whole new group of female fans to the ballpark.”

In the eyes of Rays manager Joe Maddon, he is fascinated by what is happening with the slugger but is also somewhat concerned about how it will impact his athletic ability.

“It will be interesting to see how Manny’s metamorphosis will affect his game,” Maddon said. “I’m hoping he won’t lose too much power in his bat.”

Rays team doctor Koco Eaton has never seen anything like this happen to an athlete—or any patient he has had for that matter—in his career as a physician.

“It’s a complete medical mystery,” he said. “I have no idea how this happened.”

According to his batting statistics, it’s possible “Mas-ram” has already lost some of his masculine power since first taking the drug two years ago. Ramirez hit 15 home runs in 2009 and only nine last season. At this rate, he will be lucky to record five round-trippers this year for the Rays.

Since Ramirez already has his trademark flowing dreadlocks, some people may even notice when the change-over officially occurs. The main thing expected to be noticeably different is his upper body. Some columnists have questioned whether Ramirez will—and should—wear attire more appropriate for a female. According to general manager Andrew Friedman, he is “free to do what he wants to do because of who he is.”

There is also some concern as to whether he should be allowed in a male-dominant locker room when he becomes a female. B.J. Upton doesn’t think it will be a problem.

“I’m sure all the guys will be staring at him...uh...her,” he said with a smirk.

A few Rays players have already suggested new female names for the former slugger. David Price thinks he should be called Mandy. Evan Longoria likes Mamas—more of a literal translation of his given name, Manuel. Ben Zobrist prefers Manika. Reid Brignac? Mannyvita.

When asked about what is happening to his body, Ramirez shrugged his shoulders, shook his head and seemed to deny the rumor that will soon become fact.

“I have no idea what people are talking about,” he said as his voice cracked.

“I am a man and I will always be a Manny.”

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The Pewter Pirates come to USFSP

Greg Lindberg
Sports Editor

A new sign will soon be going up at the welcome center on campus. It will read “USF St. Petersburg, New Home of the Tampa Bay Buccaneers.”

In the midst of the current NFL lockout, several Buccaneers players will spend their time away from the game getting an education at USF St. Petersburg this summer.

“It is an honor and a privilege to host some of the most popular football players at our university,” said Regional Chancellor Margaret Sullivan. “This historic decision makes a major statement about how dedicated our school is to educating those who know how to succeed at a sport but might not have the knowledge and skills necessary for success in life after athletics.”

Bucs players are excited about the opportunity. Quarterback Josh Freeman, who attended Kansas State University for three years, has already planned to take some journalism classes to fulfill the requirements for a bachelor’s degree.

“I’ve heard they have a great program there with some of the best professors around,” he said. “Plus I think throwing a football is like journalism. If you aren’t accurate and on time, you won’t be a good QB or a good journalist.”

Quarterback Bucs comeback: Ronnie Barber, who recently announced his intentions to return for a 15th season in Tampa, is hoping to enroll in a few criminology courses.

“I’d love to be a private investigator,” Barber said. “My brother Tiki and I could start up our own company. We’d call it BRU — Bald Brothers Undercover.”

Hoping to become more of a threat on defense in his second season, Gerald McCoy is disappointed about the lockout but is looking forward to spending time on campus.

“I heard they have more girls than guys going to school there,” he said. “That’s what I’m looking forward to seeing.”

It is also talk that some players will live in Residence Hall One during their stay. According to Heather Kisman, the residence community manager, all rooms are currently full. However, some students won’t mind adding a fifth or sixth person to their four-room suites because of who the new-comers are.

“Students are already in awe of these athletes, and they will love having a chance to eat, eat, eat,” she said. “I’m just hoping we have a fifth-and-sixth person waiting our order waiting with both!”

For those players who live there, there is a smoothie bar with both! They can also choose to order ahead or order when you arrive.

Footnotes: 1. 2009

Call ahead or order online, and we’ll have your order waiting when you arrive.
Britney Spears to speak at commencement

Robbie Crowley
Campus & Beyond Editor

Britney Spears will be USFSP’s keynote speaker at commencement on May 8. She will be the first pop singer to speak at a USF graduation ceremony, and student fans are giddy at the prospect that she may have our logo in Britney’s video, which is scheduled for a May 8 premiere at USFSP. Not only will she speak or mouth the words of a prerecorded speech, she will also sell her latest products and sign autographs at The Tavern after the ceremony.

Spears chose the location, because of the draught beer selection and so she could smoke on the patio. Her manager, Adam Leber, plans to bring 5,000 copies of Spears’ new album, “Femme Fatale,” and 5,000 bottles of her “Radiance” perfume to the USFSP campus.

“We aren’t leaving until we sell every one of those albums and perfume bottles,” Leber said. USFSP Regional Chancellor, Margie Pullivan, urges all students to do their part.

“If every student buys just one album and one bottle of perfume, Ms. Spears can leave in a safe and timely manner,” Pullivan said. “We would hate to have to dip into more student funding to pay for Ms. Spears’ extended hotel bill.”

USFSP’s contract with Spears also includes placement of the new USFSP logo in her upcoming music video, "Till the World Ends." The logo placement doubled the original cost from $250,000 to $500,000, but Student Government President Jamie Schatz supports the decision.

“It was a tough decision to cut the funding for all student organizations, but having our logo in Britney’s video is going to attract a whole new type of student body,” Schatz said. “If we can attract more Britney Spears fans to this campus, the student body will be content to just party and dance on their free time. USFSP won’t need to pay for that.”

While administration and student government are excited to bring a new image to graduation, some students and faculty are wary of her cost and ability to speak live.

“Lady Gaga would have been a better choice if this is what we’re going for,” Professor Robert Mardenne said. “Administration was concerned her outfit would offend some students, but I would’ve been in the front row!”

Some students also voiced concern that Spears was not an appropriate choice.

“Are you kidding me?” student Bob Bibelbopper asked. “This is a travesty to our school. Are her backup singers going to speak for her?”

Leber confirmed that it would be just Spears performing at commencement. He refrained from using the word “speaking” since a live speech was not part of the contract. Spears said she would finalize the performance the morning of commencement.

“Some months the chops just aren’t working! Like you want them to,” Spears said. “Each morning I try a few notes after my first cigarette. Then I typically say, ‘Nope, not today.’”

Spears plans to talk or lip sync about how hard school seems to be, ways to secure hair extensions, and offer tips on how to walk across the stage.

“I don’t want to just talk about smart stuff,” Spears said. “There’s a real world out there outside of those UFS Sans Petersburg walls. Lots of people won’t know about their degrees, but everyone will notice what perfumes they’re wearing and if their roots are showing.”

One student, who wished to remain anonymous, said the excitement of Spears’ visit was overwhelming him already.

“This is like a dream come true,” the student said. “It makes my two years of hard work, anxiety attacks and unnatural weight-loss worthwhile. At least I’ll be skinny for Britney’s visit!”

Tickets for commencement are limited to those graduating in May, but general admission tickets for the handicapped area are being auctioned on eBay to raise money for Spears’ fruit basket and Starbucks tab.

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