11-1-2010

Crow's Nest : 2010 : 11 : 01

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Midterm madness
Florida voters heading to polls on Nov. 2 to decide the outcome of a three-way race for the U.S. Senate.

Keeley Sheehan
Managing Editor

Former President Bill Clinton spoke at USF St. Petersburg Tues., Oct. 19 to campaign for democratic United States Senate candidate Kendrick Meek. A large crowd gathered in the Campus Activities Center to hear Clinton, Meek and other past and present Florida politicians talk about the Nov. 2 midterm elections.

Attendees began lining up early for the 11 a.m. rally. Free tickets became available online a few weeks prior. Clinton took to the podium shortly after speeches from others including State Senator Charlie Justice, candidate for Florida's 10th Congressional District, and Senator Bill Nelson. St. Petersburg was one of the stops on Clinton's schedule campaigning for democrats across the country, including rallies in California and Washington State.

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Former US President campaigns on campus

Clinton called the midterm election cycle a "tail of two stories."

"[Republican] have got this subtext that whatever goes wrong, it's the government's fault," Clinton said. "It's pretty hard to blame the government for Wall Street's meltdown."

Clinton said a lack of financial regulation during the Bush administration was a reason to the economic crisis.

"The Democrats went, you're right, we didn't get out of the hole, but it's a deep hole, and at least we stopped digging," Clinton said.

Making health care and higher education affordable, job creation and promoting environmental responsibility were some of the issues Clinton said are most important looking forward.

"It was really impressed by how much clean energy and green jobs were focused on in this rally," said Kira Buerse, community outreach coordinator of the Student Environmental Awareness Society. "We're here today to let them know we will be thinking about clean energy when we go to the polls."

Members of SEAS attended the rally in club T-shirts and green band hats, cheering loudly when speakers mentioned environmental issues.

"It's not a partisan issue, it's a moral issue. It's our future," said Megan Descharre, vice president of SEAS. "If we haven't protected our environment, we can pressure our elected officials to make the changes we need."

Clinton spoke to the largely college student-filled audience about education.

In March, when Congress passed the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act—the health care reform bill—it included the Student Aid and Fiscal Responsibility Act. SAFRA invests $36 million over ten years to increase federal Pell Grants. Beginning in July 2014, students will be able to cap their loan payments at 10 percent of their income, instead of 15 percent.

Chester Hass, Student Government senate president, attended the rally to "get the word out for Chelsea Justice," he said. He wore a Justice campaign T-shirt and spoke to attendees waiting in line for the rally about Justice's campaign. Hass commented on the student aid bill, saying it is "the most impactful policy that is going to affect college students."

The US, has the most people enrolled in colleges and universities. Clinton said, but the country has fallen from first to ninth as the nation with the highest percentage of adults with four-year degrees.

In the US, 54 percent of adults ages 25 to 64 have a college degree, according to data from 2007 from the Conference Board of Canada. In Canada, the top country on the list, 23.1 percent of adults in that age group have a college degree.

"[SAFRA] will revolutionize life for millions of young people," Clinton said. "Don't listen to this tax party talk of, 'I'm on your side.' This student loan bill is on your side.

Clinton said Merk has been a "good member of Congress, who has served Florida well, but served the United States well."

"He's the only one with experience working to keep this country safe," Clinton said.

Merk addressed the crowd prior to Clinton's speech.

"I'm looking forward to standing up on behalf of all of you here," Merk said. "This campaign has been a long campaign, but this campaign has been a fight, and it's only the beginning of the fight."
The deal with legalization

Tom Chang
Staff Writer

Multicultural Affairs and Student Government held an open forum, "American "Pot" Culture," to debate issues surrounding marijuana, on Oct. 28 in Davis 130.

Students, staff and law enforcement participated in the event.

"This event came together in La-Terra Caney's office; we had a discussion on smoking marijuana and the effects it had on certain people," said Jo- yanna Gurvan, Student Government Appropriations Committee chair and office assistant in Multicultural Affairs. "We then felt that we wanted to hear the opinions of other students on campus.

Currently 14 states, including Washington D.C., have passed laws allowing for medical marijuana use, but Florida has not. Many of the states and countries that legalized medicinal or recrea tional marijuana use face strict regulations on supply.

Gurvan said society is becoming more outspoken on the issue. People want to do all they can but feel limited with the laws in place. She hopes students understand the misconception of marijuana and the effect it has on the economy and society.

"I think it's very important to have open dis­ cussions like this, especially on controversial is­ sues like this," said Michelle Kene, a journalism major. "I like how a lot of people have strong views, and they can rethink or maybe open up to different perspectives in this forum.

Christian Haas, 3SG senate president, said he grew dissatisfied with brief messages about the issue that lack the proper context.

"It's been an initiative of Student Govern­ ment to bring the students together to discuss different issues that affect society and our community," Haas said. "I feel like by discussing these ideas and sharing the ideas, the general population gets a better idea of what is going on behind the scenes.

The forum gave students an opportunity to educate themselves about the different aspects of marijuana and raise awareness.

"I think it's completely unreasonable to have [marijuana be illegal]," Haas said. "I anticipated the discussion would be aligned with my beliefs.

How many in attendance supported the status quo (punishable by jail/prison), decriminalization (punishable by cita­tion) and legalization (only punishable from failure to abide by regulations)?

BEFORE DISCUSSION
Students for: -Status quo: 2 -Decriminalization: 8 -Legalization: 8 Total: 18
AFTER DISCUSSION
Students for: -Status quo: 2 -Decriminalization: 1 -Legalization: 15 Total: 18

This is a small example of the power behind reasoned discussion.*

*Poll by Christian Haas of Student Government

Battle of the burritos

Barrio Boarder's atmosphere is unique, with the theme based on skate and surfboarding cul­ ture.

A few of the USF St. Petersburg students agree that Burrito Boarder's theme appeals to the local skate and surf communities.

"Their atmosphere has friendly people, some­ thing cool and skater boards at tables and chairs, and they have funny names for their items too," Brent Stephenson said.

For Cleary she also thinks that Barrio Boarder's atmosphere is appealing to local skaters. "There are skateboarding competitions (playing on the TV, skateboarders suspended from the ceiling, and surfboards as walls)," he said.

Some students disagree that Barrio Boarder has an appealing theme and atmosphere.

"Chipotle looks cleaner and the food tastes better than mine," Amanda Sanchez said.

According to some students, Burrito Boarder has more variety on their menu than Chipotle. "Burrito Boarder has the more unique variety of food," Stephanie said. "Baja grilled fish, mango raita, crazy pineapple horseradish sauce."

Burrito Boarder also offers fish tacos—a dish Chipotle doesn't serve.

Barrio Boarder has a corporate feel to their restau­ rant and Burrito Boarder sees themselves apart from any other chain," Cleary said.

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The Cackling Hen: Political smear campaigns

Robbie Crowley
Campus & Beyond Editor

As the election drew near the crop last in­ re ceived a lot of scrutiny and the word just doesn't seem to get this heat of the summer would never end, in that time of year. So, I'm not re­ ferring to Halloween. No, this isn't a Christmas column (although Wal-Mart gets festive in Sep­ tember). It's political smear campaign season.

Many students at USF St. Petersburg attend­ ed a political rally on Oct. 19 for U.S. Senate candidate Rick Scott. Made.

A few minutes later, the campaign also noted raised about special guest Bill Clinton. However, one man produced an event made his priorities clear to his companion at Starbucks before the rally began.

"I'd rather miss Clinton than not have my coffee," the man said, as they debated if they had enough time for the stop. Shouldn't that question be on a Republican's bumper sticker somewhere?

It wouldn't have been a true political event without at least one heckler, heckling shared scenes from a Republican's bumper sticker somewhere.

According to some students, Burrito Boarder's theme appeals to the local skate and surf communities.

"I should come to the Chase," Cleary said.

Immediately following Scott's senior sub story is an ad for Sink, playing a cheerful piano tune as she smiles and shakers hands with every child, old folk and minority group that Florida can of­ fer. Apparently she put new financial protections in place for seniors, and Rick Scott is "unaware­ worthy and unfit for office," and his record is "an ethical black hole." That sounds scary. I only want someone "thoughtful," I should vote for Scott.

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The David Letterman experience

Greg Lindberg
Sports Editor

It was a cool, misty Monday afternoon in downtown Manhattan in early October. I was standing outside the Ed Sullivan Theater waiting with my family to pick up four tickets to see a taping of the “Late Show with David Letterman.”

As a college student, you might be a bigger fan of comics like Jon Stewart, Stephen Colbert or Chelsea Handler. Perhaps you’re counting the days until the return of Conan O’Brien to TBS. But don’t forget about the good ol’ Indiana boy who still pokes fun at everyone and presents his theme music.

For about 30 minutes, we stood in a small, jam-packed room with everyone that was going in to see the show. (Those people must have gotten their questions right, too.)

A guy told us what to expect in the theater. He then told some corny jokes and encouraged people to laugh and clap to get everyone revved up for the show. Apparently Dave and his producers choose their material for each show based on how excited the audience is. If people love it, they’ll keep making jokes.

At last, we made our way into the studio, which looks relatively small compared to on TV. A warm-up comedian introduced some one-liners that made me feel like dead cats. Then Paul Shaffer and the CBS Orchestra came out and played some tunes. Just before 5:30 p.m., the mass we were waiting for—Mr. Letterman himself—came out and talked to the audience for about two minutes.

He welcomed everyone and made some quick small talk before running backdrops to put on his suit jacket and make his grand entrance to the theme music.

It’s amazing how much stuff goes on off-camera during the taping of a TV show. Countless producers, cameramen and stagehands surround the stage that you wouldn’t even know are there. During commercial breaks, Dave takes off his jacket and walks around, talking to the producers about the next segment.

Actor Brian Williams appeared on this particular episode to promote his new movie “Red.” He was wearing a hat made of rare meat in honor of Lady Gaga’s meat outfit from the VMAs. Dave took a bite out of it but then gave back to the audience.

Later in the show, William of Black Eyed Peas fame did a duet with rapper Nicki Minaj. But it was the sunglasses-wearing Paul Shaffer and his band that put on the best musical performance. They played full songs during commercial breaks, so there was essentially no downtime during the entire one-hour taping. It was a constant, fast-paced marathon.

The show tapes Monday through Thursday at 3:30 p.m. A second taping on Mondays at 5:30 p.m., airs on Friday night, but it’s a more generic show since the producers can’t predict what will happen during the week.

I started watching Letterman when I was in middle school. I even dressed up as him and did a semi-comedy routine for a class project. It was the experience of a lifetime to actually see him do a show in person. If you ever get the chance to be in the audience for a TV show, I’d highly recommend it.

E-mail: glindberg@usatoday.com

Ghost Tours lacks thrills and chills

Lauren Martin
Staff Writer

The thrill of the scare gets people coming back for more, whether that be in a haunted house, hotel or a dark alley. We finally got out of the rain and into the studio around 2:30 p.m. The taping was at 5:30 p.m.

For about 30 minutes, we stood in a small, jam-packed room with everyone that was going in to see the show. (Those people must have gotten their questions right, too.)

A guy told us what to expect in the theater. He then told some corny jokes and encouraged people to laugh and clap to get everyone revved up for the show. Apparently Dave and his producers choose their material for each show based on how excited the audience is. If people love it, they’ll keep making jokes.

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E-mail: glindberg@usatoday.com
**ROT C trains future leaders**

**Tom Chang**
Staff Writer

"We have to show growth in quality of cadets," Macksam said. "I hope they have the tools to be effective and agile leaders in a global world environment today and be able to lead troops with professionalism and strength."

"The ROTC curriculum is more than just an academic setting," said ROTC student John White. He described a schedule that includes regular physical training, classes based on one's Military Science Level, and a leadership lab involving different kinds of practical field training. The regiment varies for each cadet. White hopes to graduate in the spring semester as a 2nd lieutenant in the U.S. Army.

White got involved with the program at the end of his freshman year. His original plans for the military had fallen through and he got connected through a friend who was already in the program. He officially entered the program at the beginning of his sophomore year, and he said the ROTC program trains basic soldier skills that include marksmanship, rappelling, navigating precisely and battle drills.

In addition to learning important skills, White has also been able to travel. "I've also been privileged to attend training through the Moroccan military in the Sahara Desert and other locations, compete in events at Fort Benning's Ranger School, and more. All of these have been invaluable learning experiences," he said.

White believes the leadership experience he has gained is the most valuable part of the program. "Even if I never use one tangible skill from Army ROTC again after graduation, the principles of leadership and self-discipline that it has taught me have been worth all the effort," White said.

Cameron Lothridge, another ROTC student, credits the program with helping facilitate a change in direction in his life. Before entering the program, Lothridge said he was out of shape and not focused on school. Lothridge noticed a difference in his abilities when he attended the program's leadership conferences. "I'm more outgoing and confident now," Lothridge said. "Anything where I need to get a job or take control of a group I feel more confident. I also feel a whole lot healthier. I'm also a lot more focused on teamwork."

Lothridge recently attended the National Conference on Ethics in America at West Point, where many keynote speakers discussed overcoming dilemmas. Lothridge plans to graduate a second lieutenant in the spring of 2011 and hopes it will help him establish a career in the military.

"I love the modeling and etching of young leaders," Macksam said. "It is great to see the maturing and development of young people."

Email: tmcchang@mail.usf.edu
Bay Pines, FL—Gilbert Calderon (L) and Brad Phillips reel in a four-pound redfish off Vietnam veteran's Memorial Park. Calderon and Phillips were in Boca Ciega Bay early October 17 testing their invention for holding fishing poles, allowing one angler to easily fish several lines at once.

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Lenay Ruhl
Staff Writer

Imagine funk music emanating from drums, guitars, keyboards, saxophones and, occasionally, pots and pans. Yes, pots and pans.

The Funky Seeds don't need to imagine it—they're doing it. A self-described "plant-driven funk" band that germinated out of St. Petersburg in June 2009, the Funky Seeds play funk, reggae, hip-hop, beach rock, old-school country and blues, according to their website.

They enjoy a lot of percussion. They do a different type of drum jam every show and, when the mood moves them, they lean out the kitchenware.

"We literally bang on pots and pans," said drummer Patty Schwing.

The six-member band is comprised of Schwing, Steve Schwing on acoustic and vocals, Sean Hartley on guitar and J. Sideway on bass. Funky D provides additional vocals and plays the keyboard. Chris Sgammaro plays the saxophone, and is described by his other band members as a "super cool dude."

Two of the band members are USF students. Sgammaro is a double major in business and music at the USF Tampa campus. Schwing is a Ph.D. student at the College of Marine Science at St. Petersburg.

"We are all terrible at coming up with names, so we actually arrived at our band name, Funky D was once the leader of Funky D and the Seeds," Schwing said. "We decided that since we were a completely new band, we had to change the name slightly and we became the Funky Seeds."

The Funky Seeds strive for originality, and go to all of their shows without a set list, fueled by sheer spontaneity. Every show is "all the fun," Hartley said.

"I don't know any other band that comes to a show without a set list," Schwing said.

Their first gig together was at the former Rocket's House Saloon at St. Pete Beach. Since then they've been playing at places such as Dunedin Brewery, PLAY Yer and Skipper's Smokehouse. Skipper's is their favorite.

"It's the perfect place to play—good stage, good sound, good people, great crowd and they have trees in the middle of their dance floor," Schwing said.

The Funky Seeds are also attempting to place their music in places that will help it grow to new heights. They participated in a contest hosted by local radio station WMAN 98.5 whose best covered protest songs are chosen by the station for a compilation CD that will be released Nov. 13 at Skipper's Smokehouse. The CD consists of 12 to 13 artists, including the Funky Seeds' rendition of "Vell-fire" by Michael Franti from Spearhead.

They are also looking forward to a recording session on Nov. 8, through the Orlando-based Full Sail University, one of the premier schools in the world for the entertainment and arts industries.

Email: lruhl@mail.usf.edu
MGMT perform at Ruth Eckerd Hall

PHOTOS BY LUCAS CANNISTRACI / THE CROW'S NEST

Keyboardist Ben Goldwasser has been with MGMT since 2002.

MGMT’s lead guitarist, James Richardson, sings back-up vocals, plays the keyboard and drums.

Psychadelic rock band MGMT played Ruth Eckerd Hall on Wednesday, Oct. 27, 2010.

Andrew VanWyngarden, lead singer of MGMT, performs live at Ruth Eckerd Hall on October 27, 2010.

MGMT’s drummer Will Berman.

Upcoming movies

Andrew Silverstein
Entertainment Editor

While some suited-up, double-chinned studio execs are merely waiting to build a gold castle from the dollar bills we give them to see the next installment of "Iron Man," Ben fixing "Hall of Modern Sci-Fi" in deadpan delivery and sarcasm is Tony Stark made "Iron Man," a more-enjoyable-than-never kind of superhero movie, at least. Zach Galifianakis ("It's Kind of a Funny Story") is, well, Zach Galifianakis. This resume apparently takes a road trip across the country so RDJ can make it to see the birth of his child. Todd Phillips ("The Hangover") directs, so this one should be fairly trustworthy.

HARRY POTTER AND THE DEATHLY HALLOWS: PART 1 -- NOV. 19

I read the first three Harry Potter books before I found the stimulation of pizza rolls, television, and Lime Biskit CDs to be much more enticing. Sorry Potter fans. I know this is a big deal to you guys, so I'll do my best here. In part one of this mammoth of a movie, Harry (Daniel Radcliffe), Hermione (Emma Watson), and Ron (Rupert Grint) meet Junior Dark Minister, the Half-Blood Prince, and his wife Pam (Tina Philip, "The Beaucou") have two little Fockers (never gets old) now. Jack (Robert De Niro, "Starter's" clapout out of retirement and gets a job moonlighting for a drug company, whatever that means. Figure the always-hilarious tension between Greg and Jack to at least, a ton of physical comedy, and a nice, heartwarming ending.

LITTLE FOCKERS -- DEC. 22

The third installment in the "Meet the Parents" trilogy, "Little Fockers" picks up a little farther down the road from where the last one left off: Greg Focker (Ben Stiller, "Greenberg") and his wife Pam (Pam Philip, "The Beaucou") have two little Fockers (never gets old) now. Jack (Robert De Niro, "Starter's" clapout out of retirement and gets a job moonlighting for a drug company, whatever that means. Figure the always-hilarious tension between Greg and Jack to at least, a ton of physical comedy, and a nice, heartwarming ending.

TRUE GRIT -- DEC. 25

The Coen brothers have been on quite the roll as of late. "No Country for Old Men" rightfully nabbed them their first Best Picture in 2007 and the two films afterward—"Brokeback Mountain" and "A Serious Man"—won both radically different from "No Country for Old Men," yet equally great in their own, unique ways. Further manicuring their differential musk, the Coens remade the 1969 John Wayne classic "True Grit." Jeff Bridges ("Crazy Heart") stars and does what he does best: He plays the haggard, bearded "Rooster" Cogburn while newcomer Hailee Steinfeld plays the young girl, Mattie Ross, who hires him to avenge her father's wrongful death. Soberingly simple enough, but as any Coen-phobe can attest, nothing is ever as simple as it seems in their consistently bold and well-told tales.

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November

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DUE DATE -- NOV. 5

Some may disagree because of his cocky, leather-thous demeanor, but Robert Downey Jr. ("Iron Man 2") as Tony Stark is, well, Tony Stark made "Iron Man," a more-enjoyable-than-we-ex-pect kind of superhero movie, at least. Zach Galifianakis ("It's Kind of a Funny Story") is, well, Zach Galifianakis. This resume apparently takes a road trip across the country so RDJ can make it to see the birth of his child. Todd Phillips ("The Hangover") directs, so this one should be fairly trustworthy.

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TRON: LEGACY -- DEC. 17

I can picture every seed, stone and mound soaring over this movie already, and right-fully so. From the previews, this remake of the 1982 Disney classic looks pretty stunning. Kevin Pheus (Jeff Bridges, "Crazy Heart"), the king of the original, is stuck in a cyber-dream world he created. His rebellious son Sam (Garrett Hedlund, "Death Sentence") picks up on a signal emanating from his father's arcade and soon discovers that his father is trapped. They'll blow snuff up, tidy awesome-colored monomptides, and do it all to the score created by techno-legends Daft Punk. Even if the story sucks, the eye-candy-ness of it all seems like it'll surely make up for the lack of plot.

LITTLE FOCKERS -- DEC. 22

The third installment in the "Meet the Parents" trilogy, "Little Fockers" picks up a little farther down the road from where the last one left off: Greg Focker (Ben Stiller, "Greenberg") and his wife Pam (Tina Philip, "The Beaucou") have two little Fockers (never gets old) now. Jack (Robert De Niro, "Starter's" clapout out of retirement and gets a job moonlighting for a drug company, whatever that means. Figure the always-hilarious tension between Greg and Jack to at least, a ton of physical comedy, and a nice, heartwarming ending.

TRUE GRIT -- DEC. 25

The Coen brothers have been on quite the roll as of late. "No Country for Old Men" rightfully nabbed them their first Best Picture in 2007 and the two films afterward—"Brokeback Mountain" and "A Serious Man"—won both radically different from "No Country for Old Men," yet equally great in their own, unique ways. Further manicuring their differential musk, the Coens remade the 1969 John Wayne classic "True Grit." Jeff Bridges ("Crazy Heart") stars and does what he does best: He plays the haggard, bearded "Rooster" Cogburn while newcomer Hailee Steinfeld plays the young girl, Mattie Ross, who hires him to avenge her father's wrongful death. Soberingly simple enough, but as any Coen-phobe can attest, nothing is ever as simple as it seems in their consistently bold and well-told tales.

E-mail: asilverstein@usatoday.com

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E-mail: asilverstein@usatoday.com
Fall back into stylish loungewear

Amanda Pretulac
Contributing Writer

The beginning of fall is like New Year’s Eve in the fashion world. The season brings new trends to inspire a fashionable new you for the season ahead. We replace our Florida wardrobe of tank tops and sundresses with more suitable choices like knitted sweaters and camisoles. One thing I have noticed that doesn’t change in our wardrobes is loungewear. Many of us reach for comfort after our hectic days of class and work. However, comfort can be classy with a few tweaks. Switch your oversized high school club T-shirt for a sweet pair of pajamas from GapBody;Trash the hot pink fluffy slippers from Target for a cozy pair of Ugg slippers that are worth the investment.

Visit Topshop.com if you are searching for a more glamorous pair of pajamas. They sell lovely camisoles with matching shorts. Look to Carrie Bradshaw from “Sex and the City: The Movie,” for a little help to style your relaxed look.

Do not omit the eyes. If your roommate is keeping the lights on all night, cover up with a darling “Breakfast at Tiffany’s” inspired eye mask from PdiVision. To keep you warm in your tiny dorm, pick up a slouchy sweater and leggings from Ann Taylor Left.

Besides your pajama makeover, make sure you have the nighttime beauty essentials you need for the cooler months ahead. Always wash off your makeup and cover up with a heavier moisturizer. Get into a routine of using hand and foot cream to keep skin soft. Johnson’s Baby Lotion has a pretty lavender scent to help you fall asleep easily. Buffy’s Bees makes nice lip balm with a berry tint to help prevent cracked lips.

Fall is for new beginnings in the fashion world and there’s no reason not to indulge stylish pajamas. Besides the new loungewear to motivate you to get your eight hours of rest, your crush down the hall will never see you mist a beat. Remember to set your clocks back an hour on Nov. 7 to be sure you don’t sleep in. Sweet dreams.

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Protect your skin through winter

Taylor Gaudens
Contributing Writer

The first day of fall came and went. The weather has hardly changed and we can still get away with wearing shorts and sandals. Soon enough, the air will get a little crisp and we will pull out our boxed up winter clothes, but we also need to protect our skin under all the layers. It is important to wear SPF everyday, even when it is cold, cloudy and rainy.

Past facts about the sun’s damaging rays:

-UVB rays cause skin aging and wrinkling.
-UV rays burn the skin, cause sunburns and affect the immune system.

Both types of rays contribute to skin cancer. Tanning beds aren’t good for you. In fact, they can be more harmful than the sun. Don’t believe the “base tan” (getting a tan before spending a vacation in the sun) nonsense.

There are a few easy ways to save your skin from cancer. Use makeup or moisturizer with SPF (there’s a lot out there to choose from, Neutrogena and Dermologica have great options). Many brands of self-tanners have SPF in them. If you use one without sun protection, consider switching to one that has it.

You can find a variety of lotions and sprays at Sephora, like DaWimp Revolution SPF 15 and Carrie Self Tanning Mist SPF 6. Choose a tinted lip balm to protect your lips. Popular brands are Bliss Superbalm SPF 15 and Buffy’s Bees SPF 6. Don’t neglect your hair, especially if you color it or have highlights. Try Capt. Sun-Shield spray to share a little SPF love with your strands.

Prevent ugly age spots, wrinkles and even skin cancer by lathering up every day. Just a few extra minutes in the morning to apply some SPF will save you from a lot of health issues in the future.

Visit: beautyownit.blogspot.com

Ask the Campus Veteran

My friend is currently in a weird relationship with this guy that she has liked for two years. She has told the guy that she likes him, but he told her that he likes her as a friend, not as a girlfriend. However, a few months ago when my friend asked him again if he liked her more than a friend, the guy said that he actually thought about having a relationship with her, but he’s not completely sure now. What should I tell my friend? Should my friend forget about this guy, or continue being friends with him?

I would forget about him. Obviously, she’ll want to still be friends with him, still holding out that glimmer of hope that he may finally come around, and actually like her and she’ll and live happily ever after.

He sounds flakey. If he likes her as a friend, and maybe likes her more, he should ask her out and find out one way or the other. However, it doesn’t seem like that is going to happen. Tell her to walk away. Create a distance. If he notices, he’ll miss her and ask her out, or he won’t notice, and it won’t matter.

A year ago, I kind of dated this guy. I thought he was a great guy it almost seemed too good to be true. After dating him for eight months, he moved to a different city. Then about a month later he told me that we had to have a talk about us. He said that he was interested in a different city. Then about a month later he told me that we had to have a talk about us. He said that he was interested in a different city.

Now, we don’t talk much, but sometimes we casually have a conversation. Should I count this friendship/relationship over and move on?

I think he’s right. I don’t think he’s ready for a relationship. That’s a good reason. After eight good months, it sounds like he got scared. Maybe he saw his single life disappearing forever, and wasn’t ready to give that up, at least not for good.

If it was a good relationship, then look back on it fondly. Consider it a learning experience, and move on. Whether his motivations were correct, he moved away from you both physically and emotionally. I don’t think he’s worth your time anymore, so let him go, and go find someone better for you.

Ask the Campus Veteran

E-mail your questions for the Campus Veteran to: CampusVeteran2010@yahoo.com

-Campus Veteran
SENATE ELECTION RESULTS

On Oct. 25 and 26, students voted in the midterm Student Government Senate Elections. Sixteen seats were open, and sixteen people ran in the election. The ballot included an advisory opinion, asking students if they support a Student Green Energy Fund—172 said “yes,” and 51 said “no.”

Mark Lombardi-Nelson 144
Elana Aguilar 118
Esterania Sanchez 117
Laura Rogers 114
Karla M. Infanzon 113
Cory Allen Hebert 106
Lauren Reilly 104
Jericka Knox, April Parsons, Jeffrey Pincus 103
Armand Malcolm Ashby 102
Frank Mathis 100
Roshaun Reno 95
Walter Charles Shelmet III 94
Alfredo J. Dooley Hernandez, Donal Kenya Ricks 88

Florida universities may start block tuition

Kedley Sheehan
Managing Editor

The Florida Board of Governors is exploring the possibility of allowing Florida public universities to adopt block tuition.

Currently, students pay per credit hour that they take. Under a block tuition plan, one option could have students paying for 15 credit hours if they take anywhere between 12 and 18 credit hours.

Students taking excess of 15 credit hours would get more for less, but students only taking 12 hours would be paying for more than they are using.

The University of Florida is pushing for block tuition. If the proposal passes—which could happen in February at the earliest—and UF receives approval, it plans to switch to a block tuition system as early as fall 2011, according to a Sept. 25 report from the Gainesville Sun.

Some USF St. Petersburg students are already expressing opposition to the measure. The Student Government University, Community and Government Committee met on Wed., Oct. 20, to discuss the possibility of block tuition being implemented at the university.

SG Senator Chuck Terzian said that he has serious issues with the plan. UF wants to implement block tuition in part because of the plan's potential to get students to graduate sooner, according to the report in the Gainesville Sun, if they are paying for 13 credits but allowed to take up to 18 with no extra cost.

USF’s six-year graduation rate is currently 49 percent, according to an Oct. 8 report from the St. Petersburg Times. The national average is 55 percent.

For some students however, the pay-as-you-go approach of paying just for the credits they take each semester allows them to balance school, work and other obligations easier.

"It puts people in a bad spot," said SG Senator Evan Garrett. "If you're only taking so many classes [under block tuition], you're paying for more than you're using."

Terzian fears that block tuition would mean less student involvement in campus clubs and organizations.

"So much of the college experience is those experiences of being involved," Terzian said. "Being involved [in clubs], putting into practice what you're learning—that's so much that is gained from that."

Students are under a lot of pressure to figure out what they want to study when they enter as freshmen, said SG Senator Courtney Parish, and block tuition could produce additional, unneeded stress on students to finish their degrees sooner than makes sense for them.

"People learn at different speeds," she said. "People end up making the wrong decisions [about what to study]. Some people know what they want all the way through, but most people don't."

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MEETING TIMES

Judicial, Executive, Legislative
Friday, Oct. 22 at 1PM
CAC Club Room

Executive Branch
Fridays at 11AM
Chick-fil-A

Senate
(General Assembly)
Wednesdays at 3PM
Davis 105

Legislative Affairs
Wednesdays at 2PM
CAC Club Room

Appropriations
Tuesdays at 12:30PM
CAC Club Room

Student Services
Fridays at 10:30AM
CAC Club Room

Campus Media
Planning Committee
Mondays at 2PM
CAC Club Room

MID ELECTION BBQ

Wednesday, October 20th from 11AM-3PM
Harborside Lawn

Vote Online

SENATE ELECTIONS

October 25th & 29th

COOKOUT

Wednesday, October 20th at 7pm
at the Waterfront Pool. See you there!

IMPORTANT UPCOMING BUSINESS
• Creation of a Bike Checkout Program
• Construction of a Recreational Space behind RHO

OPEN POSITIONS

Elections Commission Officials (2),
and Senate Clerk (paid)***
Guitar store is haven for local musicians

Kelsie McClain
Neighborhood News Bureau

Stevie B's Total Guitar is not just a place to buy a new set of strings for your guitar, or a hangout for cool teen rockers. For local musicians waiting to make it big, it's a place to make a living while still doing what they love.

Two of the three Stevie B's Total Guitar stores are located locally, one in Clearwater and one in Midtown, at 650 Central Ave. in St. Petersburg. A third store was recently opened in Johnsville, Pa.

Stevie B's employee Greg Shankland currently splits his time working at both of the Florida stores and has been employed with the small music chain for eight years.

"Stevie and I go back 25 years," he said. "Like many of the employees of Stevie B's Total Guitar, working retail is just Shankland's day job.

He's also in a local band called Invasion, which plays a mix of classic rock cover songs. The band is currently working on releasing an album, which will include some original songs.

Stevie B's isn't the only member of Stevie B's staff who plays music on their time off from work. Five other Stevie B's staff members are also musicians.

Shankland's band, Invasion, will be playing a free show at the Turkey Trot Kick-Off Party from 5 p.m. to 8 p.m. Wednesday, Nov. 24 at the Jack White Stadium at Clearwater High School. The school is located at 540 S. Horace Ave. in Clearwater.

E-mail: kmcclain@email.usf.edu

The Edward R. Murrow Program for Journalists invites rising international journalists to travel to the United States and examine journalistic principles and practices. The program represents an innovative public-private partnership between the U.S. Department of State, the Aspen Institute and leading U.S. schools of journalism. Our Department of Journalism and Media Studies and 10 other U.S. journalism programs are partner schools this year.

For more information, please visit http://www.stpt.usf.edu/journalism/

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JOURNALISM & MEDIA STUDIES
USF ST. PETERSBURG HOSTS

MURROW PROGRAM
FROM AFRICAN COUNTRIES WILL ATTEND SESSIONS ON JOURNALISM IN THE 21ST CENTURY AND REPORTING AFRICA ON CAMPUS, OCT. 28-NOV. 3.

JOURNALISTS

PUBLIC SESSIONS SATURDAY, Oct. 30
9:00 am to 10:15 am "Digital and Social Media" (Viney hotel)
10:30 am to 12:00 pm "Power Reporting" (Viney hotel)

MONDAY, Nov. 1
1:15 pm to 2:30 pm Graduate student session (Davis 130)

TUESDAY, Nov. 2
9:00 am to 10:15 am "The Risks of Responsible Reporting" (Davis 130)
3:00 pm to 4:15 pm Journalism in Africa: Stories from visiting journalists about covering news in Africa (Davis 130)
Tampa Bay Rays end season on sour note
Rob Bililhauser  Staff Writer

A new World Series champion of Major League Baseball will be crowned. But the Tampa Bay Rays will not be the team receiving this special honor. Even though many people predicted it would be Tampa Bay, the Rays failed even to make the postseason.

The Rays’ promising season ended short of its goal as the team’s ineffective bats proved to be its Achilles heel. While their 96-66 record—which included starting out 17-6 in April—was good enough to garner the franchise’s second-ever division title in just three seasons, it was an untimely slump and exceptional Texas Rangers pitching that sent the Rays home early from the postseason.

Although the Rays, whose offense was ranked 27th in the majors with a 247 team batting average, weren’t outscored too badly (611-551) in the American League Division Series, they did only manage to score one or fewer runs in three of the five games.

For the first time all year, Young Ace and Cy Young hopeful David Price showed signs of vulnerability. After a regular season in which Price led the team in ERA (2.75), wins (19), strikeouts (188) and innings (208.2), he took the loss in both of his playoff starts, allowing seven runs on 17 hits over 12.2 innings. With the season now over for Rays fans, most of the discussion seems to be centered toward which of the key free agents the team will need to be very cautious about the investment they are willing to make on him.

Fantasy Football: Trade Rape Edition
Hannah Ulm  Contributing Writer

We’ve reached the second half of the fantasy season, and most of us are preparing to fight for a playoff spot that right now may seem so close... yet so far. Unless your records make you look like the eventual champion of the League, you may want to consider adding another team to your league, to dominate your league like Taco Bell dominates your 3 a.m. hunger. Last season, we had the “Raiders of the Lost League” cover a name to one of the sneakiest strategies in fantasy football, hoping you or your opponent will make a mistake. I’m not trying to advocate being a trade rapist, but hey, we won’t be the one that karma fires back at you.

“Trade rape” is defined in the dictionary as the act of trading away a player of high potential and immediate value for a player who may be someone in your league that likely is a close friend or relative. Pete Rose did this to his teammates, and it’s a tactic that happens when one league member takes advantage of a less knowledgeable member, and proposes a trade in which he will greatly benefit. Here is the infamous example from “The League”:

Andre: I gave Pete Ronnie Brown, and he gave me Plaxico Burress.
Kevin: Are you serious?
Andre: See you guys in the playoffs.
Kevin: Pete traded raped you!
Andre: He did not trade rape me, OK?
Kevin: How many games have you seen Plaxico Burress play this year?
Andre: I don’t know, but the Giants have been doing great.
Kevin: (laughing) The answer is zero, because the guy is in jail for two years you moron!

At “The League” demonstrates, trade raping is easy when playing with someone as naive as Andre, but do you want to do it? Your moves are questionable when you take advantage of someone in your league that is likely a close friend or relative.

On the other hand, shouldn’t he be putting a little more thought and time into his research before betting your team on someone in your league that you think is a close friend or relative. And if you do go the trade rape route, don’t be surprised if your trade options are a little less desirable next season. Good sportsmanship is always impressive, even when your team is merely a fantasy.

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Intramural flag football playoffs preview
Vincent Jacobbi  Staff Writer

As the intramural flag football regular season comes to an end at USF, St. Petersburg teams prepared for the playoffs. The seven teams playing were evenly matched for the single elimination playoffs that began on Oct. 23.

The Intramural Championship game is scheduled for Nov. 8. The winning teams will receive championship T-shirts, as well as a trophy, Information about the team will be posted on the university website.

The teams were ready for this final week of the season. The Knight Riders team faced off against OPP.

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While many fans are anxious that the exodus of such talent will take the team back to the dominance basement, fans may be unprepared for a new phenomenon Jeremy Hellickson to the starting rotation. In addition, the vacancy in left field provides an opportunity for another superstar Deserted Jenkins (a.k.a. Young Carl Crawford) to show what he can do in a starring role.

For the time being, the team will need to be very cautious about the investment they are willing to make on him.

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Adjustments will have to be made to the off season due to a reduced payroll. But many of Tampa Bay’s top players—despite their outstanding talent on the mound—will still be around and should be enough to keep the team in the hunt for the foreseeable future.

Email: ruliger@gmail.com

Fall 2010 intramural sports schedule

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Flag Football</th>
<th>Basketball</th>
<th>Sand Volleyball</th>
<th>Soccer</th>
<th>Volleyball</th>
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<tr>
<td>Nov. 1</td>
<td>Nov. 2</td>
<td>Nov. 3</td>
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<td>Nov. 1/11</td>
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<td>5 p.m.</td>
<td>7 p.m.</td>
<td>No volleyball</td>
<td>5 p.m.</td>
<td>Championship</td>
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<td>due to USF,</td>
<td>Golazos</td>
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<td>vs.</td>
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<td>Mercy Rule</td>
<td>Team C</td>
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<td>World Cup</td>
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<td>8 p.m.</td>
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<td>6 p.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Knight Riders</td>
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<td>Bayboro FC</td>
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<td>vs.</td>
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<td>The Rudigers</td>
<td>Team B</td>
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<td>Vuvuzelas</td>
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<td>Championship</td>
<td>Championship</td>
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Intramural soccer, popular USFSP sport

Vincent Jacobbi
Staff Writer

Intramural soccer season at USF St. Petersburg may be gearing down, but this year the school has seen increased involvement in the sport. According to Todd Clark, intramural and fitness coordinator, soccer is the second fastest-growing sport on campus, behind sand volleyball. The soccer intramural is one of several student-led intramurals on campus, and is comprised of an eight-team league.

"It has been pretty evenly matched in terms of wins and losses this year," Clark said. This year, three teams in particular have stood out—the Vuvuzelas, Bayboro FC and Scorgasm.

Teams participating in the league this season include Bayboro FC, the Squidys, the Vapors, Scorgasm, World Cup, the Galactos, the Vuvuzelas, Bloodbath and Beyond.

Clark described Bayboro FC team captain Josh Sellers as "one of the most passionate [people] I have ever met. He really wants the soccer league to grow on campus."

One of the surprising teams this season is the Vuvuzelas. "Over 150 students registered as free agents this year, and for the Vuvuzelas to mesh together and play well so quickly is very surprising," Clark said.

The Vuvuzelas are a free-agent team, which means the team includes players who signed up to play soccer as singles and were put together randomly.

The World Cup team, an affectionate tribute to the largest sporting event in the world, was involved in a bit of controversy in the game they lost this season.

"It was a cheap loss," said team member Josh Gomez. "When we played Scorgasm, it was pitch black outside; we need better lights out here."

There is no direct lighting on the recreational field, and many games are played until 7 p.m. or later.

Scorgasm, the team that defeated World Cup, is another exciting team to watch, led by team captain Jonathan Cleary. Fellow teammate Manuel Carrasco explained why they have developed some team chemistry.

"Our team has been playing since our first year on campus," Carrasco said. "It's the same group of kids and I think that's why it works for us."

Although intramural sports on campus are mainly played for fun and to get some exercise, attendance at the games has been an issue for Carrasco.

"It's anemic as it is. But believe it or not, [there has been] an improvement," he said. "More people need to get to the games."

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"It's anemic as it is. But believe it or not, [there has been] an improvement," he said. "More people need to get to the games."

Times Festival of Reading hosted Oct. 25


Visitors gather at the St. Petersburg Library tent to browse the used books for sale.

A line of fans waiting to meet author, Michael Connelly, snakes around the 6th Ave. So. block of USF St. Petersburg.

The 18th annual St. Petersburg Times Festival of Reading hosted 44 internationally recognized authors.