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The Crow's Nest
Navigating the News for USF St. Petersburg

Monday, August 23, 2010
Volume 45 Issue 1

New Dock pages

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Greetings from your new Editor-in-Chief

Dear USF St. Petersburg students:

It's great to know that you're back on campus, ready to get this semester started with endurance and motivation. I hope that you're prepared for an exciting year filled with new opportunities and new improvements. One of the first improvements happening to the Crow's Nest student newspaper is that we're no longer a weekly paper, but a bi-weekly paper. This means that you'll get more interesting, fun-filled and creative stories from the Crow's Nest staff. I hope that you like our new design on the front page. Since we've decided to go bi-weekly, we thought that we'd spice up the front page with a few graphics.

Moreover, as you'll see in the coming issues, we've decided to turn the Crow's Nest into a 12-page newspaper instead of an 8-page newspaper. Don't worry; we're not planning to bore you with endless news stories or rehashing the same information from the week before. We're planning to bring something fresh, cutting-edge and modern to the Crow's Nest. I hope that you're ready to experience a new way to read campus news, entertainment, fashion and sports in the Crow's Nest. Most importantly, welcome back! We hope you enjoy reading the new Crow's Nest this semester.

Thanks,
Nikeya S. Williams
The Crow's Nest
Editor-in-Chief

Student Government changes hands

Keeley Sheehan
Managing Editor
keely487@gmail.com

As a child, James Scott had dreams of becoming a veterinarian. "Sometimes I feel like I like nature more than people," he said.

But that hasn't stopped Scott, 22, from focusing on a different kind of nature—the nature of USF St. Petersburg.

The senior environmental science and policy major was elected Student Government president before the summer for the 2010-11 year and has made helping USF St. Petersburg build a campus culture one of his main objectives. Each group on campus—residence halls, SG, Harborside, student clubs, faculty and staff—represent microcultures on campus, he said.

"There hasn't been a lot of cross-bridging," he said. "Everyone's trying to be part of a culture [on campus] without really understanding all the other cultures, so I think that bridging all those together, getting to know everybody ... getting organizations to co-sponsor events and do things together [is important]."

Scott has a lengthy, though spotted, history with campus leadership. He was the SG senate president and a resident advisor in fall 2008. While attending a student government conference in Washington, D.C., during the debate between then-Vice Presidential candidates Joe Biden and Sarah Palin, Scott had a drink while underage—he was 20 at the time.

"That's before I really realized the public-private aspect of leadership roles," he said. He readily admitted to the incident, and had to resign as an RA, though he kept his senate seat.

A second campus alcohol-related citation later that year—during the night of his 21st birthday—led the university to restrict his participation in student leadership for two years. He appealed, and the restriction was lowered to one year, though he had to resign from his position as SG president—a role he had won soon after his birthday, and before the university issued the restriction.

Though he could not hold a position, he stayed involved, helping last year's Student Government while maintaining his role as a student.

He ran again for the presidency last year, winning the election—though that, too, became a clouded period, due to a parking ticket paid late, a suspended license and a missed court date. "After trying to redeem myself all last year, to run again, come back, and have that happen—that was not good," Scott said.

But the backstory to his job as SG president is behind him. Scott is leveraging his interest in nature and his environmental studies major on a plan to help USFSP become a greener, more sustainable campus. The university plans to build a new, larger student center and Scott has been lobbying the administration to include plans for the building to be LEED certified. The Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design certification developed by the U.S. Green Building Council includes standards for things like energy savings, water efficiency and reducing carbon emissions.

"I want us to be ambitious," Scott said. He created a director of environmental responsibility position within SG this year. "We're going to try to create continued on page 4
USF researchers search for toxicity in oil spill

Keeley Sheehan  
Managing Editor  
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At the morning press conference on Aug. 17, USF researchers announced findings earlier in the summer that linked subsurface oil clouds called plumes in the gulf to the oil that had been pouring from BP Deepwater Horizon well since April. BP and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration tried to quell USF’s announcement, insisting that the findings were mere speculation, according to a St. Petersburg Times report from early August.

USF has persisted in its research, receiving grant money from the Florida Institute of Oceanography Council, and is now working with NOAA as it creates future studies of the effects of the oil spill that has devastated the gulf region.

Researchers from USF St. Petersburg returned prior to the press conference from a trip to collect data on toxicity levels under the water’s surface. Working from Aug. 6 to Aug. 16, John Paul, distinguished professor in biological oceanography, and David Hollander, associate professor in chemical oceanography, had aims to discover if there is oil on the sediment surface, if the surface and subsurface oil is toxic, and where the subsurface oil is and if it is moving eastward closer to Florida.

They used a number of techniques to look for oil on the sediment floor, including the use of UV light. Small drops of oil, when tested with UV light, would “sparkle like a constellation of stars,” Paul said.

But their findings were less bright. “The subsurface waters appear to have a toxic response,” Paul said. Communities of phytoplankton—microscopic, plant-like organisms in the ocean—in the De Soto Canyon appeared to be toxic, though they added that they had to complete laboratory testing to be sure.

Toxicity levels in phytoplankton are important, Paul said, because they form the basis of the food chain, and could affect larger organisms that feed on it.

“This could result in a collapse of the food chain depending on the area,” Paul said. Some fish, he said, might be more sensitive to the oil than others, and contamination of fish larvae could also affect the long-term health of the underwater populations.

The infected waters seem to be moving eastward through the De Soto Canyon, though Hollander said that at this point they are unsure of what this may mean, particularly for the west coast of Florida. “We don’t really know what the long term effect will be,” he said.

They also don’t know how long it will take for the toxicity levels in the water to decrease. Thirty percent of the samples collected were toxic.

BP used dispersants on the oil after the spill, a move that some have questioned because of the uncertainties surrounding the chemicals and whether such use would do more harm than good, and spilled oil will disperse naturally over time. The Environmental Protection Agency said in early August that the dispersant BP used is no more harmful to the environment than the oil itself, but independent researchers still voiced concern.

Hollander said that especially at greater depths the dispersant could have unclear effects because of changes in pressure, temperature or volume.

“This is the first time dispersants have been applied at such depths,” he said.

Researchers also found evidence of oil on the shelf in Florida.

“We are in climatological conditions that provoke upwelling on the coast of Florida,” Hollander said—something they need to watch. “Upwelling would travel along the bottom of the shelf and to the coast.”

“One of the ideas is that it’s dispersed, so it’s gone,” Hollander said, “but it’s not just straight water you can put continued on page 5
As we get back to the grind of classes, books and homework, many of us may not be quite excited to get back to work after the summer. However, the USF St. Petersburg campus did not stay unchanged during these scorching months. One of the noticeable and exciting changes to our campus is the addition of The Campus Grind, a new coffee shop next to The Tavern.

For coffee needs, the Starbucks Café in Barnes and Noble is no longer the only choice, the Campus Grind is located in the former home of Bayboro Books. The space was quickly remodeled and transformed over the summer into a modern coffee house. The Campus Grind is spacious and comfortable. The coffee house opened the end of June, and now gives students another option for that daily pick-me-up. The Campus Grind brews Kahwa Coffee, a coffee roasting company local to St. Petersburg.

The menu offers a typical range of coffee shop items both hot and iced: coffee, lattes, mochas, espresso, americanos and machiattos. The menu also has teas, lemonades, java freezes, and two flavors of fruit smoothies. A coffee here will run you $1.50 or $1.95. Specialty items, such as mochas, lattes, and java freezes, are mostly priced between $3 and $4. If you’re in the mood for something smooth and fruity, that will cost you $3.65. A note for the environmentally conscious, the cups for cold beverages are compostable, made from corn.

In addition to the drinks, The Campus Grind has a good spread of food, most of it prepared fresh, in shop’s kitchen. There is an assortment of pastries, but the selection also includes fresh hummus, Greek salads, breakfast sandwiches, yogurt parfaits and fruit. The salads, hummus and sandwiches are about $4 to $5.

The former owner of The Tavern, Gavan Benson, is now the owner of The Campus Grind. While he is out of town for a while, Kris Kelly, former face from The Tavern, is running the shop. As she prepared my coffee, she told me she had worked at The Tavern for 25 years. The Campus Grind is a new endeavor for them.

Although under different ownership and separate entities, Kelly assured that The Campus Grind and The Tavern have a good relationship. “We’re doing breakfast, they’re doing lunch, so we are not competing with any of that. We are working together,” she said. The Campus Grind is also getting a number of catering jobs on campus, according to Kelly. The coffee shop is a new asset to our student body, both for its products as well as the cozy atmosphere. The Campus Grind is open Monday through Thursday from 7 a.m. to 8 p.m., and Friday from 7 a.m. to about 4 p.m.

Scott wants to see the university “civically engaged, and a community-oriented, service-oriented campus, and … still maintaining our attention to [scholarship],” he said. “If you look at big universities, their impact in the community is pretty big. … I want that for us.”

USF St. Petersburg needs a student body that is aware, that’s paying attention to what’s happening on campus, he said. “There’s communication, culture problems,” Scott said. “My vision is a campus culture that is like a big university but has a small feel to it, where we can all be a part of the community.”

Scott has taken time to get to know as many people on campus as possible during his years at the university. “I know most of the folks who make this campus what it is, and I want to apply that perspective through what SG does. This campus is a lot more colorful and lively than what most individuals on campus see,” he said. He wants to “raise awareness that when you’re a student at USF St. Pete, you’re a part of something a lot bigger than just a school.”
New dock creates new opportunities

Robbie Crowley
Campus Editor
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The Waterfront posters explain the dock's added space and new look. The dock will be finished by the end of August.

On our first day of the semester, August 23, operations of the watercrafts will return to normal. The dock construction is scheduled to be completed shortly after, by the end of August.

The completion of the dock will benefit both the competitive sailing team, as well as all students who look to use the Waterfront's amenities recreationally. This addition will expand the amount of watercrafts that our campus can hold for the student body. According to information posted at the Waterfront, the facility will now be able to feature the following:

- *10 recreational Flying Junior Sailboats stored on a floating dock.
- *20 competitive Flying Junior Sailboats stored on a floating dock.
- *Multiple single-person sit-on-top kayaks with appropriate launching ramp
- *Multiple tandem sit-on-top kayaks with appropriate launching ramp
- *Multiple canoes with appropriate launching ramp
- *7 slips for sailboats of various sizes up to 40 feet

This construction project is funded entirely from student fees. Thankfully it seems that the student body will have the chance to use some of the new additions for recreation on the water. As students we should take full advantage of what our waterfront has to offer, since students alone paid for this construction project. The question still remains of how many watercrafts the word "multiple" will actually entail, but we will have to find out when the semester begins.

I will have to return to the waterfront once the semester begins to find out more on what the project's completion means for students. On the way, I may have to try again to get that chicken sandwich.

Oil spill from page 3

on the positive side, because it's dispersed.”

Paul and Hollander were reluctant to say that the toxicity and oil droplets they found were definitively the result of the Deepwater Horizon spill. Using chemical assessment techniques, they would need to “get a finger print of each individual molecule” to know where it came from, Hollander said. “I think there's oil and now we'll determine whose oil it is,” he said.

It would take two to three weeks for those results to return.

“To get a good idea of where the oil is we need a multiagency approach … not one ship going one way, another ship going [another way],” Paul said. “This is the second time we've done toxicity analysis and they should go on until we have zero percent toxicity.”

USF has received funding to continue these studies for two years, but Hogarth said that the current studies are not as extensive as they need to be. NOAA is in the process of designing more long-term studies, he said. USF has been communicating with NOAA and the state government, but “[has not] had communication with BP in about a month,” Hogarth said. The university will submit its findings to NOAA when testing is complete.

“We have been talking to NOAA,” said William Hogarth, dean of the College of Marine Science. “There should be a concrete, coordinated attempt to look at where the oil really is.”

Proper research into the oil spill requires a large number of research vessels. Hogarth said, and long term planning so that “we don't do here in Florida will be similar in other states.” Adding that results should be comparable state to state.

“We've all got to do the best thing for Florida,” Hogarth said.
Are you ready for some football? Of course you are. What you probably aren’t ready for, however, is starting classes. Besides the actual act of going to class, soon the homework, research papers and long hours of work that comes from a semester, make it your fantasy football team.

Besides being a welcomed distraction from schoolwork, fantasy football is a great way to learn more about the NFL. Even if you do an auto draft (more about that later), you’ll learn the strengths and weaknesses of your players, as well as your opponents’. This will prepare you for next year, since the competition and overall awesomeness of fantasy football has sucked you in for life. And believe me fellas, there is no better way to get your girlfriend to stop complaining about watching football all day than getting her involved in a fantasy league.

So here’s how you get started. Find a group of people who are also interested in playing. Most leagues are made up of 10 or 12 people, and it’s usually best to play with friends so you don’t look like a total jerk when you inevitably start trash talking. Pick the website you want to use for your league’s home. I like Yahoo, but ESPN.com and NFL.com are both good too. It’s really just about your personal preference; each site offers different information and its own fantasy experts. Yahoo and ESPN.com offer free fantasy football iPhone apps as well as apps for other mobile devices. For some, this could seal the deal on which website to use.

It’s completely up to your individual league to decide whether you want to play for money. Some choose to bet anywhere from $25 to $300, staggering the rewards for the top three winners. Personally, I prefer a $10 buy-in, winner take all. You can absolutely just play for fun and bragging rights, but a small bet usually ensures that all the members of your league will remain involved and competitive.

Next, decide what type of draft your league wants.

HAB prepares for a year of entertainment

Danny McDonald

Harborside Member

At the University of South Florida St. Petersburg campus, very few clubs met during committees plan all the events Association, BBQ Club and attendees at all their events," said Jeremy Johnson, the director of multicultural affairs and programs at USF St. Petersburg. "They said that become traditions, students feel attached and look for leaders to take on the role of HAB’s new director.

HAB has grown into an award-winning organization, by receiving Outstanding Student Organization award two years in a row in 2007 and 2008 at the yearly Leadership Awards.

“When you create programs that become traditions, students will feel attached and look forward throughout the years to come,” Canty said.

Interested in joining SG?

Positions available:

- Judicial branch justices
- Clerk
- Supervisor of elections
- Mentors for Project 10 Stingray and Big Brothers Big Sisters

Inquire at the Student Government office in the CAC or learn more at the SG sponsored barbecue behind RHO at 7 p.m. on Monday, Aug. 30.
**WELCOME WEEK 2010**

**SUNDAY, AUGUST 22**

New Student Convocation  
2pm, Campus Activities Center  
Welcome Luau  
8pm, RHO Courtyard  
Come meet your Student Government representatives while enjoying some Hawaiian favorites and all the barbecue classics! Sponsored by the Student Government.

**MONDAY, AUGUST 23**

Information Tables  
7:30am - 6:30pm, Harborwalk & Terrace  
Need directions for class? Have questions? Want to know more about Welcome Week 2010? Visit our information tables!

**TUESDAY, AUGUST 24**

Career Center Open House  
2pm - 3:30pm, Terrace 200  
What's your personality code? Come discover which work environments complement your personality. Meet others with similar interests and passions! Ice Cream for All! Sponsored by the Career Center.

Fitness Center Open House  
6pm - 8pm, Fitness Center  
Come check out our new look! Renovations are complete and we've added more state-of-the-art equipment to perfect your workout.

Texas Hold'em Tournament  
8pm - Midnight, Campus Activities Center  
Compete for over $1,000 in prizes including prizes for our top 3! Door prizes! Sponsored by Harborside Activities Board

**WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 25**

Multicultural Showcase & Mixer  
5pm, Campus Activities Center  
Learn about clubs like Black Student Association and Latin American Student Association, meet new people and learn how to join the mentor program! Pizza, Wings, Prizes & more! Everyone is welcome! Sponsored by the Office of Multicultural Affairs.

**THURSDAY, AUGUST 26**

Coffee Hour  
9am - 11am, Bayboro Hall 117  
Please join the staff of the Center for Counseling, Health, & Wellness to enjoy a FREE breakfast as well as learn about our services and opportunities for wellness on campus. You will also have an opportunity to ask the experts about health and wellness issues.

**THURSDAY, AUGUST 26 (CONT.)**

The Waterfront Open House  
3pm - 6pm, The Waterfront  
Come eat PIZZA and meet our Waterfront staff as they show you around the best place on campus. Try out kayaking in the bay, SCUBA diving in the pool, and sign up for a Sailboat Ride leaving our docks at 6pm. You can also register for any of our classes for the fall semester.

Daniel Martin: Magician & Escape Artist  
9pm, Campus Activities Center  
Come see the performer many call “amusing, mystifying and thrilling!” He'll leave you wanting more and talking for days to come! You won't want to miss this!

**MONDAY, AUGUST 30**

Poster Sale  
10am - 7pm, Harborwalk  
Grab some new artwork to take your room to the next level!

GET WET at The Waterfront  
12pm - 3pm, The Waterfront  
More PIZZA at The Waterfront...oh my! Join us for fun and sun as the Board Club shows how to use Paddle boards and Kayaks in the pool, SCUBA offers free lessons in the pool, and we may just have an awesome water volleyball game going on!

GET READY TO LAUGH! Two of the nation's biggest comics, Michelle Buteau and Jarrod Harris will be supplying plenty of jokes that will make your stomach hurt! Sponsored by Harborside Activities Board.
Get ready to be recreational

Greg Lindberg
Sports Editor
glindber@usf.edu

Do you spend too much on Facebook? Are your clothes just not fitting right? Is it just too tempting to grab a handful of Cheetos every time you pop into the kitchen?

If any of these scenarios apply to you, then maybe it's time to start getting your blood pumping by exercising or playing sports. USF St. Petersburg students can do both on campus for free. In addition to a variety of intramural sports, the campus provides a state-of-the-art, two-story fitness center with new exercise equipment and televisions.

The fitness center will hold a few special events at the beginning of the semester to introduce students to campus recreation. The fitness center will host an open house with food and prizes on Aug. 24 from 6 to 8 p.m. Students can learn about the equipment and the various exercise classes that are offered.

There will also be a Fit-4-Fall event in the Campus Activities Center on Aug. 31 from noon to 4 p.m. with information on intramural sports and the fitness center.

Todd Clark is the new intramural and fitness coordinator at USF St. Petersburg. He replaces Marty Dempsey who took a job in intramural athletics at the University of Florida.

Clark, 29, previously worked for the YMCA in Parrish, a small town in Manatee County. A little luck helped him land the job on campus. Kent Kelso, the regional vice chancellor for student affairs at USF St. Petersburg, and his family were members of the facility.Clark and Kelso later ran into each other eating dinner at Hungry Howie's.

"He mentioned the position here and asked if I'd be interested. I met with him and that's how I got into it," Clark said.

Clark has also done gang prevention work and strives to have a positive influence on young people.

"I've always enjoyed working with young adults and college-age students," he said. "I just enjoy getting to know people and putting them in some direction in what they're interested in."

According to Clark, several intramural sports will be offered in the fall, such as flag football, outdoor soccer, sand volleyball, 5-on-5 basketball, swimming and water volleyball. For those seeking a quick diversion, several one-day events are in the works, including an outdoor field day Olympics, an indoor rec games tournament and a kickball tournament.

Clark hopes students will participate in the Swamp Bowl, a regional flag football tournament in Gainesville from Oct. 22 to 24. Students can also get involved in the Swamp Shootout—a basketball tournament—and a similar regional soccer competition.

To participate in intramurals, students must register on the University of Florida.

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To participate in intramurals, students must register on the USF St. Petersburg campus recreation website. For the first time, the campus will also offer a personal trainer program for students at a reasonable rate. Professional personal trainers will hold one-on-one and group training sessions with up to four students per group. Clark hopes to start this program by October.

Clark is also developing training programs for students interested in becoming referees, group exercise instructors or coaches. Once they complete the training, he hopes to place students in paid positions both on campus and in the community.

"My big thing will be training students to get them where they can handle it on their own," he said. "I want it to be led by students, taking ownership of the intramurals because it's what they want."

Clark stresses the importance of being active and leading a healthy, ill-free lifestyle.

"It's just a good way to take a break from class—from life," he said.

For more information and to register for campus recreation activities, visit the Campus Recreation website at www.spt.usf.edu/studentlife/campus._recreation. Contact Todd Clark at 727-873-4202 or TEC@mail.usf.edu.

Football from page 6

A live draft lets you pick your players round by round, which gives you more control over your team. It takes hours though, and if you get the last draft pick (usually chosen at random) it can be hard to pick up the players you want. An auto draft chooses your players for you by their rankings and is much easier for those who are new to fantasy football.

It's best to set your draft as close to the end of preseason as possible, so you can see which players look good and who gets injured. Once you agree on all your league members and draft options, create a league on one of the aforementioned websites.

Next issue we'll start talking draft strategies. If you want to get a jump on this, try a mock draft on NFL.com. Start brainstorming a cool team name, so you'll be proud to brag once you start dominating.

Example:
The Titanosaurs (but don't steal my team name).