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USC BAIT-AND-SWITCH

Students are on the hook for a minimum of $57 million over the next 30 years.

BY CHRISTOPHER GUINN
Staff Reporter

During the long, draining political battle to create a campus community center at USF St. Petersburg, the students who lobbied on behalf of their peers were faced with a choice: go along with the demands of USF system leadership, or lose everything.

It was made clear to them, said the student lobbyists, that without a ballroom to generate revenue through hosted events, and without housing, the University Student Center would not receive essential political or financial support from the USF system.

Rather than throw away a project that had been denied twice by the governor’s veto and had the potential to create an active campus community, they conceded to USF President Judy Genshaft’s and the Board of Trustee’s demands for additional revenue generating spaces.

As a result, students are required to pay a $13.80 per credit hour fee for a University Student Center fundamentally different than the student union they had agreed to support.

This year, the students’ contribution will generate an estimated $1.9 million, and unless changed, will continue through the 30-year life of the bond or until the debt is repaid.

In exchange, the university is performing a $2.9 million renovation of the Campus Activities Center, now the Student Life Center, to house the services and organizations displaced from the USC when it was determined the
Journalist defends stimulus as ‘important and misunderstood’

BY WENDY JOAN BIDDLECOMBE STAFF REPORTER

Those who arrived early to Michael Grunwald’s talk in Harbor Hall last Tuesday may have spotted the journalist in the entrance, doing what journalists do—filing a story.


Ten minutes before the senior Time Magazine correspondent was scheduled to speak, the gallery was nearly full, mostly of older community members. Around 3:30 p.m., USF St. Petersburg students descended en masse, finding empty chairs and filling just about every one.

In a week dedicated to all things GOP, Grunwald provided an alternative voice, calling Obama’s stimulus “one of the most important and least understood” piece of legislation today—and the “purest distillation of change.” The “stimulus”—short for the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009—was signed by Obama in February 2009 and dedicated more than $800 billion to create jobs and recover a fallen economy.

Grunwald, a self-described “dork” who usually writes on energy, education, health care and infrastructure, first became interested in Obama’s stimulus when he realized the government was “pouring” $90 billion into clean energy.

“It was clear to me this stimulus everybody was laughing about was completely changing the game in energy,” said Grunwald, who began investigating other uses of the money, including the Race to the Top Fund for education reform. When he looked deeper, Grunwald said he found a “story hiding in plain view” the mainstream press has overlooked.

Grunwald said Republicans “don’t come off well” in “The New New Deal,” explaining the party decided to block Obama even on programs they had previously supported, such as the stimulus, cap and trade and individual health care mandates.

“Bipartisan issues became toxic when Obama took office,” said Grunwald. “Once the narrative is set, it’s almost impossible to break the group think.”

Even Grunwald’s editors at Time were skeptical when he originally pitched his stimulus story—by 2010, they thought the story was “old news.” Grunwald’s book was released in August, and is on its fourth printing in two weeks.

The USFSP Honors Program, Florida Studies and the Bishop Center for Ethical Leadership and Civic Engagement sponsored the event.

news@crowsneststpete.com

Genshaft announces chancellor search committee

BY WENDY JOAN BIDDLECOMBE STAFF REPORTER

USF President Judy Genshaft announced the regional chancellor search committee members Thursday in an email addressed to USF St. Petersburg faculty and staff.

The committee will advise Genshaft on the selection of a new regional chancellor for USFSP, and includes members of the university and St. Petersburg community. Consultant firm R. William Funk & Associates was hired to conduct the national search. College of Arts and Sciences Dean Frank Biafore will chair the committee.

Genshaft hopes to bring chancellor candidates to USFSP this fall. “We have a lot of work ahead of us but I am optimistic that we will find a dynamic leader to take USFSP through the next level of growth and development,” she said.

The search committee includes:

Debbie Sembler: Campus Board and Board of Trustees. Sembler is a former marketing executive who has served on boards including the All Children’s Hospital Foundation and Tampa Bay Holocaust Museum.

David Punzak: St. Petersburg Chamber of Commerce chair and managing partner at Carlton Fields law firm.

Jonathan Ellen, M.D.: All Children’s Hospital president

Goliath Davis: Community representative, founder St. Petersburg police chief

Sue Porter: USFSP alumni society

Christopher Meindl: College of Arts and Sciences associate professor

Gary Patterson: College of Business professor

Olivia Hodges: College of Education instructor

Carol Hixson: Nelson Poynter Memorial Library dean

Gary Mormino: College of Arts and Sciences professor

Vivian Fueyo: College of Education professor

Jennifer Walker: College of Education executive administrative specialist

Donna Knudsen: Graduate Studies director

Kay-Lynne Taylor: Student Services director

Mark Lombardi-Nelson: Student Government President

The first selection committee meeting will be held Tuesday, Sept. 4, at 4 p.m. in Davis Hall 130. Meetings are open to the public and students are encouraged to attend.

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Removal of services and organizations was ‘economic reality’

Continued from the front page

costs of an all-inclusive building would be untenable.

But after convincing Tallahassee to allow a significant fee increase, some of the student leaders that helped lobby for the building, including then-Student Government President James Scott, started to rethink those concessions.

“Students have expected since the conception of the project that our spaces would reside in the new building,” Scott wrote in a memo to the administration on June 2, 2010. “We understand the rationales and pressures behind the change in concept as it relates to the classroom, student spaces and CAC,” he wrote, but the project needed to be realigned to fit the concept of a student union initially supported by students.

A student union, like the Marshall Center at USF Tampa, acts as a focal point for campus life by converging student organizations, including Student Government and activities boards, with services, such as job centers, computer labs, health clinics and dining.

“I believe that students’ views should be honored as it related to the expenditure of our fee dollars,” Scott concluded the memo. “At this moment, I believe that students desire student spaces to be in the student center—it was never understood among students that the new student center would actually become the ‘food court and ballroom center.’

Currently, the only non-revenue generating spaces in the USC are the game room, basketball courts and administrative staff offices.

Through USC housing rents, the university expects to make $1.4 million this year, which is consistent with a 100 percent occupancy rate for spring and fall semester. It is not clear if the building will house students during the summer or whether it will be used to host summer camps as another source of revenue, an idea mentioned multiple times by Student Life employees.

Additionally, the contract with Sodexo to operate the dining service guarantees a minimum yearly sales commission of $297,000, and USC staff is expected to generate $83,000 through facility rentals in the first year of operation.

At minimum, the building will generate about $3.6 million from student fees, rents and commissions. As enrollment increases, the amount of revenue through fees will also increase. Service of the

“$18 million, 30-year bond at a fixed interest rate of 5.54 percent costs $1.33 million, annually.

“We do not expect to have a significant fund balance for this facility,” wrote Communications Director Tom Scherberger in an email, but later clarified on the phone the administration was primarily concerned with short-term viability, considering the risk of over-reaching. The university expects total operating costs, including debt service, of about $3 million a year.

The current financial projections used by the university are conservative, because non-academic construction projects need to be self-sufficient, said former Regional Vice Chancellor of Student Affairs Kent Kelso. “These types of auxiliary buildings are not ever going to be paid for by the state of Florida,” he said.

The removal of student services and student organization spaces from the new building was an economic reality, he said. New construction is double the cost of renovation, and a university can literally bankrupt itself if it miscalculates the expansion of services, and, for example, builds more housing than there is demand.

“Had we left that second or third floor on that building,” Kelso said, referring to student organization spaces, “that even with a significant increase in fees, it could not have been built. That’s why there was a negotiation between the students and the chancellor’s office and my office and Dr. Dhingra’s (finance) office where we talked about ‘we can renovate the student activities center at a much lower cost.’

A survey commissioned by the student government during the 2007-08 academic year indicated that approximately 60 percent of respondents had agreed to pay higher fees in exchange for an increase in services. The creation of a health clinic was the respondents’ top priority, followed by the construction of a student union.

Reuben Pressman, one of the student leaders who worked with the university to lobby for the fee increase, said it was the most successful SG survey in recent history with over 700 responses.

The following fall, the Student Government Senate voted unaniously to support a bill recommending a fee increase specifically to build the student union, but suspended parliamentary rules that would have allowed more time for deliberation at the insistence of Kelso, who said a deadline to present the bill to the campus board and Board of Trustees was looming.

Pressman said he continues to be happy with the outcome, that the renovation provides students with more space, about 3,000 square feet, and provides the university with the housing expansion it desired.

Though some of the student leaders that helped usher in the fee increase are content with the outcome, it is clear the goals of the university were different than the goals of the students.

In late 2009, at the recommendation of the office of administrative and financial services, the Board of Trustees changed the campus housing plans concerning the student center with a future housing expansion, and removing the student services portion from the new building.

“Combining the two projects i.e. SCP (Student Center Project) and Student Housing and renovating of CAC allows the university to meet its needs more effectively and efficiently,” the proposal concluded.

Without housing, the university would be turning students away, Kelso said, and without an expansion of services, specifically dining and health, the university could not take in a large number of new resident students. All of these services have to fit together, he explained.

By law, activities and service fees, the largest part of the "combined fee," can only be allocated with the support of Student Government for "lifewide purposes to benefit the student body in general." Without the students’ majority contribution to the USC, it is unlikely the building would have found its funding.

State Senator Paula Dockery wrote a commentary published to Florida Voices in April criticizing former USF Polytechnic Regional Chancellor Marshall Goodman for “quickly and quietly” taking control of the large activities and services fee windfall. She accused Goodman of usurping the Student Government Association's authority by creating a fee committee stacked with friendly student voices to build and fund a health clinic. In the piece, Dockery wondered if this was an overt grab at funds legally controlled by students.

"Was this a way to fund buildings using student activity fees instead of limited PECO funds?" Dockery asked. "Is this happening on other campuses?"

historical tuition cost

This chart shows USF St. Petersburg’s required tuition and fees for the last three academic years. The fees are charged per semester credit hour, which means an undergraduate taking a standard course load of 12 credit hours would be charged $300.60 in Activity and Service fees alone. Distance learning fees are $50 per credit hour—since 2008, the Florida Legislature has permitted state universities to charge this fee to recoup the costs of providing online classes.
Artists shine spotlight on St. Pete scene

Two such initiatives are holding fundraisers to keep St. Petersburg’s local talents thriving.

Local music blog St. Pete Beat is attempting to film a documentary about independent art culture in St. Petersburg. The brainchild of filmmaker Ryan Zarra, St. Pete Beat promotes local bands, artists and designers through a combination of video blogs and social networking. The videos cast private performances with a unique and gritty texture that perfectly captures the vibes of the St. Petersburg music scene. With the documentary medium, Zarra and St. Pete Beat will promote and make a study of the arts and local businesses in the area.

Another aim is to connect the scattered pockets of artists around town. Zarra plans to send the completed documentary to Gasparilla Film Festival, among others. The costs for the project, which amount to $4,000, are being raised through Kickstarter’s all-or-nothing donation platform.

The Venture Compound, a venue and art gallery featured in last week’s issue, is trying to raise $600 to become a non-profit organization.

The Compound’s owners want to continue supporting underground and independent art at low cost to artists and patrons. The $600 would pay the filing fees necessary to become a 501(c)3 nonprofit—allowing the owners to keep down future admission costs and fund more community workshops and projects. A community dark room and a music library number among potential “ventures.”

Referred to as embodying "the energy of St. Pete", the Compound promises to act as a catalyst for local artistic involvement.

Both groups are offering incentive rewards to contributors. The Kickstarter video for the St. Pete Beat documentary can be found by searching for “St. Pete Beat” on kickstarter.com. Donations for The Venture Compound project can be sent directly to j.thelonious@gmail.com via Paypal. More information is also available on the groups’ Facebook pages.

SG vice president seeks ‘real college experience’

A still from Ryan Zarra’s St. Pete Beat documentary, which will promote and study the local arts scene.

by RYAN BALLOGG
Staff reporter

American Style Magazine bestowed St. Petersburg the title of No. 1 mid-sized art destination in America for the third year in a row in May. The high-budgets of the Salvador Dali museum and Chihuly Collection attract tourists in numbers, but smaller, less visible art initiatives were also cited.

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Half-ta-Day Weekend getaways not far away

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by RYAN BALLOGG
Staff reporter

Canoes and kayaks can be rented at Manatee Springs State Park during the warm months for nice, peaceful canals and a trip through the run into the Suwanee River.

by RYAN BALLOGG
Staff reporter

A short road trip can provide a nice change of scenery, the possibility for adventure and a chance to be eaten by a real Florida alligator (animal, not alumni). For those with enough money for a tank of gas, there are a few places within a reasonable driving distance worth immersing in.

by RYAN BALLOGG
Staff reporter

Silver Springs, located in Silver Springs and a music library number among potential “ventures.”

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Springs, Fla. (not far from Ocala), has been a touted attraction since just after the Civil War. The park is famous for glass-bottom boat rides that provide a crystal clear view of the floors of seven major springs. Sights include wildlife and sunken props from major movie productions filmed at the springs, including “The Monster from the Black Lagoon” and multiple James Bond films.

Reptile, plant, insect and large mammal exhibits are abound. Chief among them are a two acre bear reserve, albino alligators that are said to bring luck to their beholders and the spring’s famous botanical gardens. Driving time: Two hours. Admission: $31.99.

Fort DeSoto is the biggest park in Pinellas County, with the widest variety of natural attractions. In fact, just one day doesn’t quench nature’s call, overnight camping is available. The park, which is made up of five keys, offers extensive nature trails, picnic areas and beaches. There’s also a fair chance guests will see a bird they never have, with around 290 documented species living in its branches and on its beaches.

Kayaking, fishing and wakeboarding are good options for water folk, and tours of the century old fort are available for history fanatics. Driving Time: 30 minutes. Admission: $5 parking, plus tolls.

Bok Tower Gardens, located in Lake Wales, Fla., is a National Historic Landmark left to the state by Dutch author Edward Bok. A 50-acre swath of gardens surrounds a huge Mediterranean estate (with tours available for a separate admission fee). Rising solemn, solitary and 205 feet out of the green is Bok Tower itself. The gothic singing tower emits peals of clanging music every half-hour, plus daily bell concerts. The gardens are also home to the annual fall festival Boktoberfest, occurring this year on Oct. 20. On the way to or from the gardens, don’t miss a chance to stop by Spook Hill, also in Lake Wales. At this supposedly haunted site, if you leave your car in neutral, it will roll uphill unaided. Driving time: About two hours. Admission: $12.

The Florida Railroad Museum is in Parrish, Fla. offers train rides every Saturday and Sunday. The rides wind through sprawling landscape for around an hour and a half, and often feature a bandit robbery. Driving Time: About 30 minutes. Admission: $14.00 to ride.

Rainbow Springs State Park is home to Florida’s fourth largest spring and known to be one of its most lush environments. Extensive campgrounds are available for $30 a night, a bit pricey, but a lot cleaner than any $80 motel room around. Visitors can take a two-hour tubing, kayaking or canoeing excursion as well, for around $10. Nature trails wander under massive trees, past three waterfalls and by a native garden home to hummingbirds and butterflies. Swimming and snorkeling are free, so take a bath before you go back home. Driving time: Two and a half hours. Admission: $2 entrance, $5 parking.

Honeymoon Island and nearby Caladesi Island were once one and the same, but the Tampa Bay Hurricane of 1921 split it in half. Still, Honeymoon Island became a destination for national newwvheads and, later on, a beautiful beach favored by locals. The island’s national park ensures the safety of its varied flora and fauna, which includes a pair of Bald Eagles that have nested on the island since 2008. Nudists are also fond of the place, with dozens of public indecency arrests occurring since the ‘80s. Driving time: 45 minutes. Admission: $8 per vehicle.

You May Be Blue by Vetiver
Psychedelic folk band Vetiver sets the mood and hue for the playlist with this number. The steady footfall bass beat complements an ominous guitar and xylophone exchange. Sounds like a lonely moonlit stroll.

Blue Moon by The Marels
One of the crown jewels of odes to the moon, this song was released by the doo-wop group in 1961. The ironic use of this track in the closing scene of the film American Werewolf in London merits a viewing all in itself.

Moondance by Van Morrison
Irishman Van Morrison doesn’t dance often, but when he does, it’s under the moon. He’s usually too busy wooing brown-eyed ladies for that sort of thing, though.

Moonshadow by the artist formerly known as Cat Stevens
Though he changed his name to Yusuf Islam in 1977 following a religious awakening and conversion to Islam, Cat is still remembered as the sixties folkie who laid down a pivotal moon tune, and a favorite of fingerspickers everywhere.

Tiny Cities Made of Ashes by Modest Mouse
This rhythmic track comes from the indie rock band’s third studio album, “The Moon and Antarctica.” The lyrics are certainly loony enough, depicting drinking a lot of Coke and punching people’s bifocals in. There must be a deep and metaphorical meaning somewhere in there...

Swim to the Moon by Between the Buried and Me
If you missed this last blue moon, never fear. At 17 minutes long, this song should keep you head banging until the next one rolls around in 2013. In any case, unique instrumentation, intricate song structure and transporting clean vocals make BTBAM more than your average progressive metal outfit.

Blue Moon of Kentucky
This song numbers among the staples of traditional bluegrass, and was first recorded by the father of the genre, Bill Monroe. Its mournful airs are akin to musical moonshine, and are more often than not accompanied by a strong dose of the liquid sort.
Editorial:
Students are not ATMs

Florida students have long been the soft underbelly of public university funding. The price of an education continues to increase at unprecedented rates as political and academic leadership, people who graduated in an era when a college degree was considered a public good and not a personal investment, off-load their responsibilities to a generation of students.

It should be no surprise that when presented with a bucket of un-allocated funds as vast as the fee increase passed in 2010 to pay for the University Student Center, university leaders would reach in with both hands. To achieve this, they manipulated the students’ faith and traded them a small game room, a couple of couches and the renovation of the old Campus Activities Center building.

Perhaps the university should be congratulated for making a $2.9 million investment (the cost of the renovation) with a minimum $57 million payoff (the minimum amount of fees paid for the USC at current enrollment levels). But at least they could have thrown in new furniture for what is now called the Student Life Center.

There is also the question as to why the university so desperately needed another large meeting space in the USC ballroom. With the collapse of plans to rebuild the old Dalí museum into a world class business school, the large central gallery was left intact. In it, the university has hosted speakers, events and award breakfasts to schmooze with the local economic and political elite.

The Student Government is not free from blame in all this. By rubber-stamping big capital projects and giving in to high-pressure, sign-this-or-lose sales tactics, they lose credibility as true representatives of the student body and stewards of fee money. If university leaders, including those with whom top student politicians develop close relationships, come to the Senate asking for an immediate answer, the default should be “no.”

Two independent groups of students have told The Crow’s Nest they are exploring legal options for returning excess activities and services money dumped into the USC. Their demands, while slightly different in scope, are reasonable: the building should have a neutral net income, rather than be a clearinghouse to transfer student fees into university-controlled housing and auxiliary accounts. Revenues above net will be returned to student-controlled coffers.

The last thing the USF system needs after a tumultuous legislative session and an internal audit accusing a former regional chancellor of gross financial negligence is a scandal involving the misappropriation of student fees.

There is no doubt some good will come from the building. The campus, in order to expand, needed to provide both a health clinic and dining services. It also needed a central gathering point to foster a campus culture, and food plays a big part in this, as any Old World grandmother will attest.

But tricking students who face difficult job prospects and rapidly expanding debt into giving up their one bit of influence at their university is unconscionable.

Millennialism
by Jane McInnis

“Students are not ATMs”

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Beef with the reef

The eating habits of college students don’t fit the school’s schedule

By FRANK KURTZ

Staff columnist

He is one of the most station, the deli, and the checkout line. The grill also frequently has waiting times of 15 minutes to place an order.

The fruit punch and water are in the same fountain, so either your water is fruity or your punch is watery. A hint of flavor in my water is sometimes a treat, but I know when I reach for Hi-C I want the Real McCoy.

Back during my freshman year at USF (back when Jeb Bush was governor), the student dining hall, Argos, closed at 8 p.m. However, the other dining hall, Andros, was open until 2 a.m. daily. The place was consistently packed from midnight until 1 a.m., even more so after home football games. Since then, the main campus has added a third dining hall.

But I understand that USFSP is considerably smaller than our big brother, and our dining services mimic that.

Another gripe: On-campus organizations can no longer have those delicious sandwiches from the Tavern at Bayboro catered for our events due to the no-competition clause of Sodexo’s contract. Last Tuesday, the dining hall was supposed to provide food for Michael Grunwald’s talk about his new book. However, they were not set up by 5 p.m., the time that was agreed upon. Is this a preview of how campus events will be treated when arranging catering through the new dining services?

Post Script

I refuse to call the new building on campus the University Student Center (the last time I’ll refer to it as that). What is so student about it? All the student services that were supposed to be in the new building were shipped across the street to the Campus Activities Center (soon to be the “Student Life Center”). The original room that does not produce revenue for the school is the game room, the office area in the front, restrooms and janitor closets.

Besides, whenever I see “USC,” I think of the University of South Carolina, and then wonder why the Gamecocks opened up a St. Petersburg branch campus.

It’s the University Revenue Building and it is the nicest dormitory in the Southeast.

One more thing: you don’t close a collegiate dining facility at 8:30 p.m.

fkurtz@mail.usf.edu

An invitation to get involved

By LAUREN REILLY

Guest columnist

Many students hesitate to seek out clubs or events on campus, staying under the radar until they quietly graduate. This usually wards off being out of your comfort zone, but it also wards off personal growth.

My first semester at USFSP was Fall 2010, and I felt a little hesitant after hearing about a renewable energy conference at my first Student Environmental Awareness meeting (SEAS). The conference was in Athens, Georgia. I wasn’t really sure about what to expect, but I signed up to go.

It was a bit scary being new to campus and signing up to go on a trip with people I had only met at that meeting, but I’m glad I did. The experience empowered me. It made me feel like I was capable of making a difference in any aspect of my life, on campus or in my community.

At the Southeast Student Renewable Energy Conference, which is on its eighth year, students from the southern states come together to collaborate and learn from each other.

The conference is three days of inspiring speakers, panels and workshops with topics about how we get our energy and how to build leadership skills.

Arriving at the conference on a Friday night, I saw people from all over the southeast hugging friends they hadn’t seen since the last conference. Tables of non-professionals were lined up leading into the entrance hall offering internships, information, and freebies. While waiting for the evening speakers to start, I looked around the room of 300 students and felt excited to be there.

Workshops covered mountain-top coal removal, the Katrina disaster in New Orleans, and how to lobby an elected official. There were other interesting workshops overlapping with other, so meal times and breaks gave time for students to update each other of what the other missed. In the evenings, I got to talk to a lot of students about different things they do on their campuses. It’s really interesting to get different perspectives, and sometimes it offers solutions to your problems back home.

By Sunday I had realized how much information and connections I had made. I found out the many retreats, trainings and conferences to attend throughout the year where I could see my new friends again and learn more about the sustainability movement and leadership. These conferences have given me the opportunity to travel to new cities and create new experiences that have made me stronger and have been unforgettable.

You don’t have to be a die hard environmentalist to enjoy an environmental conference. You don’t have to already be involved on campus.

Don’t hesitate to get involved with something new on campus. Even if it’s a less-than-good experience, it’s an experience.

This October 5-7th, a group from USFSP is going to the Southeast Student Renewable Energy Conference. Email me at lreilly@mail.usf.edu if you’re interested.

By MIKE HOPEY

Guest columnist

Whenever I talk sports with friends from back home in Boston they bring up Tampa’s reputation as a poor sports town. I quietly laugh with them and nod. But not because they are right. It is because their mocking reminds me why I love to live here.

You see, in Boston, the sports fan is more unstable than anyone else in the country. When the Red Sox lose a game in April to the New York Yankees, the Boston police have to work double shifts to make sure fans leaving Fenway do not try to raid the turnback across the Massachusetts Turnpike.

Take my father, a 26-year Navy veteran who now works for the Federal Aviation Administration. He gave up his most intelligent and wise men I have ever met—except on Sundays. In the course of an average Patriots game he will declare them Super Bowl champions and the worst team in NFL history more times than you can count.

And to a certain degree, they are all like that.

Boston fans are proud of this chaotic quirk. And it would be one thing if that was the only thing wrong with them. But they aren’t just living with a perpetual cloud of sports induced misery over their heads. They are also mean.

Boston sports fans seem to have convinced themselves that they are the smartest and most loyal spectators in all of creation. They have developed this delusion from a time-honored tradition of thinking that fans of other teams are massive jerks or just do not exist.

That’s the image my Boston friends have of my new Tampa neighbors. Aside from some empty seats at The Trop, it’s largely untrue.

Despite their fake sell-out streak, the Red Sox haven’t exactly filled the friendly confines of Fenway Park this season. But just ask and they will all tell you they are real fans who stick it out through the tough times.

Lies! No one wants to pay money to see a team lose.

This is what I put up with now living in Florida. I’m mugged with Facebook posts and tweets about how much I must miss being around real sports fans. The truth is that I love the fans in Tampa Bay.

They’re just as passionate, but without all that emotional baggage.

Mike Hopey is a Boston native and graduate student in the Department of Journalism and Media Studies.

hopey@mail.usf.edu
Bonani takes leading scorer title in Bulls home opener

By MIKE HOPEY
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Head coach Skip Holtz loved the way his special teams and defense played on Saturday night. But despite some miscues and a couple turnovers the University of South Florida Bulls defeated the talented University of Tennessee Chattanooga Moccasins 34-13.

The first game of the season is the closest a lot of teams in the Big East can get to a preseason game. The first opponent is typi-

USF 2012 Football Schedule

9/8 3:30 p.m. Nevada Wolf Pack @Reno, Nev.
9/13 7:30 p.m. Rutgers Scarlet Knights @USF
9/22 4:30 p.m. Ball State Cardinals @Muncie, Ind.
9/29 TBA Florida State Seminoles @USF
10/6 TBA Temple Owls @Philadelphia, Pa.
10/20 TBA Louisville Cardinals @Louisville, Ky.
10/27 TBA Syracuse Orange @USF
11/3 TBA UConn Huskies @USF
11/17 TBA Miami Hurricanes @Miami, Fla.
11/23 TBA Cincinnati Bearcats @Cincinnati, Ohio
12/1 TBA Pittsburgh Panthers @USF

*green denotes conference games

USF St. Petersburg students can attend USF football games for free. Tickets are available at gousfbulls.com under the “Student Tickets” button. Students must bring their USF identification card to the game to be allowed entrance.

Non-refundable guest tickets are available for $10. Guests seats are in the general admission student section.

Student Government provides busing to home games. Buses are first-come, first-served and leave from outside the University Student Center several hours before the game. Guests may not ride the buses.

With win under belt, USF looks to future

By SAMANTHA OUIMETTE
CROW’S NEXT CORRESPONDENT

Consistency.
It was the word of the night for

Senior quarterback B.J. Daniels gave way to the second string with seven minutes left in the game and 265 yards in the air on 17 comple-
tions. He tossed three touchdowns and ran for one while turning the ball over twice.

“There were a lot of things we
could work on,” Daniels said. “I hate that I missed a couple throws that were easy and wide open. Also, protecting the football is something I’m hoping to work on this week,”

Daniels’ three touchdown passes went to different receivers. One of those receivers, Derrick Hopkins, earned the first score of his career. Sterling Griffin was also on the receiving end of a long Daniels pass that led to a Bulls score.

“We threw the deep ball really
good tonight,” said offensive coordina-
tor Todd Fitch. “There were some flashes but we are way away from where we want to be.”

The Bulls receiving corps got a
boost from Terrence Mitchell, who
had 78 yards, including a 38-yard
touchdown from Daniels in the second quarter. Mitchell was back on the field for South Florida after missing a lot of last season with a concussion.

“Here’s a guy, had a couple of
big punt returns,” Holtz said about Mitchell. “As shifty as he is, they started punting the ball away from him. As a receiver to get the ball into his hands he can be an impact player.”

South Florida’s defense also
had an impressive showing against
Chattanooga. The Bulls held the
Mocs to 12 yards in the first quarter.
Defensive end Ryne Giddins had
two sacks on the first Chattanooga possession alone.

The two turnovers by Daniels led directly to 10 points for
Chattanooga, which took away from the overall stellar perfor-
mance by the defense. In the end, the Bulls had six sacks and held the
Mocs to only 151 total yards.

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and how they’ve worked,” Holtz
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“A lot of that pressure comes from the inside,” said defensive coordinator Chris Cosh. “I give our ends a lot of credit. It required a lot of people to be assignment sound. And we did that”

Saturday was also a historic
night for placekicker Maikon
Bonani. With his third extra point of the night in the second quar-
ter he became the all-time leading
scorer in USF football history.

The goal on Saturday night
was to go 1-0. Even though there
were some struggles on the offens-
eive side of the ball, the win over
Chattanooga had Holtz smiling.

“Loved the leadership of this
team, how hard they’ve worked,” he
said. “It’s great to be in Tampa.”

By thinking about it…we’ve just got
to find a way to win.”

Naturally, finding a way to win
all comes back to the sentiment of consistency that Skip Holtz
preached from the very start of the

If the Bulls can firmly estab-
lish the consistency that they have
desperately tried to maintain over these past few seasons, there is little
doubt that the team can conquer every obstacle that comes their way
and reach every goal they set for themselves.

The first goal? Already reached.

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