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Meet your representatives

Recently elected senators bring their visions to SG

By Wendy Joan Biddlecombe
Staff Reporter

USF St. Petersburg students elected 19 new Student Government senators earlier this month.

The senators account for Student Government’s legislative branch, which is responsible for allocating more than $1.2 million collected from student-generated Activity and Service fees. A&S fees fund clubs and organizations and other student services on campus.

As outlined in the SG constitution, the legislative branch has the “authority to enact, amend or repeal statutes of Student Government by a majority vote.” With two-thirds of the vote, senators may propose amendments to the SG constitution, appoint the Student Body President’s executive officer or override a president veto. The legislative branch has the power to impeach any SG member.

Senators must be elected to serve. Elections are held in the fall and spring semesters. New senators must attend at least two general assembly meetings and their respective committee meetings before they can vote on existing bills.

In the first part of an ongoing series, The Crow’s Nest sat down with six of the new senators to get to know them and their visions as USFSP leaders.

See REPS, page 2

High demand for counseling

By Tyler Killette
Crow’s Nest Correspondent

A record-breaking freshmen class and residential population have kept the Wellness Center staff overly busy this semester. Students seeking counseling may face long waits due to an increased demand for services. Anita Sahgal, the Wellness Center’s director, addressed the wait times and explained what is being done to meet students’ counseling needs more efficiently.

The Crow’s Nest: Is the Wellness Center suffering due to lack of staff?

Anita Sahgal: The Wellness Center is not suffering due to lack of staff. I believe our staff have always been and continue to be responsive to the needs of the students. However, with that being said, I do feel it would be beneficial to have another counselor on staff to assist us with providing services especially at busy times of the year.

Our center operates within a time-limited model in part due to the structure of our resources, but mainly to stay within the scope of our services. Most university counseling centers apply this model because that is what is best suited for our population and what our staff is able to competently provide. The amount of sessions students receive is based on our policies and what the student needs, not on how many staff we have currently.

What may happen in some cases, due to staffing issues, is that students will have to wait longer to get in for services. This again is common amongst university counseling centers and our wait time is not unrealistic when compared to other centers.

CN: How is this affecting students, and how many students are affected?

Sahgal: Some students may have to wait longer to be seen.

See THERAPIST, pg 3
New reps target neglected corners

Upcoming Campus Events:

• SEAS will host a beach cleanup followed by laughter meditation and free food on Nov. 26 at 3 p.m.

• The ninth annual Multicultural Feast will be held at 11:30 a.m. on Nov. 28 in the USC ballroom. Food from around the world will be served.

• Want to get involved with event planning on campus? Get ready for the spring semester with the Harborside Activities Board on Dec. 2. Meet at the newly renovated Student Life Center in office 1600 at noon.

• Come play Risk, Monopoly, Apples to Apples, Cards Against Humanity, Jenga and Bop It with the appropriately named Fun and Games Club on Wednesday night from 8 to 10 p.m. in ballroom No. 2 of the University Student Center.

• If you’re bored with board games, drop by the University Student Center on Thursday for a Halo 4 tournament. Prizes will be awarded. Nikita need not apply.

Samantha Chavez, 28, a Black Friday shopper, to Central Florida News 13 a former cyclist, when Vars heard the space center planned to host a triathlon in May 2013 he signed up immediately. He’s contestant No. 001.

Freshman Mikayla Zaifir decided to run for Student Government senator because she loves student interaction.

Sophomore Christina Johnson wanted to join USFSP’s Student Government for the “upper edge.” Leadership is what sets you apart,” said Johnson, 19, a biology student and aspiring pharmacist.

Johnson said during her freshman year she volunteered with Harborside Activities Board, and knew this year she wanted to be involved in SG to make decisions for the campus.

“SG is in place to be the voice of the students,” said Johnson, adding if students aren’t satisfied, they hope they’ll come to her with their problems and suggestions. Parking is one issue Johnson hopes to tackle during her tenure.

For Bryan Fitzgerald, a lifelong artist, many things he’d like to fix at USFSP are related to aesthetics.

“F. A. N. Z. need not apply."

Joey Vars is only 19, but he knows what he needs to do before he’s visit space.

“If I’m confined to this planet, I haven’t reached my full potential,” said the Land O’ Lakes native and newly elected Student Government senator.

Space permeates many aspects of Vars’ life. His parents say as a baby, his first word was “rocket,” not “mum” or “dad.” Vars conservatively estimates that he’s visited the Kennedy Space Center about 75 times, and when a NASA representative canceled a talk at the St. Petersburg Science Fest in October, Vars volunteered himself as replacement. An enthusiastic cyclist, when Vars heard the space center planned to host a triathlon in May 2013 he signed up immediately. He’s contestant No. 001.

Vas, a history major, spent his freshman year of college at Palm Beach Atlantic University in West Palm Beach—private school with- out a student government presence. “I absolutely love being involved in campus activities, so the first thing I usually ask before any other question is what there is to do to get involved,” said Vars, adding the overwhelming answer from his peers was Student Government. Vars hopes to keep the momentum of green initiatives going. Vars would also like to see new academic disciplines, such as space science or astronomy.

Sophomore Steven Bird is 20, but has already gone through more than one career change before realizing his passion for law.

Before starting college at University of West Florida in Pensacola, Bird was offered a full ride to the American Academy of Dramatic Arts in New York City, a two-year conservatory. The pianist and singer decided a career in the performing arts was too risky, and decided to follow another passion—animals—and study marine biology.

Bird said the first semester didn’t go so well. “I re-evaluated, and saw I did excel in a criminal justice class,” said Bird of the moment where he realized what he wanted his career to be. Bird has a plan for after USFSP as well: pursue both a juris doctorate and master in international relations from Boston University.

Even though he’s sure about his future, Bird wasn’t convinced he’d be elected senator.

“I had a lot of doubts,” he said. “I’ve always been quiet, reserved, shy, so I thought no one would remember or recognize my name.”

Now that he’s officially a senator, Bird is excited about the position, and the potential of his role that will put him out there and open himself up.

Bird has somewhat of an underdog mentality when it comes to campus life, as well. “One of the biggest things I want to get done is to make sure as the campus grows, it’s not just people in SG who are making decisions about this campus,” Bird said. “I want to make sure students have a say, that everyone is heard equally.”

Bird’s vision for the physical campus includes equality as well, and the Idaho native said he wants to see less popular campus corners improved, such as the computer lounge, recreational field and beach.

“The USC and Harborside look fantastic, but we can’t forget other parts of the campus need to be kept up as well,” he said.

News Briefs

"I’m not a scientist, man. I can tell you what the recorded history says, I can tell you what the Bible says, but I think that’s a dispute amongst theologians and I think it has nothing to do with the gross domestic product or economic growth of the United States. I think the age of the universe has zero to do with how our economy is going to grow.

I’m not a scientist. I don’t think I’m qualified to answer a question like that. At the end of the day, I think there are multiple theories out there on how the universe was created and I think this is a country where people should have the opportunity to teach them all. I think parents should be able to teach their kids what their faith thinks parents should be able to try where people should have the freedom to do so.

I re-evaluated, and saw I did reach my full potential,” said Vars, adding she hopes they’ll come to her with their problems and suggestions. Parking is one issue Johnson hopes to tackle during her tenure.

For Bryan Fitzgerald, a lifelong artist, many things he’d like to fix at USFSP are related to aesthetics.

“F. A. N. Z. need not apply.”

Zafir said before her four years at USFSP are up, she expects the campus to be a lot bigger, with new buildings, resident halls and maybe an improved cafeteria.

“The meal plan needs to be fixed,” Zafir said. “A lot of students are very upset about it and it’s brand new. I feel they don’t cater to students’ needs properly.”

If students know only one thing about Thomas Hamby, he’d like to be that he’s the guy you can come and talk to.

“That’s who I am and what I stand for,” said Hamby, 19, who is studying political science with a minor in cultural anthropology. Hamby said he has a true open door policy, and always sleeps with his Residence Hall One door open, just in case.

Growing up in an Army family, Hamby moved to a new home every few years, sometimes to a new country or continent.

“Moving around a lot is probably one of the biggest blessings I’ve had, because you meet so many kinds of people,” Hamby said. “It just makes you more open.”

Hamby contemplated running for Student Government during his first year at USFSP, but as under-classman captain on the sailing team, he didn’t want to spread him- self too thin. He still holds the sail- ing team position that comes with a considerable time commitment, sailing from 3:30 p.m. to dark three days during the school week, plus weekend outings.

This year, Hamby would like to see the 10 bills currently on the docket move “smoothly” through the senate, making the legisla- tive process more “streamlined.”

Hamby said senators are already polling students on what they want to see improved on campus.

Personally, Hamby would like to see more intramural sports avail- able to students, and better lighting on campus for improved security.

“A safe campus is a happy campus, and we please students by making them safe,” Hamby said.

In his downtime, Hamby enjoys building models, such as cars, air- planes and helicopters, as well as culinary adventures. His spe- cialty—the 14-minute omelet—is a rarity these days, due to the manda- tory meal plan for on-campus stu- dents. Hamby said he used to go to the Saturday Morning Market for ingredients for his breakfast dish, which is “perfect for college kids.”

“You take a Ziploc bag, beat up the eggs, and put all your toppings in there,” Hamby said. “As you’re doing that, you’re boiling the water, and then you close the bag and put it in water for 14 minutes. It’s going to be a perfect omelet, you just slide it out of the bag.”

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news@crowneststpete.com
Plan to hire part-time therapist

Continued from the front page

Sahgal: Yes, I do think that a larger residential population can impact how counseling services are utilized. The center anticipated that demand could increase and we are closely monitoring this year to see what is happening to demand and how best to handle it. We feel it’s important to have some data to support our decisions for the future, especially with all the changes our campus has experienced this year and not knowing what to expect.

CN: How is the Wellness Center handling the situation until additional staff is hired?

Sahgal: We are doing our best to get students in for services as soon as possible, being very diligent about how we prioritize our time. We are also being honest with them about the expectations of any delays so that if they prefer to have other options, we can discuss that immediately. We are also always available for urgent situations in case students needed something that they could not wait for.

This interview has been edited for space and content.

news@crowsneststpete.com

Help Wanted
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MANAGING EDITOR
Duties include:
- Directing content and coverage
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- Proofing designs and photography
- Working weekends, especially Sundays
- Writing content as often as possible
Benefits include a small stipend

NEWS EDITOR
Duties include:
- Gathering campus news story ideas
- Localizing national and international news stories
- Distributing stories to correspondents
- Keeping abreast of campus news and happenings
- Editing news stories from contributors
- Collaborating with the managing editor and editor-in-chief on big picture stories
Benefits include a small stipend

Getting a job is about who you know and how good your work is.
A degree is nice, but connections and a great portfolio are better.

Past and present Crow’s Nest members do work for:
- The Tampa Bay Times
- The Tampa Tribune
- The New York Times
- PBS
- Creative Loafing
- Poynter
- The Buffalo News

Come give it a shot, we don’t bite.
Throw several objects in the air and then catch them with juggling club

BY SAMANTHA GENTZEL
Crow’s Nest Correspondent

Life at USF St. Petersburg can be a juggling act, and no one knows that better than the Juggling Club.

Founded in the spring semester of 2011, the Juggling Club has promoted a positive message of fun, community and tossing stuff around.

“People learn how to do new and crazy things in college, and juggling is one of them,” said Lena Wray, founder and president of the Juggling Club.

Wray, 20, had one major goal when starting the club. “It’s just about fun,” said Wray, as she juggled three balls with ease.

While the organization is still new, it is receiving growing support from the USFSP community. The club recently accepted a grant of $810 to purchase new juggling balls.

Although the Juggling Club may sound intimidating to those with no experience, Wray assures that none is required. Newcomer Meggan Harrington joined the club at the beginning of the fall semester of 2012 and is perfecting her juggling technique. Harrington, a freshman majoring in environmental science, joined to learn a new skill, but found something more.

“It was a whole new group of people to talk to,” Harrington said.

Even though the Juggling Club has not held any public performances outside of campus, they hope to one day perform regularly in the community. “We currently have varying levels of experience, so we’re working on that,” Wray said.

On the more experienced end of the Juggling Club is Daniel Brown. Brown, 19, first learned to juggle in December 2006. He has since competed internationally, and has been featured on television networks such as Bay News 9, Fox News and ESPN.

While Brown knows that juggling can influence him on a personal level, he also believes it can benefit other students as well.

“They can learn better hand-eye coordination, juggling increases the amount of gray matter in the brain,” Brown said.

“Juggling is one of the few activities that forces your brain to use both the left and the right side at the same time,” Wray said. “It’s a good idea for students to take a break while studying, and juggle for a few minutes. It gets the brain flowing again.”

Juggling Club meetings are held in the University Student Center in either Ballroom 1 or Ballroom 2 every Wednesday from 4 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. Contact Lena Wray at bray@mail.usf.edu for more information.

Exploring the ‘dream factory’: club sharing a love of cinema

BY MEAGHAN HARUDA
Crow’s Nest Correspondent

Juliet Morales, a junior and environmental policy major, believes everyone wants 15 minutes of fame.

“Even if you don’t desire to be an actor or in the film industry, it’d still be a cool experience,” said Morales, who is trying to start a film club on campus. She has collected over 70 signatures from students in support of the club’s creation.

Morales is aware of the reception a film club would receive before she conveyed her idea to fellow students. Despite USF St. Petersburg’s location in the heart of a growing cultural arts community, she felt that the institution did not offer many art-oriented programs of study.

“Many people have a love for cinema and would join the club, but knew it wasn’t available,” she said.

So Morales started developing a film club for USFSM. She requested the use of student-made videos benefitting the interests of incoming and current students, as well as the clubs themselves.

As an example, Morales suggested the use of student-made films for club recruitment instead of flyers. The videos could then be posted on the university website, or projected on television screens across campus.

Developing roots in neighboring communities is a priority for members of the Sarasota-Manatee’s Film Society, and Morales has the same in mind for a USFSM film club. In addition to strengthening on-campus ties, the film club would host an annual film festival presenting the work of its members to the university and the public.

Morales sees the event as an opportunity to connect with local performance venues like the American Stage and Freefall theatres. The Sarasota- Manatee Film Society’s volunteer efforts during the Sarasota Film Festival allowed students to lead a discussion after the showing of one film, and the organization’s network continues to expand.

“We have a voice,” Cavedo said.

“The symbiotic relationship is working very well.”

St. Petersburg was ranked the No. 1 arts destination in 2012 for mid-sized U.S. cities by American Style Magazine for the third year in a row. Although the film club has not been officially established, Morales is ready to incorporate USFSF into the downtown arts scene.

“The club will give students a chance to express themselves in new ways, whether there are five members or 80,” she said.

For more information on the film club, please contact Morales via email at juliet2@mail.usf.edu.

life@crowneststpete.com
Club pushes for small changes to save world

By Ellery Butler
Crow’s Nest Correspondent

The Student Environmental Awareness Society, known to most as SEAS, is fighting some big problems with big solutions.

While their goal of raising awareness and getting people outside to realize they are part of the environment is universal, their focus is local. This semester, SEAS has plans to create on-campus environmental solutions that affordably integrate into people’s everyday lives.

One such solution is to supply the campus with refilling stations for water bottles, which will cut down the need for more plastic and the energy to transport newly sold water bottles from one location to another. Billions of these discarded water bottles end up in landfills annually, contributing to pollution. Mike Leggett, chair of SEAS and an environmental science major, is in charge of this project.

“We have the capability to back up any sustainable projects that [the students] want to bring,” Leggett said.

Another proposal requests the university replace incandescent light bulbs with more cost effective and cleaner LED bulbs. The parking garage, which contains many incandescent bulbs, is the first proposed site of Leggett’s bulb replacement project. The U.S. Department of Energy estimates that swift LED lighting adoption in the U.S. could deliver savings of about $265 billion, avoid 40 new power plants and reduce lighting electricity demand by 33 percent in 2027, according to energystar.gov, the federal government’s energy savings website.

The idea that these types of small steps result in big changes is what drives the members of SEAS forward.

Upcoming events planned by the group include a restoration of Little Bayou Park, a local beach and campus beautification project and a nature hike at Brooker Creek Preserve Environmental Education Center in Tarpon Springs. SEAS holds its weekly meeting Tuesdays at 5 p.m. on the first floor of the library at the Poynter Corner. Contact SEAS President Catie Wonders at cwonders@mail.usf.edu for more information.

life@crowsneststpete.com
Editorial

The art of virtuous listening

In 1966, Eliot Wigginton, fresh out of an Ivy League university and upstate New York, moved to Georgia to teach English to ninth graders. The school was nestled in the Appalachian Mountains; a place with a folk subculture he knew little about.

Appalachian people, rooted in self-reliance characteristic of a Native American tribe, were kept isolated from America from the start of their early miner-mountaineer days because of their geographical location. Their culture is rooted in nature—their traditional remedies, resourcefulness, crafts and skill are as abundant as their forests.

At the onset of the school year, Wigginton lectured behind his lectern, boring his ninth graders mercilessly. When threats of school suspension only excited his students, he decided to take different approach.

Tossing out the textbooks, he asked if they would be interested in starting a magazine. They were, but were unsure of the magazine’s theme would be.

Wigginton had heard students in his classes mention folks in the community planting crops by the signs of the zodiac and stages of the moon. He brought up the topic, figuring they’d know because it was their own parents and grandparents doing it.

They didn’t.

Curiosity pushed the school kids to their homes, where they could get some answers from family.

It wasn’t long until the students came into class with stories from the elders in the community about curing and smoking hog, catching rattlesnakes and the fine art of makin’ moonshine. The one-time magazine, called the Foxfire project, turned into a quarterly. After a few years, the magazines were bound into books. Today, over 8 million copies exist.

And today, just like 1966, we need to be reminded to spend more time listening to our kin.

The National Day of Listening falls the day after Thanksgiving, but it’s hard to hear over all the Black Friday advertisements.

When the Tupperware is filled with leftovers and the family is still in town, the Day of Listening honors relatives, close ones and people in our community by making time to hear them tell a story.

“Listening to people reminds them that their lives matter,” said David Isay, who founded the day dedicated to listening. Isay also founded StoryCorps, an oral history project that invites people to preserve their stories.

Since 2003, StoryCorps has recorded over 30,000 interviews. They have recording booths set in outfitted Airstreams, which travel the country year-round to capture conversation. Some of the stories on their website are set to animations.

For whatever reason, sometimes listening is associated with passive reception, writes Joseph Beatty, Professor Emeritus in Philosophy at Randolph-Macon College.

“We often expect from the good listener minimalist operations: being present and at our disposal for a stretch of time,” he writes.

But good listening isn’t passive silence; it’s an intellectual and moral virtue we must cultivate.

Bad listeners are usually unable to detach themselves from their own concerns and moods long enough to understand others; instead they’ll project their own selves onto the person they were listening to.

An advantage to the National Day of Listening is that the date doesn’t matter: it can be celebrated any time. Over the winter holidays, break the digestion holl with family or friends. Ask them about something in their past. Record the conversation. Don’t interrupt. Hod.

Start cultivating a virtue for yourself while preserving a story that belongs to someone you care about.

No Idea

a series by Elizabeth Malley

I’m so shocked about hostess! I feel like I need to stock up on twinkies.

You don’t even like twinkies...

Throwback

Howard Carter and George Herbert, the Fifth Earl of Carnarvon, became the first people to enter King Tutankhamun in over 3,000 years on Nov. 26, 1922. An American lawyer had uncovered funerary artifacts with the pharaoh’s name on it 15 years prior, and assumed he had found the tomb and exhausted the Valley of Kings. He was very wrong. Carter’s expedition uncovered thousands of artifacts including Tut’s mask, made of 11 kg of rare materials.

“With trembling hands, I made a tiny breach in the upper left hand corner... widening the hole a little, I inserted the candle and peered in... I was struck dumb with amazement, and when Lord Carnarvon, unable to stand in suspense any longer, inquired anxiously ‘Can you see anything?’, it was all I could do to get out the words ‘Yes, wonderful things’.

-Howard Carter, in a diary entry dated Nov. 26, 1922
Thinking about Thanksgiving: How far did your turkey travel?

By Lauren Reilly
Guest Columnist

Food, on average, is shipped 1,500 miles before it reaches our plate. Knowing this fact changed my Thanksgiving. As I sat there looking at homemade mashed potatoes, green bean casserole, caprese salad, stuffing and turkey, I wondered how many different states all this food came from.

People know that vehicle exhaust is adding greenhouse gasses to the atmosphere that make our planet heat up at a faster rate. It’s easy to imagine that hundreds of trucks driving an average of 1,500 miles add thousands of pounds of carbon dioxide to our atmosphere every year. But what does a pound of carbon dioxide even mean?

According to the Environmental Protection Agency, a gallon of gasoline produces 19.4 pounds of carbon dioxide, and that’s just for an average car, not a semi-truck. Crude oil is a product of carbon-based life forms such as plants and animals. It takes millions of years and an extensive geologic process for the remains to break down, or biodegrade, into carbon. The oil we use as fuel in vehicles has many hydrocarbons, molecules comprised of the carbon from life forms and hydrogen. For example, the octane molecule in gasoline is made of 8 carbon molecules and 18 hydrogen molecules.

When the hydrocarbons are burned in the engine, they break and then recombine with the air (which is mostly nitrogen and oxygen). This combination produces heat and two chemical byproducts: water and carbon dioxide—literally making the air heavier because weight from carbon has been added to the oxygen.

That said, one easy way someone can personally eliminate pounds of emissions is to buy food grown by local farmers. Florida is a great place to seek out local foods because surprisingly, Florida is an agriculture state. According to the Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, Florida is the country’s second-leading producer of vegetables and 11th in beef cows.

Purchasing local doesn’t necessarily mean the food needs to be from the same city you live in—it can mean a radius of 50 to 100 miles. Knowing how fast hydrocarbons get to work and heat the atmosphere, getting food from 100 miles away is definitely better than getting food from 1,500 miles away.

A great way to reduce your food carbon footprint is to check the labels of your food. Buy Florida oranges and avocados instead of the ones from California. If you can, stop by the Saturday Morning Market and check out the various vendors selling food they grew themselves. I also find that their prices are actually much lower than Publix!

Aside from reducing your carbon footprint, buying local food is great for our local economy. If you think of spending money like voting, in that every time you buy something you are voting with your dollar, buying local food helps support local farmers and shows the food industry that people no longer want their food shipped from across the country. Spending money on countrywide distributed food is like telling a company it’s what you want and to keep providing that service. And unfortunately, money leaves the community. It is estimated that twice as much money stays in the community when people shop locally than when they spend their money at a place like Wal-Mart.

It’s like when Gandhi suggested the Indian people would gain more power as a country by keeping their money in the country. He encouraged people to buy locally made products, as opposed to products shipped in from the United Kingdom.

I’m not suggesting St. Petersburg can overthrow the food industry by purchasing locally grown food. But I am saying that we as individuals can choose to keep money in our community and actively lower our carbon footprint in another way than reducing, reusing and recycling.

As Gandhi would say, “Be the change you wish to see in the world.”

I mean, it might be good for you, but do I really need that helmet?

By Jane McInnis
Staff Columnist

On a trip to San Francisco and Oakland earlier this month, I used a friend’s bike to do my sightseeing. Before I set out, she offered me her helmet. When I declined, she looked at me like I had three heads (all cycling without helmets).

I explained that I had never worn a bike helmet, and it would be like wearing a gas mask while cooking. She told me I was being stupid. She told me I was being stupid. She told me I was being stupid.

However, for college students of both countries, college is not only a place to experience one’s independence and improve social development, it is also an environment in which one can be surrounded by friends and enjoy their transitional period between school life and reality.

A friend of mine shared a joke on my Facebook page, “God made every person different—he got tired by the time he got to China.” I forwarded this to my friends back home and they had a good laugh.

I guess it comes from the Chinese stereotype: “learned by rote, uncreative.”

Since the day after I landed in the U.S., I have become the main medicine my friends in China to take to cure their curiosity about Americans, especially the mysterious life of American college students.

My friends were stunned when I told them the dormitory in my new school is coed.

At the college in China where I got my bachelor’s degree, all college students have to live in dormitories during their four academic years. The dormitories are exclusively male or female, and all students must abide by curfews and visitation rules. Roommates are assigned, and four students share one room. In addition, the school generously provides a “babysitter” seated at the entrance to prevent visitors from sneaking in. A male who appears in a female dorm is unbearable to our guardians.

Partying plays a noticeable role in U.S. colleges. At universities in China, it is the exception rather than the rule. All dorms are closed and the electricity is turned off by 11 p.m. Students have to be back before lights-out or they would be locked out for the night.

On the bright side, I met three of my lifetime friends during our four years of living together. Every night when the electricity was turned off, we’d lie on our beds and chat about everything we saw and experienced that day. We played hide-and-seek games with our “babysitter” when we walked into each room to check if we were well disciplined. And we’d sneak out on weekends to do karaoke, one of the most popular entertainments among Chinese people.

It is true that campus life in China is generally more competitive compared to America. However, for college students of both countries, college is not only a place to experience one’s independence and improve social development, it is also an environment in which one can be surrounded by friends and enjoy their transitional period between school life and reality.

I have a feeling that my college life is just beginning, that I’m just now in it—and I am never going to get out.

nie@mail.usf.edu
Bulls football sets team record for losses with 27-10 defeat to Bearcats

By Samantha Ouelette

The Bulls’ lousy play continued as they dropped their eighth game of the season in a 27-10 loss to the Cincinnati Bearcats. The loss marks the first eight-loss season in the history of the USF football program. The Bulls managed only 306 yards and lost two fumbles, setting them up to stumble toward the finish line next week against the Pittsburgh Panthers.

Third string quarterback Matt Floyd started for the first time in his career against the Bearcats. Injuries to B.J. Daniels and backup Bobby Evold made Floyd the third different starter in the Bulls’ last three games. Floyd didn’t come in completely cold, having played during the loss last week to the Miami Hurricanes. Against Miami, Floyd replaced the injured Eevold but could not orchestrate a scoring drive as the Bulls lost 40-9.

Against Cincinnati, Floyd struggled to find his rhythm early. He completed just five of 15 passes in the first half for 47 yards. He also fumbled five snaps the Bulls were able to recover. Floyd has had trouble this season with the simple exchange between center and quarterback.

Floyd and the offense struggled sustaining drives down the field during the first half, getting past the 50-yard line only once and never inside the Cincinnati 30-yard line. The Bulls were forced to rely on the defense to stay in the game.

It didn’t help much. The Bearcats weren’t slowed by the Bulls defenders. Quarterback Brandon Kay ran for an 18-yard touchdown and threw for another score to tight end Travis Kelce to give Cincinnati a 13-0 halftime lead.

The Bulls defense did manage to keep the score close and give the offense a chance to make it a game. The Bulls drove inside the Cincinnati 10-yard line in the third quarter with a chance to cut the lead in half but settled for a field goal from Maikon Bonani.

The missed opportunity was USF’s last. The Bearcats scored another 14 points to put the game out of reach. George Winn rushed for both Bearcat touchdowns in the second half. The scores capped off a 119 rushing yard day for the senior running back.

Making sense of nonsense names

By Mike Hopey

Los Angeles isn’t renowned for its lakes. Minneapolis is. Utah doesn’t have a vibrant jazz scene. New Orleans does. Calgary wasn’t burned to the ground by Gen. William Tecumseh Sherman in the American Civil War.

Yet, Los Angeles, Utah and Calgary all have sports teams that evoke those images. The images of Atlanta burning to the ground and the pristine lakes of Minnesota are part of their local identities. The locals derive a great deal of pride from them. However, the Los Angeles Lakers, Utah Jazz and Calgary Flames have moved from their original homes and taken their local identities with them.

For every professional sports franchise there is an equally interesting story about how that team got its nickname. The Tampa Bay area is the lightning capital of North America—that’s why the NHL franchise here is called the Lightning.

There are a myriad of ways teams get their names. Jacksonville Jaguars is just an exercise in alliteration. The Chicago Bears got their name before generic names were generic.

Sometimes there is absolutely no reason, like when the Hartford Whalers moved to Raleigh, N.C. Peter Karmanos just picked the name Hurricanes because hurricanes sometimes hit the Carolina coast. By the way, Raleigh is 280 miles inland.

Who are the Los Angeles Dodgers? I can tell you the Brooklyn Dodgers were named after the trolley dodgers that lived in Brooklyn. That team moved in 1956.

Someone’s just lazy. There are quite a few grizzly bears in Vancouver, Canada but none in Memphis, Tenn. That didn’t stop the Grizzlies from keeping their moniker when they moved in 2001. When these teams are ripped apart, the lightning capital of North America—the NHL franchise here is called the Lightning.

When the fans in Indianapolis got the Colts from Baltimore it had to feel like they were getting somebody else’s handbook. It just wouldn’t seem right to have a team from Seattle called the Lightning. The Pacific Northwest receives the least amount of lightning strikes a year.

We know why they don’t want to change—branding and name recognition makes a lot of money. But when you step back and understand the perversion of a regional identity it seems wrong, almost criminal.

Maybe they should burn Calgary to the ground. Then the Flames would make sense.

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