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Student attacked: did race prevent justice?

By Raven Rayne Martinez and Tyler Killette
Crow’s Nest Correspondent and Staff Reporter

What began as a normal Sunday night shift at Burrito Boarder for sophomore Sandra Pierre, 19, ended in assault, racial tension and a mess of Mexican food. At around 9:45 p.m. on March 9, 15 minutes before the downtown St. Petersburg burrito joint was set close, a man, described as black, about 5 feet 8 inches tall, with a wide build, facial hair and slight accent, came in causing trouble.

After a minor mistake with the man’s order, he demanded free queso. Pierre, who is also black, told him no. The customer began cursing at her and calling her derogatory names.

“Shut the f*** up, b*** and finish making my queso,” he said. Pierre said her manager gave her a look to say “hurry up and get him out,” but the aggression and name calling didn’t stop. Ultimately, the manager had to kick him out of the restaurant.

Thinking he’d left, Pierre went outside to clean up the outdoor seating area. The man was outside waiting for her, and continued to harass her. She threatened to call the police. Suddenly, he hurled his burrito at her back, knocking off her glasses and breaking them. Through the blurred vision, Pierre then saw the begrudged customer’s fist coming toward her face.

Pierre’s coworker, Molly Craig, 23, saw her take the hit. She rushed outside to help her.

“He wanted to hurt her. He had her in his hands and was hitting her,” Craig said.

The man pushed Craig down by her neck, and then dragged both her and Pierre across the sidewalk by their hair. Both women defended themselves the best they could, coming out with some scratches and bruises. A week later, however, Pierre said she is still sore.

Patrons at the bar a few doors down from Burrito Boarder jumped in to help. One person flagged down a cop, Officer Maric of the St. Petersburg Police Department, while others cornered the man in the alley.

See OFFICER, p.2

Meet your new student body leaders

By Amanda Starling
Staff Reporter

Election season is a week over, and presidential- and vice presidential-elects Cody Boyer and Jordan Iuliucci are settling into their new leadership roles. Boyer, a senior in entrepreneurship, has extended a leadership role to an active role, the pair soned SG member to shift from a branch of the student body. Though Iuliucci will lead the executive members on all three campuses.

It was him who stood out there for the students’ voice, which is the students’ input and on-campus goals. Getting the #UMatter, with the letter ‘U’ in that. It hasn’t happened before, where a candidate has just been run and I—and Jordan and I, and JLI—we’ve been getting close with administration, and I’ve been able to understand what things they’ve been able to tackle over the years with Mark and where we go from there. There are definitely new ideas coming from our end, between Jordan and me, that administration hasn’t yet considered, and I’m excited to bring that to the table, or rather, that we’re bringing to the table.

CN: What do you feel made your campaign unique during the election?
JI: Honestly, I think it was Cody. It was him who stood out there for hours just talking to students. Getting the #UMatter, with the letter ‘U’ in that. It hasn’t happened before, where a candidate has just stood out there and wanted to hear the students’ voice, which is what we’re always about.
CB: I’d like to go a little further on that. To say that it was me, we ended up doing really cool things with the campaign that haven’t been done before.

See LEADERS, p.3

Student newspaper at USF St. Petersburg | March 17 - 24, 2014 | Volume 48 | Issue 24

Meet your new student body leaders

The Crow’s Nest talked to the newly elected to discuss future buildings on campus, gathering student input and on-campus goals.

The Crow’s Nest: How do you feel stepping into these critical leadership roles with the support of the student body?

Jordan Iuliucci: It’s the support of the students. Honestly, I think we have the full-fledged support of the students, only because right after the second debate, and even after the first debate, people were like, “Oh shoot, what’s going to happen?” Right after the runoff election, it was more so that if Steven and Monica won, or we won, it was going to be a win in general. Student Government would succeed either way. Basically, the student support, it’s amazing. We couldn’t ask for anything more. People are going to be taking SG more seriously and in a more professional manner.

Cody Boyer: The good thing is, it’s not like we’re waiting around, either. We’ve been assuming the roles that we should be. We’ve been transitioning between Christa [Hegedus, current vice president] and Mark [Lombardi-Nelson, current president]. I’ve been shadowing Mark along with the chancellor. I’ve been getting close with administration, and I’ve been able to understand what things they’ve been able to tackle over the years with Mark and where we go from there. There are definitely new ideas coming from our end, between Jordan and me, that administration hasn’t yet considered, and I’m excited to bring that to the table, or rather, that we’re bringing to the table.
Prepping babies for success
A USFSP program aims to close the racial achievement gap

By JENNIFER NESSLAR
STAFF REPORTER

While most see summer as a time to take a break, James McHale and Liz Jack of USF St. Petersburg’s Family Study Center see it as an opportunity to address the racial achievement gap in Pinellas County.

Baby Talk Academy, set to launch this summer, is a six-week course that will provide parents and community members with tools to prepare children for school. The Family Study Center, partnering with St. Petersburg's Concerned Organizations for Quality Education for Black Students, will focus on parenting children from birth to age 3.

Being read to from the first stages of life, daily “floor time” play with adults and receiving developmentally appropriate discipline — this will all prepare children to enter preschool confidently, said McHale, director of the study center.

Central to COQEBS’s mission is reducing the student achievement gap. The organization formed in 2001 to address the quality of education for black students in Pinellas County, according to the Crowley v. Pinellas County School Board class action settlement. The case settled in 2010, when Pinellas County School Board agreed to COQEBS’s responsibility of monitoring black student achievement and the county’s actions regarding black student achievement.

Ric Davis, president of COQEBS, said that although there is no segregation in Pinellas County schools, differences in performance are still a major concern.

“Do we still have, essentially, a segregated system within an integrated system?” Davis asks of the school system.

After letting the alleged attacker go, all the officer could do was was write down the two victim’s statements. The officer told McHale’s work with COQEBS formed a School Readiness Committee.

Since 2010, the Readiness Committee has held an annual workshop series focused on some of the main messages of Baby Talk,” McHale told The Crow’s Nest.

“Parents were so interested in the information at Baby Talk that we wondered whether there might be interest in a somewhat longer workshop series focused on some of the main messages of Baby Talk,” McHale told The Crow’s Nest.

So the committee looked to Minnesota as a model. College Bound Babies, run by the Northside Achievement Zone of Minneapolis, is a 13-week program targeted toward parents of young children, which seeks to lessen the achievement gap. Key resources from College Bound Babies met with the Readiness Committee during the first week of March.

“I think that St. Petersburg is similar to Minneapolis in terms of demographics and issues impacting African-American children,” said Andre Dukes, director of Northside Achievement Zone’s Family Academy, who oversees College Bound Babies.

The College Bound Babies program operates from the premise that parents are the best and most expert teachers of their children, Dukes said. They help parents to find their strengths and use those strengths.

The pilot program of Baby Talk Academy will likely take place in June, according to Jack, who serves as the Family Study Center’s Infant-Family Mental Health programs administrator. If there is enough interest from the parents, another six-week session may follow, McHale said.

Ric Davis thinks the academy’s influence will extend beyond the parents. He hopes the program will make child care providers in south St. Petersburg more knowledgeable, and in turn will lessen the student achievement gap.

“Early intervention is a way to solve this massive problem,” he said.

It’s time to kick off spring with the annual USFSP Spring Fling!

News Briefs

Monday, March 17
James Bond is rumored to be making an appearance at the Spring Fling’s Black and White Formal, according to the Harborside Activities Board. Regardless, there will be a DJ, photo booth and dancing. Sparkling cider and a three-layer cake will be provided, as well as food catered by Carrabba’s. Students should dress in black- and-white formal attire. The event starts in the USC Ballrooms at 7 p.m.

Tuesday, March 18
HAB presents “Inglorious Basterds” at 8 p.m. in the USC Ballrooms. In the movie, U.S. soldiers and a theater owner plot to take down high-ranking Nazi officers during the premiere of a Nazi propaganda film. Rated R, the movie received a 72 out of 10 rating on Rotten Tomatoes.

Wednesday, March 19
Take a break from Spring Fling and attend a research colloquium. Environmental Science, Policy, & Geography graduate students will present on water quality, climate and conservation efforts. Using a geospatial approach, Steven Douglas looks into groundwater contamination models; Jessica Gruber does a case study of Costa Rica’s conservation practices; and Kimberly Lyons examines how increased storm intensity has affected sedimentation in Puerto Rico’s Fajardo River Basin. The colloquium starts at noon in the Pouyer Center of the Nelson Pouyer Memorial Library.

Thursday, March 20
The long-awaited 3OH!3 concert has arrived. Visit HAB’s Petesnyc page to reserve your tickets. Non-USF students can purchase $15 tickets at jannuslive.com.

Sunday, March 23
In India, “Holi” represents the end of winter's gloom. To welcome spring, children shower others in the markets with bright colors. The Holi Festival of Colors, sponsored by the South Asian Association, is coming to Harborside Lawns from 1 to 5 p.m. Students will throw colors in the air, and at each other. Clothes that students are OK with getting stained should be worn. Clothing cannot be handed out while supplies last. The Bollywood Dance Team will also give their first performance.

OFFICE Continued from front page

Pierre went up to the officer, who Craig described as a middle-aged white woman with some type of Eastern European accent, and told her the man laid his hands on her and Craig. When the officer asked the man what happened, he claimed Pierre knocked his food out of his hand.

According to Pierre, Maric showed no emotion. The officer told the man he could go.

“I hear about people being able to walk away from a crime... didn’t think it’d happen to me,” Pierre told The Crow’s Nest.

Shocked the officer didn’t take action, Pierre told her, “If I was white, and I said this big black man is trying to beat the crap out of me, you’d have done everything in your power to not let him walk away.”

Maric replied, “I’ve seen girls half her (Craig’s) size beat on guys and asked for camera footage, or more statements from witnesses. She said that although there is no segregation in Pinellas County schools, differences in performance are still a major concern.

“Do we still have, essentially, a segregated system within an integrated system?” Davis asks of the school system.

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Meet your student body leaders, cont’d

**“LEADERS” Continued from front page**

Also, we had to understand that there were five tickets here, and if you wanted to stand out, you had to do something different than be the squeaky wheel, so to speak. We did some cool things: We reached out big time. We understood that we were already making those pushes, I’m personally passionate about this, and I know Jordan.

CN: What are your goals for your term as president and vice president?

CB: I’m definitely pushing for some things. I want there to be more transparency and communication between faculty and students. I’d like increased communication; I guess that would be number two, as in students being well aware of the evolving events, opportunities for internships, etcetera. I want them to be in the know and to know that SG represents them. We’re going to be working full time, we’re going to work with intercampus relations too, to make sure that they get the best education opportunities and resources they need. As far as politics go, I’m bringing the SG structure, the legislative branch and even the executive and student affairs into play. This allows us to be more transparent with our students and the organizations we have. However, marketing will literally go out. I want us to set up meetings with them, or create a clipboard approach that I feel like is a car salesman approach. We’ll do it in an organic way where we can get people’s input in a seamless way. It’s going to be an organic way, not as a passive approach, less about flirts and more about face-to-face contact.

CN: How will you maintain communication between yourselves and departments, campus organizations?

CB: With administration, it’s very easy. You can talk to them, you can set up meetings with them and that works fine. With all of the other SG organizations, I think it’s going to be like Franklin Alves on this one. He does “off the topping,” and I’ve done that before with him, and it’s just, you can set up a meeting with them, or really, you’re just going from office to office and saying, “Hey, what’s up? How are you doing?” and gather input doing that. A meeting can solve all of the problems, as well as the communication problems.

CN: What do you feel is your greatest challenge stepping into the roles of president and vice president?

CB: This is a big learning curve for me. I’m going to have to learn a lot about our background story and the sort of struggles we had as SG, and as a student body as a whole, as well as get to know the Sunshine laws and state laws. The whole point of having a team is to work together on things like that. My biggest thing is that I’m going to be approaching, and it may be my biggest asset too, is not knowing everyone, and it’s really that I’ve got to take things one step at a time. I’m still learning peoples’ names because SG is big, as well as the rest of the organizations. I’m still learning names, and I’ll tell you every day that it takes me three times before I learn somebody’s name. My biggest thing is to have every one’s role, what they’ve been through, how it’s worked and hasn’t worked and taking it all in. That’s the biggest thing is learning all of this information. Looking elsewhere, at our sister campuses, how they are like us and see how they structure things and see how we can build off of that.

CN: How will you prepare for major college issues, such as through the Student Advisory Council, and other steps of leadership associated with the presidential seat?

CB: The good thing is, I’m a fast learner, and I’ve been able to pull it off. I literally have a folder that people are adding to that says, “Cody, read this.” I don’t make decisions without careful observation. The next time, I know that it’s going to be interaction with sister campuses, like Sarasota, to understand what the system as a whole deals with. It’s about establishing relationships just with individuals at those places but everyone to understand the structure, their administration and their students for why they are there and not here. I’d like to be really close to understand the decisions the Board of Trustees makes and to be on the same wavelength as Judy Genshaft, Sophia Wisniewski and as well as the new chancellor coming into office in Sarasota soon. We’re talking about vertical and horizontal knowledge, communicating with all entities. We’re not just talking about the student voice but administration and everything else. It involves understanding the Board of Governors at the state level; the Board of Trustees when they’re making decisions for all of USF; the provost, and taking those all into account to represent the student body in the best way that I know how.

CB: The VP role this year, not to knock on the previous years, is going to be more empowered.

Between the vice president and president, both roles were opposites, so to speak. With Mark Lombardi-Nelson earning the Board of Trustees seat, he created this big gap between the president seat and the vice president’s role. It hasn’t been beneficial for us, in other ways it has, but this year, with or without that seat, the VP role is going to step it up. This isn’t to put pressure on Jordan, but in general, that role has been deified in the past for reasons that don’t need to be mentioned.

The VP role is going to be pressed for more internal communication between our departments, not just clubs and orgs, which I felt fulfilled the purpose of vice president. VP also being there at the drop of a dime, when the president can’t make it. In the past, I know that has been borrowed. There will be time when she doubts her ability to assume my role in the president’s absence.

CN: How will you start to work on the VP role with the campus, and with the Senate?

CB: On a little bit bigger scale, departments-wise, there is talk. We’ve already talked to Julie Wong about this as a possibility for a leadership meeting that involves all of these entities, including a member of the chancellor’s office, whether it is chief of staff, the provost or vice provost. There would be a representative of each leadership team that would meet once a month. We have quarterly budget meetings. These things are coming up quick; we’re already getting them on our calendar.

CN: What do you feel is your strength as president and vice president?

CB: The biggest strength is that I’ve done with Student Life is with Julie Wong and Student Life services every two weeks on Thursdays, around 11:30 a.m. in the Regatta Room. We’re really pushing for the possibility of having more club sports.

JI: Basically, we’re pulling from our platform. Our average student age is 24, so we’d like to have some wet campus events. They’re going to come to movie nights and everything happening through the Student Union. The student body input forums will start up with Julie Wong and Student Life services every two weeks on Thursdays, around 11:30 a.m. in the Regatta Room. We’re really pushing for the possibility of having more club sports.

CB: It’s a really good team. I don’t want to spoil the event yet. But honestly, we’ve both just done it, and I think we’ve got a really good 20/20 with the strategic planning.

CN: How will you begin to address the student concerns from your campaign?

JI: We’ve already started, with me being in senate. I’ve already talked to some of the people in Tampa, as well as in Sarasota, to plan a big event, basically uniting the three campuses. I don’t want to spoil the event yet. But honestly, we’ve both just done it, and I think we’ve got a really good 20/20 with the strategic planning.
Awkward Moments Day
BY ERIN MURPHY
STAFF REPORTER
March 18 is Awkward Moments Day. Finally, there's a holiday dedicated to the embar- rassing episodes and predicaments we all find ourselves in at some point. Celebrate awkwardness all day long with these enjoyably uncomfortable tips:

• Wave enthusiastically at someone you don’t know. They might wave back if they’re friendly, but they still won’t know you. For Advanced Awkwardness: Once you catch their eye, walk over and begin a conversation that’s sure to leave them extremely confused.

• Make extremely direct eye contact. While it’s no fun to talk to someone who won’t look at you, it’s also extremely uncomfortable to talk to someone who won’t look away. For Advanced Awkwardness: Try to go as long as you can without blinking. Then, maybe your eyes will start to water, and the person you’re talking to will think you’re crying.

• Get into an elevator and face away from the doors. Instead, you’ll find yourself looking at the truly perplexed people riding with you. The more crowded the elevator, the better. Try and stare down an entire group of strangers at once to maximize awkwardness. For Advanced Awkwardness: Wait until the elevator doors are almost shut, then try to pry your way in.

• Flub a class presentation. For some reason, there’s nothing more painful than watching someone totally and utterly fail at a class presentation. Aim to give the most horrid report ever by fidgeting with your clothes, staring at the ceiling and cracking your voice. For Advanced Awkwardness: Pretend to faint. You will go down (literally) in Awkward History.

• Have a loud, inappropriate conversation in the library. This one involves props: Grab your cell phone and have a friend call you. Then, loudly discuss whatever topics are apt to make those around you feel most ill at ease: “SHE GOT WHAT SURGICALLY REMOVED? FROM WHERE!”

Students learn and connect in Key West
BY AMANDA STARGLE
STAFF REPORTER
Last week, 11 students ditched Netflix marathons and passing time in St. Petersburg for a trip to Key West. But instead of bar hopping, these students taught about the importance of coral reefs and spray-painted active messages on storm drains.

The mission of this alternative spring break, funded by the school, trip was to help teach about the reefs in the Florida Keys.

From March 9 through 15, the group worked with Reef Relief, a nonprofit organization dedicated to improving and protecting the coral reef ecosystem.

For junior Dan Nguyen, it was an opportunity to connect with his USF St. Petersburg classmates. "What I got out of the trip that I couldn’t [in] St. Pete was having my peers in a more relaxed environment, so I could get to know them better,” Nguyen said. “Sure it’s great to have the USC, the Cove and SLC, but those are still at school. Being in Key West, we were more free to be ourselves and just open up with each other.”

Last spring, students traveled to New Orleans to help rebuild areas damaged by Hurricane Katrina. Many students who joined this year heard the memories and successes of the New Orleans trip. “I signed up because I missed out on the one last year, and I heard great things about the service that they did,” Franklin Alves, a junior, said. He enjoyed seeing the efforts of a nonprofit and learning its processes.
Flora & Fauna
A Playlist

On March 20, spring will have officially sprung. So begins the season of baby chicks and extreme allergies! Don your trendy flower crown and honor spring with a playlist about nature, plants and, of course, pollen.

By Erin Murphy
Staff Reporter

“March (A Prelude to Spring)” -- Jon Foreman
To begin your flower-filled adventures, give this pretty Foreman track a listen. It’s just whimsical enough to put a little spring in your step!!

“A Father’s First Spring” -- The Avett Brothers
What says spring more than babies? Baby lambs, baby chicks, BABIES. The Avett Brothers celebrate young life and the joys of parenthood with their signature folky feel.

“Springtime” -- Head and the Heart
If you close your eyes, sit in the middle of the woods and play this 54-second ode to spring on your iPod, it will almost feel like the forest is singing to you. Check out “Summertime” by this band for more.

“Flowers in Your Hair” -- The Lumineers
Brace your hair, stick some roses in it and sway to the indie glory that is the Lumineers’ kick-drum filled music. Coachella tickets not included.

“Spring” -- Vivaldi
If you love spring (and strings!), then you simply cannot make it through March without listening to this jubilant classical piece. It’s bursting with life, and sounds even more triumphant than the “Rocky” theme song. Feel more in tune with your inner cellist or your money back!

“Thistle & Weeds” -- Mumford & Sons
Something about good chap Marcus Mumford & Co.’s earthy, acoustic-laden jams just scream spring. Perhaps it’s all the plant metaphors?

“Red Eyes” -- Switchfoot
You know it was coming. Yes, it’s what we’ve all been waiting for -- a song dedicated to pollen! This Switchfoot song takes on new meaning as pounds of pollen begin to fall from the trees, leaving everyone you know bleary-eyed and extremely sniffly. But it’s nothing to cry about. We know that these seasonal changes can be awfully emotional.

“Bird of Song” -- Water Liars
Not every spring song is cheerful. This one is raw, emotional and employs some seriously tender piano playing.

“The 59th Street Bridge Song” -- Simon & Garfunkel
This song always sounds very quiet and sullen and reminds me of the change of seasons. It is full of emotion and great harmonies as we pass from season to season.

“Bloom” -- The Paper Kites
If you like your springtime songs sweet, tenderhearted and beautifully acoustic, then this is the track for you. It’s the perfect background soundtrack for a peaceful stroll in the park, or while watching the sunrise.

“Grazing in the Grass” -- Hugh Masakela
Solely instrumental, this ballad comes stacked with drums and horn to carry its soulful, jazzy vibe. Imagery of fertile meadows, sunshine and fair-weather clouds are conjured almost effortlessly.

“Braid your hair, stick some roses in it and sway to the indie glory that is the Lumineers’ kick-drum filled music. Coachella tickets not included.”

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Editorial

Spend student money on student safety

Late last month, a man was arrested on campus for two counts of aggravated assault against USF St. Petersburg students. The suspect, armed with a knife, was allowed into Residence Hall One by his girlfriend, who lives there.

Discussion of on-campus safety began immediately, circulating through social media and word of mouth. One concern regarded the front desk that used to be in RHO, but has since been removed. Student Assistants manned the front desk, and though they didn't strictly monitor who came in and out of the dorm, their presence could have accelerated the removal of an armed intruder.

Now, the dorm lacks both a front desk and an SA staff. Many students said the presence of SAs made them feel safer.

The Crow's Nest spoke with Heather Klisanin of Housing, Residential Life and Student Conduct about the reasoning behind the desk’s removal. “RHO is and has always been a 24-hour locked facility, and the front desk was a resource desk more than a security desk. The 24-hour locks and cameras at the doors are the main security for the building,” Klisanin said.

In Facebook comments, some students attributed the removal of SAs to a lack of money in Housing’s budget. Klisanin said budget was a factor, but not the main reason.

She explained that some student services were being duplicated by having both the Student Services Office and Dean of Students Office in RHO. "The cost to staff the desk was approximately $80,000 a year. Today, it would be higher due to wage increases, and if implemented in RHO, we would also need to look at implementing it in University Student Center. We want to be consistent in the security of the buildings," Klisanin said.

Even if the budget was restored to an appropriate amount, she said SA staff would "not necessarily" be reinstated.

It is understood that the job of an SA was not to play security guard. But why wasn’t it? Why isn’t anyone keeping track of who goes in and out?

Klisanin said a person's individual safety is their own responsibility. "Sometimes students attribute the removal of SAs because of an armed intruder. 'RHO is and has always been a 24-hour locked facility, but it is important for us to talk to people about the community within the halls to look out for one another and make smart choices,'" Klisanin explained.

"Staff educates residents about safety. They don’t require a pass. It’s the responsibility of our students to look out for one another and make smart choices. It is their own responsibility to let someone know if they have an encounter with someone who looks unfamiliar if they live in the hall before holding the door for them. They shouldn’t have to."

Don’t burden one student with the safety of hundreds. Let them focus on the biology test they’re studying for while a paid staff member sits at a desk and monitors foot traffic.

Some universities require students to show IDs at a front desk before heading to their rooms. Some require guests to enter behind them that they do not know.

It all sounds logical. Students should not prop doors open or let sketchy-looking people into the dorm. But that doesn’t mean they won’t. We have to remember who we’re dealing with here. College kids. Mostly 18-year-old freshmen, at that. Are we really comfortable putting that much trust into the kid wearing basketball shorts and a snapback hat, who just discovered how easy it is to sneak Bud Light into his room? Or, the girl sticking down a caramel frappucino, enamored with her bejeweled iPhone case as she waits for the RHO elevator?

This is not so to say that any residents want to intentionally cause harm or that they lack the intelligence to make the right decisions.

But, for the most part, college students are either distracted or indifferent. They’re not going to ask someone who looks unfamiliar if they live in the hall before holding the door for them. And they shouldn’t have to.

Don’t burden one student with the safety of hundreds. Let them focus on the biology test they’re about to fail or the party they haven’t picked out an outfit for yet, while a paid staff member sits at a desk and monitors foot traffic.

Some universities require students to show IDs at a front desk before heading to their rooms. Some require guests to leave their driver’s licenses with a staff member.

the crow's nest
The student newspaper at the University of South Florida St. Petersburg.

Mission Statement: The Crow's Nest is committed to providing its readers with news relevant to the University of South Florida St. Petersburg and its surrounding community. The Crow's Nest abides by the highest ethical standards and focuses on stories that help readers make informed decisions on current issues. We take seriously the public's trust in our news reporting and strive to uphold the highest standards of reporting as defined by the Society of Professional Journalists.

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Pot O’ Gold
By Kati Lacker

The publication of the book had a major influence on the public view of slavery in America, and when Lincoln announced the end of slavery in 1863, Stowe danced in the streets.
Modesty or unnatural suppression?

By Chelsea Tatham
STAFF COLUMNIST

Watch out, ladies. If you're walking the streets of Arkansas and hear someone whisper “Nike,” you’re probably dressed too immodestly.

The oldest Duggar sisters from TLC’s “19 Kids and Counting” released their first book in the beginning of March filled with some of the women’s “dark” secrets and their experiences growing up with 19 siblings.

The sisters talk about having a code word for when a provocatively dressed woman is near them. It’s “Nike” (referring to the shoe brand or the Greek goddess?). They say it’s so the men in the family will avert their eyes to avoid thinking forbidden thoughts.

When I think of someone being dressed provocatively, I think of a person walking around almost nude. But for the Duggars -- who believe in dressing modestly to the point of covering shoulders and avoiding tops that show any part of their chest -- a woman wearing a tank top on a hot day could be seen as too much for the Duggar men to handle.

But why isn’t there a code word for the women? Either the Duggars believe no men dress immodestly (because men can wear what they want and women can’t?) or they believe only men are fueled by their desires. Maybe women actually having desires is still a new concept to them.

Whether the accused woman thinks so or not, giving a code word to someone so others avoid looking at her is judgmental and rude. It also shows that the Duggar women don’t trust the men in the family to avoid thinking “immoral” thoughts, and that just gazing at a bare-shouldered woman could get their sex drives going.

The sisters do talk about their own natural desire for men as a gift from God -- because, you know, desiring another woman is just not natural, nor a gift from God. They talk about how they maintain self-control and reign in their desires by remaining virgins until marriage (fair enough), avoiding kissing until their first kiss with their husbands (why?) and even restraining from hand holding until being engaged (oh, come on).

But how do they even have desires if they don’t read secular magazines, listen to music containing any sexual references or watch anything containing immoral material? How do they even know that kissing and sex are supposed to be enjoyable things when everything they have learned has been from their parents? I don’t think I want to know.

I don’t completely disagree with the Duggars’ lifestyle. Dressing modestly is understandable. I can see the point in remaining virgins until marriage and agree that someone isn’t just about hooking up with them, or how good of a kisser they are. I think it’s courageous of them to go against so many cultural norms and live solely according to their religious beliefs.

But where is the line drawn between living a modest, godly life and suppressing the natural human qualities you were born with?

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Video games: fear of falling

By Matt Thomas
STAFF COLUMNIST

Platform games: arguably the most innocent genre in all of video gaming. Running and jumping through various worlds, either two or three dimensional; playing as a range of different characters like Mario, Donkey Kong, Rayman, Sackboy or many others; hopping through various worlds, either two dimensional; playing as a group, like the Duggars, or three dimensional; playing as a group; hopping from platform to platform in hopes of reaching the end of the stage. This is where the video game horror begins.

In any capacity, dying in a video game is not a big deal. Yet, I’ve developed a legitimate fear of dying in platform games. Instead of running through the stages as the developers intended, I hesitate like none other. As platform games become more advanced and the stages become more dynamic, keeping me on my toes, certain games have stopped giving me the option to hesitate.

Games like Donkey Kong Country Returns have pushed me to do things I didn’t even know I could do in a game. By having the platforms I stand on for safety hazardous, I’ve made sounds I didn’t even know could come from a human in certain parts of the game. Just when I thought I was safe, I have to jump to the next platform.

Don’t stop moving is my take away from all this. In real life, I’ll have a story due the next day, and I’m still waiting to hear back from an important source. I keep pressing them. A cute girl might be eyeing me in bar and could easily move on to the next person. You have that short amount of time to make an impression, make a movie.

When you hear about a job opening that appeals to everyone on The Crow’s Nest, apply and say nothing of it.

I’ll ask myself, where did I learn to think that way? Then I’ll say, thank you video games.

Matt Thomas is a senior majoring in mass communications and entertainment critic. He can be reached at matthew17@mail.usf.edu or on Twitter @MrrThomas.

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The best kind of medicine

By Amanda Starling
STAFF COLUMNIST

It was my third trip to a clinic after being sick for almost a month. I was struggling to get through my studies. I was missing out on my third trip to a clinic after being sick for almost a month. I was struggling to get through my studies. I was missing out on my third trip to a clinic after being sick for almost a month. I was struggling to get through my studies. I was missing out on my third trip to a clinic after being sick for almost a month. I was struggling to get through my studies. I was missing out on

C’mon, I had to ask after being kicked repeatedly by this. “Think about it: Doctors abuse medicine. There are bad people in everything we do,” he said. “That’s why we need the good ones, too.”

I left the office feeling confused, and maybe a little unsettled. The next day, I took phone calls at the newsroom phone desk from people who didn’t understand how voting districts worked or how the newspaper paper does not control the television schedule, and I had to scold the profane, too.

It’s helped, knowing that someone out there understood what it is that I, and many of my fellow colleagues, are trying to do for them. We don’t change your voting districts or shut you out of polls — talk to your state representative. We don’t set your television guide and reschedule when the Buckeyes are going to play — call BrightHouse. As for your frustration with government, students or Barack Obama? Are the f-bombs really necessary?

If every person had the faith in journalists that this nurse did, I think we could change the attitude of the stigma, the relationship toward the media.

Amanda Starling is a senior majoring in mass communications and news editor. She can be reached at astarling@mail.usf.edu or on Twitter @StarlingA1.
USFSP Baseball to play Iowa
USFSP’s baseball entered the week with a 10-game winning streak after taking care of teams from Canada over Spring Break. The Bulls will try to test themselves with a game against the University of Iowa on Friday, March 21 at Al Lang Field. First pitch will be at 7 and admission for students is will be $5. Go and support the baseball team.

Bolts have no charge
Since the Olympic break ended the Tampa Bay Lightning have won just three times in nine games. The cold streak has been highlighted by the return of Steven Stamkos and the departure of Martin St. Louis. The Bolts can right the ship this week with a road trip to Toronto, Ottawa and Pittsburgh.

Native wins gold
Tampa Bay native Declan Farmer won a gold medal with Team USA at the Paralympic Games in Sochi. Farmer and the rest of the U.S. sled hockey team beat host Russia 1-0 to win gold.

Men’s Basketball
USF fires Heath
School fires coach two years after giving him an extension
BY MIKE HOPEY
STAFF REPORTER

The highlight of his tenure as the head coach was the 2012 season when Heath led the program to a 22-14 record, its best season ever. The 2012 team also qualified for the NCAAM Tournament, upsetting California and Temple before bowing out in Ohio in the Round of 64. Heath was named the Big East Coach of the Year that season.

The downfall that led to the school’s decision to move on from Heath began the year after the NCAA Tournament appearance. Since 2012, the men’s basketball team has only won 24 games over two seasons.

South Florida will have to pay Heath a total of $1.5 million over the next four years and is the third former coach that USF is still paying after departing from the school. USF is paying former football coach Skip Holtz $2.5 million and another $2.7 million to the school’s first football coach Jim Leavitt.

Heath began his coaching career in 1988 as an assistant at Hillsdale College in Michigan after four years playing at Eastern Michigan. He began his head-coaching career at Kent State, Heath moved on to coach Arkansas for five seasons before being hired by South Florida in 2007.

USFSP Baseball
Men’s Basketball

Results
March 8
USFSP 13, Canada 4

March 9
USFSP 12, Canada 6

March 10
USFSP 9, NC State 1

March 12
USFSP 4, Bowling Green 3

March 13
USFSP 9, Cleveland State 1

Upcoming Schedule
March 17
Kansas, 7:15 at Campbell Park

March 20
Kansas, 7:15 at Campbell Park

March 21
Iowa, 7:15 at Al Lang Stadium

March 22
Canada (DH), 10 a.m. at Walter Fuller Park

Drexel, 7:30 at Plant City

March 23
Canada, 1 at Walter Fuller Park

Women’s Basketball

Conference Standings

CONF. OVERALL

W-L W-L

xLouisville 15-3 29-5
Cincinnati 15-3 27-6
xConn 12-6 26-8
Memphis 12-6 23-9
SMU 12-6 23-9
Houston 8-10 17-16
Rutgers 5-13 11-21
UCF 4-14 13-18
Temple 4-14 9-22
USF 3-15 12-20

x-Conference tournament champion

News and Notes
March 12
USFSP 14, Robert Morris 4
USFSP 9, NC State 1
USFSP 13, Canada 4
USFSP 12, Canada 6
USFSP 11, Bowling Green 4

March 17
Kansas, 7:15 at Campbell Park
Kansas, 7:15 at Campbell Park
Iowa, 7:15 at Al Lang Stadium
Canada (DH), 10 a.m. at Walter Fuller Park
Drexel, 7:30 at Plant City
Canada, 1 at Walter Fuller Park

April 1

USFSP 15-3 15-2
USFSP 12-6 23-9
Houston 8-10 17-16
Rutgers 5-13 11-21
UCF 4-14 13-18
Temple 4-14 9-22
USF 3-15 12-20

x-Conference tournament champion

By Mike Hopey
Staff Columnist

Television is changing. The way we watch has already changed, and sports are catching up with services like Netflix and Hulu. More and more people, myself included, are ditching cable, with its high costs, for lower-priced alternatives.

It may not be until we are all watching TV on different devices, and on our own schedule. And weirdly enough the company that is showing us how it will all be done in the future is the WWE.

I had the good fortune of being in, as it was known then, World Wrestling Federation’s target demographic during their “Attitude Era,” a time when record attendance, attention and profits.

Now, 16 years later, the WWE has launched its own network that streams directly over the Internet with no need for a cable box. The offering from the company is substantial. Every pay-per-view past and future will be available to subscribers as well as a slew of original and live programming.

The special thing about the WWE Network isn’t its on-demand offerings but rather the fact that it feels like a television station. The network has a live feature that allows users to tune in to a program as it is airing.

It goes that feeling of being able to just turn something on that television gives and is hard to duplicate with a streaming service. Shows are bumbered with commercials for WWE products, and the next show starts without having to hit play on anything else.

It’s kind of funny to think that the company on the cutting edge of content creation is a wrestling company, but they always have been. WWE was an early adopter of pay-per-view. And when some companies weren’t taking the web seriously, the WWE put its web address front and center in almost every camera shot.

I signed up for the WWE Network on day one, not because I am a die-hard fan but because I care about how I get my entertainment and that I get good value for it. I like where we are headed with television, and I’m cool with the WWE leading the way.

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