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Dorm security: is it enough?

After an armed intrusion last week, on-campus safety is a concern

**By Jennifer Nesslar and Amanda Starling**

Staff Reporters

It started as an argument outside of Residence Hall One between student Radhika Dang, 19, and her boyfriend, Derek Brown, 31, and ended with a campus lockdown and an arrest for aggravated assault.

At around 10:30 p.m. on Feb. 23, Brown, who University Police Services said was intoxicated, took a knife out of his pocket and threatened two male students who attempted to intervene in the argument, which occurred across the street from campus. Dang, a resident of RHO, left the scene before police showed up, allowing Brown, who is not a student, to enter the dorm with her.

Once campus police received word of the intrusion, the campus was placed under lockdown. Because the threat took place off campus, St. Petersburg police were called.

After searching the building, St. Petersburg police arrested Brown, charging him with two counts of aggravated assault. He was carrying a 3.78-inch Gerber Covert automatic pocket knife. Brown was held in the Pinellas County Jail at $10,000 bail, but has since been released.

A text message alert was sent out through MoBull Messenger. USF's emergency text massaging system, at 11:13 p.m., while search was in progress. However, word of the intrusion got out much earlier through social media.

At 10:34 p.m., RHO resident assistant Nicholas Patides posted on the USFSP Know-It-All’s Guide forum on Facebook.

“If you are in RHO, go to your room, lock it and stay there for now. Lock down quickly. Also don’t panic, it could be nothing,” he wrote. Conversation on the thread continued as updates came in.

USFSP police received the first call from students inside RHO, who witnessed Brown enter with a knife. At the time of the call, Lt. Reggie Oliver said University Police Services was unaware of the earlier incident on the street.

Oliver, who sent out the MoBull emergency text, was not called until 10:49 p.m., 15 minutes after Patides’ post. He was at home when he received the call.

“We didn’t have any information about what was taking place,” Oliver said.

Oliver asked the police on duty to gather more information about the incident before sending out an emergency text. They were unsure if Brown was a student or if an altercation had taken place on campus.

After confirming Brown wasn’t a student, Oliver sent out a text reading, “ALER USF ST. PETE: Armed intruder near RHO resident hall. Remain inside ... alert. Avoid outside and hallways. Follow police instructions. Police are searching.”

Many students reported receiving the first text at 11:13 p.m., while others reported receiving it at 11:30 p.m. According to Oliver, up to 83 percent of USFSP students registered with MoBull received this notification within two minutes and 30 seconds, while 95 percent received it within 10 minutes and 5 percent never received the text at all.

Oliver said the delays often have to do with cellphone carrier issues, and that the USF Tampa University Communications and Marketing office is responsible for the operation of the messenger system, known as RAVE.

University and city police officers who entered RHO searched the floors, according to a University Police Services press release. On the fifth floor, officers found Dang in the hallway. She led them to her room, where Brown arrested.

Because Dang allowed Brown to enter RHO, he did not trespass. However, he was prevented from returning to campus with a trespass warning. No injuries were reported and no crimes occurred on campus.

See ALERT, p. 3

**USFSP Speaks!**

Last week, we asked students what the school could do to make them feel more safe on campus. Here’s what they said on Facebook (some responses may be edited for style). Pick up the next issue of The Crow’s Nest (March 17) to see a response from Student Housing.

I miss the front desk full time staff. (Possibly too much for the budget though.) -- Christa Hegedus

I'm sure having a front desk again would give the RAs a little more freedom. At least so they're not always confined to that small room. -- Nick Tapia

I believe it starts with student awareness. Know who you are letting into the residence halls. -- Allan Pinkerton

When we had the desk before, it was not RAs who manned the desk, but SAs. I think Christa is right in saying they don’t have the budget to hire that much staff.

However, I believe Housing is looking into ways to improve security, especially as they look into expanding on-campus living

Also, something that has been discussed since I have been a freshman, better lighting on campus. -- Andrea Inman

Definitely more efficient alerts! It’s sad we all had to find out through Facebook, and some of us didn’t even find out at all until it was over. Also, students should be more informed not to let anyone you don’t know in! -- Alyssa Winston

More immediate responses! It should not have been left up to the RAs to try and notify the hundreds of students in that building. That should have been on the UPD to send out the immediate notification of the lockdown. -- Carly Chaput

I am all about improving safety but there aren’t enough RAs to cover those hours and still go to class. I think safety has declined since the front desk was taken out but I was told it was because housing didn’t have the budget to pay SAs to sit there anymore. -- Caitlin Greene

**Bird and Boyer headed to runoff**

By Amanda Starling

Staff Reporter

Cody Boyer and Jordan Iuliucci will compete in a runoff against Steven Bird and Monica Gonzalez, this week for student body president and vice president. The results were announced in front of the University Student Center before a small crowd on Thursday, March 27.

The final three days of the election include a 3 p.m. debate in front of the USC on Monday and two days of voting on Tuesday and Wednesday.

The debate will be student-driven. Members of the Election Rules Commission will moderate as students pose their questions to both president and vice president candidates. Ten questions will be selected. The candidates will receive a minute to respond to their questions, while opposing candidates will have 30 seconds to make rebuttals. Five questions will be directed to the presidential candidates and the vice presidential candidates.

According to Election Rules Commissioner Andrew Hart, the number of voters in the primary election may have doubled from last year.

“We knew for sure there was going to be a runoff,” Hart said. “We hope that we can get that many people to come out and vote (again), but it’s really up to the candidates to let people know.”

The candidates intend to keep a similar approach to campaigning in the final days. Steven Bird attributes his and Gonzalez’s success to See CANDIDATES, p. 2

**When To Vote:**

Voting will take place online through OrgSync, beginning at 8 a.m. on Tuesday, March 4, and ending at 5 p.m. on Wednesday, March 5.
Candidates get second chance

Continued from front page

News Briefs

Monday, March 3
When Nabil Matar taught at the American University of Beirut, he was kidnapped by an armed militia during Lebanon’s civil war. Upon his release, he no longer desired to study English religious poetry. Instead, he became fascinated with cross-cultural relations: how Christian Europeans and Muslims understood one another. Matar is now the Presidential Professor of Arts & Humanities at the University of Minnesota. He will speak in the USC Ballroom at 3:30 p.m. about “The Arabic Legacy in Western Thought.” This lecture celebrates the 20th anniversary of the USFSP Honors Program.

Thursday, March 6
If your stomach is made of steel, and your mouth is flame resistant, you can participate in the World of Wings’ Buffalo XII Eating Contest, held at 7 p.m. in the cafe. The first five participants to eat 10 wings coated with “super spicy sauce,” otherwise known as Buffalo XIII. Anyone who can eat all 10 within four minutes will receive a souvenair T-shirt and have their photo hung on WOW’s “Wall of Fame.” Round two will be held after spring break. The winners of the two contests will face off in a final competition at the end of the semester.

The Harborside Activities Board is hiring for the 2014-2015 academic year. A full year commitment is required, and students must be available during summer 2014. The board plans events and works on creating campus traditions. To apply, go to HAB’s PetSync page and fill out the online application. Applications must be submitted by 5 p.m. on Friday, Mar. 21.

Bulls in the Burg, a program that offers students discounts at participating local businesses, is challenging students to a photo contest. To participate, take Bulls in the Burg cards to no more than three businesses that do not currently participate in the program. After taking a unique photo with the cards in the place of business, hashtag #BullsInBURG Contest on Facebook, Instagram or Twitter. After the week of March 3, the three students who take the most unique photos will win prizes. Cards can be picked up at the USC or RHO desks, the SLC lounge, and the SG office.

By Raven Rayne Martinez
CROW’S NEXT CORRESPONDENT

Most events that present a panel of educators to eager audiences are held in large stadium-style seating auditoriums with tall ceilings and seats adorning names of donors and sponsors on metal plates. But at Boyd Hill’s “Writers at the Preserve” talk, the audience was surrounded by Florida’s native birds perched neatly on shelves, any of which might be seen flying从严治党 during the room’s walls.

The red-headed woodpecker and its fellow piciformes were taxidermied replicas, of course, but their life-like poses invoke thoughts of extinct wildlife that now lives only in books.

The panels spoke about the natural Florida habitat, its beauty and it’s endangerment. Panelist Cathy Salustri said, “Florida’s springs are our Grand Canyon.”

Thoughts of unforgiving, untouched foreign jungles and wild landscapes might inspire the image of some secluded, far-off untouched Eden in the heart of the Amazon or the Congo, but our own Florida mangrove forests and blue springs are host to the same kind of secret corners that inspire authors. It’s their job, and their passion, to show us how gorgeous our own backyards can be.

People of all ages attended the talk, about 60 total. There were more silver-haired heads in the room than blondes or brunettes, but it’s clear environmental issues are not just a concern of the elderly -- the problems of Florida’s springs are problems of every generation.

The nature talk at Boyd Hill was held to inspire continuation of nature writing and promote a discussion of the many natural havens of Florida the thrive in them. Florida’s wildlife is surviving. This can be seen when an osprey makes its nest in a cell tower, or when tadpoles grow in the stagnant water of a dirty plastic kiddie pool.

But surviving is not the same as thriving. Many of the animals in Florida is thriving. Mangroves are becoming clogged with plastic bags, cups and other human-made debris. At Boyd Hill, writers discussed Florida’s most intimate native settings and what we -- as squatters and settlers on the Florida landscape -- have to do to preserve its natural beauty and ferocity.

Writers talk nature at Boyd Hill

By Amanda Sterling
STAFF REPORTER

A gavel smacked the table to start the trial. Four members of the Election Commission were seated at a table, staring intently at candidates participating in a violation hearing for the student body presidential election. Onlookers spilled out into the hallway of the Student Government office, anxious to hear if points would be assessed to candidates.

The election primaries only upheld one minor violation against student body presidential and vice presidential candidates Sophia Constantine and Franklin Alves active or passive campaigning in an SG meeting, SG Sen. Thomas Hamby accused them of bribery, claiming they had solicited Red Bull girls to bring samples of the energy drink to a general assembly meeting.

“When you have something that is being given to students or shown to students that is a third party and not necessarily something that is home-grown so to speak, and if somebody is in a position of power and is able to use the outside entity to promote themselves, I feel it hinders the individual abilities to promote the students,” Hamby said.

Though the committee did not view Hamby’s accusation as a major violation, the committee gives the candidates a 24-hour hearing notice. The person who provides the violation must argue a case in front of the full committee within five minutes, and the defense receives equal time to speak.

The committee then votes to determine if the violation is sound and if it is a minor or major violation. Minor violations receive a warning; while a major violation can eliminate a ticket from the running.

Other campaignes accused of violations were Steven Bird and Monica Gonzalez for use of a university figurehead, administrator or celebrity with their campaign slogan “Bird is the Word” in relation to the television show Family Guy, and Thomas Boyd and Alexa Burch for early campaigning through a website drafted prior to campaign launches. Both violations were dropped after committee review. Jozef Gherman, who prompted the accusations, declined to comment.

Boyd read over the statutes to make sure the candidates understood what they were doing and argued for his case before the website’s creation. He felt confident discussing the process of establishing the site and explaining the details to the committee.

“They gave both parties plenty of time to talk out their case,” Boyd said. “They asked the correct questions to ensure they were making the correct, informed decision.”

Violations from the primaries were no longer heard after Friday, when the race was decided as Steven Bird, Iuliucci and candidates Cody Bower and Jordan Iulucci would move forward into a run-off election against Steven Bird and Monica Gonzalez. However, violations may still be turned in for the remaining tickets.

Hart sees the semester’s ERC as a success, something he attributes to encouraging committee members to study the statutes and vote with confidence.

Still, he sees room for improvement in the election process. Hart refreshed his email for the last 20 minutes prior to certifying the campaign tickets for the runoff election, awaiting potential violation accusations. He worried that violations would be submitted within minutes of announcing the candidates for the runoff -- something there’s no set procedure for handling.

There are some issues that we had come up dealing with the statutes, and there’s some vague-ness,” Hart said.

You don’t have to be in Student Government to do that; anyone can.

For Boyd and Iulucci, campus leadership began before they met and will continue after, with Boyd’s role in Vision 20/20 and Iulucci’s goals as an SG senator. “It seems we’ve almost been first in our eyes, and there is no plan B to always being devoted to the students’ interests,” Boyd said.

“Represented the student voice before we entered this campaign and we’ll continue to after, regardless of the results.”

news@crownsneststpete.com

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STAFF REPORTER

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Students find nature in the city

BY CHELSEA TATHAM
STAFF REPORTER

Sometimes Thomas Hallock, associate professor of English at USF St. Petersburg, takes his enviromental literature students canoeing on Salt Creek after a short lecture. “Let’s talk and then go canoeing,” he will say.

Much of his nature writing classes focus on Salt Creek, a small body of water connecting Bayboro Harbor to Lake Maggiore. Hallock wants his students to find the beauty in a neglected creek. His website, friendsofsaltcreek.org, has a timeline and a history of the creek, along with student and contributor writings.

“The website was a big step,” Hallock said. “It allowed me to archive the work.” The website he calls “an experiment in nature writing” also receives support from the Bishop Center for Ethical Leadership & Civic Engagement.

Hallock is planning to compile much of his students’ work from the past three or four years and self-publish an anthology of student writing. He and other professors in the Florida Studies program on campus previously published a book of student writing in 2007 called “Rivers of the Green Swamp,” focusing on the major rivers in Florida.

The new book will have a theme of “looking for nature in south St. Petersburg.” It will be filled with creative nonfiction from students, professors and contributing writers in the community. Much of the pieces included in the book will be from his classes and from the Friends of Salt Creek website.

“The goal is to get as many people involved as possible,” Hallock said.

The types of writing Hallock teaches his students are a combination of scientific and personal elements. He recently asked his students to write a biography of a bird, similar to what John James Audubon did in his “Birds of America.” Hallock wants students to research a certain species of bird, yet also wants them to observe the bird in its natural habitat and document its traits and habits. It won’t just be a research paper about a bird species, but a personal testimony of student observations.

Hallock also wants his students to write about the link between trash and beauty -- like when they see discarded plastic cups among the anchored roots of mangroves.

He aims to have as many different voices as possible talking and writing about nature in the busy city of St. Petersburg.

“I don’t want people to think of nature as being ‘out there,’” he said. “It’s everywhere; it’s wherever you find it.”

Though Hallock is still in the stage of gathering material, he hopes to put together the book over the summer and self-publish it in the fall. He and his students will edit the works, and the book will be sold for donations.

By Jennifer Nesslar

Electro-pop duo 3OH3! will headline the first USF St. Petersburg-sponsored concert at Jannus Live on Thursday, March 20, which is free for students but paid for with activity and service fees charged with tuition.

Initially, $50,000 was budgeted for the event. $35,000 was used to pay for 3OH3’s appearance, while the remaining $15,000 was spent on promotional items, such as balls, T-shirts and glow sticks to enhance the mood at the concert, according to Harboride Activities Board’s graduate assistant, Jovanna Guevara.

The $50,000, however, does not cover the cost of the venue. The University Student Center, also funded by student fees, agreed to pay the additional cost, which the school and Jannus Live declined to disclose.

The concert begins with a pre-party at 6 p.m. A Red Bull truck will be outside handing out free Red Bull to students. DJ Fresh, who works with Red Bull, will open the night. Since USFSP has an agreement with Coca-Cola to serve only its products, activity and service fees cannot be spent on Red Bull, Guevara said. However, DJ Fresh agreed to play for free.

HAB is collaborating with two USFSP student bands, allowing them to open the show as well. 10th Concession, a pop-rock band, features senior entrepreneur student Evan Koteles. They were selected as “Best Local Pop Act” by Creative Loafing in the paper’s 2013 Best of the Bay awards, and won JBA’s “Ultimate Local Artist” award in 2011.

“It’s an awesome opportunity,” Koteles said of the 3OH3 show. “I know a lot of people, but I don’t think a lot of people are exposed to the other side of myself, being in a band.”

Psychology student Vincent DeCosmo’s band, Blackbird Morning, will also perform. The rock band’s first album comes out this spring.

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Four St. Pete markets in one day ...

There’s no better place to get a taste of the ethos of St. Petersburg than one of its many local markets -- whether your pleasure be food, fashion, art, antiques or merely people-watching. As always, The Crow’s Nest is here to help with a guide to the best of the bazaars for all you fledgling market hunters.

Grand Central Flea

By Tyler Killette
Staff Reporter

Picking through mile-long warehouses at flea markets is exhausting and often leaves you with nothing to show but a musty Afghan throw and a stale churro. Grand Central Flea takes all the good stuff you might gloss over at the monstrosity that is the Wagon Wheel Flea Market in Pinellas Park and presents it neatly in a grassy, sunny lot off Central Avenue.

While most vendors sell used knickknacks, clothing and home decor, others offer original creations. G. Lynn Raines of Beautiful Remains, makes beautiful lamps and wall art out of less-than-beautiful pieces.

"I take old things and I turn them into new things," Raines said.

Born in 1972, she doesn’t use any material younger than she is. The encyclopedia pages she uses as backgrounds to her wall art share her birth year.

Indie Market

By Erin Murphy
Staff Reporter

If you’re a free spirit looking to score some groovy finds, or if you simply want to spend a casual, music-filled afternoon downtown, then the St. Petersburg Indie Market is for you.

The Indie Market, located on the sidewalks of the 600 Block on Central Avenue, brings its independent and artistic atmosphere to downtown every first Saturday of the month. The market operates from early afternoon to evening.

Vendors offer everything from organic soaps to succulent plants to acupuncture; the booths at the Indie Market feature not only an abundance of vintage clothing and handmade fashions, but also highlight artists and nonprofit organizations.

On the morning of March 1, the sweet scent of cigar smoke wafted through the air as combat boot clad customers strolled down the alleyway of Central Avenue and Seventh Street S. People pooled strings of baubles and old watches at a table offering old jewelry. In front of a booth, kids grinned and drew with chalk.

Among the intriguing indie finds at the market are clocks and cutthroat competitions like quilting, pickling and jam-making are judged. The woman with the shiniest fake teeth is selected to be the Strawberry Queen.

On the midway:
- 50 different horrible techno songs emit from 50 different fair rides to create a song that is collectively even worse.
- Cutthroat competitions like quilting, pickling and jam-making are judged. The woman with the shiniest fake teeth is selected to be the Strawberry Queen.
- Domesticated animals of several kinds (pigs, dogs, goats, you name it) are forced to do tricks while a reject from the circus tells tacky jokes.
- Bands that people of all generations can agree are horrible make everyone’s ears bleed.
- Greasy food stands offer anything that can be fried on a stick short of human appendages.

On the fairgrounds:
- Don’t get distracted and lose; rural Florida at night is scarier than city folks can imagine.
- After leaving the fair, you will be coated in a not-so-fine layer of filth. Don’t try to avoid this, there is no escape. Watch in horror as dirt comes out of your nose for days.
- Your feet will be run over by someone in a wheelchair or in a stroller an average of two times.
- You will have creepy carnie encounters an average of the times.
- You will witness someone throwing up an average of three and a half times.

Where: The 600 Block in downtown St. Petersburg
When: First Saturday of the Month, noon to 6 p.m.
Cool finds: Vintage moccasin fringe boots; rings made out type-writer keys

Succulent plants, vintage cameras and costume jewelry are typical among other vendors, while things like old crystal doorknobs and plaid blazers are only a bit less common. Some vendors accept credit cards, but we recommend bringing cash. Prices range between garage sale and upscale antique store, so wallets of all sizes will fair.

After sifting through the market’s odd and ends, you might enjoy lunch at one of the Grand Central District’s many eclectic offerings, including old Florida cuisine and BBQ at Beak’s; sandwiches, soups and vegan fare at Community Café; or British pub food with a decadent flair at The Queens Head.

There are also dozens of antique and home goods shops on the block if the market doesn’t quite satisfy your shopping needs.

Where: Central Avenue and 24th Street S.
When: First Saturday of the month, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.
Cool finds: An old trophy awarded to the St. Petersburg Times and Evening Independent; a book of Florida post cards from a family trip in 1966
These little piggies visited them all

Organic local vegetables, meat, eggs, cheese, bread, coffee, guacamole, nuts, seeds, plants, kettle corn, ethnic food, green smoothies, goat milk and yogurt, BBQ, clothing, jewelry, soap, doggy sweaters and more -- it can all be found at St. Petersburg's Saturday Morning Market.

Arriving early to the market, set up in the parking lot next to Al Lang Field, lands you the best buys, before the good stuff runs out. This past week, some of the stands were in different spots than usual, which makes it confusing for the weekly goers like me.

The local organic vegetable stands always have the longest lines, but the wait is worth it. The deals are incredible (I can buy a week’s worth of vegetables for less than $25, and I eat lots of veggies). This is a steal when it comes to organic and local produce, which both seem to be gaining popularity in St. Petersburg.

If planning to do a good chunk of your weekly shopping, it’s wise to bring a decent amount of cash. Most vendors take cash only, however there is an ATM inside the stadium.

The market serves as a great place to buy gifts or just hang out with friends and enjoy great food, which there’s quite a variety of.

Whether you’re hungry or hungover, the Saturday Morning will induce your food coma with ease.

Parking isn’t too hard to find if you don’t mind walking a bit or paying $5 for the garage. The better the weather, the better the turnout, so go on a cloudy day if you don’t like crowds.

Where: 101 First St. S. (parking lot near Al Lang Field)
When: Every Saturday from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Cool finds: raw amethyst; mini redwood bonsai trees; salt rock lamps from Pakistan

Brocante Vintage Market

By Ryan Ballogg
Staff Reporter

The garage-like building that houses the Brocante Vintage Market is plain on the outside except for a fringe of black flags, but it’s the treasure trove inside the walls that brings the flocks of shoppers to St. Petersburg’s industrial district on the first weekend of every month.

The name Brocante (pronounced bro-cahnt) comes from a European term that describes a jumbled market of secondhand wares, and that’s just what you will find inside. A poster for the event described the variety as “antique, vintage, salvage, rustic, primitive, mid-century, industrial, cottage and more.” In simpler terms, it could be called “a lot of cool stuff.”

On market days, the continuous foot traffic moves in a somewhat organized fashion through the three large rooms of goods, with pockets of admirers forming around stuffed clothes stands and brightly-painted furniture.

“Brocanteurs” in black shirts swoop about the building helping shoppers, carrying large items to cars and answering questions. Each one has a specialty, and carefully selects a portion of the antiques displayed at the market each month. All of their items are blended cohesively into interesting arrangements on shelves, tables and bookcases.

The market is well worth a visit, with something for just about any taste in vintage. Clothing, books, boxes, paintings and photos, knickknacks and even two different varieties of taxidermy foxes made the display for the March market.

It’s a good place to find something practically useful but interesting to look at, like some engraved shot glasses – fodder for craft projects, like frames and boxes – or something solely to freak out your friends, like an evil vintage Easter bunny.

A general price range of $5 to $40 makes shopping reasonable for even the brokest college lay-about. Some feature items (like unique light fixtures, large furniture pieces and a merry-go-round horse) go into the hundreds and thousands but are cool to look at nonetheless.

Cash and credit are accepted, with separate lines for each, and you can have items held at the counter while you poke around. Food trucks are usually present outside, and 3 Daughters Brewing lies conveniently across the street.

After Sunday, the building will be closed to the public for another 28 days, as the Brocanteurs scour the state for new wares.

Where: 2200 2nd Ave. S.
When: First Saturday and Sunday of every month from 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. Saturday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Sunday.

Cool finds: Complete (old and musty) works of Edgar Allen Poe; globes (the spinny kind); commemorative shot glasses
A guide to sexual assault from Dartmouth College

Dartmouth College. It’s home to the prestigious Geiser School of Medicine, Thayer School of Engineering, Tuck School of Business, and now, the Dartmouth Rape Guide.

Last month, on an anonymous online message board called bore-databaker.com, a student posted tips on how to get a particular female freshman to put out. Though the message board is not officially associated with the university, it requires a Dartmouth student email to post.

According to The Huffington Post, the post named the woman, noted she lives in the Choates dorm on campus and explained how to make her want to have sex. The board was soon swarming with comments and was nicknamed the “Rape Guide” by Dartmouth students.

A few weeks later, the female freshman said she was sexually assaulted at a fraternity party, as a result of the post. According to The Huffington Post story, it happened on the first night she’d finally felt safe going out.

“We went out last week and got assaulted at the first and only house I went to. Then I got told it happens all the time. I hope that maybe someone reading this will do something, because I have no one to turn to,” the student posted in a private Facebook group.

“Jezzel got its hands on the actual message board post. Here’s a few excerpts, with our comments in italics.

Hang in and around the choats, you’ll find her. Look her up on fb and friendly so you’ll recognize what she looks like.” Is ‘friendy’ a Northern thing? Please don’t say that.

“Prove’ that you’re not a dangerous person and that she should trust you.” So … this works for stray dogs too, right?

“Increase how much alcohol you give her each time, maybe flirt with her slightly. Then one such day, go for it.” Call the police. Now.

“She might be reluctant. Just tell her to relax … start groping her, then stripping her down. Does this sound rapey? It really isn’t, trust me.” YES IT IS! IT’S EXTREMELY RAPEY!

“She might give a cutey look and say something like, ‘let’s do something else.’ She’s toying with you.” No, she’s not. She doesn’t want to have sex with you, but you’re pres-suring her into it. Stop.

“She might want to s*** your e***” for a little bit; if not have her do it anyways.” Non-consensual oral sex -- yeah, that’s totally not rape …

Fortunately, the slimeball who wrote the Rape Guide was removed from campus and faces judgment by Dartmouth’s community standards process, Huff Post reports. Though jail time and waterboarding seem like reasonable punishments, too.

Dartmouth administrators and Greek leaders issued statements condemning the message board, and alumni gathered on the college’s green in solidarity with victims of sexual assault.

Allegedly, sexual assault is no new problem at Dartmouth. Last April, protestors invaded an event held for potential students claiming the school has a “sexual violence problem that was not being dealt with,” The Huffington Post reported. Glad to see the school has since taken care of the issue. Not.

The way the Rape Guide is written is almost sociopathic. It’s stra-tegic, intentional and cautious, just as a plan to commit a satanic murder might be. This will not be the last time this student sexually assaults someone, and that’s a scary thought.

But most unfortunate, is that this poor freshman woman may never be able to trust a male as a romantic partner. At least two men followed the rules of befriending her and earning her trust before forcing themselves upon her. And it worked.

How will she ever know when these actions are genuine in the future? How will she know when someone actually wants a relationship with her and isn’t just a des-perate scumbag who needs to lie and get a girl drunk before she’ll actually consider hooking up with him? Hopefully, she’ll find sup-port rather than backlash and will be able to live as a confident young woman, not a victim.

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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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Throwback

March 3, 1887 -- 6-year-old Helen Keller begins lessons with Anne Sullivan, an educator who pioneered “touch teaching” techniques. Keller’s sight and hearing were lost after a severe illness at 19 months old. She eventually became a college graduate, lecturer and activist through the teachings of Sullivan, nicknamed “the miracle worker.” Until her death in 1936, Sullivan remained Keller’s interpreter and unwavering companion.

Courage

By Kati Lacker

COURAGE, SADDEST PONY IN THE WORLD, COURAGE.
Writing style conundrum

By Matt Thomas
Staff Columnist

Choosing writing studies as a minor was not a good idea being a journalism major. That’s not to say I don’t like the classes or the people, it’s just journalism writing skills and literary writing skills do not mesh at all. This is not me complaining about my decision; it’s a warning. Don’t do it.

Last week, a friend asked me to go over his paper, knowing that I write for The Crow’s Nest; he assumes I matter on staff. I found the wording in his paper to be somewhat excessive, so I went to town on it with a metaphorical pair of scissors. His defense against my cuts was ... let’s just say he said journalists write at a lower level to better communicate stories to the masses. It’s how I write, and it’s how I read.

The problem is, I’ve grown so accustomed to this simplified style that anything that isn’t like it just comes across as lavish and a little pretentious to me. The reading assignments in my Intro to the English Major class literally put me to sleep. Readings consist of supported theses that could be stated in less than 10 pages, but they’re stretched out to 60 on average. I do the readings, but there’s a voice in my head keeping saying “Wrap it up, B” with every page turn.

Again, last week, another friend asked me to look over her paper, based on my position at The Crow’s Nest. It was a fine paper in the context of the assignment, but it was the antithesis of everything I’ve grown to love about writing and what I think is OK about reading. It was poetic, it was full of big words, it was long. Boy, it was long.

My instinct was to cut, but then I thought, who am I to say this is excessive? Sure, she wanted me to cut her paper, but it just felt wrong. There was a personality to it, the incorporated life experiences. I couldn’t bring myself to cut that, outside of the obvious unnecessarily in a world” and “in my opinion.”

I have two writing modes, the “short and to the point news story” and my “convositional/rant” seen in my columns and in my upcoming short film. Excuse the shameless plug. We all have different experiences and different back-grounds, and we’re never all going to read something the same way. I never want to cut something dear to someone else.

So I find myself in a weird position. Apparently I’ve regressed to writing at a more polished, eighth grade level. That’s not good. Then we get to my scriptwriting, which combines my signature writing styles.

I realize this doesn’t crack the top 1,000 problems to have, but it’s conflicting. I can’t bring myself to switch modes in all three scenarios. My literary papers read like the most casual therapy sessions.

If I picked psychology as a minor, I could listen to people’s problems, and then write stories based on them. Actually, that’s not ethical. What can you do?

Speak freely, but not ignorantly

By Chelsea Tatham
Staff Columnist

As a journalist, my professional life pretty much revolves around the First Amendment.

But when does the ability to speak freely collide with the voicing of controversial opinions?

Some people find it necessary to voice their opinions over social media. Most of these posted statements I believe to be uneeducated and not well thought out. But, hey, that’s just my opinion. Most of the time I just skim over the rants about health care and “Obama is so stupid.”

What caught my eye a couple months ago was a post about Macklemore and Ryan Lewis’ performance of “Same Love” at the Grammy’s. A person I went to high school with was ranting about his niece having to watch gay and lesbian couples kiss each other on TV. He went on to say that she is too young to see such stuff like that. It’s gross and should only be done behind closed doors.

The post is obviously deleted now, but there were more than 50 comments from those who were infuriated with his statements. The rest of this person’s posts are also often riddled with hateful terms like “faggot” and calling things gay. Voicing opinions is important to our culture. We should be able to tell the world how we feel and not fear others who may or may not agree with what we have to say. But when did it become OK say some-one’s sexual orientation is disgust- ing and shouldn’t be aired on TV? Why are explicit scenes between gay couples aired but show-ing a gay couple kissing too inappropriate?

It wasn’t so long ago that our society was sticking derogatory terms to African-American people and even placing laws restricting their rights. For a long time, black people were not allowed to marry white people and were called names I refuse to even put in print.

Hard statements about a homosexual lifestyle and labeling it as “controversial” hurts individuals, the gay community and, to me, dumbs down our culture. Even casually saying “that’s so gay” and jokingly calling others “fags” or “faggots” shows how ignorant and narrow-minded some people can be. It’s not right to give hurtful terms to the gay and lesbian community. It’s not right to say their lifestyle is inappropriate, disgusting or too hard for children to understand. And it’s certainly not right to bar them from marrying a person they love.

It’s time to grow up, America.

A history in beards

By Meaghan Habuda and Chelsea Tatham
Staff Columnists

After Googling the phrase “newt gingerich beard,” the highly embraced sentiment held by scruff lovers worldwide was affirmed: Nearly every man -- however you define the term -- looks handsome with hearty locks of facial hair or a little stubble. Even those men who we thought never would, like conserva-tive politician Newt Gingrich.

Go on. See for yourself. One blogger compares the doctored photograph of a bearded Gingrich to Santa Claus, which is completely accurate, an arguably smart public relations move.

Benjamin Harrison had one, Abraham Lincoln, Rutherford B. Hayes. So did Ulysses S. Grant, our whiskered, former U.S. president of choice. Gingrich, buddy, this would’ve been the logical next step for you if you were really serious about that whole Oval Office biz.

Although some beards may be slightly irritating for their keepers and as well as for those who frolic in them, they’re totally worth the upkeep.

Think of the amount of important beardsmen have had throughout history.

Charles Darwin wrote about his theory of the evolution of Earth. We wish he would have wrote about the evolution of his epic beard.

German philosopher Karl Marx made a name for himself with “The Communist Manifesto” and his rather large, fluffy beard. Why is his beard so big? It’s full of communist and socialist secrets.

Before beginning his professional boxing career, Kimbo Slice grazed underground brawls with the thick, wooly curls that adorn his chin, and protected it from hooks and uppercuts.

Ever wanted to know an Asian man with a beard? Genghis Khan’s was modest in size and volume, but it no doubt contributed to the formation of the largest contiguous empire ever, and to the sense of unity among Mongols. Embrace the bristles.

Besides presidents, our second and third favorite furry fellows are writers and pirates. Though Mark Twain didn’t have much of a bushy beard, he did have a pretty sweet white mustache that matched his white tailored suits. Shakespeare’s beard kept his face warm on cold English nights while he wrote legendary plays of romance, tragedy and heroic bearded men.

Ernest Hemingway ... a beautifully bearded human being who loved six-toed cats when he wasn’t cheating on his wives with their best friends.

Notorious pirate Edward Teach (Blackbeard) wouldn’t have be the same without his dark, luscious beard that he often stuck lit matches in. Then there’s Jack Sparrow. He might be a fictional pirate, but his dreaded, decorated beard made us all swoon.

Beards come in all shapes and sizes, and have graced the faces of world leaders, famous wordsmiths, infamous conquerors, pirates and presidents.

Whether you like them full and fluffy or tiny and trimmed, there’s sure to be some wonderful whiskers out there for you.

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Matt Thomas is a senior majoring in Mass Communications and the entertainment critic. He can be reached at matthew17@mail.usf.edu.
USFSP Baseball

Upcoming Schedule
March 8
USFSP vs. Brampton (CAN), 1
March 9
USFSP vs. Ontario (CAN), 1
USFSP vs. Ontario (CAN), 4
All games played at Walter Fuller field.

Men's Basketball
Weekly Schedule
March 4
USF at Houston, 8:30 (ESPNews)
March 8
USF vs. Temple, 2 (ESPNews)

Last Week's Results
March 1
USF 91, Memphis 68

Women's Basketball
Weekly Schedule
March 3
USF vs. Rutgers, 7:30

Last Week's Results
February 26
Rutgers 74, USF 73

Conference Standings

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Women's Basketball
Weekly Schedule
March 3
USF vs. Rutgers, 7:30

Last Week's Results
February 26
Rutgers 74, USF 73

Bulls extend losing streak to six

The men's basketball team extended their losing streak to six games on Saturday night with a 74-73 loss to Rutgers. Kadeem Jack hit an eight-foot shot with 11 seconds in the game to give Rutgers the lead. The Bulls will look to build some momentum heading into the AAC Tournament in their last two games against Temple and Houston.

BY MIKE HOPE

Staff Reporter

Willie Taggart's bus never got out of second gear in his first season as the South Florida head football coach. As spring practice gets underway in Tampa, the Bulls' coach is showing his team will up the tempo of their offense.

In 2013, the Bulls only scored 11 offensive touchdowns, the fewest in the NCAA Football Bowl Subdivision. The season included a stretch that spanned more than three games in which USF did not score an offensive touchdown. Any change to the offense could only improve it.

"Everybody's doing everything much faster, on the offense most definitely more up-tempo," senior wide receiver Andre Davis told the Tampa Bay Times. "Everybody seems like they know what to do now, instead of just guessing."

The Bulls enter spring practice with last season's breakout player, sophomore Mike White, as the starting quarterback. But Taggart has made it clear that this spring, no one's job is safe.

"I've said from day one, we're going to be highly competitive around here," Taggart said. "Everybody's going to compete. I'm not going to give anyone anything."

An up-tempo style would benefit sophomore Steven Bench, who transferred from Penn State at the beginning of last season. Bench was the best mobile quarterback for the Bulls. Incoming freshman Quentin Flowers, who is also a dual-threat quarterback, could make the quarterback competition even more interesting.

Not present for spring practice is Matt Floyd. Floyd, who was named the starting quarterback at the beginning of 2013, never played again after the loss to McNeese St. He is expected to graduate in the spring with two years of eligibility remaining. Floyd will be able to start playing for a new school right away because he is graduating. Normally, he would have to sit out a season.

By now, it is old news how bad the 2013 season was for the Bulls. It was the first time the team registered back-to-back double-digit losing season in program history.

No worse than fourth

The USF women's basketball team can do no worse than the fourth seed in the upcoming AAC Tournament heading into the regular season finale against Rutgers on Monday night. The Bulls and Scarlet Knights are tied with identical 12-5 records in the AAC. The winner will be the three seed.

Baseball galore

Spring training is in full swing but heading into spring break there will plenty of hardball to be had. USFSP will play two games over the weekend and Al Lang will host a week of international games.

Another gear on the bus

Spring training depends on Bay area

Baseball's annual pilgrimage south has begun. Tampa Bay offers a rich history of spring training baseball continued by the three teams that train in the area.

Steinbrenner Field
Address: 1 Steinbrenner Drive, Tampa, Fla. 33634
Phone number: (813) 879-2244
Ticket prices: $22-29
History: When the Cincinnati Reds left in 1988, Tampa was left without a spring training home for the New York Yankees who were moving from Fort Lauderdale. The $30 million ballpark was publicly funded and seats more than 11,000 fans. The county anted up another $7.5 million in 2006 for additional seats.

Bright House Field
Address: 601 Old Coachmen Road, Clearwater, Fla. 33755
Phone number: (727) 467-4457
Ticket prices: $14-28

Florida Auto Exchange Stadium
Address: 373 Douglas Ave., Dunedin, Fla. 34689
Phone number: (727) 733-0429
Ticket prices: $16-31 *some games are premium games and tickets cost more
Home schedule: 3/5 vs. Pittsburgh, 1; 3/7 vs. Tampa Bay, 1; 3/8 vs. Minnesota, 1; 3/12 vs. Tampa Bay, 1; 3/13 vs. Houston, 1; 3/14 vs. Boston, 1; 3/16 vs. Baltimore, 1; 3/19 vs. Philadelphia, 1; 3/22 vs. Detroit, 1; 3/24 vs. Philadelphia, 1; 3/26 vs. New York Yankees, 1.
History: As long as the Toronto Blue Jays have existed they have held spring training in Dunedin. From 1977-1989, the Jays played at Grant Field. Grant Field was torn down and replaced with the current park Dunedin Stadium, known as Florida Auto Exchange Stadium. In 2002, the Jays agreed to remain an additional 15 years in the park following renovations.