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University’s decision gets mixed reaction from African journalists

By Nancy McCann
Crow’s Nest Contributor

Four of the 12 African journalists who were rebuffed by USF St. Petersburg offered a mixed reaction Friday as they began three days of training at the Poynter Institute for Media Studies and a weekend of sightseeing in the bay area.

They used words like “surprised,” “overreaction” and “prudent” to describe their feelings about the university’s decision to back out of hosting the journalists because of what Vice Chancellor Han Reichgelt called “upmost caution due to concerns” about the Ebola virus.

The Africans are among a hundred of foreign journalists visiting the United States under the U.S. State Department’s Edward R. Murrow Program. Each year the department joins several American universities to offer cultural exchange and training in journalism policies and practices. This would have been USFSP’s fifth year as a host of the Poynter Institute’s program. Each year the department invites “welcoming them and explaining conversation” about the cancellation.

Aman Sisay, executive editor of Ethiopian Business Review, said the decision surprised him.

“The nearest affected country, Liberia, is more than 5,510 kilometers (3,424 miles) away from Ethiopia,” he said.

Ada Anyagafu, foreign correspondent for Vanguard Media Limited in Nigeria, said she could see the university’s position and thought it was “prudent.”

“I understand the feelings of the parents” of USFSP students, she said. “The issue is not being reported well by the media. Because of this, people have become afraid.”

Bernard Avle, director of news and programming for Omni Media in Ghana, told Bay News 9 that the African delegation got letters of “personal apology” from Reichgelt. That was “really, really, really big of him to do that,” said Avle.

He also said he was not upset by the university’s decision, according to a blog post by Benjamin Mullin of Poynter.

Meanwhile, in a “campus conversation” about the cancellation on Thursday, Reichgelt said he had dropped off letters to the journalists “welcoming them and explaining the decision” to cancel.

He and Deni Elliott, chair of the Department of Journalism and Media Studies, stressed that the decision came after they became convinced that the university could not offer “a quality program” for the visiting journalists.

“Crucial people (from USFSP) would not be involved” because of Ebola fears, Reichgelt said.

And Elliott said they were sad that USFSP is not hosting this year. Elliott mentioned philosopher John Mill, who says we need to listen carefully to opinions that are not our own.

Executive order debated in student government

By Jack Moscone
Staff Reporter

Two weeks ago, Student Body President Cody Boyer dismissed Attorney General Melanie Mercado.

Last week, Boyer received three charges by the student government senate executive committee, accusing him of attempting to illegally add statues to the constitution, issuing an executive order to undermine the authority of the constitution, and discrimination in regards to his termination of Attorney General Melanie Mercado.

Before firing Mercado, Boyer created an executive order allowing him to fire both the attorney general and the chief financial officer, as he has the power to dismiss the rest of the members on the executive cabinet. Before the executive order, the attorney general and CFO could only be removed from office through impeachment.

In response to a petition lead by Chief Financial Officer Jozef Gherman, the Supreme Court ruled Boyer’s executive order unconstitutional and was promptly overturned on Wednesday, Oct. 29.

Mercado’s termination is also under review by the Supreme Court. Mercado has begun a petition for a recall election of Student Body President. However, according to Student Body Vice President Taylor Russell, the recall election is bound to be a lengthy process.

“First, ten percent of the total student body has to sign a petition asking for a recall, including graduate students, which amount to about 650 students,” says Russell.

“Then, there will have to be a ballot sent out that basically gives Melanie Mercado a chance to explain why she feels a recall is necessary, and gives Cody Boyer a chance to explain why he should stay in office. At that time, students will be able to vote to either keep Cody, or vote to remove him from office.”

The petition currently lacks sufficient support, but there is no time limit for gathering signatures; meaning this process is likely to be drawn out even longer.
Tuesday, Nov. 4

You’ve always heard about the importance of practical experience for what you study, but have you heard the advice yet? If you need a job or internship, join Wells Fargo in the Student Life Center 2101 from 5-6 p.m. as representatives discuss the company, open jobs and internship opportunities, and network with USFSP students. Consider an internship. Your post-grad self will thank you.

If the end of your semester seems nowhere in sight, and your stress levels are astronomically high, we may have the solution. Come out and be hypnotized. Harborside Activities Board presents Saikels: The Hypnotist at 8 p.m. Head over to The University of South Florida Student Center Ballrooms to forget all about the homework, at least for a little while.

Wednesday, Nov. 5

In honor of Native American History Month, OMA will be hosting a Native American Pow Wow from 12-2 p.m. on Harborwalk. This event includes performances, dancing and grilled corn. Who doesn’t love corn? Break out the tribal drums and headaddresses.

Thursday, Nov. 6

Jean-Charles Faust, president of The French-American Business Council of West Florida and The French Honorary Consul, will be giving a presentation in the Nelson Poynter Library on Thursday. Come to learn more about the French community and French companies in the Tampa Bay area.

Friday, Nov. 7

The 2nd Annual Teen Arts, Culture, & Career Festival will take place from 2 p.m. to 3 p.m. here at USFSP. This event provides a bridge for students in the local community. The workshops will introduce students to the resources available through higher institutions, and encourage the students to consider education after high school. Students must sign up to volunteer for the event. The registration form can be found on the event’s Facebook page.

African journalists arrive at Poynter

Continued from p.1

“Our goal is not to reach a consensus or convince people to change their minds,” she said, “but to listen with open hearts and minds.”

Around 35 people, including a professor and her media class, attended a gathering at the university library, and four criticized the university’s decision.

“I think it’s silly that you guys canceled it,” said Choyza Randolph, 18, a mass communications major. “Africa is huge . . . if someone has Ebola in Dallas, does that mean people from Dallas should not come here?”

Amanda Gillum, 25, a graduate student in environmental science and policy who had been doing schoolwork in the library, said she “couldn’t help but come over” and join the conversation. She said she was concerned that cancels the trip will increase fear of Ebola.

“Africans are Africans—they are not the face of Ebola,” she said. Later, she commented that “there is no way of knowing who from other countries has interacted with people who have Ebola, and we are going to alienate a continent already more than it is.”

Rose Lee, a graduate student in journalism and media studies, applauded the decision to cancel the university’s participation. But Salem Solomon, also a journalism graduate student—who criticized the decision in columns in the Tampa Bay Times and The Crow’s Nest—said afterward that this type of discussion should have come before the university made its decision.

Solomon and Randy Carlson, another journalism graduate student who supported the decision, said he thought the university had no other choice, each allowed five minutes to state their positions early in the “campus conversation.”

Goliath Davis, a former St. Petersburg police chief and deputy mayor who has been called one of the city’s most influential African-Americans, said that “these are not necessarily opposing opinions” but are “on the same continuum.”

Davis, 63, was asked by The Crow’s Nest the conversation to summarize his comments.

“The decision has been made because fear from some of the partners influenced the decision,” said Davis, a senior adviser to the university, “so the real question is: How do we learn so that it is not repeated in the future? This is one of the ways the larger community gathers information so it does not operate out of fear and ignorance.”

#Life – hyperlocal application hits USF

BY F.R. CARLSON
CROW’S NEXT CONTRIBUTOR

Scroll through the #secretchuck hashtag on an iPhone mobile application called #Life. The application displays a stream of consciousness set of images of strangers. Many people in the photos are flipping the bird at the camera. The only context is the hashtag displayed at the bottom of the screen.

#Life is an app that builds an anonymous social network by occupying the space between mobile messaging apps and anonymity preserving apps like Whisper and Snapchat via video centered medium like Vine. No text. Further, the application seems to support the “hyperlocal” concept as most of the contributors seem to be in the Tampa Bay area.

#Life combines semi-anonymity, messaging and “hyperlocality.” The app is a project developed by an anonymous group of University of South Florida students, who have created a program that preserves some anonymity and creates a stream of photographs organized via a hashtag.

The photo stream in #Life is designed to flow like a real-time photo album. Each hashtag has a stream of pictures associated with the hashtag. If #Life sounds Twitter-y, it is, except that the 140 character text message in Twitter is replaced by a photograph.

The application started with inspiration from another application called YiYak. YiYak is a messaging application that combines anonymity, geolocation and Twitter. The #Life application organizes a stream of pictures organized by hashtag. Think Twitter without the text.

#Life is semi-anonymous, at best. As more, and larger, hashtags stream photos are created, the preservation of anonymity with this app is probably not going to be strong, particularly since most of the photos are of people.

The User Interface is extremely simple and clean. The photo screen has a close icon and a “report as spam” button. At the bottom, the photo screen has the hashtags, the view count and an upvote/downvote button. I created a hashtag called #seniorcupcake and uploaded a fine work of art by my 9-year-old “Senior Cupcake” onto the new hashtag. The performance of the application was good, and it is simple to use.

There is a limit of five hashtags for each user. The app is fully integrated with the onboard camera of the iPhone. The application also provides a direct link to the #Life app from your iPhone photo directory. You can tag photos with multiple hashtags. The photos are stored in a remote hosting facility, probably iCloud, with hashtags working as search reference points.

Searching for more? Try finding hashtags associated with St. Petersburg or USF St. Petersburg. Looking for the app? Follow our steps:

App: #Life

Platform: iTunes only. Android not supported.

The application can be found on the iTunes store under #Life or at the URL https://itunes.apple.com/us/app/life-hatch/your-life/id904884186?mt=8

news@crownsneststpete.com

What they said

Three journalists, all from countries hundreds of miles from the Ebola-affected countries of Liberia, Sierra Leone and Guinea, react to USFSP’s decision to cancel their visit.

“I think it was an overreaction. Although Ebola has affected thousands of people in West Africa, there are millions of people in the affected countries.”

— Patrice Muka, Zimbabwe

“I was surprised. The nearest affected country, Liberia, is more than 5,510 kilometers (3,424 miles) away from Ethiopia. There are no reports of Ebola in Ethiopia or even neighboring countries.”

— Aman Stajy, Ethiopia

“I understand the feelings of the parents (of USFSP students). The issue is not being reported well by the media. Because of this, people have become afraid.”

— Ada Anyagafu, Nigeria

Bikes stolen on campus

BY EMILY TINTI
STAFF REPORTER

Five bikes have been stolen on campus in the past few weeks.

Sunday night, university police services sent out a crime alert informing students about the thefts. The message said that two people suspected of stealing the bikes had been arrested, but that police were still searching for a third suspected thief, who the police believe lives locally.

“We’re trying to wrap up this investigation,” University Police Chief Henry David told The Crow’s Nest. “We’re chasing down some leads to try to identify who this person is, and recover any additional property that may have been stolen.”

The purpose of the crime alert was to prompt bike owners to lock their bikes with a U-bolt type lock to ensure maximum security. Other chains and locks can be easily broken with bolt cutters, which were used in the thefts on campus, according to the alert.

Chief David said the area behind Residence Hall One, best for storing bikes, because it is well-lit and located near a Blue Emergency Phone, which students can use to immediately call police services.

Chief David advises students to only leave bikes in bright, safe locations.

“We really sent out the alert as a crime prevention message and to offer options, and to encourage folks to call the police if they see anything suspicious,” Chief David explained.

However, just reporting missing bikes isn’t always helpful. Often, bikes aren’t even registered. Police officers then only have a visual description to use to locate the bike. If bikes are registered, police can identify it by simply locating the registration sticker.

Registering a bike is a quick process that requires one visit to the police services office with your student ID in hand. They are open 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday through Friday.

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It will ‘empower our audience’

Here are highlights of an interview with Aman Sisay, executive editor of the Ethiopian Business Review and one of 12 African journalists getting three days of training at the Poynter Institute for Media Studies.

Did you enjoy the first day of your program at Poynter?

It was very exciting, educational and informative. It showed me where media is heading. Most of the things we saw today are not happening in my country; it was a very good look at the future. This training really gave me ideas about how to use new methods and was simple and practical.

I want an interactive platform for my magazine, Ethiopian Business Review, and this gave me a lot of information. It is a simple training that can make a big difference.

What does participation in the Murrow Program mean for Ethiopia and other African countries?

Well, it is a great opportunity; it will help us serve our nation and empower our audience. We are very thankful to the people and government of the United States for giving us this wonderful chance.

What is the big difference in journalism between Ethiopia and the United States?

In my nation, we are in transition. Freedom of the press is only two decades old, and we are limited compared to other African countries. There are two problems. We have restrictive laws. A journalist could be charged for treason if anything is written that could be interpreted as supporting or promoting outlawed political parties by the government. Also, a journalist can be charged as a terrorist if (he receives) any communication, for that matter receiving a newsletter, from such political parties. The government can have broad, extended and subjective interpretations of laws.

Also, we don’t have good, professional schools for journalism. If the media gets things wrong, the government will not tolerate it.

Right now, the government is not giving enough space to the media, particularly to those writing political issues. When politics gets better, the media will get better.

Do you worry sometimes about the consequences of stories you put in your magazine?

No, not really. We write about economic and financial issues, not political situations.

What was your reaction to USF St. Petersburg’s decision not to host the Murrow Program this year due to fear of Ebola?

I was surprised. The nearest affected country, Liberia, is more than 5,510 kilometers (3,424 miles) away from Ethiopia. There are no reports of Ebola in Ethiopia or even neighboring countries.

Would you have been nervous if the journalists from Sierra Leone and Liberia (two countries hard hit by Ebola) had participated in the Murrow Program with you?

(Their visits were delayed by the State Department.) I would have been a little nervous, but would trust the United States screening system.

I was screened when I left Ethiopia and I will be screened when I return. Ethiopia and Algeria want to be very well prepared in the event of further spreading of Ebola.

Ethiopia has a 24-hour hotline for people to call with questions and concerns.

University begins first American partnership with the Indian School of Mines

By Jack Moscone
Staff Reporter

One of the top 10 universities in India, the Indian School of Mines, is recognized for its research and mining engineering. And USF St. Petersburg is spearheading the first collaboration between the ISM and an American university.

The new study abroad program was coordinated by USFSP instructor of chemistry, Dr. Madhu Pandey.

Pandey.

ISM practices forms of sustainability. Before mining, engineers remove all vegetation and topsoil from the area. After the mining process is completed, the hole is filled with sand and the topsoil is replaced so that vegetation can regrow.

For more information on this collaboration, contact Dr. Madhu Pandey at mpande@sp.edu.

Senate seats not filled

Continued from p.1

than the previous impeachment proceedings.

“Usually, recall elections are used only to rectify an issue within the election process,” says Russell.

“However, Cody went through two rounds of elections in the most seamless and professional election we have seen in quite some time. So in this case, they are using [recall elections] as a tool to remove an elected official from office without giving him a chance to defend himself.”

Boyer responded to the charges of discrimination regarding Mercado’s termination by claiming his quote—“The decision was made because of operational and cultural issues in the workplace”—was taken out of context and by arguing the fact that discrimination only applies to workers who were fired due to age, gender, race, ethnicity, sexual orientation, religion or creed.

Boyer also claimed that Mercado’s work and actions prevented the reconstruction of a legitimate, professional Student Government.

“Executive Order 3 clarifies statutes, which is exactly what an executive order is supposed to do,” said Boyer. “If this is deemed unconstitutional, the function of an executive order needs to be re-evaluated.”

According to Boyer, the SG Senate is in the midst of a dire situation. Due to the culture in SG, many senators have stepped out. “We only have one-third of the senate (10 out of 30 members) that we are supposed to,” Boyer said.

A full senate of 30 representatives, 16 senators must be present to make decisions. Because there are only 10 senators, only six must be present to make decisions regarding a student body of about 4,700 students.

These six people are the ones who will decide what will be done with $1.2 million dollars,” Boyer said.

Holocaust survivor shares memories of horror, hope

By Lona Nguyen
Crow’s Nest Contributor

When most people look back on their lives as 13-year-olds, they have fond memories of learning new things, wearing braces and heading off to middle school.

But for Jerry Rawicki, the memories are different. When he was 12 years old, Rawicki experienced the Holocaust.

During his Holocaust lecture on Oct. 30, Rawicki played a video showing footage of himself going back to the Warsaw camp, where he was kept during a portion of his childhood.

Born and raised in Poland, Rawicki had many fond, funny and horrible memories he shared during the lecture. Rawicki had a way of telling a story that made the audience feel as if they were right there with him.

Rawicki recounted fond memories from before the war erupted in his hometown. He also remembered the low points that he had during the war, his uncertainty that he would make it through. He didn’t know what gave him hope.

At one point, it came back, and Rawicki knew he would survive. Rawicki escaped at age 18. He crawled through a small hole in the camp’s wall and escaped to Poland, where a boy just a few years older than him gave his life to let Jerry live.

Rawicki’s lecture series are available online at http://scholar-commons.usf.edu/htgtud_oh/155/.

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Pre-Fest sets tone for punk music festival

By Amanda Starling

Two nights in Ybor City, Tampa broke the trend of niche clubs and tourist shops with a punk invasion. Two days and nights of Gainesville’s punk party, the Fest, entered with a sophomore year event titled “Big Punk Fest in Little Ybor 2.”

Tattoos, band t-shirts and thick-rimmed glasses arrived in seas as fans arrived from all corridors of the world. The event brings together names of the multiple subgenres of punk: hardcore, indie, pop punk, crust punk, etc. Pre-Fest kicked off a party that celebrated 13 years of festivals, spanning five days with a total of 400 bands, but not with- out letting Tampa Bay residents get a taste.

Local and international bands thrived the stages at area bars, restaurants, and venues. The Orpheum, Tequila Mexican Restaurant, and New World Brewery served as main stages, along with Crow Bar. Locals are familiar with the edgy vibes of each venue, but it was the bands that were left with strong impres- sions of Tampa and Ybor City.

Astpai, an Austrian pop punk (and slight hardcore edge) arrived to kick off a tour and one of their only United States stops, bringing in an energy only available during the Fest. Think AC/DC meets Strike Anywhere, balancing political views and surprisingly sing-along ability. Chemistry on stage set the tone for the night, as bands like Cleveland favorite Signals Midwest screamed shout-outs to each other throughout their sets. Few shredded through set energies like SM, who brought a fresh growl to indie punk.

Nostalgia swept in not- ably throughout the two nights. Wednesday brought activist hard- core favorites Strike Anywhere and hardcore bouncers. A Wilhelm Scream, who hosted an all-Twitter request show. Thursday swept ska favorites Less Than Jake in to close the night and a reunited Spraynard to revamp the pop punk tones of the night.

The Orpheum raged for energy, while smaller venues like Crow Bar explored eurhythmic and exper- imental sounds. Restorations, known for heavy dips and other-worldly riffs, swept away audi- ences. The feeling was mutual as Dowson offered a similar tone, but with more pop punk zest. Two- piece band Dads were joined by a guest bassist, who stomped further energy as fans attempted to drag him off stage.

The punk community that is Fest carried the warm vibes and sense of unity to Tampa. If there’s anything you can find at a series of punk shows during Fest, it’s a com- munity of great bands and poten- tial friends. Just wait for next year’s party— you won’t want to miss it.

Review: The Virus haunted house

By Robert Papadopoulos

I walked into the haunted house confidently and without fear. That didn’t last long, since I was set to jump up and cringe roughly two seconds into the haunted house.

The USF St. Petersburg haunted house, called The Virus, was held in Harbor Hall; it featured an array of spooky sights and gruesomely surpris- es.

On Thursday, Oct. 30, students and St. Petersburg residents awaited scares. But it wasn’t only the scare actors dressed and ready for the 10-minute thrill. Guests wore cos- tumes as they made their way through the house, even the most obscure. Guests mistook one stu- dent dressed as the biblical figure Judas Iscariot for Jesus Christ, until the student revealed a bag with 30 pieces of silver--the amount Judas betrayed Jesus for.

I wasn’t scared at all when I first entered the house. I thought to myself, “Little kids go to haunted houses for Halloween all the time.” I thought that this haunted house event was just for laughs and entertain- ment purusing only, but I was very wrong.

I was stunned by the grotesque sights that lay before me. The scarri- est moment was the moment when the doctor came in and pulled the cover from the operating table. A body was stretched across the table with blood and organs -- too spooky for me. When the zombies saw fear, they circled and growled in the ears of guests.

The time and effort that Harborside Activities Board put into The Virus showed. I am 21 years old and they scared me, so they did their job perfectly well.

I was disappointed that the out- side of the building was not deco- rated. True terror is created by building up the scary emotions. They did have various scary things such as cut off hands and scat- tered zombies on the way up to the haunted house. But looking up at a terrifying house in anticipation of being let into the building would have made a better presentation to an already amazing haunted house.

On a scale of one to 10 -- one being terrible and 10 being totally awesome -- I would rate this haunted house an 8.9 out of 10. I’m looking forward to facing HAB’s monsters in the haunted house next year.

By Katie Gray

The Virus has a crisp weather and good company brought excitement and mellow energy to St. Petersburg with Folk Fest 2014.

Two days of non-stop food, drinks and music drew crowds along the downtown corridor of Central Avenue. Locals and visitors alike attended Folk Fest to experi- ence the array of art and handmade goods each vendor had to offer.

Jewelry was a popular item dis- played in multiple tents across the street. One particular company named Agua Viva put a twist on women’s necklaces and earrings. Every piece of jewelry they have to offer is completely organic and made of everyday foods: fruits, vegetables and nuts.

Drinks and food trucks were available when it was time to take a short break and relax. Carts offered gelato in numerous flavors, $4 craft beers, and pumpkin spice crepes for those who couldn’t make it to Starbucks that day.

Among the food trucks, it was Jonathan Toner’s flagship that plun- dered stomachs and wallets. Toner, who has experimented with bar- becue recipes, wanted to reinvent the traditional barbecue rub with Caribbean flavors. Pirate Jonny’s Caribbean BBQ offers rubs, sauces and seasonings that are one of a kind and all natural. Craving the sauce? The Clearwater-based com- pany sells to local Whole Foods stores.

The sounds of the day were a huge hit at Folk Fest, weaving tra- ditional sound with bands like Ella Jet, Dean Johannesen, and Genghis Flan. Lawn chairs gathered below as each artist took stage in good spirits.

Folk Fest 2014 did not disappoint for guests and fans alike.
Statistics professors seeks end to anxiety disorders

BY EMILY TINTI
STAFF REPORTER

Anxiety disorders affect millions of people globally. Alessandro De Nadai is committed to the cure of anxiety disorders.

De Nadai is a doctoral candidate at the University of South Florida in the clinical psychology program. He has been an advocate for mental health awareness, and his research in anxiety disorders is funded by the National Institute of Mental Health.

Just as people receive vaccinations to avoid and fix health ailments, De Nadai is devoted to the development of a cure to end anxiety disorders. He recognizes that "it is an ambitious goal," but he is inspired to make this idea a reality.

In addition to anxiety disorders, De Nadai’s research is extensive; it ranges from research on autism spectrum disorders, pediatric obsessive-compulsive disorder and medication adherence.

De Nadai was inspired to make this idea a reality when he hosted his first colloquium.

"I’m really motivated by the challenge of trying to help these individuals who are truly in need and are very grateful for help," De Nadai said.

With so many disadvantaged by these illnesses, there is a significant loss of productivity, as people cannot perform their duties to fruition. As a result of this loss, the economic cost ends up being more than entire gross domestic product (GDP) of 109 countries.

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De Nadai relocated to the Tampa Bay area from suburban Boston to take advantage of the clinical psychology program at USF and the “great quality of life.” He serves as an instructor for Advanced Statistical Methodology at USFSP. Aside from his extensive work and studies, De Nadai enjoys spending time with his wife and participating at his local church.

"I also watch a disproportionate amount of sports and probably tell you the past 30 of Super Bowl champions and a fact about each game they played," he said.

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Blue Ocean this week in St. Petersburg

BY SAMANTHA PUTTERMAN
CROW’S NEST CONTRIBUTOR

Make way for the most blue festival to arrive in St. Petersburg. The Blue Ocean Film Festival and Summit Conservation starts this week, spanning Nov. 3-9. This is the festival’s first year in the Tampa Bay region, which co-hosts the event on alternating years with Monaco.

The Blue Ocean Festival combines screenings of more than 100 award-winning ocean films and showcases acclaimed ocean photography. Leaders, photographers, filmmakers, scientists and the public will come together to discuss issues our oceans face, collaborate on future improvement, and honor impressive ocean films.

Muvico Sundial will screen ongoing films throughout the week, while the Mahaffey Theatre presents special screenings and galas with speaker Q&As. Lectures and panels take place throughout the week at Hilton as the event’s headquarters.

The Poynter Institute, the Salvador Dali Museum, and Museum of Fine Arts are some of the other venues listed in the events section.

Are you looking to learn more about the ocean and latest research? World class speakers will discuss latest science, provide insight, and debate issues.

Aquatech Fabien Cousteau, the grandson of the famous Jacques-Yves Cousteau, will present his film, Mission 350. But his expert panels only get better from here: Popular Science’s executive editor, Jennifer Bogo; expedition director and academy award winner, John Bruno; and the highly celebrated oceanographer, Dr. Sylvia Earle.

But the anticipation for films might be building for the critically acclaimed.

“I am most looking forward to seeing the films by James Cameron, Jean-Michel Cousteau and Sylvia Earle," said Deborah Inning, a Blue Ocean Film Festival volunteer.

There is an app for everything, and this is no exception. The event’s free app breaks down the schedule to help find event locations, provides film descriptions, and outlines speaker biographies. Search your iPhone App Store or Android MarketPlace for this application.

The BLUE Carpet Awards, taking place on Friday, will identify the best from the international film competition in 22 categories. The Florida Orchestra will perform a score after the featured screening Saturday night. On Sunday the festival wraps up with the film “Trashed” starring actor and activist, Jeremy Irons, who will be there to speak at the screening.

Blue’s Mission Statements reads, “To use the power of film, photography, entertainment and science to educate, empower and inspire ocean stewardship around the globe.” This festival aims to bring awareness to the serious issues faced by marine systems.

Tickets can be purchased for the entire festival or for individual events, both offering student prices. BLUE merchandise is also available at the bookstore located in the Hilton.

Review: Fury

BY JEFFREY ZANKER
CROW’S NEST CONTRIBUTOR

When it comes to movies, it’s safe to say that World War II is the most popular “just war” the world has experienced. There were reasons, the heroes, the villains and sentiments. Countless stories, books and movies have documented the history. The legacy of cinema’s take on WWII continues with latest attempt movie Fury, starring Brad Pitt.

The title is taken from the name of the American tank featured in the film, a major plot point. The movie follows the tank’s crew during the last days of WWII in Germany.

The film crew consists of a tough sergeant (Brad Pitt), a gunner (Shia Labouf), a loader (Jon Bernthal), the tank driver (Michael Peta) and a new inexperienced recruit (Logan Lerman).

Mission is to push forward toward Berlin with the Second Army while Division round up or killing as many Nazis as possible.

The main focus of the movie is Lerman’s role as the recruit, who goes through a bitter phase; from being a softie to a hard-bitten soldier. His experiences with the crew are tough at first, after refusing to kill a surrendering German soldier, but they gradually respect him as he hardens to reflect his crew: resilient and ruthless.

Fury isn’t for the soft. The team fights against soldiers and invade the home of two German women and torment them with crazed war-like attitudes. The climax is a bloody, fiery battle between the five man crew and 300 German soldiers.

“Ideals is peaceful, history is violent” Pitt, as the sergeant, said brutally, which becomes the movie’s framing quote. Fury is all about brutality, insanity and the strong bonds between the soldiers.

It also points out the senseless decisions made in war. The tank’s mission seems pointless when victory is at hand, but the crew are willing to continue taking on the enemy. Their patriotic duty and courage contrasts with their hard-nosed screenplay, which makes Fury sometimes difficult to watch. But it’s unassembled when it comes to addressing war’s impact on people.

Writer-director David Ayer has the talent for stirring up and horrifying images. Images of a man engulfed in flames shooting himself and a soldier cleaning up the tank with half of a soldier’s face lying splat stick with the audience.

He also gets good camaraderie and performances from the cast, bringing out more depth and serious skills needed to play his role in Inglourious Basterds.

Fury is just an average war movie, filled with the usual stereotypes -- the tough sergeant, the cocky New Yorker and the God-believing soldier -- conventional nitty-gritty action, obvious gung-ho speeches and other clichés to be expected. But its ferocious intensity raises Fury above average and without irony.

Fury is no great WWII film like Inglourious Basterds. When it comes to movies, it’s safe to say that World War II is the most popular “just war” the world has experienced.

Artwork © Alessandro De Nadai

The Neighborhood – Sweater Weather

You’ve seen these lyrics on everybody’s Instagram photos. Nobody really knows what temperature actually indicates “sweater weather,” but maybe it’s time you treat yourself to some fall and winter clothes shopping anyway, just to be safe.

MGMT – Everything’s Happenin’ So Fast

Where did all of these Christmas decorations come from? How am I graduating in a couple months? What am I going to do with my life? Don’t worry, we’re all thinking the same things.

Sylvan Esso – Coffee

It may not be a “wild winter” but it might be time to make the switch from iced lattes and shaken teas to warm coffee and hot chocolate.

The Drums – I Need Fun in My Life

Even on caffeine-deprived mornings, after getting less than two hours of sleep, you have to have a little fun. Get that exam out of the way and then go see your friends, you worked hard.

The Verve – BitterSweet Symphony

Life consists of ups and downs, failures and successes and a whole lot of irony. Just live it out and you’ll probably be alright.

Foo Fighters – Cold Day in the Sun

If you’re already mourning the loss of warm weather, or for some reason, still in shock that it isn’t summer anymore, just remember that we live in the Sunshine State. Even on the coldest day, the sun may still shine.

The Wonder Years – Living Room Song

“This week is gonna swallow me up,” said Pitt. “It’s beginning to sink in. I have lived with it every day.”

The Verve Pipe – So Fast

If you’re graduating soon, there is no need to dwell on the negative, strange or disappointing things you did your freshman year. If you’re a freshman, keep this in mind for future reference.

playlist

By Emily Tinti
Staff Reporter

The recent cold front either lifted your spirits or served as a chilling reminder of the semester winding down. Whether you’re worried about midterms, graduation, or how you’re going to maintain your diet at Thanksgiving dinner or tomorrow’s exam, try to keep a positive outlook.

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Editorial

Freedom of the press alive at USFSP

The Crow’s Nest attended the Associated Collegiate Press conference this weekend. After hearing stories from other newspaper staff members, we’re grateful for what we have at USFSP.

At a university in Oklahoma, student government senators paused their senate meeting because they wanted ice cream. We aren’t kidding.

All the senators got up, walked to their cafeteria and got the ice cream. Then they reconvened the meeting.

But then they realized they forgot the spoons.

So every single senator in the room got back up and walked to the cafeteria to get spoons.

Clearly, the senators weren’t happy to find out the reporter at the meeting live tweeted the whole event.

But neither was the student body when they found out how their student government behaved during meetings.

The Crow’s Nest attended the Associated Collegiate Press conference in Philadelphia this weekend, and we heard stories from college newspapers across the country. Our job is to give students to information they need to know for self-governance.

And if their student government is eating ice cream when they’re supposed to be passing legislation—students need to know.

But we’re grateful that our student government members don’t take their jobs so lightly. Sure, our government is certainly dealing with their share of problems, and it’s our job to cover that. But it’s also our job to give credit where it’s due.

So we’re grateful for a student government that is dedicated.

We are also grateful for the support we’ve historically had at USF St. Petersburg. We’ve never been subject to review of the contents of our paper, which is hugely important for freedom of the press and the free flow of ideas.

Our SG manages documents public, and keeps meetings open.

Other universities struggle with associations who close their meetings—albeit illegally—to keep the press out.

Many student media outlets we met at the conference came from large schools. Their journalism or student affairs departments could afford to provide them with a full-time faculty member to advise their paper. We also met many students from small schools who have indifferent advisers.

At USFSP, we don’t have the means to pay an adviser a full-time salary to work with our student media outlets. This means we have to do some things that other schools may have their faculty advisers do for them. But perhaps we’re getting a better learning experience from it.

But we are blessed with a faculty adviser who works far harder than he should for the pay he gets. We may not have all the resources of a larger university, but we don’t think our experience would be better elsewhere.

So thanks, USFSP. Please continue your legacy of supporting us—and the students here—by honoring freedom of the press.

Photo of the week

Love is in the air

Last weekend, The Crow’s Nest attended the Associated Collegiate Press conference in Philadelphia, Pa. While there, five staff members visited the John F. Kennedy Plaza, also known as LOVE Park. The park is nicknamed after the sculpture, created by Robert Indiana. The sculpture was installed in 1976 and has been an iconic part of Philadelphia ever since. For more about the trip, read the editorial above on p. 6 and the opinion on p. 7.

Submit a picture with a caption for photo of the week to jnesslar@mail.usf.edu by Friday at 5 p.m. The best photo submission will run next week.

Throwback

Death by anti-freeze

It may be the week after Halloween, but gruesome things can still happen. Lloyd Allen learned that the hard way in 1982. On Nov. 6, his wife Shirley was arrested for poisoning Lloyd with anti-freeze. Lloyd had complained that his drinks tasted odd, but he believed it was just an iron supplement Shirley was putting in his drink. An earlier husband of Shirley’s, Joe Sinclair, divorced her after tasting strange flavors in his drink. He dealt with internal injuries as a result of poisoning, but did not die.

Lloyd was not as lucky, and died as a result of the poisoning. Shirley’s own daughter turned her in.

Lloyd’s wife placed in his drink. Shirley was sentenced to life in prison.

Jennifer Nesslar | The Crow’s Nest
I took a chance on Philly

By Andrew Caplan
Staff Reporter

On Sunday evening, a group of us staff writers arrived home from a media convention held in Philadelphia, PA.

It was an opportunity I was originally reluctant to accept but I’m glad I did. Usually, I would find the excuses to tell myself, “It’s not worth it.” “I have to work.” “I probably would find the excuses to tell myself. “It’s too far away.” “I’m too busy.”

I’ve never been more wrong.

I have learned as I’ve gotten older, you must take the opportunities that fall into your lap. You never know when you’ll get the chance to do something so unique again, especially if you pay your own rent, work full time and have a family to support.

I learned a lot on the trip, as I believe we all did. Aside from the techniques shared by presenters or the great networking opportunity, I learned that Philadelphia is a great place. I was surprised by what I ended up enjoying from the trip.

The Philly cheesesteaks aren’t all what they are cracked up to be.

I tried several. At the end of the day, it’s just a cheesesteak. There are ample opportunities to try so many variations of food on every corner. You’re a fool if you make that your priority meal choice, which I learned first hand. Luckily, I had some pretty cool people with me that offered chances to try different foods.

The Liberty Bell is a must see.

Remember when your parents would try to drag you to some boring museum or a historical artifact and you fought them on it? Well, sometimes you should listen to your parents. Although you’re just going to look the bell for a couple minutes and snap a couple pictures, there’s much to do in the nearby area. Independence Hall is right there, along with the the gift shop across the street. Surprisingly, it has some pretty cool stuff too. I raidied it.

Love Park is awesome.

It was a favorite site in the city, despite being a tourist trap due to less fortunate locals bothering everyone trying to take a picture of, with, or next to the iconic “LOVE” statue. It’s arguably one of the most beautiful scenery locations in a city where the buildings are so high it’ll hurt your neck to try and view the top of them.

I kept hearing from locals that our group needed to “just need to walk around you will find something.” And they were right.

I guess what I’m trying to say is, don’t be afraid to step out of your comfort zone. Sometimes in life you have to take chances or have a change of pace. It furthers your life experiences and yet makes you appreciate home at the same time. There’s a whole world out there. Go and see it.

Andrew Caplan, a senior majoring in mass communications, is the sports editor. He can be reached at andrewcaplan@mail.usf.edu or on Twitter @CappyMIA.

Me, myself, and a stranger

By Mary Ann Putulin
Crow’s Nest Contributor

What’s better than an all-day event of feel-good music, art vendors, delicious food trucks and quality solitude time? Nothing, really. The ability and freedom to experience by venturing out on their own to explore would normally be an introvert’s worst nightmare; however, in my case, it was everything but.

Attending the Coral Skies Music Festival on my own was sort of like my own “rite of passage” stepping out into independency and adulthood as a young woman.

A few days leading up to the festival, besides the heavy anticipation that I was feeling being able to finally see one of my favorite bands, Bombay Bicycle Club, I still felt a bit unsure going by myself. As we sat in our seats, we mostly people-watched (because that’s what you do at a music festival), but we were from. After finding out that one of them also came by herself, we decided it would be best if we stuck together throughout the festival. This made it easier to save each other’s seats if one of us wanted to get food, take a bathroom break or just walk around to explore.

When the gates finally opened, my new festival-friend and I walked around to check out all the vendors to kill time. At one point, we ended up meeting a band we’ve never heard of called Wild Cub, out of sympathy because there weren’t many people lined up to see them. But hey, we might’ve just met the next big indie group. Suffice to say that I was really enjoying myself and I wasn’t alone in the process.

Having spent a good eight hours with a complete stranger may sound a little suspicious, but she seemed like a cool chick with no alarming intentions. As we sat in our seats, we mostly people-watched (because that’s what you do at a music festival), but we were from. After finding out that one of them also came by herself, we decided it would be best if we stuck together throughout the festival. This made it easier to save each other’s seats if one of us wanted to get food, take a bathroom break or just walk around to explore.

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Mary Ann Putulin is a sophomore majoring in mass communications. She can be reached at mputulin@mail.usf.edu.

It’s not just a ‘guy’ thing

By Samantha Puterman
Contributing Columnist

Fantasy football: For boys only.

Originally, that’s the way I viewed it. A “guy” thing. Although I’m an avid sports fan, I never thought I would be good at it. Too many stats. Too many players. Too many rules.

I became a bartender at a sports bar, and my football knowledge grew. After a while, I was ready to argue—with grown men.

All those seasoned guys, the experts, would come into the bar to watch just about anything. A draft, a pre-season game, an all star game. Those guys. The fanatics. Every game is still important to them because THANK GOD there’s at least a game on. (I’m slowly turning into one of these. The horror!)

The guys were the opposite, they went into the not-so-daunting world of freedom one experiences by exploring.

A common occurrence would go something like this:

“COME ON! That was a horrible call. That was definitely a touchdown!”

“No it wasn’t.

Long pause. Did a girl really just say this? What could she possibly know? She’s a girl.

“Uh...yes, it was little lady. Ya see that little section at the end of the field? The one with the big ole’ yellow U-shaped thingy above it? He caught the ball in it, and when ya do that, it’s a touchdown”, always said condescendingly.

Here we go.

“YES, I do see the end zone, that “little section” of 10 yards. YES, he did catch the ball. First off, he didn’t have control of the ball, but that doesn’t even matter because his left foot was out of bounds. No, it is NOT a touchdown. This isn’t college. He needs both feet in. Sorry.”

You could hear a pin drop when something like this happened, it was hilarious.
Redskins’ name continues to stir up debate

By Samantha Puttermann
Crow’s Nest Correspondent

Redskins. To some, this is a derogatory term. To others, it doesn’t come close.

The recent controversy surrounding the Washington NFL team has America in disagreement: Should the team keep the name? The dispute dives down to the word’s origin. In a study, linguist Ives Goddard of the Smithsonian Institute, found that “the actual origin of the word is entirely benign and reflects more positive aspects of relations between Indians and whites.” It concluded that ‘Redskin’ did not arise in any European or English language, but from Native American dialect. It described the red body paint tribes commonly used and the color red as a physical attribute to help distinguish themselves from others.

Despite the terms seemingly harmless start, sociologist Irving Lewis Allen argues that when an ethnic group has identifiers based upon physical characteristics, they are derogatory in their very nature. Even after team’s trademarks were revoked, Dan Snyder, the team’s owner, vows to never change the name. In the team’s defense, fans emphasize the pride they share each Sunday while wearing their jerseys. They assert the intent of the name is not to insult, but to honor.

Red Mesa High School has been brought up in defense of the NFL name. The public high school is located on the Navajo Reservation in Arizona. The students there are 98 percent Navajo Indian, and their nickname is, coincidently, “The Redskins.” The superintendent at Red Mesa, Tommy Yazzie, said it has never been a problem at the school or in the community.

A North Dakota Sioux, Eunice Davidson, doesn’t mind the term either. Davidson said that if given the chance, she would tell Washington owner, Dan Snyder, that she would stand with him in fear of losing her history.

The team has been called the Washington Redskins since 1933. Supporters of the name challenge its newly-found offensive status, by asserting that it should not have taken people 81 years to get upset. Advocates say changing it after all this time is overrestrained and ridiculous.

Carly Chaput, a junior at USF St. Petersburg, explains how this ratio nale falls short, to her.

“I understand the hassle of changing a team name and all of the marketing that goes along with that, but it doesn’t change the fact that by keeping the name, a major entertainment industry is essentially promoting the discrimination and genocide of a culture,” Chaput said.

Recent polls have attempted to find out the Native American opinion on the matter. Results favor the team keeping the name, but as the dispute grows, opposition grows as well. Supporters claim the media hype is to blame for the rising disagreement, stating that people should not have to be convinced that something is insulting.

“People seem to be downplaying the significance of the team being named after the skin color of a particular ethnic/racial group,” said junior Sean Leroux. “If the team were named the Whiteskins or Blackskins and had mascots based on those respective skin tones, things would not go over well. The American Indian population is just poorly represented and poorly accommodated.”

According to NBCSports.com, the FCC is currently considering a petition which deems the term “Redskins” as indecent. If ruled indecent, the FCC would force Washington to change their name.

Bulls football

The team falls short in their 100th game at Raymond James Stadium

By Andrew Caplan
Staff Reporter

The Bulls dropped to 3-6 on the season Saturday afternoon after losing to the Houston Cougars 27-3. Back-up quarterback Steven Bench was given the start over Mike White. Bench went 12-for-25 with 147 passing yards and an interception. Running back Marlon Mack ran the ball 13 times for 47 yards. Mack has 828 total rushing yards on the season.

Much like last year’s 2-10 season, the only points put on the board came from senior kicker Marvin Kloss. Kloss made a 33-yard field goal near the end of the third quarter.

It was the Bulls 100th game played at Raymond James Stadium. They hold an overall home record of 68-32 at the stadium.

The Bulls have lost four of their last five games and six of their last eight. The opponents have outscored the Bulls 264-172 this season. The Bulls have scored 17 points or less in seven of their eight games.

The Bulls will travel to SMU (0-7) for their next game on Nov. 15. Head coach Willie Taggart said at his post game conference that he could not answer who will be the starting quarterback yet against SMU.

Find us on Twitter @CNSports for local sports news and for Crow’s Nest articles.