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The ‘Guy’ comes to campus

Guy Harvey will present his new documentary at USFSP on Sept. 11

By Amanda Starling
Staff Reporter

Marine wildlife artist and conservationist Guy Harvey spent five years with a team of shark geneticists, researchers and trackers studying, pursuing, tagging, and analyzing the patterns of migration for tiger sharks.

The research collected is revealed in Harvey’s latest documentary, “Tiger Shark Express,” which he will present at USF St. Petersburg on Wednesday, Sept. 11.

“We knew very little about tiger sharks. We knew they do migrate but we had no idea how far or how long,” Harvey said in a phone interview on Thursday, Sept. 5.

The team had access to the latest technology for tagging system and assistance from numerous professional staff, including the Bahamian National Trust.

Tiger sharks, like many species, face dangers in the fishing industry, Harvey said, explaining that their immense size and slow rate of maturity make them vulnerable in places prone to overfishing and shark finning.

See HARVEY, pg. 3

Student works to save Boyd Hill

Ray Wunderlich and Hayden Hammerling volunteer up to five days a week at the Boyd Hill Pioneer Settlement.

By Ryan Ballogg
Staff Reporter

The volunteer gardeners at Boyd Hill Nature Preserve in South St. Petersburg plant onions in the September heat, sweating into the dirt and liking it.

Among them is Hayden Hammerling, a USF St. Petersburg student completing an internship under the guidance of head gardener Ray Wunderlich.

Wunderlich directs his intern on proper form as they dig deep ridges in seaweed compost with gloved hands.

The seaweed keeps moisture in and meddlesome pests out, Wunderlich said.

“Coffee grinds are good too,” he said. “Nematodes don’t like organic matter.”

See BOYD, pg. 2

World of Wings is a hit among students

By Thomas Reese
Crow’s Nest Correspondent

With the addition of two new locations and the ability to pay with meal plans, students now have a completely new dining experience on campus.

Last year, the Reef was the only place on campus that was meal plan friendly. While it did have the Red Mango Café (now the Coral Café), students could only make purchases with cash, card or individually purchased Sharkbites credit.

Now that all three locations accept the new system of declining dollars, students can get Starbucks coffee drinks whenever they want with just a swipe of their meal plan card.

“Compared to last semester, the hours are longer and it’s much easier to get what you want when you want it,” Lizzie Desoriers, a freshman said.

“There are so many more options and the World of Wings Café is awesome. I love being able to go play pool with my friends and enjoy a meal at the same time,” Kenneth Haynes said.

Open only since the beginning of the semester, WOW Café in the Coquina Club has gained popularity among students, offering three TVs, a pool table, air hockey and foosball.

Along with its alluring amenities, WOW Café can also attribute its popularity to its food.

See BOYD, pg. 2
Community supports “Save Boyd Hill” movement

Continued from front page

As they work, their conversation spans subjects like determining the gender of papaya plants, the metamorphosis of stink bugs and just how much space should be left between seeds.

Later, they take a break around a picnic bench in the shade for a few minutes, and the discussion turns to something that they have been talking about a lot lately – the fate of the strip of land on the western edge of the preserve.

In June, the St. Petersburg Country Club struck a deal with development company Taylor Morrison of Tampa to convert the 10 acres of unused land along the backside of its golf course into 115 townhomes.

The club has been facing financial difficulties, and the directors are pursuing the project in an attempt to make it more sustainable.

Though the club owns the land, it was originally designated for a road by the City of St. Petersburg. In order for construction to proceed, the deed to the land would have to be reviewed and city council would have to vote to approve a permit and change the zoning to multi-residence housing.

The land is also the only remaining buffer zone between Boyd Hill and surrounding development.

A coalition of activists immediately formed to oppose the project. The group, organized through a Facebook page called “Save Boyd Hill,” currently has 2,460 likes. Awake Pinellas and Friends of Boyd Hill are among the organizations involved, and The Florida Native Plant Society, Audubon and The Sierra Club have expressed interest in the cause.

The activists describe this land as a “critical buffer zone” that keeps space between the wilderness and the outside world. It is made up of an oak hammock and pine flatlands ecosystem that could potentially house endangered and threatened species found throughout Boyd Hill, including the gopher tortoise, eastern indigo snake and Sherman’s fox squirrel.

Jim House is one of the central organizers behind the Facebook group.

“We can kill the project in a hundred different ways, it’s just putting the effort in to make one of them work,” House said.

House said that it doesn’t make sense to keep infringing upon green space, especially when “this is not even a development that is in line with the neighborhood itself. We’ve had no transparency from the club.”

Many home owners who face the strip of land have put up “Save Boyd Hill” yard signs. The president of the Lakewood Estates Civic association supports the development project, but House said that there is a rule that the housing zone can only be changed if the neighborhood association is in full support of it. He hopes to bring the issue to a vote.

House said a major disappointment so far has been how few local students have come out in support of the issue. He currently works and studies at USF, and he “expected to see more environmental science majors involved.”

“Sadly, we’ve had more kids from Eckerd,” House said. “Really counter-intuitive.”

At the moment, House is pushing for volunteers for a flyer campaign in the residential areas around the preserve next weekend. He said that anyone interested in volunteering for “Save Boyd Hill” can send them a private message on Facebook.

If the project does go forward, Boyd Hill will have to clear their own trees and brush to create a new buffer zone. There is also concern that having development so close would prevent them from staging prescribed burns, which are essential to preventing wildfires.

Wunderlich and his volunteers are opposed to the development project, though some of them noted the club has every legal right to the land if they can get approval.

As they debated the issue around a growing harvest-pile of okra plants, the sound of cicadas erupted in the trees.

“There’s no legal standing,” said a volunteer named Dennis.

“We can either let them do it or we’re going to have to buy it. The city doesn’t have money, and the homeowners probably wouldn’t put enough up for it.”

“Their argument is that they will eventually go bankrupt if they don’t do it. But it’s a short term solution that will have long term effects on the park,” Hammerling said.

For Wunderlich, one of the biggest problems will be caused by the road surrounding the townhomes.

“The road would parcel up the land. Then there would be road kill, runoff, grease and an altered water flow. They might use harmful fertilizer for their fancy landscaping,” another one of the volunteers said.

“Years ago they wanted to build a big lake, and that time actually on park property,” Wunderlich said. “They wanted to do a land swap. Two acres with no value for prime land in Boyd Hill proper. That didn’t happen, so we’ll see.”

Wunderlich has been visiting Boyd Hill since he was a child, and he is a lifelong member of the Friends of Boyd Hill association.

He said he feels “people need to restore a lost connection with their food and with nature.”

“It’s hard because people are emotional about this, and we’re losing something we thought was ours,” Hayden said.

Despite their worries about the situation, the volunteers show no hesitation when they get to work.

The demonstration garden that they take care of is used to educate the community on growing organic fruits and vegetables, and they donate the produce to local schools and organizations. Their largest harvest to date was around 1,000 pounds.

Hammerling is also helping Wunderlich build a kid’s garden on the other side of the park. All the materials used will be re-purposed, and it will be geared towards preschool through elementary ages.

“It’s the best part of my day,” said Hammerling as he wiped dirt from his jeans.

Taylor Morrison has until Sept. 30 to submit a new project model to city council.

Someone has already marked trees for removal and cut down brush in the area, though no such action has been approved.
Documentary tells story of five-year study

Continued from front page

The Guy Harvey Foundation, which sponsors research efforts in marine environments, contributed to efforts to alter fisheries in the Caribbean. The scientists presented the findings from the trip to the Bahamian government. For Harvey, the research findings require action.

"The documentary is a great way of telling the story of a five-year scientific research effort and turning into an exciting adventure." Harvey said. "The documentary is a great way of telling the story of a five-year scientific research effort and turning into an exciting adventure."

Harvey said research of aquatic species can be seen as a "soft option" for many, but he balanced his passion for marine science with his artistic talents. T-shirts, tumblers, and postcards are printed and other Guy Harvey merchandise sales are funded back to the Guy Harvey Foundation for further research of marine species.

"We're taking snapshots of animals' lives and their interactions in their environment. I want to share the benefit of the gathering of the long sets of data and marine systems generally," Harvey said. "I'd like to push people to appreciate the need for more research work, to get people to volunteer to get involved, whether they are fishing for snook off a dock or tiger sharks in Bermuda."

Harvey will present "Tiger Shark Express" at 5 p.m. on Wednesday, Sept. 11 in the University Student Center ballroom. The event will feature a screening of the film and a Q&A session with the scientist.

Small changes made to dining hours

Meal plan hours have frustrated USF St. Petersburg's residential students since the semester began. On weekdays, students must eat dinner before 7 p.m. if they wish to eat at the Reef. On weekends, the Reef is only open from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. and 4 p.m. to 6 p.m. It is the only dining open on the weekends.

Last week, sophomore Sophia Constantine was successful in petitioning the Reef's management to extend its hours on weekdays (see chart for current hours). According to Constantine, Sodexo managers Michael Bush and Louis Duran wanted to allow time for students to get accustomed to the new hours before asking for a trial with longer hours.

Duran said the first hours available during the school year were based on a record from the previous year of how many transactions occurred every 15 minutes. Management decided to change the hours because they saw a pattern of students coming in more often but buying less food.

Constantine knows the problem is not yet solved. She says she will wait about three weeks before asking students how they feel. If students aren't satisfied, she will ask for a trial period to extend hours even further.

She says the Reef is hesitating to stay open after 7 p.m. because of the failure of last year's Late Night Bites, where the Reef offered select items until 11 p.m. However, students could only pay for Late Night Bites with Sharkbites credit, which was purchased separately from meal plans.

Constantine knows students want more hours than what is available now. "I'm standing right by them," she said.

Duran says he will not change the weekend hours until he sees more transactions during the weekend. Currently, the Reef gets one-third of the traffic during the weekend that they receive during the week.

"There are no classes during the weekend so students should be able to come and eat," he said.

Students find the weekend hours problematic. Chelsea Kuzel, a freshman at USFSP, returned from the beach just after 6 p.m. on Sunday, Aug. 31, and discovered that no dining options were open on campus. Kuzel lives in the University Student Center and does not have a kitchen.

Duran says keeping the Reef open limited hours enhances the quality and freshness of the food served, a major concern of students last year. Duran knows the World of Wings Café does not compare to the Reef in terms of buying power, because it's more expensive. He suggests students only eat there once or twice a week to get the most value out of their meal plan. Though WOW has a few vegetarian options, the management is working on incorporating more into the menu.

Constantine encourages students to attend Dining Advisory Committee meetings when they begin. The first meeting is Monday, Sept. 9 at 4 p.m. in the USC Regatta Room.

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Dining Hours

Reef Original Hours
Monday-Friday 7-9 a.m., noon-2 p.m. and 5-7 p.m.
Saturday, Sunday, and Holidays 9 a.m.-1 p.m., 4-6 p.m.

Reef Current Hours
Monday-Friday 7:30-9 a.m., 11 a.m.-2:30 p.m., and 4-7 p.m.
Saturday, Sunday, and Holidays 9 a.m.-1 p.m., 4-6 p.m.

World of Wings Hours
These hours remained the same
Monday-Thursday 11 a.m.-11 p.m.
Friday 11 a.m.-5 p.m.
Saturday, Sunday, and Holidays Closed

Coral Café
These hours remained the same
Monday-Thursday 7:30 a.m.-10 p.m.
Friday 11 a.m.-5 p.m.
Saturday, Sunday, and Holidays Closed

Exan Guerin fills up at a new water bottle filling station on the second floor of the Nelson Poynter library before heading to cellular biology class. The filling stations were purchased through the Student Green Energy Fund, which is funded by student fees. SGEF’s proposal for the project estimates the total cost for installation and operation between about $14,000 and $18,000.

Each filling station is equipped with a counter that keeps track of how many plastic bottles are being saved by its use. According to SGEF, they are made to reduce plastic consumption.

Filling stations can be found upstairs in Davis Hall, the Fitness Center, upstairs in Coquina Hall, the pool, the Peter Rudy Wallace lobby, first and second floors of the library and the first and second floors of Bayboro Hall.

news@crownsneststpete.com
Grand Central welcomes vinyl shop

By Tyler Killlette
Staff Reporter

Band posters conceal the large window facing Central Avenue, allowing passersby not even a glimpse at the Tetris of cardboard boxes sitting inside.

With an estimated 50,000 records to unpack and place into the store's red wooden bins, Planet Retro owner Rob Sexton and his associate Michael Rozak have a long week ahead of them.

The vintage record/retro toy store reopens this weekend, having moved from the Furnish Me Vintage gallery at 1246 Central Ave, to its own 1,300-square-foot locale at 2414 Central Ave.

Record store staples like Jimi Hendrix, Lynyrd Skynyrd and Madonna line the orange and black walls and peek out of boxes. But according to Sexton, it's the punk and hardcore music that make Planet Retro stand out.

Sexton, who played drums in Florida hardcore punk band Failure Face, active in the mid 1990s, describes himself as an "old punk rock dude." He has collected vinyl since he was 5 — a hobby he attributes to his "pseudo hippy" parents, who raised him around music. The "pseudo hippy" label rented their space "out from the store's new neighbors.

The vintage record/retro toy store Planet Retro reopens at its new location at 2141 Central Avenue this Saturday. Beginning at noon, the store invites patrons inside for food, beverages and live music from local DJs. An all vinyl related art show follows at 6 p.m.

By Erin Murphy

A Fall Checklist
By Erin Murphy

It's already September, but alas, fall still feels worlds away. Oh, Florida. It seems we will all be forced to endure your scorching sun and unnervingly sweltering weather a bit longer. While you wait for the temperatures to slowly descend into chilly territory (fingers crossed for below 50 degrees), make sure you're adequately prepared for fall when it finally arrives:

*Stockpile pumpkin spice products: Lattes, candles, pancakes. (Yes, pancakes) Other acceptable fall flavors include cinnamon, maple, honey apple, and - if you're daring - some wonderfully delicious cranberry.

*Invest in the quintessential flannel shirt. Perfet for singing choruses around the campfire, or looking like you just stepped out of a log cabin. Lumberjack approved or your money back.

*Anticipate the leaves' color change by taping photos of fall trees in your bulletin board, binder or best friend.

*Obnoxiously overuse the word "autumn." Bonus points if you can change by taping photos of fall trees or your money back.

*Go out and buy yourself a knit sweater. The world will thank you.

*Listen to Jon Foreman's "Fall" or Foreigner's "Cold as Ice." (Sexton said their previous landlord rented their space "out from the store's new neighbors.

*Even in a digital age, Sexton isn't worried about vinyl's popularity. He said sales have actually gone up in the last 10 years.

"It's trendy," he said. "You can buy vinyl at Best Buy now."

Most of his customers are in their 20s and 30s, but he still sees his share of "old timer" collectors. He believes there are many motivations for buying vinyl.

"Some buy it and it's art; it's a commodity," he said. Others do it for the sound.

At least once a month, a Planet Retro patron argues CDs and MP3s are better than vinyl, Sexton said. To him and Rozak, the biggest difference is volume.

"Until you've heard it side by side, you don't realize how flat digital music is," Sexton said.

Planet Retro also sells audio equipment like stereos and turntables — all used and refurbished, of course. The store's back room houses a collection of vintage toys, mostly old TV and comic book action figures from the '70s and '80s. An unopened vintage Luke Skywalker and Taunton set sits high on a pile of boxes.

"Though the move wasn't planned (Sexton said their previous landlord rented their space "out from the store's new neighbors.

"There's a pulse here," Sexton said, explaining that unless one is going to a Rays game or partying at Ferg's Sports Bar, the previous location was "sort of a dead zone."

Both men get a "neighborhood vibe" from Grand Central. They plan to participate in the St. Petersburg Artwalk, an event in which local galleries open their doors to the public the second Saturday of every month.

"There's a bunch of like minded people here who can get together and turn it into a destination, not just a bunch of shops on a street," Sexton said.

Doors open at noon on Saturday, Sept. 14 for Planet Retro's Grand Reopening. Multiple local DJs, beer and food will be on site, and a vinyl inspired art show follows at 6 p.m.
Job openings abundant on campus

By Jonah King
Crow’s Nest Correspondent

Dolphins swam past the Jenny Lynn, a USF St. Petersburg trawler, as Rabbi Ed Rosenthal lit the Havdalah candle before a group of 24 students, faculty and staff from USFSP, USF Tampa and Eckerd College. He fanned the flame and held it low to the deck of the boat, trying to shield it from the sea breeze.

The celebration on Saturday evening, just after sunset, signified the end of Shabbat, the Jewish Sabbath day. It was the first official event for USFSP’s Hillel, a Jewish organization that seeks to unite Jewish students and staff and provide opportunities for them to explore their Jewish identity.

According to Lesa Shouse, assistant director for the Career Center, there are currently about 22 job openings on campus, including Federal Work Study positions.

“The Career Center, in Student Life Center 2300, offers assistance to those seeking employment on and off campus,” Shouse said.

Because of the importance of a well-written and organized resume, Shouse advises students use the Career Center as a free resource for help with resume writing. She recommends including extra-curricular involvement in high school or college and a list of skills that are transferable to the job.

“Come in and have your resume critiqued, use your resources, both online and in the Career Center, and make sure to network,” Shouse said.

According to Steven Bird, Senate President Pro Tempore for Student Government, most campus jobs pay about $8 an hour, but he has known some students to make as much as $9.

Some campus jobs require students to be eligible for Federal Work Study, a federally funded program that provides part-time jobs for students with financial need.

“With my experience with financial aid (and Federal Work Study), you’re assigned to a job... Then, whatever you’re awarded is what your pay is,” Bird said, explaining that Federal Work Study students cannot earn more than they’ve been awarded by financial aid.

The Career Center is open Monday through Thursday noon to 5 p.m. and Friday 9 a.m. to noon. It is located in the SLC, room 2300. Visit the Career Center Facebook page at www.facebook.com/USFSPCareerCenter for updates and general information.

life@crowsneststpete.com

The Intersection of Death and Life: a playlist

By Erin Murphy

A lot of musicians compose cliché love songs, but it takes a true songwriter to pen lyrics about the delicate relationship between death and life. Turn off the radio and plug into this playlist about embracing the life you’ve been given.

“Soul Meets Body” - Death Cab for Cutie

This poetic release from inspiringly introspective band Death Cab for Cutie celebrates intentional writing. She recommends including extra-curricular involvement in high school or college and a list of skills that are transferable to the job.

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According to Lesa Shouse, assistant director for the Career Center, there are currently about 22 job openings on campus, including Federal Work Study positions.

fraternity Delta Sigma Pi on campus, reached out to Rosenthal to bring Hillel to USFSP. No other Hillel events have been planned for USFSP, but Rosenthal said more are coming. He is trying to involve USFSP students in a birthright trip to Israel, which is a free 10-day trip for Jewish students ages 18 to 26. If it happens, students will go during Winter Break.

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“Deathbed” - Relient K

This 11-minute gem from Relient K’s “Five Score and Seven Years Age” album is told from the perspective of a nicotine-addicted, heartbroken elderly man reliving the story of his life from his deathbed. Poignant and poetic, this song will make you ponder the narrative of your own life.

“Life” - The Avett Brothers

Hands down the best track off of their 2012 release, “The Carpenter.” With a more mellow sound than their normal banjo-tinged twang, “Life” finds The Avett Brothers musing about the difficulty that is human existence, as well as mountain men could.
Editorial

Gunman near Tampa campus raises concern over personal safety

The first text message sent out at 1:57 a.m. on Friday, Sept. 6.

"ALERT USF TAMPA: There is an unsafe situation in the vicinity of campus. Remain alert. Avoid area north of campus. Emergency personnel responding."

At first, we let out a sigh of relief that it's not our campus. An incident in Tampa is unlikely to affect us. But then we remember our friends, our professors and all of our fellow bulls who may be in serious danger.

Clarification comes in the morning, when the next text tells us the event is over. But our stomachs remain queasy for a few more hours until the gunman is caught.

Beginning late at night on Thursday Sept. 5, Charlie Bates invaded three apartment buildings near the Tampa campus, threatening partygoers at gunpoint for money and raping at least four women, according to the Tampa Bay Times. Police didn't have Bates in their custody until midday Friday, after fatally shooting him.

We rejoice in knowing that no one else was killed or severely injured, but feel for the dozens of students left in terror that night.

In 2010, The Daily Beast rated USF the 127th most dangerous college campus in a list of 458 United States universities. In the three years prior to the list's release, USF saw 403 burglaries, 17 aggravated assaults, 34 forcible rapes and 1 murder.

As a relatively small campus, USF's crime numbers are significantly lower. The University Police Services Annual Security and Fire Safety Report from 2011 shows 3 on-campus rapes and 10 robberies on public property that were reported by campus police. Most crime categories, however, have a "0" next to them.

Though Friday's crimes didn't occur on campus, the apartment buildings involved house mostly students and are all less than a mile away from the Tampa campus.

It's not uncommon for a college campus to be situated in a "bad" part of town, or at least close to one. USF's St. Petersburg is in an urban area, as are most universities. We can feel relatively safe on campus, knowing that university police are patrolling at all hours and that blue light emergency phones are constantly within our site.

But many of us don't live on campus. We're residents of downtown, the Old Southeast, Midtown, Childs Park, the Old North East, Coquina Key and Bartlett Park.

Many of us live on our own. What would we do if a gunman knocked on our door and invited himself inside? And who's to say he'll be as courteous as Bates was by knocking?

If a criminal like Bates found his way to our apartments, to the Beacon, Urban Style Flats, the Sage, the Madison; if he walked into a house party in Waterside at Coquina Key or happened upon a bonfire outside an Old Southeast bungalow, what would we do?

It would certainly be a case for the city police department, not campus PD. However, knowing that the Hillsborough County Police Department took more than 12 hours to catch Bates is unsettling. According to the Tampa Bay Times story, it took more than 100 law enforcement officers to catch one man.

Instances like this make us question our own safety and reevaluate our day-to-day practices. We'll lower our guard once the "Gunman on the loose" headlines disappear from our coffee tables. But for now, we'll give the lock on our front doors an extra turn before bed. Because that's really all we can do.

Marvelous Adventure

By Kati Lacker

On Sept. 9, 1945, the first computer software bug was discovered in a program when the operators at the Harvard Faculty in the Computation Lab were trying to figure out why there was an obvious error in the output from the Mark II Computer. Reduced to opening up the hardware to further problem solving they came across a moth who had somehow gotten inside the relay area, coining the term bug. They carefully removed the moth and taped it to the logbook for further documentation.
The woes of a left-hander

By Chelsea Tatham
Staff Columnist

I didn’t really think I was so different being left-handed until about fifth or sixth grade. At the beginning of a new school year, my teacher asked all of us students to raise our hands to answer various questions like “Who likes reading?” “Who hates math?” and “Who likes art class?”

Then the personal question came: “Who in here is left-handed?”

Proudly, I shot my hand up (my left one, of course). To my horror, I was the only one stupidly waving her hand. My classmates stared as if they had never seen such a creature before.

I got over my embarrassing moment as my years in school passed. Being left-handed wasn’t exactly a hindrance or something to be ashamed of in middle school and high school. Nobody really cared or paid attention anyway.

At the end of high school, I took the SAT and the ACT to secure placement in college. The proctor in my testing room for the ACT actually gave me a second desk positioned on my left so I could rest my arm while writing.

I had gotten so used to sitting awkwardly in the high school-designated right-handed desks that it was nice to sit and write normally.

To my amazement, in college I found a left-handed desk in the first classroom I walked in to. I didn’t even know those were made. Sure enough, there are left-handed desks in almost every classroom.

Unfortunately, I don’t always get to sit in these left-handed palaces. Sometimes there’s only one desk in the room, and it’s all the way up front. Or the desk is cramped in the back corner, because who wants to watch a freaky left-hander write? If the lack of comfortable desks and being called out in class doesn’t get me down, I also get told I do things backwards. Others have difficulty explaining how to do things when I tell them I’m left-handed.

At meals, I make sure I sit in the end chair or at the end of the booth. I use a fork with my left hand and a knife with my right hand, which is apparently backwards to the rest of the population.

When I was learning cursive in elementary school, the teacher told us all to turn the paper just slightly in order to get that perfect slant with our words. My attempts turned out awful. The teacher noticed and said, “Oh, I forgot you’re different, you’ll have to turn the paper the opposite way.”

Besides the difficulty of teaching myself how to correctly write and position my paper, I also always end up with pen, pencil and marker smeared on the outside of my hand when I’m finished writing.

Nothing screams, “I’m left-handed” louder than black and blue smears and pencil shavings up and down my left hand and wrist.

Despite the set backs, embarrassments and overall annoyance with the right-handed part of the population, I’ve learned to be proud of my left-handed status.

Approximately 10 percent of the population is left-handed. I’m part of that 10 percent. I’m not a freak. I’m not backwards. My parents didn’t try to “correct” me. I’m left-handed and I’m proud of it.

Chelsea is a senior majoring in mass communications and the managing editor. She can be reached at chelseal1@mail.usf.edu

Do U know your U number?

By Matt Thomas
Staff Columnist

Sometime last week I was carelessly lounging on my friend’s couch making use of his widescreen television and cable. Too busy to notice my obvious mooching, my friend, let’s call him Tim, was busy applying for campus jobs online.

He casually mentioned that he didn’t memorize his U number so he had to get his student ID. Being the great friend that I am, I made fun of him for that.

Shortly after, I remembered that I too hadn’t memorized my U number. You could attribute that short sight on my part to my laziness, but thinking back to previous attempts I’ve made to memorize my U number, I can say that I honestly tried. Disastrously. I could only remember the first four numbers of my U number for a day, at best.

It’s weird that I’m able to memorize important information like my social security number, my phone number, the ton of information taught in class usually results in my testing room for the ACT usually results in my annual test. The number on it just reminds me of things I didn’t like to think about.

Your social security number defines you as a citizen of this country. A phone number is something you can give to people for a variety of reasons. Learning the information taught in class usually results in one getting a good grade in that class. My memorization of the original 150 Pokemon is something that comes in handy whenever I want to make a girl I’m talking to leave the room.

I am a little embarrassed that I haven’t memorized my U number because this is my fourth year here. Which brings up the point, if I’m graduating in the spring, what’s the point of memorizing my U number now?

Matt is a senior majoring in mass communications and the entertainment critic. He can be reached at matthewt17@mail.usf.edu

Grievances from a true nerd

By Amanda Starling
Staff Columnist

Spider-Man wallets and Batman shirts adorn the outfits of the average 20-something. But how many of these hip nerds know that there is an alternate ending to the death of Gwen Stacy in the Amazing Spider-Man series? Or that the latest Wolverine flick was based off the Spider-Man series? Or that the latest Wolverine flick was based off the Spider-Man series?

Of course, these hip nerds know that there is a Stan Lee cameo in the latest Wolverine flick was based off the Spider-Man series? Or that the latest Wolverine flick was based off the Spider-Man series? Or that the latest Wolverine flick was based off the Spider-Man series? Or that the latest Wolverine flick was based off the Spider-Man series? Or that the latest Wolverine flick was based off the Spider-Man series?

Ten years ago, it would be shocking to see a young man running around in a heavy Jedi robe or a woman painted head to toe in blue paint to pose as one of the Na’vi from James Cameron’s “Avatar” film. Most of these people were ridiculed and the words “nerd,” “geek” and “weirdo” would be tossed around casually.

Tampa Bay Comic Con, hosted by the Tampa Convention Center just two weeks ago, had a record-breaking 20,000 attendees in one day. The dealer room of the convention, which offers a wide selection of comic books and memorabilia, was sparse in comparison to the thousands packed into the celebrity panel rooms, with stars from shows and movies such as “Game of Thrones,” “The Hunger Games” and “The Walking Dead.”

In the eighth grade, I recall being teased for owning a collection of “Star Wars” action figures that would rival that of a seasoned veteran. Sometimes I would sneak a copy of a Timothy Zahn novel to the after school program as a child so I could read up on what is happening next in the expanded universe of the Star Wars saga.

As a result, I wasn’t viewed as someone cool to talk to.

It’s not that us veteran fans of comics are upset that the general public takes an interest in our passions now. It’s the consequences we face as those who don’t truly appreciate our fandoms the way we do. Many of these latest takes on heroes are a swift slap in the faces of fans with blasphemous takes on pivotal villains (yes, I’m talking to you, Mandarin of “Iron Man 3”).

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Amanda is a junior majoring in mass communications and the news editor. She can be reached at astarling@mail.usf.edu

Amanda is a junior majoring in mass communications and the news editor. She can be reached at astarling@mail.usf.edu
This week in USF football...

By: Samantha Uometa
Staff Reporter

The Tampa Bay Rowdies extended their unbeaten streak to eight games on Saturday night, grabbing a 3-2 victory over the Carolina RailHawks on an own goal in the 90th minute.

The win is the Rowdies’ first in over a month, as the team had walked away with ties in each of their last four matches.

It appeared that Tampa Bay would have the same result Saturday against Carolina, until a critical error in the final minute of the game by RailHawks defender Paul Hamilton gave the Rowdies a breakthrough goal.

“We deserved a bit of luck; we haven’t had a lot of it in recent times,” Rowdies head coach Ricky Hill said. “It is great for the fans and it is a boost for our players. We created chances and luckily we were able to get the three points.”

Tampa Bay looked like a team that was determined to win rather than draw from the moment they stepped on the field. The Rowdies pressured the RailHawks early and had the first scoring chance of the match by forward Etienne Barbara, but would eventually concede the first goal to Carolina midfielder Tiyiselani Shipalane in the 34th minute.

The Rowdies have given up one of the first goal of the game in three of its last five matches. Attacker Etienne Barbara slotted a pass to Evans Frimpong, who then poached the ball past RailHawks goalkeeper Akira Fitzgerald in the 42nd minute.

“I got a glimpse behind me and there was nobody there so I kept it, and I saw Evans come in so I just went for the cross,” Barbara said as he discussed the first goal setup. “I didn’t have time to shoot, so I just put the ball in the box and thank God Evans was there.”

After a rain delay following halftime that could have potentially caused the Rowdies’ momentum to fade, Barbara made sure his squad stayed on the right track as he assisted Georgi Hristov in giving Tampa Bay a 2-1 lead at the 60 minute mark.

The Rowdies’ defense appeared to struggle in finding their foot during the second half, as they were unable to defend the one-goal lead for longer than four minutes. Carolina midfielder Enzo Agustín Martinez found the equalizer in the 64th minute off a shot that Rowdies keeper Diego Restrepo couldn’t stop.

Lucky Mkosana, who made his Rowdies debut, took a shot from the right flank that was deflected off of Hamilton and into the net.

Tampa Bay is now in first place in the NASL standings. Carolina and Fort Lauderdale are tied for the top spot but their plus-4 goal differential puts them on top.

“I’m delighted tonight for the players, for their confidence and for the effort they put in so that we managed to be on the right side of the result,” Hill said. “We’re not looking at the table, we’re taking it one game as it comes. It’s just nice to get a win.”

Softball

Top performing
South Florida
Passing

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Michigan State
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American Conf. Stand.-ings

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Hot Takes

Mike Hopey, Sports Editor, @MikeHopey

“How can we be expected to do any work with football starting this week? The optimism is palpable. Next week half the fans will be miserable.”

Have a hot sports take? You can have an opportunity to see your tweet in an issue of The Crow’s Nest. Just send your sports opinion on Twitter to @CNSSportsPage.

Florida Atlantic Owls

USF all-time vs. FAU

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Notebook

By Mike Hopey
Staff Reporter

American Athletic Conference commissioner Mike Aresco flipped the coin for the first foot in the AAC by beating Temple 22-13 in Philadelphia.

The Owls jumped out to a 13-9 halftime lead but could not score in the second half.

The Houston Cougars racked up 524 yards on offense but could only punch it in for one touchdown. Kicker Richie Leone booted five field goals in the win.

Louisville had no problem with Eastern Kentucky, rolling to a 44-7 victory. Quarterback Teddy Bridgewater continued the build up to his Heisman Trophy campaign with 397 passing yards and four touchdowns.

After losing by a point to Fresno State in the opener last week, Rutgers bounced back with a shutout of the Division-I Football Championship school, Norfolk State. Scarlet Knight running back Paul James rushed for 119 yards and scored three of the team’s four rushing touchdowns.

Cincinnati had a convincing win last week against Purdue but was handled easily this week by Illinois. Quarterback Nathan Scheelhaase led the second-straight Big 10 opponent for the Bearcats. Scheelhaase threw for 312 yards and four touchdowns. Cincinnati’s Munchie Legaux struggled with a touchdown and an interception. Legaux was replaced by Brandon Kay.

Bobby McCain’s 75-yard interception return for a touchdown was the lone bright spot for Memphis in their season opener against the Duke Blue Devils. McCain picked off Duke starter Anthony Boone in the second quarter to tie the game 7-7. Boone was replaced by Brandon Connette and threw two touchdowns in the fourth quarter to break a 14-14 tie.

Southern Methodist scored nine fourth-quarter points to slip past Montana State 31-30. ChaseHover kicked a 39-yard field goal and Darius Joseph caught a touchdown pass from Garrett Gilbert to complete the comeback.

Central Florida has had two games and has scored 38 points in each of them. Quarterback Blake Bortles didn’t match his first career 300-yard passing game from week one but did add one of the Knights’ four rushing touchdowns. In two games the Golden Knights have only given up seven points.