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A student says she was exempted from paying for a meal plan. Now, she has until the end of the semester to pay up or face serious consequences.

**By Jennifer Nessler**
**Staff Reporter**

Freshman Catherine Clifton received the ultimatum during spring break in an email from the Cashier’s Office: pay for a meal plan or be evicted from Residence Hall One. The notice kept her anxious during the week off from school, while others relaxed and vacationed. If she doesn’t pay up by the end of the semester, her grades will be withheld.

It all started during the fall semester, when Clifton’s parents decided they wanted her to transfer from USF St. Petersburg. Her housing contract was cancelled. Clifton spent her winter break convincing her parents to let her stay. After being told she wouldn’t have to pay for a meal plan because she is anemic, Catherine Clifton almost got evicted from student housing.

If a payment is not made on time, the debt will be handled by Collections at USF Tampa, which is USF policy according to Hendershot. This affects a student’s credit negatively, but Hendershot said Housing does everything in its power to keep it from happening.

If you’ve empowered vegetarians everywhere, collaborated with high-profile pop acts like Katy Perry and Kesha and harbor a not-so-secret love for singer Seal, then you have a little bit of an idea of what it’s like to be electronic-pop duo 3OH!3.

Taking their name from the area code of their native Boulder, Colo., the singers brought their cheeky music to the bay on Thursday, March 20 playing to students for the USF St. Petersburg Spring Fling concert at Jannus Live. If you’ve empowered vegetarians everywhere, collaborated with high-profile pop acts like Katy Perry and Kesha and harbor a not-so-secret love for singer Seal, then you have a little bit of an idea of what it’s like to be electronic-pop duo 3OH!3.

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“We started 3OH3 when we were in college, so it makes a lot of sense to play for colleges,” Foreman said.

“Our live shows are more than just straight performances and more like parties,” Motte said. “I think it’s great to play colleges because that’s kind of the mind set. Sean and I went to school [and] we had a lot of fun.”

Fun is the name of the game when it comes to 3OH3’s shows. Motte said, “We’ve always come out to our live performances, always wanting to be energetic and fun, and most importantly, inclusive.” This mindset is evident in the duo’s signature hand gesture, two hands meeting in the middle to make a circle representing the band’s logo, which fans sport through shirts.

“The band sign is fun because when we throw it up, it’s something people can do to interact with us,” Motte said. “It really does contribute to that inclusiveness.”

But not every effort to connect with a crowd has gone over well. Before the band earned radio play for songs like “Don’t Trust Me” and “My First Kiss,” they played one of their worst shows, a promotional gig at an amusement park in Chicago, to a clueless audience of kids.

See CONCERT, p.4
A guide to certificate programs

USFSP offers six certificates to supplement degrees

Certificates programs offer students a taste of different programs without the costs of a complete degree. For some, certificates serve as a supplement to a bachelor’s or master’s degree, just as a minor would. Graduate and undergraduate students, or even transient learners, may obtain certificates in various colleges throughout USF St. Petersburg.

By Amanda Starling
Staff Reporter

Although certificates are not quite the $10,000 degrees that Gov. Rick Scott had in mind, here are the ones USFSP offers.

Creative Writing (undergraduate)

This 15-credit hour certificate enables students to explore creative writing courses, along with classes that specialize in areas of advanced creative writing. Specialized courses include literature and cultural studies, creative nonfiction and writing studies.

Early Childhood & Family Studies (undergraduate)

This certificate prepares teachers and day care providers to work with children from infancy to 5 years old. The 12-credit hour program provides information for appropriate practices, how to support children and family of other cultures, how to work with special needs children and more.

Food Writing and Photography (graduate)

Through 15 hours of graduate study, students can work online or in a hybrid form through in-person interaction, all focused on food writing and photography. A cumulative project is presented at the end of the course. Applicants must have at least a bachelor’s degree and up to 3.0 GPA, or at least have completed 60 hours of a bachelor’s degree.

Infant-Family Mental Health (graduate)

This online graduate certificate was designed for students who have studied psychology, social work, criminology, or a related field. The 12-hour program and internship helps professionals learn how to work with infants and families, but does not include clinical work. Requirements include a bachelor’s degree, a minimum 3.0 GPA, prior undergraduate coursework in ethics and child development, three letters of recommendation and a 1,000-word statement.

Leadership Management (graduate)

Students not enrolled in a graduate program at USFSP must have a minimum 3.0 GPA from their last 60 credit hours of bachelor’s degree coursework. The leadership certificate is nine credit hours after completing the MBA Essentials online module in Management.

Middle Grades Digitally-Enhanced Mathematics (graduate)

Enrolled students may take a 15-credit hour certificate program that helps teachers become qualified to prepare middle school students for high-school-level math.

In-state tuition extended, rates may rise

BY AMANDA STARRING
STAFF REPORTER

Florida legislators are making significant changes to tuition for state universities and colleges. While USF St. Petersburg Student Government members support bills to extend in-state tuition to deserving students, their views on a tuition increase are mixed.

Voting proceedings in Tallahassee ruled 8-3 in the Florida House of Representatives to allow undocumented students to pay in-state tuition for college enrollment and veterans who study in Florida may have out-of-state fees waived, as well.

The USF System backed both bills, along with other tuition legislation, during the annual USF Day at the Capitol lobbying day in February.

“We basically presented that we’ve created resolutions, we’ve passed them and we agreed upon taking these initiatives for the state for undocumented students,” said Christa Hegedus, vice president of Student Government. The students also showed legislators they were in support of in-state tuition for veterans.

Gov. Rick Scott proposed a number of changes to college costs in Florida, including degrees under $10,000 and a drop in tuition increase from year to year. The Florida House bill for tuition suggests a 6 percent tuition hike, well below the up to 15 percent allowed. However, student leadership at USFSP sees changes to tuition’s overall increase as problematic.

This year, Florida’s Board of Governors cut the Capital Tuition increases coincide with decisions made by the Board of Trustees for the USF System. This year, the Board of Trustees chose not to raise the athletic and service fees for the university. “In every budget cycle, eti-

Tuition increases coincide with decisions made by the Board of Trustees for the USF System. This year, the Board of Trustees chose not to raise the athletic and service fees for the university.

Improvement Trust Fund, which set aside money for campus improvement projects, such as new buildings and expansions statewide. This fund would have been used for new building for the College of Business, renovation of the Campus Recreation Center and more renovations to the Student Life Center.

“SG wants more of a budget to present activities and services on campus. What that means is an increase in student tuition,” Hegedus said. “With the way they [legislators] market it, that means that yes, Gov. Scott does not want tuition to increase for students, which is good, but consequently, they get a reduction in the services we can provide for them.”

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Follow Up

Student assaulted: did race prevent justice?

Last week, The Crow’s Nest ran a story on a student who was allegedly attacked by a customer while working at Burrito Boarder in downtown St. Petersburg. Sandra Pierre, 19, filed a complaint against Officer Marie of the St. Petersburg Police Department, claiming she failed to do her job correctly. The officer allowed Pierre’s alleged attacker to leave the scene of the incident without making a statement. Pierre believes Marie, who is white, may have treated her inferi orly because she is black.

Pierre filed the complaint against Marie on the night of the incident, which happened on March 9. The department’s internal affairs office told her the investigation would take up to 10 business days. As of Sunday, March 23, Pierre has not received results from the investigation.

The Crow’s Nest spoke with the department’s spokesman, Mike Puetz, on Thursday, March 20. Puetz said they could not comment on the investigation until it was complete. He did not have any information on its progress.

Pierre is also waiting to meet with the St. Petersburg police chief and Mayor Rick Kriseman. She was told they’d be contacting her, though she has yet to hear from either, she said.

She is still trying to find a lawyer to represent her in pressing charges against Marie and the man who allegedly attacked her, but has not been successful.

*Note: The poll was originally posted with "yes," "no" and "maybe" as options, but some students chose to add their own answers.

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USFSP Speaks!: Spring Fling 2014

Regarding USF St. Petersburg’s Spring Fling, which featured pop act 3OH!, on March 20, Sophia Constantine, vice president of the Harborside Activities Board, the student organization that hosted the event, sought feedback from students.

A Facebook poll on the USFSP Know-It-All’s Guide, two days after the courtyard concert at Jannus Live, Constantine asked: Would you like to see USFSP host another concert next year?

The poll itself may have received more positive responses than negative, but its comments section turned into a critique of the HAB committee in charge of planning the event. From voting on what artists should perform to being able (or not being able) to attend committee meetings to how the $50,000 allocated for the concert could have been better spent, students had much to say about the organization of the event and how it turned out. Overall, however, the majority of respondents would like to see USFSP host another concert next year.

As of about 8 p.m. Sunday, March 23, this is a rundown of votes cast by forum members:

- Yes – 81
- No – 13
- Maybe – 24
- Tupac – 22
- Mini Horse – 9
- Flobots – 9
- WWE WrestleMania – 2
- Disney on Ice – 1

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NOW HIRING FOR THE 2014-2015 SCHOOL YEAR

MANAGING EDITOR*
- Directs staff, content and coverage
- Proofs design, photography and content
- Must be available weekends, especially Sundays
- Writes content and assists staff and correspondents

SECTION EDITORS AND ASSISTANTS* (3 positions)
- News, Arts and Life, Opinions or Sports
- Develops story ideas for staff and correspondents
- Localizes national and international news
- Edits section stories and works closely with the managing editor and the editor in chief
- Assists work alongside editors by writing stories and working on projects

PHOTO EDITOR*
- Collaborates with staff to produce photographs for stories each week
- Edits and proofs photographs for placement
- Works with writers to develop photo captions and subject names

COPY EDITOR
- Proofs all content and writes headlines
- Works with managing editor and editor in chief in proofing of content and design
- Weekend availability and knowledge of AP Style is recommended

CREATIVE DIRECTOR*
- Oversees newspaper layout and design
- Works with graphic designer to develop visual content
- Must be available Sundays
- Knowledge of basic design skills and Adobe InDesign is recommended

GRAPHIC DESIGNER*
- Collaborates with the creative director
- Produces graphics and illustration for stories
- Creates advertising content when required

DISTRIBUTION MANAGER*
- Fills news stands with new issues
- Takes delivery from the printer
- Tracks readership
- Must be available Monday afternoons and evenings

ADVERTISING MANAGER*
- Reaches out to potential advertisers and maintains relationships with past customers
- Communicates with creative staff regarding ad content and placement

MARKETING MANAGER*
- Develops strategies to increase readership
- Advertises and promotes the newspaper
- Collaborates with staff on projects to increase readership

*Position includes a small stipend

E-mail resumes and/or clips to: tkillette@mail.usf.edu

News writers, photographers, cartoonists and opinion writers are always welcome at our weekly meetings. Stop by The Crow’s Nest office (SLC 2400) Wednesdays at 5:15 p.m.
March 24 - 30, 2014 | Volume 48 | Issue 25

Books for the book skeptic
By Ryan Ballogg
Staff Reporter

So, who reads anymore? Apart from dealing with menus and street signs, most people are letting reading go the way of the past, along with annoying things like self-respect, average IQ scores and Frank Sinatra. But maybe they’re just not getting exposed to the right books. A quick hunt on Amazon reveals some priceless finds (priceless here equals somewhere in the $8 to $30 range) with titles that should hold the attention of even your most oaf-like friends.

Enjoy!

“Crafting with Cat Hair” - $9
If you love that one, try:

“Does God Ever Speak through Cats?” - $11
For the pessimistic woodworker in your life:

“Do-It-Yourself Coffins” - $12
Gift for a little kid you dislike:

“The Pop-Up Book of Phobias” - $38
“Are You Hungry Tonight?: Elvis’ Favorite Recipes” - $10

“Communism, Hypnotism, and the Beatles” - Now out of print, but the fact it once existed is worth mentioning.

“Australian Tractors: Indigenous Tractors and Self-Propelled Machines in Rural Australia” - $30
“Who Cares About Elderly People?” (part of the “Who Cares” series) - $20

“Mole Catching: A Practical Guide” - $10 (e-book only)

“The Magic of Baking Soda” - $12

“How to Good-bye Depression: If You Constrict Anus 100 Times Everyday, Malarkey? or Effective Way?” - $15
If you’re still confused by all of this, try:

“How to Read a Book” - $10
And, your very last resort:

“How to Talk About Books You Haven’t Read” - $10

CONCERT Continued from front page

“We went and played at the music park to like, eight 10-year-olds that didn’t know anything,” Motte said. “It was very strange.”

The response in their hometown, however, has been just the opposite.

“Our hometown shows are always pretty amazing,” Foreman said. “There’s an amphitheater in Colorado that I would consider one of the best amphitheaters in the world. It’s called Red Rocks, and it was one of my goals in life to play it, and we played it, so that was really amazing.”

In addition to cranking out their own tunes, Motte and Foreman also pen songs for other acts.

“We’ve been writing so much for other artists in the past year,” Motte said, who co-wrote and co-produced Maroon 5’s “Love played a role in their early hiinks.

“The early days were interesting, I can tell you that,” Motte said. “It was less musically involved, and more [about] props. My mom would make fake blood for us. We were in college, and we would have sword fights and fake blood. They were theatrical.”

“It’s not hard to imagine a younger Foreman and Motte jousting in jest on stage. This is, after all, the same 3OH!3 that danced around in loin cloths for their “Don’t Trust Me” music video.

“It actually ended up being the reason why we’re still here, because we had fun with it, and we didn’t get too uptight about it, how we’re supposed to look or [what] we’re supposed to do,” Foreman said.

“We took advantage of the fact that someone was giving us a stage to be on, because we were like, ‘What idiot would give us a stage and just let us run around on it?’ We like to just make it feel like we’re at a house party.”

Despite having garnered more than five million likes on Facebook and finding success with a triple-platinum single, Foreman and Motte are still the same crazy college kids who started making music in 2004 at the University of Colorado in Boulder.

“Outside of music, we love playing sports. I play a lot of basketball, and I like to climb; stuff like that. Just normal stuff,” Foreman said. But, they’re still 3OH!3.

“Aren’t you skydiving in to start the show?” Foreman asked his bandmate.

“Skydive straight to zipline on,” Motte joked.

HAB handed out glowsticks and other light-up merch to concertgoers.

Somebody with Adam Levine and OneRepublic’s Ryan Tedder.

“It is interesting to come back to our own music and find our groove. But for us, it always boils down to just getting in the studio, having fun and being creative; doing new things.”

“We try not to get too bogged down into the idea of what we’re making,” Foreman said.

“It’s just about maintaining that and not over thinking a direction or a sound. Whether it’s electronic, hip-hop influenced, rock stuff, it’s kind of a part of what we do now.”

“Skydive straight to zipline on.”

3OH!3 feel at home playing colleges
Between touring, the duo co-writes songs for other artists

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A Lady Wonderland

In honor of Women’s History Month, here’s a playlist inspired by a handful of lady musicians The Crow’s Nest staff jams to. From pop to soul to DIY punk produced by solo artists and female-fronted bands, some with only female members, this mix has something for everyone.

BY MEAGHAN HARUDA

“Twin Peaks” by Genders
Who doesn’t like songs named after the best murder-mystery serial drama ever? I don’t know if this track actually meant to pay tribute to the television show, but they both have a whimsically noir feel. This indie rock four-piece, led by vocalist and guitarist Maggie Morris, blends psychedelic notes with vocals and instrumental that range from loud and upbeat to dark and gritty.

“The End of the Line” by Hurray for the Riff Raff
Ten seconds into this old country-folk ballad, and you’re hooked. Frontwoman Alynda Lee Segarra’s vocals are hard to resist. She charms listeners using fiddle, minor percussion, patient strums on her acoustic guitar and other Americana staples. Other songs by the band, like “The Body Electric” and “The New SE Bay Blues,” are recommended for those who like feminist twists on gendered tropes in music.

“The New Amsterdam” by Y Los
Dos Pilotos
A darker danceable tune by a garage pop band threesome who call Tampa Bay home. Though noisy with grit, the band still has indie rock influences. Shae Kriepinski sings and plays guitar, backed by Russ Jovin on bass, Rodney Smith on more guitar and Derek Forestier on drums. They throw a harmonica into their songs every once in a while.

“Fade Into You” by Mazzy Star
A classic. Vocalist Hope Sandoval’s haunting lyrics are cryptic and curious yet beautiful. With tranquilizing tempos and foggy guitar trappings, this two-piece knows atmospheric.

“Eretz Zavit Chalav” by Nina Simone
Not what comes to mind when someone mentions the High Priestess of Soul (it’s not an original, after all), but this cover song’s uniqueness makes it playlist worthy. An Israeli folk track, “Eretz” exemplifies Simone’s diverse interest and taste in music. With brisk rhythms, she takes the jazz genre beyond piano, bass and drums.

“Jealousy” by Mary Jane Girls
No need to thank me. I can already see you dancing home alone in your living room with that pseudo-microphone. Everything great about ’80s pop funk is encompassed in this one. Turn it up. There’s no sitting still.

“Am I the Only One?” by Beach Day
Straight from Hollywood (Florida, that is), Beach Day, fronted by vocalist-guitarist Kimmy Drake, generates daydreams of soaring through sand-filled paradises akin to their name. This song is more melancholy than others from the surf pop trio but still leaves you feeling hopeful through pleasant harmonies and choppy guitar.

“Nature of the Game” by Damn Broads!
Enjoy this energetic and passionate track from an all-female Connecticut hardcore-punk three-piece with a fine name. The lyrics are serious, calling out sexism in punk music, and the playing is resilient. Rhythms sway between hardcore and punk as group vocals follow along.

“Mr. Lucky” by Betty Wright
Wright comes off as a young Aretha Franklin, while organ lines and strong bass notes lead her in, but not before gunshots fired in the background do. This song is filled with captivating jazz soul, and sass to match.

“Billie Holiday” by Warpaint
“B-I-L-L-I-E H-O-L-I-D-A-Y,” carol the four spookiest female band members on the list. Hazy weavings of their voices reign throughout this ballad. The group’s atmospheric masterfully persistent when paired with soporific guitars and gleaming vocal melodies.

“I’m Gonna Be An Engineer” by Peggy Seeger
Long before Kimya Dawson or the Moldy Peaches became pop culture icons in folk-world circles, there was Seeger, with her engaging sound and anthem-like songwriting. Listeners follow this song’s female character, maybe it’s Seeger herself, through her dreams and journey of becoming more than “a lady.”

“You Light Special” by TLC
Sultry and skillful is the best way to describe this understated R&B track. The lead guitar gives off a Prince vibe, and the provocative lyrics, gently crooned by all three women, are nearly impossible to ignore.

“Jolene” by Dolly Parton
I resisted just listing different renditions of this 200-word song for the mix, but I couldn’t leave it off completely. If you don’t know this country classic, filled with evocative melodies and simple lyrics, get to listenin’.

“Run” by Daughter
Elena Tonra’s moody, ambient vocals are combined with layered, eargoing guitar by Igor Haefeli. The duo makes the production of stirring atmospheres seem effortless.

Professor of the Month: Heather Jones
Playwright, scriptwriter, poet

BY MATT THOMAS

Staff Reporter

Heather Jones was accused of plagiarism in second grade when her teacher deemed her display of rhyme and meter too advanced for someone her age. Undeterred by the accusation, Jones now teaches Composition I and II, Popular Culture in the Arts and Advanced Creative Writing as an adjunct professor at USF St. Petersburg.

An award winning playwright and scriptwriter, Jones’ interest in playwriting started as an undergraduate literature student at the University of North Carolina at Asheville.

When given the choice between a research paper or writing a play for her Masterpieces of the Drama class, the decision was easy for Jones. Her professor said her work was something more expected of a playwright than of a literature student, but no accusation of plagiarism was made this time.

While Jones was teaching at the University of Tampa, USFSP Literature Program coordinator Dr. Julie Armstrong and Associate Professor Dr. Thomas Hallock came to see one of her plays. After that, Jones took the opportunity to work closer to home with a teaching position at USFSP.

As a writing teacher, Jones wants her students to think of themselves as part of a community, while connecting their writing to what’s going on in the world and discovering who they are as writers. But, most importantly, “I’d like them to go to class,” Jones said.

Jones dislikes the myth that writers are isolated.

“Writing is an act of community. Most of us have people who read our work, most of us participate in the world and of course there’s the audience we write for,” Jones said.

Jones is currently working on a screenplay along with her Advanced Creative Writing students. She also wants to get her play “Bread & Salt” financed and publish “Murder Ballad,” her play-turned-novel. “Murder Ballad” started as a play called “Knoxville Girl” about a Tennessee town recovering from being taken over by the north and south after the Civil War. “Knoxville Girl” became rewritten as the “Murder Ballad” novel after it was first rewritten as a screenplay, transformed back into a play and performed at Studio@620.

“I’m just not tired of those characters,” Jones said.

The poem above was the first one Heather Jones remembers writing. Now, the adjunct professor is an award-winning playwright and scriptwriter.

If you have a favorite professor and you would like us to highlight them in The Crow’s Nest, please send their name, what department they are in and why they are special to usfcrowsnest@gmail.com.
Editorial

That time I cried in an SG meeting

By Tyler Killette
Editor-in-Chief

Well, it came out of frustration and stress because, unfortunately, that’s how my body deals with those emotions. The salty drops were merely pooling at the edges of my tear ducts as I left the conference room, but by the time I’d gotten down the hall to my office, they were racing down my cheeks, probably leaving streaks in my blush.

Stress crying is a lot more dramatic than sad crying. Sadness is an uninhibited emotion, so when you cry, you feel comfortable allowing the tears to flow freely. But crying because you’re stressed only adds to your frustration, so as you’re trying to hold it in, you end up forgetting to breathe and subsequently hyperventilate in between loud restrained sobs. At least, that’s how I do it.

It’s a quite flitting form of expression.

And as I continued to choke, doing that thing where you involuntarily inhale through your nose so tightly it makes your whole body shake, while waiting for the elevator right outside the room I’d just left, it must have become apparent to the meeting’s remaining participants that one inevitably going to get buried in my inbox.

I saw the email about the second hearing and made plans to attend, though I had to be at work (because, yes, we all have other jobs) 30 minutes away from campus, an hour and a half after the meeting was set to begin. While waiting for quorum (the fancy word meaning the minimum number of committee members required to make decisions) to show up, our 4 p.m. start time turned into 4:20. Then we had to go through a bunch of superfluous procedural stuff, such as announcing that no one had any announcements to make.

Though some HAB representatives also had prior obligations to get to, and suffered equally from the committee’s late start, we were scheduled to go first, and I made sure we did.

So, when it was our turn to speak, my coworker and I pouted on about why some part of our budget should be moved to another part where it could be used more effectively. After letting us talk for about five minutes, the committee finally let us know the part of our budget we were talking about didn’t actually exist. It was written into the draft, but nothing in the draft was approved. I didn’t know that because I missed the first hearing. Therefore, everything I’d intended to defend at this hearing was imaginary.

I’ve never been in Student Government. I don’t go to Student Government meetings. I have a hard enough time just reading through general assembly minutes without wanting to punch through my computer screen. I don’t like waiting for acknowledgement before speaking, and I don’t like being called Ms. Killette. Let me hold onto my youth for a few more years before turning my into a “Ms.” I know it’s done out of respect, but let’s stop pretending to be adults here. We’re college students — we’ve never been further from the real world.

Anyway, being essentially told to shut my mouth and wait my turn is not what made me cry. That came from having my knowledge as a leader and the integrity of my organization questioned by people who knew nothing about the entity they were making budgetary decisions for. As representatives of our student body, I would expect SG members to at least make an attempt at acquiring such knowledge.

Through the course of the semester, I was told by several SG members to think about what I wanted to see in next year’s budget. But no one offered to talk with me about it. And ultimately, our next budget remained the same as this year’s. If that was going to be outcome, I was transmitting energy asking for more. It was a helpless situation for which I was hopelessly unprepared for and at odds. That’s why I cried.

In about five weeks, I’ll be abdicating my editor’s throne and graduating. The idea is simultaneously comforting and disconcerting. What happens to The Crow’s Nest won’t affect my future, but I’d hate to see a year’s worth of hard work, late nights and more stress than I knew I could handle go to waste. At this point, money isn’t an issue. We functioned on $51,000 this year and the new staff will be able to do it next year. It’s SG’s willingness to facilitate fair and understanding relationships with other student-run entities that has me worried.

editor@crowsneststpete.com

Owls

By Kati Lacker

Throwback

March 26, 1920 — The first book by F. Scott Fitzgerald, “This Side of Paradise,” was published. At only 23 years old, Fitzgerald’s book gained him wealth and celebrity notoriety. He was the youngest author to ever be published by Scribner’s.

Most of the characters and the plot line are drawn directly from Fitzgerald’s life. The story, revolving around love, greed and seeking status, is similar to the time Fitzgerald spent at Princeton. The first printing was 3,000 copies and sold out in three days.
Debtless tuition plan only sounds like a deal

Unfair standards and dim futures

I have a Bright Futures scholarship -- the "75 percent" one. But Bright Futures doesn't help pay tuition by percentages. It pays a certain dollar amount per credit hour. I've calculated it a few times, but it just makes me angry every time. I'm not exactly getting 75 percent of my tuition covered by the Florida Lottery-funded scholarship program; it's more like 60 percent at best.

Tuition increases almost every year, but Bright Futures doesn't budge with its assistance. Research from the past few decades has shown that poorer families and minorities have had lower standardized test scores, possibly because of the lack of time and money for test prep. So, raising test scores negatively affects them.

Interestingly, minorities and poorer people are the ones most heavily playing the lottery. But they are the ones who are less likely to benefit from the program. So those who play the lottery most, hoping to win some money for their children's education, might not benefit from the program they support.

Lawmakers' decisions to raise standards for scholarships probably didn't intentionally target poorer families or minorities. But their decisions directly impact those groups of people.

The high standards, the inaccurate and inadequate rewards for hard-working students, are unfair. But I guess life is just unfair.

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

A chat with Milwaukee Mike

By Taylor Austin Staff Columnist

Nearly outshining the visual aesthetic that continues to define St. Petersburg as a place of quiet and destination are its colorful cast of residents, who from my experience seem to be some of the best storytellers in Florida.

Often resoundingly open and detailed, the folks who call St. Pete home have a vibe that humbly reads, "Let me tell you a smidge about me, oh, and don't you just love this city?"

On numerous accounts I have found myself on the bench beside Central Coffee or blowing the leaves off the sidewalk on First Avenue N with a cup of coffee in my hand and the desire for conversation, not the conversations I was to be had are so frequently remarkably random and enlightening.

On Friday, March 21, I met Milwaukee Mike near Third Avenue S and Seventh Street, and received a nice cup of thought -- the special gift that is experiencing and embracing the world for what it is. Mike told me his mother was a florist, and despite the exposure for most of his childhood and adulthood, he "still didn't know what many of 'em [plants] were."

After telling me of his mother's resilience for self-taught entrepreneurism, he paused mid-story, seeming to trip over a memory and chuckle over the happiness it brought, he took a moment to close his eyes and relive it so that he could relay it. Milwaukee Mike proceeded, his cheeks becoming flush and his eyes watery with pure joy. When Mike was a boy, about 8 years old, his mother had picked up babysitting as a way to make ends meet. She was also a frequent gardener who spent nearly all of her leisure time on her plants.

One day, one of the kids she was babysitting, who was about 9 or 10, got hold of her small garden saw and cut the small tree that she had recently planted clear in half. Mike's father, "a good ol' blue collar America-builder," as Mike put it, came home from work, and upon seeing his wife's sorrow, he promptly went into problem-solving mode.

Mike's father drove a stake in between the divided tree trunk, held them together and wrapped it to the top with rope.

"Thirty years later and it's the tallest tree in the yard. I never thought it had a chance," Mike said.

When he was 19, right before moving out of his parent's house, he asked his father, "Why did you try and save that tree when I was a kid? You could've just bought another one."

His father half-smiled and responded, "Sometimes you just got to slap a*** against the wall and see if it sticks."

Taylor Austin is a junior majoring in history and photo editor. She can be reached at taylorasinth@gmail.com or on Twitter @mapplemix.
Start your engines

The Firestone Grand Prix of St. Petersburg’s course is the third that has been used for the race. The second version looped around Tropicana Field.

Despite loss, USFSP baseball still going strong

BY ANDREW CAPLAN
CROW’S NEXT CORRESPONDENT

The USFSP Bulls’ club baseball team lost to the Kansas Jayhawks Friday night, ending their 11-game win streak.

In their inaugural season, the (11-4) Bulls attempted to keep the momentum going against the Jayhawks, but were haunted by six costly errors and were defeated 7-4 at home.

The Jayhawks’ junior starting pitcher, Matt Carrillo, threw 12 strikeouts through eight innings against the Bulls.

“Since playing Miami, we’ve faced a lot of average pitchers, and this kind of lets us see where we are at as far as hitting goes,” senior Mike Rohan said.

The Bulls’ sophomore pitcher, Jeremy Berger, came into the game in the fourth inning, relieving Logan McPhee after allowing five runs early.

Berger finished the game allowing one earned run and recorded six strikeouts in six innings.

“We came here ready to play, and through the first couple innings we were too flat on our feet,” Berger said. “A few guys were scared of the ball. You can’t play baseball like that. You gotta want it.”

Despite their defensive woes, the Bulls’ offense couldn’t find their footing. Nine hits off the Jayhawks’ pitcher, including a RBI triple that had potential to be a inside-the-park home run from Rohan.

A freshman utility player, Ryan Oltz, was responsible for three of the fielding errors but made up for it in hitting. Oltz went 2-for-2 with an RBI, a stolen base and a walk.

Otz was the only Bull to get on base every at-bat and was one of three Bulls to reach a base safely three times. Castroneves won back-to-back races in 2006 and 2007, and again in 2012. Canadian James Hinchcliffe won last year’s race.

The inaugural race winner from 2005, Dan Wheldon, passed away in a crash in 2011, and the main straightaway is named Dan Wheldon Way Wheldon was a resident of St. Petersburg.

The final race begins at 3:20 p.m. Sunday. The race will be broadcasted on NBC Sports Network for the second straight year. Spectators can still three-day general admission passes for $55. A general admission ticket for Sunday will cost $50.

The race is set to run on Sunday. Because it will all be over soon. The race is set to run on Sunday.

Even though the race creates headaches for many residents and businesses, headaches that only get worse on race day, the City of St. Petersburg loves having the event and the economic boost it provides.

The race organizers say they expect 130,000 fans to attend the events of the weekend. More than 27,000 hotel rooms will also be booked over the weekend. The event will be an opportunity for the St. Pete/Clearwater Tourism Bureau to showcase the area to potential tourists.

Not everyone feels the boost the race provides. Some businesses right along the course are forced to close during construction or see their numbers drop during the same time. The Salvador Dalí Museum decided this year that it would not be financially viable to stay open during race weekend. The Dalí was open during last year’s race but will use this year to hold staff trainings.

This year’s race will be the 10th anniversary of this iteration of the race, which has been run on and off by different racing circuits since 1985. The Indy Car Series, which has a new title sponsor this year in Verizon, took over the race in 2005.

The current track, which has been used every year by Indy Car, will see the drivers head up 1st St. SW, turn right on to Beach Drive, turn right again onto Central Avenue and then another quick right turn onto Bay Shore Drive before finishing on the runway of Albert Whitted Airport. Drivers will complete the course 110 times around.

This year’s race has a new title sponsor. The corporate sponsor switched from automaker Honda to tire manufacturer Firestone.

The reason behind the change is because Honda pulled its sponsor- ship after no racers on the circuit made up for it in hitting. Oltz went 2-for-2 with an RBI, a stolen base and a walk.

Senior Inga Orekhova reached a personal milestone in the victory. Orekhova’s 15 points put her over 1,000 points for her career. She became the 20th player in school history to pass the 1,000-point mark.

In their second round matchup, the Bulls beat Stetson 73-56 to move on to the third round.

“The only way you can prove you should be in the [NCAA] tournament is by winning this one,” Bulls head coach Jose Fernandez said after the game.

USF moves on to play George Washington on Thursday at the Sun Dome.

Bulls don’t focus on snub

BY MIKE HOPEY
STAFF REPORTER

Fans may have thought when the South Florida women’s basketball team was left out of the NCAA Tournament that it was a snub but the team didn’t have time to dwell on the exclusion from one tournament because they had to get ready for the next.

After a 20-12 season and a Mark Roads managed to this iteration of the race, which has been run on and off by different racing circuits since 1985. The Indy Car Series, which has a new title sponsor this year in Verizon, took over the race in 2005.

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The next USF coach?

MANHATTAN’S Steve Masiello has emerged as a serious front runner for the vacant head coaching position with the USF men’s basketball team. Masiello’s mentor, Louisian coach Rick Pitino, told him that the USF job would be a “Grand Slam” for Masiello.

According to Sports Club Stats the chances that the Tampa Bay Lightning make the Stanley Cup Playoffs is 99.9%. Their odds to win the Stanley Cup sit at 2.6%. According to the site the odds on favorites to win the Stanley Cup are the Boston Bruins, who are unbeaten against Tampa Bay.

USFSP Baseball

Results
March 21
Kansas 7, USFSP 4

USF Sailing

MAISA/SAISA Regatta

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Hampton as host completed with two teams.

Admiral Moore Team

REC
Coast Guard Academy | 14-7 |
Hobart and William Sm. | 14-7 |
Fordham | 13-8 |
SUNY Maritime | 12-9 |
Tufts | 11-7 |
South Florida | 10-8 |
Georgetown | 9-9 |
Dartmouth | 5-13 |
Vermont | 5-13 |
Pennsylvania | 3-15 |

Women’s Basketball

NIT - First Round
March 21
USF 56, NC A&T 50

NIT - Second Round
March 23
USF 75, Stetson 56

NIT - Third Round
March 26
USF vs. George Washington, 7:30 PM

Football

Spring game
March 29
at Corbett Stadium, 4 (98.7 FM)