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USFSP website hacked briefly on Friday

By Jennifer Nesslar
Staff Reporter

Hackers took control of USF St. Petersburg’s website for a few minutes on Friday. Just before 2 p.m., usfsp.edu was hacked by a group, which identified itself as “Indonesian Cyber Freedom Hackers,” or INCEF. The content of the website was replaced by INCEF’s banner, which lists the screen names of INCEF’s members, including the hacker, who identifies as Achan Dot ID.

The banner, accompanied by music, included the message: “Anything is possible. Anything can happen as long as we believe.”

Within minutes, administrators disabled the site. By 2:15 p.m., the site was fully operational again.

Later in the evening, the site seemed to experience issues loading, but by Saturday it was running again.

No one from the university was available to speak Friday afternoon, but The Crow’s Nest spoke to Vincent Lynch, a technical support member at the SSL Store, headquartered in downtown St. Petersburg. The SSL Store sells SSL security certificates to well-known companies throughout the world, protecting their websites from potential hacks. SSL Store customers include Microsoft, NASA and IBM.

“It doesn’t look like there’s any reason to believe they targeted the site specifically,” said Lynch.

Lynch said the hackers likely ran scripts to search for vulnerabilities on the web. When they found vulnerabilities, they used a method called injection to trick the site into running code of their own.

He compared the hackers to thieves wandering through a parking lot. The thieves will check every car door until they find one that is unlocked.

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Bike share program launched

By Bryana Perkins
Crow’s Nest Contributor

Everyone has places to go and people to see, but not everyone has the means to get there. For USF St. Petersburg students, the means have arrived.

Bike-A-Bull, an on-campus bike-share program, officially opened for operation Jan. 14. Students only need their university ID to rent a bike for 24 hours. After receiving a list of traffic laws and signing an agreement waiver, students are assigned a Sea Wind beach cruiser and given two lights, a helmet and a lock (with the option of a basket).

“This pilot program, consisting of only a few bikes, has already begun to receive some buzz. "I think it’s amazing; it’s a great opportunity for students who don’t have cars,” said Lillie Wiszniewski, a sophomore who lives on campus. Wiszniewski can’t afford to purchase her own bike, so the bike-share program is a great option.

Observation of other programs, such as USF Tampa’s Share-A-Bull Bikes and Eckerd College’s Yellow Bike Program became models for

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Your guide to Pete Points

BY Tierney Tran
Crow’s Nest Contributor

You have probably attended many fun events on campus, but you probably didn’t know that you could be receiving Pete Points at the same time.

Just bring your student ID and swipe.

Pete Points were designed to create “an intentional experience” on campus, outside a classroom. The points are offered at events that fall within several categories: cultural, social, wellness, career, leadership, recreational, service and academic. These categories make up Pete’s Cube. Look for Pete’s logo on flyers and invitations for activities that offer points.

The Leadership Office decides how many points to allot to each event, but they generally range from 100 to 500 points.

Want to know more?

To see a full calendar of events on campus and how many Pete Points are offered, visit: http://tinyurl.com/petescalendar2015

If you’ve been “swiping for swag,” but want to know how many points you’ve accumulated, follow these steps:
1. Log on to your PeteSync Account
2. Click on “My Profile”
3. On the top tab of your profile, Click on “Involvement”
4. Look on the right side of the page for “Advanced Filters” and scroll down to the Organization section and select “Pete’s Cube.” Then under the “From” tab select “Fall 2014”
5. Click “Filter” to see just the Pete’s Cube events you attended.

Website wasn’t targeted, technical expert says

Lynch said the version USF is using isn’t too old, but may account for the hack.

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Content management systems, which include WordPress, the system that Lynch said USFSP is using, tend to have vulnerabilities. That’s why it’s important to stay current with site updates, Lynch said.

USFSP uses WordPress version 3.9, which was updated in April 2014 to WordPress version 4.0. Lynch said the version USF is using isn’t too old, but may account for the hack.

The Crow’s Nest made several attempts to reach Jessica Blais and Patrick Baxter of USFSP University Advancement, but they didn’t respond to calls or emails and were not in their office Friday afternoon.

USFSP is not the only website to experience hacks recently. On Jan. 12, the Islamic State of Iraq and Syria hacked the Twitter account of U.S. military’s Central Command, the group headed the military campaign against ISIS. ISIS posted threatening messages on the page, which normally displays messages of the U.S.’s progress against ISIS.

On Nov. 22, a group called Anonymous of Paris hacked Sony Pictures. The group threatened to attack any theater that ran Sony’s controversial movie “The Interview,” causing Sony to pull the film from most theaters.

Since the attack on French satirical newspaper Charlie Hebdo on Jan. 7, a group called “Anonymous” has hacked French websites with pro-Islamic messages. About 19,000 sites have been affected, according to Admiral Arnaud Coustillière, France’s head of cyber security.

Information in this report was gathered from the Washington Post, the Associated Press and BBC News.

news@crownsneststpete.com

New kiosks to monitor energy usage

BY Jonah King
Crow’s Nest Contributor

When students returned to campus from winter break, six kiosks had been installed. No one seemed to know what they were for.

The kiosks aren’t as mysterious as they seemed. They are a part of the first steps in a push toward a more sustainable campus.

The kiosks will allow students to track how much energy USF St. Petersburg is using.

The project is sustainability coordinator Jennifer Winter.

The kiosks work similarly to that of a touchscreen computer. They give real-time energy statistics, along with more sustainable information about USFSP.

The kiosks will be able to record the energy the parking garage, which has been retrofitted with a Tesla battery storage system and a Sunsense PV solar array of panels, uses. The wall-mounted kiosk was provided by manufacturer Lucid.

What caught many students and staff off guard was the appearance of another five standing monitors. The other five kiosks were donated by Duke Energy, the company which provided the grant for the solar panels. These five kiosks have been stationed in the University Student Center, the Student Life Center, Bayboro Hall, the Nelson Poynter Library and Harbor Hall.

Winter believes there are going to be many benefits to bringing this technology to USFSP.

By having that monitoring system, there is a 1 to 2 percent decrease in energy usage just by change in behavior, Winter said.

The statistics will be saved in cloud storage and can be tracked from year to year. There are also plans to have energy competitions between buildings, residence halls and even from floor to floor. Winter said.

Winter noted that 12 professors have shown interest in intertwining the data from the kiosks with their curriculum.

Like the parking garage, the Lucid kiosk was bought with grant money at a value of $12,000. Winter said. Winter approximated that the kiosks donated by Duke were between $10,000 and $15,000, including shipping. Installation had to be paid for.

Winter hopes the kiosks will be fully functional in two weeks, but work still has to be done on the IT side before they will be ready to go.

Construction Project Manager Jim Grant said the rollout date will come down to the schedule of Jeff Reisberg, director of campus computing.

The plan is to do a test run on the library monitor, Grant said.

As far as the rest of the monitoring system is concerned, there is a pending case in Student Government over the rest of the technology. The trial is expected to be held before the end of the semester, the Supreme Court said.

An SG bill that passed last year, regarding purchase of a system that would monitor the other six buildings, is currently in trial over the use of funds.

The monitoring system is a sub-meter system with WiFi that if installed, will provide the kiosks in each building with specific energy usage information.

“You can’t manage what you can’t monitor,” Winter said.

A ribbon cutting for the kiosks is being planned, Winter said.
Go study abroad

BY CORY SANTERO
Crow’s Nest Contributor

If you have thought about studying abroad, but never acted on it, now is the time to apply. The deadline to apply for all summer trips is Feb. 15.

Don’t know what trips are offered? Don’t worry. Here they are.

**USFSP Business in Europe**
- **Trip dates:** June 23–July 6
- **Credit hours available:** 3-6
- **Possible courses:** Doing Business in Europe MAN 4090, 3 credits and International Management MAN 4600, 3 credits
- **Interest to areas of study:** Business, Marketing and Finance
- **Cost:** $3,475

**USFSP Business in Germany**
- **Trip dates:** July 3–11
- **Credit hours available:** 3
- **Interest to areas of study:** Business, Marketing and Finance
- **Cost:** $3,800

**USFSP in France: Nice**
- **Trip dates:** June 14–July 4
- **Credit hours available:** 3
- **Interest to areas of study:** Language and Linguistics
- **Cost:** $3,950

**USFSP in Salamanca, Spain**
- **Trip dates:** June 15–July 5
- **Interest to areas of study:** Languages and Linguistics
- **Cost:** $3,650

**USFSP: Business in Costa Rica**
- **Trip dates:** May 1–8
- **Interest to areas of study:** Business, Marketing and Finance
- **Cost:** $5,050
- **Credit:** 3 Credits

**USF in Vietnam: Society, Energy and Humanity**
- **Trip dates:** July 7–27
- **Credit:** 3-6 Credits
- **Interest to areas of study:** Natural and Physical Sciences, Social Sciences
- **Cost:** TBA

The Study Abroad program offers students an opportunity for global exploration.

Frank Biafora, USF St. Petersburg’s dean of the College of Arts and Sciences, takes yearly trips abroad with students and stresses the importance of having a thirst for curiosity and discovery. He said that studying abroad is a fantastic opportunity for students to gain professional and life experience.

“Employers want demonstrated evidence about curiosity of the world,” Biafora said.

He believes international travel helps develop students in all aspects of life.

Biafora knows the sticker price often deters students from considering studying abroad as a realistic possibility.

“Don’t let sticker price discourage you to explore and apply,” he said, “Because you may be awarded scholarships and fundme.com may help you.”

In addition to the cost of tuition, students are expected to cover their travel expenses, including round-trip tickets, meal costs and personal purchases. But Biafora is optimistic about making it work.

The potential to receive Study Abroad scholarships through the USF system is available to any interested student who makes a $500 commitment by Feb. 15, which is also the deadline for many summer programs.

Biafora, who has served as an arbiter on scholarship applications, said that passionate students stand out.

Biafora said that an alternative source of financing could come from fundme.com, a site designed to help anyone interested in generating funds for a special cause. He has seen several scenarios where students were able to travel free of charge due to fundme.com’s help.

“Many people out there are willing to help your dream come true,” he said. “That is still a very real reality about the country that we live in.”

**Who to contact?**

Wendy Baker presides over all study abroad options at USFSP and is involved in marketing them to students. Contact her at wbaker@usfsp.edu.

There are two places to find information on study abroad trips:

1. USFSP programs web page. http://www.usfsp.edu/studyabroad/

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Bikes available to USFSP students

Continued from p.1

the project at USFSP. The campus’ unique layout made concerns of safety, storage and maintenance a priority.

“Before the program started, there was student interest in increasing that connection with downtown and not being limited to as far as you could or would want to walk,” said Zac Oppenheim, assistant director of student life and engagement. “It was that feedback of what students actually wanted to do with the bikes, that we could build the full experience.”

This program, enduring the change of directors, student government politics, and the search for a reliable and accessible bike company, set the program back for some time. Alyssa Winston, the current director of sustainable initiatives, said this project has been in the works for several years.

“There was an issue that the money ran out because of the end of the fiscal year,” Winston said. “So we’ve had to start over for a long time.”

The bikes are purchased from and maintained by ABC Bicycles, and regulated by Campus Recreations. The Waterfront boat-house staff manages the sharing process.

“It’s about sustainability, creating a carbon copy footprint,” said Aaron Wasserman, a campus recreation student employee, who is heavily involved with the on-campus maintenance of the bikes.

This gives students a transportation option when pursuing internships, jobs or the downtown area. Both Oppenheim and Wasserman said that it is too early to tell what the future holds for Bike-A-Bull. Some ideas include adding more bikes and using them for a bike club or educational purposes. But the hope begins with students taking an interest and giving feedback.

So Oppenheim encourages everyone to “swing by, check out the bikes, talk with the staff and maybe even go for a ride.”

The Bike-A-Bull project now joins a list of other programs that benefit students without transportation, including the car-share program, WeCar by Enterprise and the U-Pass program, where USFSP students ride the Pinellas Suncoast Transit Authority (PTSA) busses for free.

news@crownsneststpete.com
Review: Painting with a Twist

BY REBECCA RUDGE
CROW’S NEXT CONTRIBUTOR
Fun art, not fine art — this is the motto at Painting with a Twist in St. Petersburg.

Painting with a Twist consists of two hours of fun painting; the twist being wine. Drinking wine and painting on a canvas — what could sound more entertaining? They provide the canvas, paint, paint brushes, napkins, cups and corkscrews. All you need to bring is a snack and a bottle of wine.

The instructor stands in the front of the room and gives step-by-step instructions while painting the picture. I first heard about Painting with a Twist when I went for my friend’s 21st birthday. I was hesitant to go because I had not taken an art class since elementary school. I decided that I would give it a shot and went.

Upon entering the studio I received my canvas and found the seat with my name on it next to my friend’s. I thought that the next two hours were going to be painstaking, and I was dreading every minute. When I got up the nerve to touch the paint on the brush to the canvas, my anxiety level went down so fast that I forgot why I was so nervous.

The cool thing is that the paintings look complicated, when in reality they are quite easy. After the two hours were over, I could not believe that I had painted the picture that was before me.

Painting with a Twist offers many different types of classes. There are two- and three-hour classes; the latter normally requires a higher skill level. They offer classes during the day that are suited more toward a family making it fun for all ages.

There are specific date-night classes, which set the mood for a romantic evening. They have Girls’ Night Out events and themed nights. They also have an upstairs room that can be rented out for private parties, and you can pick out whatever painting you want to create.

Whether you want to throw a private party or just have some fun on a Saturday night, Painting with a Twist is a great place to go and try something new.

IF YOU GO:
Painting with a Twist is at 2527 Central Ave.

Review: Spiritual Independence

MARK WOLFENBARGER
STAFF REPORTER
Italian black-metal maestros Mortuary Drape have awakened with Spiritual Independence, their first album in 10 years.

Whereas previous album Buried in Time left many fans yearning for the ritualistic magic of old, Independence elevates the Drape’s command of the dark arts.

Gone is the mechanical, metale-ore-esque sound of Time. Instead, the Drape has re-invoked the macabre aura, virtuosic musicianship and otherworldly songwriting that pervaded their early sound and disappeared after 2002’s Trolling 13 Knell.

The depraved vocal possessions of founding member and lone recurring entity Wildness Perversion are also at full strength. From the moment of the first violin stroke in the intro track “The Hour”, the air feels toxic. From there, Lithany consumes the listener in a dense fog of blackened thrash riffs and blood-curdling vocals, which have undergone a slight transformation.

While Perversion’s trademark raspy incantations are present, his primal roar dominates the album, giving it a stronger death-metal vibe than previous outings. Independence is also somewhat of a milestone — it marks the first time that Perversion has sat at the drum throne since their 1995 debut album, All the Witches Dance, and his presence is felt. Fills fall in all the right places and the double kick carries expert precision and creativity. Yet the drums never overwhelm the sound. They add layers to the music and flash in the negative spaces.

Liquid bass lines round out the rhythm section and continue to raise the bar for four-string excellence in black metal. In fact, if there’s one gripe with Independence, it is that the bass lines are sometimes buried beneath the guitars and drums.

That’s not to say that the production is a weak link. On the contrary, it is the kind of raw clarity that Time was missing. It neither sounds too modern nor too flat. Due to the level of technicality and a tempo that favors the red line, it makes sense to compare Independence to sophomore album Secret Sudaria. But to ignore its ties to the rest of their discography and the progression the band has made would be doing them a disservice.

Spiritual Independence finds Mortuary Drape at the peak of their power. The purple-clad heretics have re-established themselves as agents of immutable darkness. Rather than create an album to simply satisfy fans, they have unearthed a new relic of reverence. One that deserves its place at the altar of the black mass.

life@crownsneststpete.com

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life@crownsneststpete.com
Urban Brew and BBQ
smokes the competition

BY SEAN LEROUX
Crow’s Nest Contributor

Urban Brew and BBQ effectively pairs two of the Sunshine State’s favorite edible offerings – craft beer and delicious barbecue. With an impressive selection of food and 20 craft beers on tap, it’s all too easy to wind up having a quick lunch stop turn into a two-hour event.

First to land on the table was the Urban Mac ‘n’ Cheese, a crowd favorite according to the menu. Made to order and served in a blistering skillet, it is a pleasing combination of smoked gouda, parmesan and cheddar cheese and prosciutto, topped with bread crumbs. The three cheeses complemented one another nicely, and the prosciutto was a welcome addition to an already impressive take on mac ‘n’ cheese.

Next up was The Thing, a house creation that can only be described as a gift from the barbecue gods. This mind-blowing creation is a corn bread waffle topped with pulled pork, bacon, cheese, a fried egg and homemade pork gravy. If you’ve got a sweet tooth, The Thing is a favouable flavor.

The beer selection is impressive – 20 craft beers on tap at all times and no more than one tap per brewery. Urban’s rule of thumb is that all beers are $7 or less. The taps are all identical; intended to push customers to order their beverage of choice based on description rather than which looks fancier. The local beer selection is nice, but they make sure to leave room for more distant breweries as well.

The bar is nice, but the indoor seating isn’t particularly vast and can feel quite cramped during the busier hours of the day. Luckily, their outdoor beer garden easily makes up for that. To promote socialization, there are no televisions and the seating area consists of five, large picnic benches rather than individual tables. The floor is paved with 1,200 Augusta concrete blocks that once lined the streets of St. Petersburg. Urban has some of the nicest outdoor seating in the area.

Urban Brew and BBQ has found a way to successfully pair delicious craft beer with southern-style barbecue, and it is a welcome addition to St. Petersburg’s Grand Central District.

Beers to try:
A.P.I.A.S. — A creamy nitro raspberry porter from Big Storm Brewing Company. It is slightly sweeter than most porters, containing light hints of raspberry and chocolate. Think craft Guinness.

Harvest Dance — A rich Wheatwine ale from Boulevard Brewing Company. It has a rather high alcohol content and is more of a dessert beer, given its exceptionally sweet, fruity flavor.

IF YOU GO:
Urban Brew and BBQ is located at 1399 Central Ave., St. Petersburg, Fl 33713.
Hours:
Monday-Thursday: 11 a.m. to 10 p.m.
Friday-Saturday: 11 a.m. to 11 p.m.
Sunday: noon to 10 p.m.

5 local brunch spots
BY ANGELINA BRUNO
Crow’s Nest Contributor

Late weekend nights require mid-afternoon romances with your favorite weekend date: brunch. We’ve rounded up the five best places to brunch in downtown St. Pete. Grab a mimosa — or two.

Red Mesa Cantina
128 3rd St. S
With ample indoor and outdoor seating, Red Mesa Cantina is the No. 1 place for brunch downtown. Order up some Mexican-inspired eats like their guacamole burrito, and couple it with a refreshing, flavored mimosa. You won’t be dissatisfied.

Must Have: Fruit and Yogurt
With Agave nectar and fresh strawberries and bananas, this dish is light but flavorful.

Banyan Tree Café
689 Martin Luther King Jr. St. S
This charming little coffee shop has a big surprise: incredible breakfast fare. Faster than full-service dining, but just as fresh, Banyan is the place to be.

Must Have: Egg, Bacon and Spinach sandwich
Sautéed spinach, and an over-medium egg pair perfectly with crunchy Cuban bread and sharp white cheddar.

The Dome
561 Central Ave.
For those on the traditional, limited-funds college budget, you’ll hit the jackpot at The Dome. The best part? You name it, they’ve got it, and they serve it up really fast. Go up to the counter and place your order, and they’ll call you on the loudspeaker when it’s ready. There’s plenty of seating and it is a great place for groups.

Must Have: French Toast
Dipped in a cinnamon-sugar egg batter, it’s just like Mom used to make. Order a side of bacon, too. Your taste buds will thank you.

Fresco’s Waterfront Restaurant
300 Second Ave. NE
If you’re looking for a little something extra this weekend, Fresco’s Waterfront Restaurant doesn’t just have incredible food; it has an incredible view, too. Right on the marina, Fresco’s overlooks the boats and the bay. Order up a plate of chicken and waffles, and you may just get a dolphin sighting on the side.

Must Have: The Alaskan
An omelet filled with salmon, capers and cream cheese and served with breakfast potatoes. Can you say “yum?”

Café Del Mar
If you just can’t get out of bed, try Café Del Mar. Serving brunch until 4 p.m., it’s perfect for those who miss the morning while snoozing. With live music, a full bar and a great location in the heart of downtown, Del Mar is definitely worth a trip.

Must Have: The Brunch Boat
This delicious dish has roasted potatoes, oven poached eggs and Spanish chorizo. Ole!

Mimosas, made with champagne and chilled fruit juice, are popular brunch items at restaurants around downtown St. Petersburg.
Editorial

The Super Bowl sex trafficking myth

Advocates are increasingly decrying the myth that the Super Bowl increases sex trafficking activity. But the myth reminds us of how widespread sex trafficking actually is.

Sometimes the biggest discussions surrounding the Super Bowl are unrelated to football. When Texas hosted the game in 2011, Greg Abbott, Texas’ attorney general, told USA Today that the Super Bowl is “commonly known as the single largest human trafficking incident in the United States.”

There were 10,000 sex workers who came to Miami for the Super Bowl in 2010, according to the National Center for Missing or Exploited Children.

But increasingly, advocates working to stop sex trafficking say these numbers are bogus. Snopes.com, a site that looks into rumors and urban legends, says the claim about sex workers flocking to the Super Bowl is a myth. Sex workers attend the Super Bowl, but the areas that host the Super Bowl deal with the issue at other times.

“The hype around large sporting events and increases in trafficking for prostitution is often based on misinformation, poor data, and a tendency to sensationalize,” said a 2011 study from the Global Alliance Against Traffic in Women. There is no data supporting the link, the study concludes.

Talking about the link between sex trafficking and sporting events has become rhetoric for politicians in host cities, who promise to crack down on trafficking. It’s good that the subject is being talked about, but the emphasis placed on the Super Bowl needs to stop. The reality is, sex trafficking is more common in the U.S. than most know.

Sex trafficking is forcing people to commit sexual acts against their will for commercial gain. The Polaris Project calls sex trafficking a “form of modern slavery.” Not all cases of prostitution are sex trafficking. But in every case where the victim is under 18, it is considered sex trafficking.

In 2013, 3,609 cases of sex trafficking in the U.S. were reported to the National Human Trafficking Resource Center. Victims are often forced to make hundreds of dollars each night through a variety of methods. Sometimes brothels are disguised as legitimate businesses, such as massage parlors. Other times, victims are sent to truck stops and forced to knock on truck doors and offer sex.

It’s not just a U.S. problem. Worldwide, 4.5 million people are sex-trafficking victims.
Multiculturalism a distant dream for Europe

By Phil Lavery
Contributing Columnist

Last week’s terror attacks in Paris have led to an increase of supporters for Europe’s right-wing politicians, regarding multiculturalism and the mass immigration of Muslims to the continent.

A slowing economy and further resentment from the working class (spilling into the middle class) will spell the end of the multicultural fantasy that was dreamt but not planned.

With no-go zones — areas that only Muslims can enter inside a city — surrounding Paris, Berlin, London and other cities, a ridge has formed between the two cultures, creating a segregated society. Many Muslim communities are becoming detached from the larger European society and unable to find careers that match their education level.

Most Muslims are for assimilation but enough are against it, making assimilation more difficult for those who favor it. Muslims themselves have settled into small parts of cities. Some are jaded by the western lifestyle. Others are unwilling to learn the languages of the countries they call home. A small portion wants a jihadist war against the West. Those who are moderate may not realize their influence is dearly needed in Europe’s Muslim dominated communities.

Over the past half-century, European politicians have transitioned into a very liberal scene after the horror of World War II and the Holocaust. Because of its past and a need for cheap labor, Europe has opened its doors to a flood of immigrants from Muslim countries.

For England, it’s mainly Pakistani immigrants, a former territory. Germany has a sizable Turkish population. In fact, most of Western Europe is considered a place for political refugees from the Middle East and Africa.

Life goes in cycles; so do politics. That’s why we only have two parties here in the U.S. — one is left and one is right. This is set up to balance political control and keep the status quo, as unfortunate as that might be. The EU, which sets much of the policies regarding immigration for Europe as a whole, was created partially to deter war between what was once an all too familiar reality between large standing armies.

This war scenario, repeating itself like the two World Wars, is now extremely unlikely in Europe, i.e. France and Germany. It’s the “War on Terror” and Muslim countries that are ripe with war these days.

So where does that leave indigenous Europeans? Their average birthrate is well below the 2.1 reproduction rate required to replenish population at current levels. The answer to this issue is to allow political refugees and offer them full citizenship. They did this in order to keep up with the economy.

With full citizenship in countries such as England, one is able to collect medical and financial benefits. The idea sounds good, but because of slowing job growth many working-class Europeans find themselves at odds with the Muslim population, regarding jobs, housing and culture. The question is whether this experiment will work the way it’s intended. The answer is no. Both Europeans and Muslims are to blame for a lack of integration of Muslims into mainstream European society.

Instead of a multicultural paradise consisting of everyone getting along and being accepted into society no matter what, we have “no-go zones,” a reluctance of the European middle-class acceptance of their new neighbors, and violence/resentment from the Muslim communities for not really feeling like they are a part of society. This is a direct result of an irresponsible economic policy that needs these immigrants for low-paying jobs.

Immigration policies from past and present look like high ideals from politicians without real planning on how multiculturalism works correctly. It’s a clash of cultures. Paris’ “Unity Parade” is nothing more than a façade put on by politicians looking to sweep their dirt under the rug. It doesn’t seem to be based in reality. The mood is grim and most are not feeling very unified.

The clash of culture seems to be the key to the problem. Europeans as a whole are very docile in the face of such issues, like being over-accepting and politically correct toward immigration issues. But when the middle class is affected, it’s different. Now that the economy no longer needs a steady influx of immigrants, the policies of immigration are likely to change. Let us look back at mainstream European ideology, regarding tolerance and politics, in order to understand the changing belief system.

Why have Europeans become tolerant and why is this way of thinking likely to change? It could be Judeo-Christian values since this would explain how religious teaching of tolerance could be implemented into the Euro brain. This is an unsatisfying answer to a complex question, however, because Post-Darwinism European society has created a lack of religious faith in the past 150 years. So what is it that they live for? What do they believe? It’s not nationalism. It used to be, but today any obvious blood was spilt over nationalist ideals.

It seems likely that the Second World War’s travesties along with a long period of growth is the answer. Simply put: As a whole, they entered a phase of good life without war or hunger, and they want to keep it that way.

That said, there is a threshold of tolerance that Europe’s population will encounter as this failure of multiculturalism begins to dawn on those who vote. Don’t nit, that threshold is upon Europe today. This issue was hanging around like a black cloud for the last decade. Now it’s about to rain.

How can this disaster be averted? The key is to integrate the Muslim population already living in Europe properly before allowing another tidal wave of mass immigration to settle in. The problem is not going away; therefore it must be nipped in the bud sooner rather than later. In Dresden -- before the Paris attacks -- 16,000 members of the Patriotic Europeans Against the Islamization of the West parted for stricter laws on immigration. There were counter demonstrations in Berlin and other German cities, but the mood in Europe is changing after the Charlie Hebdo attack.

France’s right-wing party “National Front” is headed by Marine Le Pen, daughter of right-wing politician Jean-Marine Le Pen, and is taking advantage of the situation as it unfolds. She and her party already received more seats than any other during the European Parliament election in 2014.

Another name worth mentioning is Geert Wilders, a far-right Dutch politician. He is the face of anti-Islamic European politics. According to the “World Bulletin,” his party would be the single largest in the Netherlands if elections were held today. These are parties on the fringe of society. They are parties that have gained massive popularity and supporters over the last few years and are ready for a majority takeover.

This is the future of European politics if the conditions of multiculturalism are not addressed. Time is running short for bureaucracies not interested in bringing up the subject for fear of political correctness. Shifting policies and a new political climate awaits those looking to capitalize on the terror attacks.

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Review: My thoughts on “Selma”

The movie gave raw insight on the continuing struggles against discrimination

By Kalima Hanfee
Staff Columnist

Some see voting as a form of speaking, a political expression of power as a free citizen, making voices heard in America. But have you ever felt voiceless?

Not because you didn’t have the right to vote, but because your pigmentation was darker than a so-called “majority,” making it difficult for you to even register to vote. The recent Golden Globe nominated movie “Selma” told the story of the black minorities who marched from Selma to Montgomery, Ala., for their voting rights as Americans.

Directed by Ava DuVernay and starring David Oyelowo as Martin Luther King Jr., the movie gave raw insight on the continuing struggles against discrimination despite the Civil Rights Act of 1964. One man, MLK Jr., paved the way for modern day freedom.

But as a minority, walking up to a majority white establishment in hopes to register to vote was far from easy.

In the film, King expressed how voting is controlled by the majority. Even a “court room jury” is all white, saying whites would “rather see you suffer than succeed.” King insisted that in order to raise “white consciousness,” blacks must “negotiate, demonize, and resist.” King felt violent retaliation got him nowhere, except guilty in the eyes of the law, and provided more of a reason for obstruction between races.

The movie reminds me of modern day law enforcement and the cases of Trayvon Martin, Michael Brown and Eric Garner. They were in the wrong place at the wrong time and lost their lives. Innocent or minimally threatening citizens are dying at the hands of law enforcement. Many people of color think one or two police officers got away with murder. As King asked in the film, “how many fingers were on that trigger?” If there is one finger, there are surely more supporting and backing that one up.

As King said in the movie “I wonder how many must we lose?”

In the film, King’s wife Coretta Scott King said she could never get used to the “constant closeness of death.” But King was confident that “our lives are not fully lived if we’re not willing to die for those we love and for what we believe.” Along with many other powerful and inspiring quotes throughout the film, Mrs. King’s friend spoke these words of encouragement: “I know the blood descendants of mighty people who gave civilization to the world. People who survived the holes of slave ships across vast oceans, people innovate, create and loved, despite pressures and tortures unimaginable. They are in our bloodstream pumping our hearts every second. They have prepared you…you are already prepared.”

According to the film, news reports of the epic march were viewed by 70 million people — an uncomfortable scene, yet watched from a comfortable couch. It makes us wonder— what did our parents, grandparent and elder family friends witness? Were they on the couch, or on the front lines? Did they reach out a hand or sit back and watch with ease? On MLK day, the audience of St. Petersburg’s commemorative parade is mostly African American. Does that answer the question? Kalima Hanfee, a senior majoring in mass communications, is the photo editor. She can be reached at khanceff@mail.usf.edu or on Twitter @LimaWisdomENT.
USFSP Baseball Club teams up with Voices of Hope for Aphasia

The baseball club will be holding a charity event for Voices of Hope for Aphasia at the Tavern Feb. 6. There will be specials on drinks and food, as well as giveaways. On Feb. 7 the team will be taking on FSU at 4 p.m. at Campbell Field for their home opener.

USFSP Baseball: Year Two

ANDREW CAPLAN  
STAFF REPORTER

After losing 12 players, nearly half of their roster from the fall season, USF St. Petersburg's baseball club has set their goal for the 2015 season — championship or bust.

While gearing up for year two of the program, player and coach, Jeremy Berger asked each of his teammates to submit a list of their individual goals for the upcoming season. Nearly all of them wrote down "To win a national championship."

Berger said aside from the pitching rotation, the team's batting order will be downsized to three players, starting off with senior ace, Jason Smith. Smith, who is 8-1 all time, will be followed by Zack Mellin and Jody Odom Jr.

"We're asking them to give a perfect effort in every practice, every game."

Berger wants his team to become more consistent in batting, and he wrote down "To win a national championship."

Junior Jordan Rubin will be welcomed back as the starting catcher after sitting out last season with a torn ACL. Rubin, 21, is considered one of the more vocal members on the team.

Berger said the team's pitching rotation will be followed by Zack Mellin and Jody Odom Jr.

"How you react to adversity is how you are defined," Berger said. "We've had to overcome a ton of adversity; whether it's the whole financial aspect with the school; whether it's guys quitting, getting hurt or guys transferring. So the guys that are here are here to stay."

The Bulls will play in 12 conference games during their 26-game schedule. If they can win the District IV-South Conference, they will be qualified for the district playoffs. If they win their district championship, they will qualify for the National Club Baseball Association (Division II) World Series, where eight teams will compete in a tournament format.

Prior to the home-opening doubleheader on Feb. 7 against FSU, the Bulls will hold a charity event at The Tavern at Bayboro. The team will have giveaways and The Tavern will offer discounted drinks and food specials. All proceeds raised will be donated to Voices of Hope for Aphasia. Aphasia is a condition caused by strokes or brain injuries, which impair a person's speech, writing or reading.

"We just want to leave something here before we graduate," Berger said. "This is going to be something close to my heart forever."

Women's Basketball AAC Standings

*Standings as of 12 a.m. on Jan. 18

TEAM  CONF  OVERALL
Connecticut  7-0  17-1
Tulane  6-1  15-3
South Florida  6-1  15-4
Temple  5-2  9-11
Memphis  4-4  10-9
Tulsa  4-4  9-10
East Carolina  4-5  13-7
UCF  2-5  6-12
Cincinnati  2-5  5-13
Houston  1-7  6-13
SMU  0-7  4-14

Women's Basketball Schedule

Jan. 8 vs. Tulane  7 p.m.
Jan. 24 vs. SMU  7 p.m.
Feb. 6 vs. UCF  7 p.m.
Feb. 13 vs. UCF  7 p.m.
Feb. 20 vs. UCF  7 p.m.
Feb. 27 vs. UCF  7 p.m.
March 5 vs. UCF  7 p.m.
March 7 vs. Tulane  7 p.m.

USF Men's Basketball Schedule

Jan. 28 vs. SMU  7 p.m.
Jan. 31 @ Tulsa  1 p.m.
Feb. 4 vs. Temple  6:30 p.m.
Feb. 7 @ UCF  8 p.m.
Feb. 11 vs. UCF  7 p.m.
Feb. 14 vs. SMU  7 p.m.
Feb. 17 vs. Howard  7 p.m.
Feb. 21 vs. ECU  7 p.m.
Mar. 1 vs. Howard  3 p.m.
Mar. 4 vs. UCF  7 p.m.
Mar. 7 vs. Tulane  7 p.m.

USFSP Baseball: year two

The team's field-goal percentage in the conference, the Bulls' next opponent is second best team in the AAC, Southern Methodist University, Jan. 28 at 7 p.m. at the Sun Dome. After SMU, Bulls will have the face Tulsa, who is undefeated against conference opponents.

Both SMU and Tulsa have already embarrassed the Bulls earlier in the season (SMU 83-49, Tulsa 75-58).