Dali-inspired condos to become campus neighbors

By Ian Maccallum
Crow’s Nest Contributor

Downtown St. Petersburg has seen a lot of development in the past year, and that doesn’t seem to be slowing down anytime soon.

A new 13-story condominium will be erected at the corner of Second Street and Fifth Avenue South. The Dali-inspired building called “The Salvador” will be the newest addition to the development-rich downtown area.

The acre of land was officially closed on at the end of January, and according to Sally Dee, the head of public relations for the development, “Construction will begin early next month. We’ve already wrapped the site, and the site prep has already begun.”

The condominium tower will have 74 units, with a little more than 30 percent already sold. With construction about to begin, The Salvador is expected to be completed by the middle of 2016 with a price tag of $30 million.

“The Salvador,” a 13-story condominium, will be built across from Residence Hall One, along Fifth Avenue S. In a few weeks, the buildings currently standing on the location will be demolished to make way for the condos.

“The Salvador” will be the first ‘green-certified’ condo residence in downtown St. Petersburg,” Dee said. DDA Development, the Tampa-based developer spearheading the project, is looking to add to the uniqueness of downtown’s character without making a huge footprint.

“The developers are very involved with the community,” Dee said. “They want to be a part of the neighborhood.” DDA Development is one of the main sponsors of the Dali/Picasso exhibit, which ended Feb. 22 at the Dali Museum.

The inspiration developers drew from Dali can be clearly seen in the architectural mock-ups of the site. The balconies on the southwest corner of the building alternate, drawing on inspiration from Dali’s “City of Drawers.” The stucco

By Emily Tinti
Staff Reporter

The results are in, but the election is not over.

Ziya Kardas and Jozef Gherman are still in the running for student body president. During last week’s race, Gherman’s ticket received 332 votes, while Kardas’ ticket received 140. In order to win, a candidate must earn more than 50 percent of the votes, so Gherman’s 49.85 percent prompted a runoff election.

The other two tickets, Teral Hilliard/Victor Sims and Nia Joseph/Chardonnay Tyson, received 111 and 83 votes respectively. Only 666 of the nearly 5,000

Continued on p. 2

Continued on p. 3

Gherman and Kardas race for the presidency
Midtown museum fights to stay open

By Sean LeRoux
Crow's Next Contributor

In 2006, the Dr. Carter G. Woodson African American Museum opened its doors to the people of St. Petersburg for the first time.

The museum, just a few blocks north of what was once the "red line" of segregation, has been preserving, interpreting and presenting black history to the surrounding communities for the past nine years.

But in less than six months, it may close its doors for good.

For almost a year, the St. Petersburg Housing Authority, which owns the land the museum is on, has disclosed its wishes to clear its books of its commercial properties. The fact that it hasn't extended a deal to the museum, however, has left many scratching their heads.

"Something just doesn't line up," said Cranston Cumberbatch, the museum's curator and office manager. "They just want the property off their books with no clear reasoning as to why.

The Housing Authority approached St. Petersburg College in May, asking the college to take over the museum. After noticing the tension between the Housing Authority and the museum, SPC President Bill Law said the college would not get involved until the museum and the Housing Authority resolved their conflict, according to the Tampa Bay Times.

Not once, Cumberbatch said, has the Housing Authority attempted to work with the museum.

The Housing Authority sees the situation much differently, however. According to Audra Butler, the Housing Authority's communications officer, it simply plans to sell its remaining commercial properties and reinvest the proceeds into its remaining commercial properties.

"When the property goes up for sale, anyone is welcome to make an offer, including the museum," said Butler. "There is no deal with St. Petersburg College.

If the museum were to approach the Housing Authority with funding in place, Butler said that working out a private deal is certainly possible. In the event the land is purchased by the city of St. Petersburg, the museum's fate would be in its hands. Otherwise, it will belong to the highest bidder.

The building, which started as a community center, has evolved into more than a museum. It has an art gallery and serves as a venue for various events, including private parties, weddings, graduations and concerts. It is also within walking distance of local treasures, such as the Manhattan Casino, Lorene's Fish and Crab House, Sylvia's Restaurant and the Royal Theatre.

The lush, colorful garden that reaches across most of the museum's backyard was added in 2008 with the help of funding from the Leadership St. Pete program.

"This building has always been a major part of the community, and it's a shame we may lose it," said Cumberbatch. "Without the museum, the community will lack substance, a sense of solidarity and an affordable place for special events."

Although the main focus of the museum is to display African American artwork and historical artifacts, its interests don't end there.

Aside from exhibiting art and offering a spacious, visually appealing venue for private events, the museum shows films, hosts game nights and holds discussions on important issues, such as race relations, homophobia, police brutality and community improvement.

The museum's fate may be less grim than the staff believes, but the coming months will still be anything but easy.

Regardless of how imminent the closing of the museum may appear, Cumberbatch said it won't be going down without a fight.

"Something just doesn't line up," said Cranston Cumberbatch, the museum's curator and office manager.

"We're fighting until the last day, holding out in hope that something changes," said Cumberbatch. "I will lose a personal treasure and a second home if we are forced to close our doors."

Construction on Dali-inspired condos begins soon

"The Salvador" condominiums will be built along Fifth Avenue S, just across the street from USF St. Petersburg's Residence Hall One.

Continued from p.1

walls of the condo and the screen on the parking garage will both use pixilation, a technique which Dali often used in his paintings, most famously illustrated in "Portrait of My Dead Brother."

"It's important that a building has life and energy; that there is delight in it," said Tim Clemmons, one of the project's architects, in The Salvador's promotional brochure. "When designing 'The Salvador,' we were inspired by the imagery in Dali's paintings and strove to bring that into the personality of the building." "You're really seeing that inspiration," Dee said. "They've used the colors and finishes from towns in Spain. They really want to give a nod to Salvador Dali. Dali has done a lot for St. Petersburg.

Dee is happy to see that praise of Dali reflected in the project. On Feb. 4, 2015, DDA Development and the real estate agency, Smith and Associates, threw a kick-off gala at the Dali Museum to celebrate the closing of the land and thank the future residents of "The Salvador." It was a well-attended affair, complete with complimentary wine and hors d'oeuvres.

Aside from the food and drink, attendees were invited to browse the exhibits in the museum at their leisure. In attendance was St. Petersburg's mayor, Rick Kriseman, who was there supporting the developers and the project itself. Kriseman spent the evening talking with the developers, mingling with the attendees and pausing for a few photos with guests.

The site, just north of the USF St. Petersburg campus, has already shown signs of development. In a matter of weeks, the three buildings currently occupying the land will be torn down, and the foundation for "The Salvador" will be poured and the condo tower will ascend. Once completed, "The Salvador" will call 199 Blvd. home. The future condos will range from $350,000 to $1.4 million, with two-bedroom, two-bath units ranging from $450,000 to $650,000.

IF YOU GO:
Hours: Tuesday - Friday, 12-5 p.m.
Location: 2240 9th Avenue S, St. Petersburg, FL 33712

news@crowsneststpete.com

news@crowsneststpete.com

news@crowsneststpete.com
Professor awarded for research on disability student services

By Ian MacCallum
Crow's Nest Contributor

Dr. Lyman Dukes, an education professor at USF St. Petersburg, will be recognized next month at the American College Personnel Association's (ACPA) national convention in Tampa.

Dukes has been honored for his research, which led to the first set of program standards for Disability Student Service offices.

“My focus is the transition of students with disabilities to college settings,” Dukes said. “This involves effective preparation of students in the ‘K through 12’ school settings so that they have not only the skills, but the belief that they can succeed in a college environment.”

“I became interested in my work because I see it as a civil rights issue,” Dukes said. “Students with disabilities have been and, while we’ve made tremendous progress, we continue to progress.”

“The goal of these supports is to provide students with disabilities the same educational opportunity available to traditional students,” Dukes said. “They are intended to level the playing field, if you will.”

Aside from his continuing work to ensure students with disabilities are able to transition to college smoothly, Dukes has also co-authored a book titled Preparing Students with Disabilities for College Success, which was released in 2010.

His second co-authored book, due out next year, is titled Transition to College for All Students With Disabilities.

While co-authoring a book is greatly time-consuming, Dukes said, the final product is well worth the effort.

“Writing a book is not a particularly easy task,” Dukes said. “However, it’s important that work such as this is done so that the field of disability services – and most importantly – students can continue to progress.”

Bill Heller, dean of the College of Education at USFSP, said the school “has long had both an interest and involvement in programs supporting persons with disabilities in their transition from school to post-secondary careers or education.”

“Dr. Lyman Dukes’ research has helped higher education institutions accommodate the unique needs of students with disabilities,” Heller said.

The unique needs of the students begins at a very young age.

“Both parent’s and educator’s expectations have significant impact on whether a student considers college as an option,” Dukes said. “Research has demonstrated that the power of expectation often determines what students with disabilities do after high school.”

The ACPA national convention is from March 5 through March 8, 2015.

Lyman Dukes, a USF St. Petersburg education professor, will receive an honor for his research regarding Disability Student Service offices.

Run-off elections this week

Continued from p.1

USF St. Petersburg students voted in the elections.

The senate election was uncontested, but each candidate had to receive at least 25 votes. All were successful. Nicholas Patides led with 338 votes, followed by Angela Wilson, Beenly Khoum, Natalie Guerra and Catherine Kouretos.

Voting in the runoff election will begin at midnight Tuesday Feb. 24 and end at 5 p.m. on Wednesday. The results will be announced Wednesday night. As of right now, it is uncertain whether there will be a debate, and if so, when it will occur.

The tickets have continued campaigning since the results were announced Thursday night.

“A lot of people get the impression that Student Government is somewhat disconnected from the student body, but it’s experiences like this that bring it back home and remind us why we’re here and who we’re working for,” Gherman said, reflecting on his campaign.

Kardas said running for president has been a learning experience for himself and Uber, which has led to new friendships within the university.

“We will be able to reach out to the vast majority of non-traditional students, which will create culture and strengthen our community,” he said. “Uber and I are both parents and are family-oriented, so we believe that our community at USFSP should be just that -- a family.”

The outcome of the elections is riding on more than votes. On Feb. 23, the Election Rules Committee will reheat three grievances made by three students against Gherman’s ticket. The ERC originally met last Wednesday, but they did not send out a public notice for the meeting, nullifying the results.

The meeting will take place in Student Life Center 1500 at 5 p.m.

Elected senators:

Nicholas Patides
Angela Wilson
Beenly Khoum
Natalie Guerra
Catherine Kouretos
Laraine Ruiz
Alicia Bargardo

Emilie Morris
Antonio Permuy
Kevin Erickson
Wayne Nealy
Beth Cooney
Michael Fieramosca

Votes received by each presidential campaign:

Gherman/Salazar: 332 votes, 48.85 percent
Kardas/Uber: 140 votes, 21.02 percent

Hilliard/Sims: 111 votes, 16.67 percent
Joseph/Tyson: 83 votes, 12.46 percent

Elected senators:

Nicholas Patides
Angela Wilson
Beenly Khoum
Natalie Guerra
Catherine Kouretos
Laraine Ruiz
Alicia Bargardo

Emilie Morris
Antonio Permuy
Kevin Erickson
Wayne Nealy
Beth Cooney
Michael Fieramosca

Votes received by each presidential campaign:

Gherman/Salazar: 332 votes, 48.85 percent
Kardas/Uber: 140 votes, 21.02 percent

Hilliard/Sims: 111 votes, 16.67 percent
Joseph/Tyson: 83 votes, 12.46 percent

If you have any information about this man or the incident, contact the University Police at 727-873-4140 or police@usfsp.edu.
Dance Marathon set to come to USFSP

By Jonah King
Crow's Nest Contributor

After three attempts to bring Dance Marathon to USF St. Petersburg, the event is set to become a new campus tradition this March.

Dance Marathon, which is spearheaded by Paige McDaniel, is a student-run, nationwide program held at high schools and colleges in an effort to raise money for a local Children's Miracle Network Hospital. For USFSP, that hospital is All Children's.

What happens at Dance Marathon?
Students will stay on their feet for eight hours while they engage in various activities, including zumba, hula hooping, twister and of course, dancing. McDaniel didn’t want to give away all the surprises, but she did hint at the possible inclusion of inflatable objects and glow-in-the-dark ping pong tables.

At USFSP, Dance Marathon is a student organization, of which McDaniel is president. She said that USFSP administration is working closely with the organization to put the event together.

“There’s a really big push for this,” McDaniel said. “We want to create a new tradition at USFSP.”

Kimberly Sanchez, who has attempted to bring the event to USFSP in years past, said that Dance Marathon is a daunting task.

Sanchez said that there are lots of obstacles to overcome with large-event planning, from finding the space and time, to raising the amount of money needed to host an eight-hour event.

“Nobody can do it, but it’s the logistics that can get complicated,” Sanchez said.

Sanchez said that she is excited to help out and bring the event together.

A big issue still facing Dance Marathon is the need for funding. McDaniel urges all students to make an effort to become a “dancer,” and start fundraising for the event. Two fundraisers aimed at the $2,015 goal are scheduled before the marathon.

“Don’t let the ‘dancer’ title scare you,” McDaniel said. “The dancer role is primarily geared to raise money for the cause.”

Review: “Empire” worth a watch

A new show on Fox deals with tough subjects such as returning to life after prison and the problems of power.

By Lequina Knox
Crow’s Nest Contributor

The hip hop nation has a new king, and his name is Lucious Lyon. If you don’t know about the new TV sensation Empire, you need to catch up.

The show revolves around the owner of Empire Entertainment, Lucious Lyon (Terrence Howard), his ex-wife Cookie Lyon (Taraji P. Henson) and his three sons.

The show started with Cookie being released from jail after serving a 17-year sentence for selling drugs. She is ready to take back her share of Empire Enterprises — after all, it was her blood, sweat and tears that helped build this company from the ground up.

However, when she returns to her family, she finds that nothing is as she left it years ago. As if Cookie needed another thorn in her crown, the love of her life has abandoned her for a younger woman and her son, Hakeem, never utters a single pleasant word to her. Cookie never lets hardships get her down though.

Lucious may seem manipulative and power hungry, especially if you look at how he treats his son, Jamal, who is gay. Not to mention Lucious has A15, so his health is taking a serious hit. He also has to keep his lovers at a safe distance from one another, and he has to choose whom one of his sons will take over for him when he is gone.

As a result, Lucious pins his three sons in a war against one another and destroys their lives. Maybe in order to have fame, you have to be willing to sell yourself, because that is what Lucious does. According to him, his family is everything, but he fails to strive to achieve what is best for his family. He doesn’t realize that his sons would do anything to please him. Hakeem pushes himself to be the greatest rapper he can be, Jamal always searching for love when it is right in front of him, and Andre has to maintain a sense of control even at the expense of his own health.

Empire is not only spectacular because it is packed with high-stakes drama, but it also gives people a look into the beautiful landscape that is part of the African-American culture. It takes on the topics no one wants to discuss, like underappreciated African-American art, the impact music has on people’s lives, black people’s ability to see beyond Obama’s race, and life after a jail sentence.

To watch:
Tune in on Wednesdays at 9 p.m. on Fox to catch Empire.

St. Pete welcomes innovation: Uber/Lyft

The St. Petersburg City Council plans to change regulations to allow rideshare companies such as Uber and Lyft to compete fairly with taxi companies.

By Caitlin Ashworth
Crow’s Nest Contributor

The St. Petersburg City Council members are welcoming new technology created by rideshare companies such as Uber and Lyft.

Uber is a crowded-taxi service, where customers and drivers use a smartphone app to arrange rides. Once the driver has turned on the app, their private vehicle becomes commercial and is protected under Uber’s insurance.

A big issue still facing Dance Marathon is the need for funding. McDaniel urges all students to make an effort to become a “dancer,” and start fundraising for the event. Two fundraisers aimed at the $2,015 goal are scheduled before the marathon.

“Don’t let the ‘dancer’ title scare you,” McDaniel said. “The dancer role is primarily geared to raise money for the cause.”

life@crownestatstpete.com
The Tavern: A campus charm

Here’s what you should know about the Tavern, a USF St. Petersburg student favorite since 1981.

By Samantha Putterman
Crow’s Nest Contributor

Imagine sitting at college, sipping a cold beer just moments after a final.

Well, at USF St. Petersburg, you can.

The Tavern at Bayboro, a fixture that’s been on campus since 1981, offers a variety of wine, beer and homemade food.

The menu expanded when owner Tom Herzhauser, 58, took the restaurant over in 2010 and decided to put in a substantial kitchen the following year.

In 2013 and 2014 the restaurant won the Best of the Bay “College Hangout’ award.

Today, Jim Kensinger, 52, Ed “Chubby” Smith, 52, and Herzhauser work together to prepare freshly baked bread and homemade soups.

There are many popular menu items, but none rise to the level of the grouper sandwich. The $10 specialty is filleted on-site daily and is the top seller.

But the most remarkable version of the sandwich is “The Dardenne,” named in honor of the late USF St. Petersburg journalism professor Bob Dardenne, after his passing in October 2013.

The $11 sandwich is served blackened or grilled, and features mushrooms, onions and swiss cheese -- just the way Dardenne liked it. For each one sold, the Tavern donates a dollar to the Robert Dardenne Memorial Scholarship Fund.

And in September 2014, the Dardenne won the Tavern the Best of the Bay’s “Best Sandwich Named After A College Professor” award.

The acclaimed grouper sandwich is just the beginning. The “Tav” holds monthly contests and offers on- and off-premise catering. They host numerous events and fundraisers for student and community organizations, including the annual Rowdies tailgate party and a 350-pound crawfish boil, which will take place next month. The restaurant also has live, local entertainment from 7-10 p.m., every Wednesday through Friday.

Academics aren’t left out either. They take interns each semester from the Project 10: Sting Ray program, an organization that helps students with disabilities prepare for independent living. Students in the program are required to complete one internship on campus.

The restaurant also plans to offer “The Art of Crafting Beer,” a certificate-based course that will open for enrollment in the fall 2015 semester. The Tavern is partnering with local breweries throughout the course, including St. Pete Brewing Co., Green Bench, Coppertail, Cycle Brewing, 3 Daughters and Florida Avenue.

IF YOU GO:
The Tavern is open 11 a.m. to 11 p.m. Monday through Thursday and 9 p.m. on Fridays.

life@crowsneststpete.com

The Tavern owner Tom Herzhauser holds up a grouper he filleted.
Editorial

Even with debt, your degree matters

Hang in there and finish your degree, college students. The statistics are in your favor.

On average, college graduates make 80 percent more than those who do not attend or finish college, according to the New York Fed. And once those college graduates get employed, they are more likely to stay employed.

This news comes at a time when it seems all college students are drowning in debt. Two-thirds of all college students borrow money, and the average borrower will borrow $26,600, according to The Institute for College Access and Success Project on Student Debt. One in 10 college graduates will come out with more than $40,000 in debt.

It’s enough to make any cash-strapped student despair and wonder if a college degree is even worth the expense.

But before you drop out of college to enter the workforce, consider the benefits of your degree. Attending college will help you in the long run.

It’s true that experience in your field pays off, but without a college degree, you must have a lot of experience to compare the salaries of your college-graduate coworkers. The average salary of a recent graduate is $37,000, almost $1,000 more than an experienced worker without a college degree. Experience is needed to match the value of a college degree.

Certain degrees, such as health science, engineering, business and architecture, allow graduates to make substantially more than people with only a high school diploma. But every degree will benefit you in the long run.

The debt may make you despair in the short term. But in the long run, the money you make from your college degree will well outweigh the debt you may incur.

The piece of paper you are handed when you graduate is nice, but you can stretch your tuition dollars even more by taking advantage of resources offered to you in college. You can even avoid debt by applying for scholarships. Two weeks ago, The Crow’s Nest wrote about how to get scholarships. You can view that article on our website, but if you have to take out loans, view it as an investment toward your future. Be intentional with planning for the future while you are in college.

Many of your professors have connections to make substantially more than people with only a high school diploma. But every degree will benefit you in the long run.

The debt may make you despair in the short term. But in the long run, the money you make from your college degree will well outweigh the debt you may incur.

The piece of paper you are handed when you graduate is nice, but you can stretch your tuition dollars even more by taking advantage of resources offered to you in college. You can even avoid debt by applying for scholarships. Two weeks ago, The Crow’s Nest wrote about how to get scholarships. You can view that article on our website, but if you have to take out loans, view it as an investment toward your future. Be intentional with planning for the future while you are in college.

Many of your professors have connections to make substantially more than people with only a high school diploma. But every degree will benefit you in the long run.

The debt may make you despair in the short term. But in the long run, the money you make from your college degree will well outweigh the debt you may incur.

The piece of paper you are handed when you graduate is nice, but you can stretch your tuition dollars even more by taking advantage of resources offered to you in college. You can even avoid debt by applying for scholarships. Two weeks ago, The Crow’s Nest wrote about how to get scholarships. You can view that article on our website, but if you have to take out loans, view it as an investment toward your future. Be intentional with planning for the future while you are in college.

Many of your professors have connections to make substantially more than people with only a high school diploma. But every degree will benefit you in the long run.

The debt may make you despair in the short term. But in the long run, the money you make from your college degree will well outweigh the debt you may incur.

The piece of paper you are handed when you graduate is nice, but you can stretch your tuition dollars even more by taking advantage of resources offered to you in college. You can even avoid debt by applying for scholarships. Two weeks ago, The Crow’s Nest wrote about how to get scholarships. You can view that article on our website, but if you have to take out loans, view it as an investment toward your future. Be intentional with planning for the future while you are in college.

Many of your professors have connections to make substantially more than people with only a high school diploma. But every degree will benefit you in the long run.

The debt may make you despair in the short term. But in the long run, the money you make from your college degree will well outweigh the debt you may incur.

The piece of paper you are handed when you graduate is nice, but you can stretch your tuition dollars even more by taking advantage of resources offered to you in college. You can even avoid debt by applying for scholarships. Two weeks ago, The Crow’s Nest wrote about how to get scholarships. You can view that article on our website, but if you have to take out loans, view it as an investment toward your future. Be intentional with planning for the future while you are in college.

Many of your professors have connections to make substantially more than people with only a high school diploma. But every degree will benefit you in the long run.

The debt may make you despair in the short term. But in the long run, the money you make from your college degree will well outweigh the debt you may incur.

The piece of paper you are handed when you graduate is nice, but you can stretch your tuition dollars even more by taking advantage of resources offered to you in college. You can even avoid debt by applying for scholarships. Two weeks ago, The Crow’s Nest wrote about how to get scholarships. You can view that article on our website, but if you have to take out loans, view it as an investment toward your future. Be intentional with planning for the future while you are in college.

Many of your professors have connections to make substantially more than people with only a high school diploma. But every degree will benefit you in the long run.

The debt may make you despair in the short term. But in the long run, the money you make from your college degree will well outweigh the debt you may incur.

The piece of paper you are handed when you graduate is nice, but you can stretch your tuition dollars even more by taking advantage of resources offered to you in college. You can even avoid debt by applying for scholarships. Two weeks ago, The Crow’s Nest wrote about how to get scholarships. You can view that article on our website, but if you have to take out loans, view it as an investment toward your future. Be intentional with planning for the future while you are in college.

Many of your professors have connections to make substantially more than people with only a high school diploma. But every degree will benefit you in the long run.

The debt may make you despair in the short term. But in the long run, the money you make from your college degree will well outweigh the debt you may incur.

The piece of paper you are handed when you graduate is nice, but you can stretch your tuition dollars even more by taking advantage of resources offered to you in college. You can even avoid debt by applying for scholarships. Two weeks ago, The Crow’s Nest wrote about how to get scholarships. You can view that article on our website, but if you have to take out loans, view it as an investment toward your future. Be intentional with planning for the future while you are in college.

Many of your professors have connections to make substantially more than people with only a high school diploma. But every degree will benefit you in the long run.

The debt may make you despair in the short term. But in the long run, the money you make from your college degree will well outweigh the debt you may incur.

The piece of paper you are handed when you graduate is nice, but you can stretch your tuition dollars even more by taking advantage of resources offered to you in college. You can even avoid debt by applying for scholarships. Two weeks ago, The Crow’s Nest wrote about how to get scholarships. You can view that article on our website, but if you have to take out loans, view it as an investment toward your future. Be intentional with planning for the future while you are in college.

Many of your professors have connections to make substantially more than people with only a high school diploma. But every degree will benefit you in the long run.

The debt may make you despair in the short term. But in the long run, the money you make from your college degree will well outweigh the debt you may incur.

The piece of paper you are handed when you graduate is nice, but you can stretch your tuition dollars even more by taking advantage of resources offered to you in college. You can even avoid debt by applying for scholarships. Two weeks ago, The Crow’s Nest wrote about how to get scholarships. You can view that article on our website, but if you have to take out loans, view it as an investment toward your future. Be intentional with planning for the future while you are in college.

Many of your professors have connections to make substantially more than people with only a high school diploma. But every degree will benefit you in the long run.

The debt may make you despair in the short term. But in the long run, the money you make from your college degree will well outweigh the debt you may incur.

The piece of paper you are handed when you graduate is nice, but you can stretch your tuition dollars even more by taking advantage of resources offered to you in college. You can even avoid debt by applying for scholarships. Two weeks ago, The Crow’s Nest wrote about how to get scholarships. You can view that article on our website, but if you have to take out loans, view it as an investment toward your future. Be intentional with planning for the future while you are in college.

Many of your professors have connections to make substantially more than people with only a high school diploma. But every degree will benefit you in the long run.

The debt may make you despair in the short term. But in the long run, the money you make from your college degree will well outweigh the debt you may incur.

The piece of paper you are handed when you graduate is nice, but you can stretch your tuition dollars even more by taking advantage of resources offered to you in college. You can even avoid debt by applying for scholarships. Two weeks ago, The Crow’s Nest wrote about how to get scholarships. You can view that article on our website, but if you have to take out loans, view it as an investment toward your future. Be intentional with planning for the future while you are in college.

Many of your professors have connections to make substantially more than people with only a high school diploma. But every degree will benefit you in the long run.

The debt may make you despair in the short term. But in the long run, the money you make from your college degree will well outweigh the debt you may incur.

The piece of paper you are handed when you graduate is nice, but you can stretch your tuition dollars even more by taking advantage of resources offered to you in college. You can even avoid debt by applying for scholarships. Two weeks ago, The Crow’s Nest wrote about how to get scholarships. You can view that article on our website, but if you have to take out loans, view it as an investment toward your future. Be intentional with planning for the future while you are in college.

Many of your professors have connections to make substantially more than people with only a high school diploma. But every degree will benefit you in the long run.

The debt may make you despair in the short term. But in the long run, the money you make from your college degree will well outweigh the debt you may incur.

The piece of paper you are handed when you graduate is nice, but you can stretch your tuition dollars even more by taking advantage of resources offered to you in college. You can even avoid debt by applying for scholarships. Two weeks ago, The Crow’s Nest wrote about how to get scholarships. You can view that article on our website, but if you have to take out loans, view it as an investment toward your future. Be intentional with planning for the future while you are in college.

Many of your professors have connections to make substantially more than people with only a high school diploma. But every degree will benefit you in the long run.

The debt may make you despair in the short term. But in the long run, the money you make from your college degree will well outweigh the debt you may incur.

The piece of paper you are handed when you graduate is nice, but you can stretch your tuition dollars even more by taking advantage of resources offered to you in college. You can even avoid debt by applying for scholarships. Two weeks ago, The Crow’s Nest wrote about how to get scholarships. You can view that article on our website, but if you have to take out loans, view it as an investment toward your future. Be intentional with planning for the future while you are in college.

Many of your professors have connections to make substantially more than people with only a high school diploma. But every degree will benefit you in the long run.
My day at the Rays Fan Fest

By Andrew Caplan

The annual Fan Fest for the Tampa Bay Rays was a success once again. It was my first time attending the event at Tropicana Field, and I can honestly say it's worth every penny. Well, it was free, but that's besides the point.

With games, free gifts, discounted promotional items and player/fan interaction, Fan Fest pleases Rays fanatics of all ages. If you had a Rays membership -- from buying multiple tickets in packages -- you would've had the opportunity to meet various players and have them autograph an item for $25. The only flaw to the autographs is that if you aren't a season-ticket holder, the chances of catching Evan Longoria were slim-to-none, as his 60-autographs cap was reached within an hour.

However, Longoria was at his restaurant (Ducky's) in Tampa celebrating its one-year anniversary following Fan Fest. He gave out drinks, food and autographs, and took pictures with people in attendance. So, it's hard to complain.

With better chances to win prizes than at a local fair, I won a kid-sized Rays jersey (which I gave away) and a couple of posters. I also caught an autograph from pitcher Matt Moore.

Then I went for the promotional items, which is half the reason people even attend Rays' games anyways. After sending off David Price and the 2013 rookie of the year, Wil Myers, the event featured bobble heads and ceramic figurines for $7. I couldn't help myself.

I bought a mini-basketball hoop set for $2 and a Joe Maddon potato-head toy for $5. What can I say, I'm still a kid at heart.

There were arcade-style basketball games to play, with some of the team's players at the front of the line to assist participants, providing another chance for autographs to anyone. There were pitching radars for fans to test their arm strength and batting cages for young sluggers.

All in all, it was a great event. The event took place on the field, adding a small plus. You didn't even have to pay for attendance or parking. I would recommend anyone to attend this event next year … and I'm an Orioles fan.

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

Your major, your choice

Sometimes, we put too much stock in what others think about our life choices.

By Emily Tinti

I think it's safe to say that every college student has had their choices challenged at some point in their young adult life -- their major, in particular.

After finishing required general education courses, taking electives unrelated to anything you ever found interesting, and reading testimonials from upperclassmen, you feel like you've got a career in the palm of your hands.

Then, something happens. You realize intimidating prerequisites are blocking the path to all the core courses you were intrigued by in the first place. Suddenly you don't want to major in biology. Or you find out that the job market for a certain profession is plummeting and you don't want to take any risks.

Maybe your parents are the worried ones. Even if they aren't contributing to the cost of tuition, they still have a right to be concerned, and that's why they're Mom and Dad. They want to see you thrive and succeed.

But there's this strange contradiction in our society. There's the "do what makes you happy" mantra, and then there's "but make sure you'll be stable and making lots of money." I don't think that's a fair evaluation of college. If anything, those are two very broad concepts.

I leave St. Pete. Here's a couple of items I've already checked off that list.

Visit Dairy Inn. This is an ice cream shop at 1201 Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. St. N. I went once, but then I had to go back again. This place does ice cream right. Get any sundae they serve and you won't regret it.

Go kayaking in Tampa Bay. Also another great experience that I've repeated multiple times. USF St. Petersburg students get free access to kayaks and can take up to two non-USF students with them for free. You get to paddle right past the Coast Guard ships. If you want some more fun, pack your lunch and park your kayak at Lassing Park. Time for a picnic! Put this on your bucket list. If you don't go kayaking while you're still a student, you'll regret it when you're paying some vendor $20 to kayak in the Gulf of Mexico.

Paint at Practically Pikasso. I found out about this place because one of my best friends works there. Visit their studio at 1912 Fourth St. N. Pick a piece of pottery and they will show you how to paint it. Sure, there are many stores like this across the country. But we've got a nice one in St. Pete. If you go on first Friday, your studio fee is waived and you only need to pay for the pottery.

I could write for hours about my successful bucket list experiences. But I think the thing that has made St. Petersburg so wonderful for me is the people.

Since moving here, I've found an incredible group of people that I am happy to call my friends. And of all things I will miss if I leave St. Petersburg, I will be most remiss to let them go.

I've learned an important lesson in St. Petersburg. It doesn't matter where you go. If you are surrounded by a good community of people, any place can become home.

Jennifer Nesslar, a senior majoring in mass communications, is the editorial assistant. You can reach her at jnesslar@mail.usf.edu or on Twitter @jnesslar.

I've fallen in love with St. Pete

In three years, St. Petersburg has become home to me.

By Jennifer Nesslar

I grew up in the suburban world known as Largo, Fla. OK, so it is only 30 minutes north of St. Petersburg, and maybe a little bit to the west. I'm sure many of the people reading this live farther away than Largo.

But sometimes it feels like worlds away.

When I first moved to downtown St. Petersburg in 2012, I felt a deep sense of culture shock. It's almost funny to say that. Two places in the same state--and even in the same county--can be polar opposites. Largo is a populated place, but it's full of families and two-way streets. I won't generalize, but if you want to see the definition of suburban, go to Largo.

I love Largo. For 18 years of my life, it was the place I called home. When I arrived in St. Petersburg, I felt almost out of sorts. It was like I'd been plucked from my suburban paradise and placed in a strange place. The one way streets and urban life threw me off. I swore to myself that once I graduated, I'd never live here.

Funny how things change. I'm now in the last semester of my senior year. While I'm prepared to go anywhere, somewhere inside me just wants to stay here.

I love St. Petersburg now. I can sit in my room in the residence halls and see Tampa Bay, along with downtown Tampa and downtown St. Petersburg.

As with any place, St. Petersburg has both good and bad. But as I've gone to school here the past few years, I've found some pretty cool concepts. I think it's safe to say that every college student has had their choices challenged at some point in their young adult life -- their major, in particular.

But there's this strange contradiction in our society. There's the "do what makes you happy" mantra, and then there's "but make sure you'll be stable and making lots of money." I don't think that's a fair evaluation of college. If anything, those are two very broad concepts.

I leave St. Pete. Here's a couple of items I've already checked off that list.

Visit Dairy Inn. This is an ice cream shop at 1201 Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. St. N. I went once, but then I had to go back again. This place does ice cream right. Get any sundae they serve and you won't regret it.

Go kayaking in Tampa Bay. Also another great experience that I've repeated multiple times. USF St. Petersburg students get free access to kayaks and can take up to two non-USF students with them for free. You get to paddle right past the Coast Guard ships. If you want some more fun, pack your lunch and park your kayak at Lassing Park. Time for a picnic! Put this on your bucket list. If you don't go kayaking while you're still a student, you'll regret it when you're paying some vendor $20 to kayak in the Gulf of Mexico.

Paint at Practically Pikasso. I found out about this place because one of my best friends works there. Visit their studio at 1912 Fourth St. N. Pick a piece of pottery and they will show you how to paint it. Sure, there are many stores like this across the country. But we've got a nice one in St. Pete. If you go on first Friday, your studio fee is waived and you only need to pay for the pottery.

I could write for hours about my successful bucket list experiences. But I think the thing that has made St. Petersburg so wonderful for me is the people.

Since moving here, I've found an incredible group of people that I am happy to call my friends. And of all things I will miss if I leave St. Petersburg, I will be most remiss to let them go.

I've learned an important lesson in St. Petersburg. It doesn't matter where you go. If you are surrounded by a good community of people, any place can become home.

Jennifer Nesslar, a senior majoring in mass communications, is the editorial assistant. You can reach her at jnesslar@mail.usf.edu or on Twitter @jnesslar.
The Lady Bulls do it again

By Andrew Caplan

Staff Reporter

The USF women’s basketball team continued their dominating season after defeating Temple 79-53 Sunday afternoon at the Sun Dome.

The Lady Bulls (22-5) are second in the American Athletic Conference with a 13-2 conference record, trailing the No. 1 Connecticut Huskies (15-0).

The team is led by junior shooting guard Courtney Williams, who was averaging 20.7 points per game prior to playing Temple. Williams has started every game this season at SG, which is one of the reasons why the Bulls have remained consistent throughout the 2014-2015 season.

Freeman forward Laura Ferreira has started 24 of the 26 games she has played this season. Ferreira, who has played on the Portuguese national team since she was 14, was an ESPN Top-50 recruit when she came to USF. She has made at least three-point shot in 16 of the previous games she has played, including three in Sunday’s win.

Sporting pink and gray jerseys in the “Play-4-Kay” game, Ferreira scored a game-high and career-high 17 points in the win over Temple. Following her was Williams with 12 points.

To avoid injury, both Ferreira and Williams were pulled from the game with about 10 minutes left to play.

“We practice really hard,” said Ferreira, who couldn’t stop smiling during her post-game interview. “We take it really serious and when we come to the game, it’s easy.”

The Bulls head coach, Jose Fernandez, is pleased with how his squad has evolved so far this season.

“I think all of our kids have developed,” Fernandez said. “Look how Courtney Williams has developed from last year to this year. I think the biggest development for Laura has been her confidence and her getting used to the game over here.”

The team has its eyes set on the NCAA tournament come mid-March, but still has to take on the defending-champion Huskies again for the regular-season finale on March 12.

Following their rematch against the Huskies, the Bulls will enter the ACC tournament seeking to clinch a spot for the NCAA tournament.

“I’m very proud,” Fernandez said. “It’s a credit to our kids and our staff, getting the right individuals into our program and having good culture. I couldn’t be happier. I’ll be more happy once we close out this year and the conference tournament is over, and we can find out where we’re headed in the NCAA tournament. That’s been our big light at the end of the tunnel all year.”

Will the Bucs take Winston or Mariota?

By Andrew Caplan

Staff Columnist

At 2-14, the 2014 Tampa Bay Buccaneers secured the worst record in just not their division, but the entire NFL.

Their consultation? A No. 1 pick for the pros.

The NFL will be a huge adjustment for Mariota. If head coach Lovie Smith and the Bucs choose to switch to a spread offense, it may work.

Stars like Colin Kaepernick and Russell Wilson have shown there is a need third down plays, Mariota wasn’t himself, leaving everyone wondering if he can make it in the pros.

The NFL will be a huge adjustment for Mariota. If head coach Lovie Smith and the Bucs choose to switch to a spread offense, it may work.

Starrs like Colin Kaepernick and Russell Wilson have shown there is a need for a great running back and defense to carry him to glory.

And Robert Griffin III was drafted behind Andrew Luck for a reason. Winston and Mariota will not be drafted first and second; one of them will fall down the line. But one thing is for sure: One of these QBs will be selected No. 1 by the Bucs on April 30. My prediction is that Winston will wear the No. 5 jersey under center opening day.

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

Follow us on Twitter!