A TALE OF TWO KINGS

For the first time in USF St. Petersburg’s history, two kings were nominated for homecoming royalty: Daniel Ciccia (left) and Spencer Gomez. Abolishing the terms “king” and “queen” was part of a university-wide effort to be more gender-inclusive. See story, Page 4.

SG constitution could recenter power in Tampa

For years, the student senate in St. Petersburg has decided how to spread the revenue generated by students’ Activities and Services fees among several campus organizations. But under a proposed reorganization of student government on USF’s three campuses, that job would pass to a senate based in Tampa and dominated by Tampa-based senators.

That’s just one of the changes in the draft of SG’s new constitution, which outlines how the organization would function once the USF system is consolidated in July.

The proposed constitution is headed to a vote at each campus’ SG general assembly meeting this week, followed by student referendums on all three campuses.
It would reorganize SG to center legislative power at USF Tampa and leave smaller, local affairs to “campus councils.” In the constitution, campus councils — which would replace campus-specific senates — only have the power to “recommend allocations of the Activity and Service Fee to the Senate Fiscal Committee.”

Meaning, the senate, which would be housed at USF Tampa, would have the “authority to approve and allocate all Activity and Service Fee appropriations by a majority vote.”

On all three campuses, SG now allocates A&S fee revenue to numerous campus organizations. In St. Petersburg, this includes The Crow’s Nest, the Student Green Energy Fund, the Office of Multicultural Affairs and the Harborside Activities Board, as well as SG, which shared $3.1 million in 2019-2020.

If the final decision on funding goes to the senate in Tampa as proposed, the three campus councils would only be able to recommend changes. A centralized budget could leave campus-specific organizations on the cutting room floor.

The structure

Trevor Martindale, the chief legal officer for St. Petersburg SG, likened the new structure to a “federal and state” system, where each campus is a “state” and the new senate would exist as a federal body.

Like the current system, the university SG would have a legislative branch, a judicial branch and an executive branch. But localized versions of each branch would exist on each campus.

The most impactful changes would come to the legislative branch, where laws are drafted and enacted.

Each campus would host a campus council, akin to today’s individual campus senates. But the overarching university senate would have 60 seats. Five would be guaranteed to each campus, and the other 45 seats would be apportioned “according to the percentages of the total number of students enrolled at each Campus.”

The particular breakdown of how many seats would be afforded to each campus would be decided when SG votes on statutes later this month.

The wording does leave the door open for campus growth or shrinkage, which could change the number of seats allocated to each campus.

Students would vote for senators from across all three campuses. This means students at USF St. Petersburg would have to pick among unfamiliar faces to represent them.

“A good senator would campaign across all three campuses,” said USF St. Petersburg Senate President Katherine Fishman.

Fishman said that the proposed constitution does establish a strong divide between local and university-wide affairs in the legislative branch.

She said that “all campus legislative powers of the Student Body shall be vested in each USF Campus Council,” but without statutes, the constitution affords no actual power to the council beyond confirming campus-specific SG staff.

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Residence hall construction is on schedule

The new residence hall will look similar to this rendering once it’s completed. However, Lewis said aesthetic details, such as color and finish options, may still change.

By James Bennett III
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A nest of ospreys watched as Mayor Rick Kriseman, then-USF President Judy Genshaft and Regional Chancellor Martin Tadlock broke ground on the new residence hall on April 25. Edward Lewis, the university’s construction project manager, said the birds have made a lot of noise since the groundbreaking. They’ve watched as the skeleton of the building was built, too.

The building, which is being constructed on Sixth Avenue South and between Third and Fourth streets, is on schedule to meet the projected July 2020 completion date, Lewis said. Once it’s finished, 375 students will be able to move in, increasing the number of beds on campus by 70 percent. Names for the $31.5 million building are still being considered, but the west side has already been designated for student life offices, and the east side will be used by the kitchen.

Additionally, Lewis said the first floor facilities will include laundry services, a student kitchen and a large student lounge. There will be smaller student lounges on each floor. Small details, such as construction materials and light fixtures, will be environmentally friendly. The Student Green Energy Fund, which has been involved with the environmentally friendly design process, plans to move The Reef’s biodigester to the building, too.

The new building’s cafeteria, which Sodexo predicts will serve roughly 1,000 meals a day, will be able to seat 400 people. Designs for the new cafeteria are nearly finished and are expected to offer students a larger variety of food than The Reef.

Lewis said plans for the building also include a quiet nook for students to eat and “exceptional” Wi-Fi.

To accommodate the growing number of students, the university has started to look at how it will expand parking. Whether it will create a new lot or add additional levels to existing garage space is still to be determined.

“This is a historic event for USF St. Petersburg,” said Regional Chancellor Martin Tadlock in a press release that preceded the groundbreaking ceremony. “This new residence hall and dining facility will not only provide much-needed affordable living and dining options for our students — it will foster a greater sense of community and help us with our efforts to continue improving student success.”

“I’m excited for the residence hall because I would like to see another 375 students here on the weekends and evenings,” said Lewis, adding that it will likely move the school toward a “real permanent campus experience.”

“That’ll be interesting to see if that changes the dynamic around here,” Lewis said.

POWER, continued from P1

“The councils have the power to change their local rules and policies, appoint people to their local government, and make recommendations to the Senate as to the allocation of A&S fees,” Fishman said in an email.

The council committees would be chaired by senators of the university-wide senate, while other council members would be elected separately.

The judicial system

A big concern among St. Petersburg SG members at an Oct. 7 meeting was the imbalance in the proposed SG Supreme Court structure.

Under the new constitution, USF Tampa would host the Supreme Court. Five of the justices would come from the Tampa campus, while St. Petersburg and Sarasota-Manatee would get two each, giving Tampa’s justices a permanent majority. One of the nine justices would be the chief justice, a “current Justice or Judge” appointed by the student body president.

The judicial branch would have “the power to declare any act of Student Government unconstitutional,” and would oversee all cases of impeachment ordered by the senate. More specific duties, like court rules, would be decided later, when SG develops statutes and judicial rules of procedures.

Localized “circuit courts” would host five judges, including a chief judge, all selected by each campus’ governor. The powers of the circuit courts are not defined in the constitution, but the current campus judicial branch covers constitutional disputes in the legislative branch and parking ticket appeals.

The executive branch

All students would vote for one student body president and vice president ticket. Like the current system, the student body president would represent students before organizations like the USF Board of Trustees and the Florida Student Association.

The student body president would also sign or veto legislation passed by the senate, nominate certain members of the judicial system and oversee the USF executive branch.

Under the student body president, each campus would have a governor and lieutenant governor, who would perform similar duties at the local level. In the constitution, governors are only given the power to appoint specific positions within their cabinet and judicial branch.

The constitution does not specify if students could vote for governors and lieutenant governors from other campuses.

Uncertainty still looms

A significant piece of the puzzle — the statutes — is still missing. SG plans to develop statutes in the next few weeks, which would determine more specific rules for how SG’s branches will function and how students can interact with SG.

Although imbalances exist at the university’s top level, Fishman said she had confidence in the democratic process to solve any potential bias.

“If a Senator/Senators (from any campus) were to sway the budgeting process or legislative process in an unfair or biased way, they could easily be voted out of office,” she said in an email.

However, USF St. Petersburg has a historically low voter turnout. In the spring, only 574 students voted in student body general elections, which was about 13 percent of the student body.

At last week’s general assembly meeting, the USF St. Petersburg senate also created an ad hoc committee on consolidation to help answer students’ questions about the new structure.

“Just simple, unofficial meetings, I don’t think would do,” Fishman said. “So I thought it was necessary to create this ad hoc committee in an official capacity.”

Alongside this, USF St. Petersburg Student Body President Jadzia “Jazzy” Duarte said that all three campuses plan to launch individual “vote yes” campaigns next week to push students to vote in favor of SG’s draft.

“If half plus one” of the students vote no on the constitution, Duarte said, the draft will be out of SG’s hands. It would go to university administration for a final decision.
Free the tampon’ proposal passes

By James Bennett III
jamesbennett@mail.usf.edu

Student Government’s proposal to give students access to free tampons was unanimously passed on Oct. 7.

Although there wasn’t any pushback, the proposal went through minimal wording changes to be more gender-inclusive.

For example, a line that said “we should show the support of women’s students health,” now says “we should support students’ health.”

“I’m so excited, now we will see how we can fund it! I’m excited to work with my club, the Health Science Student Organization, to use the Engage St. Pete Project from the League of Women Voters to fund the trial run,” said Lynsey Trantham, the author of the proposal, in an email. “I know the Wellness Center is fully behind this measure, so it is exciting to see where this goes.”

SG Senate President Katherine Fishman said the organization is getting closer to figuring out the details.

For starters, SG has begun fleshing out how the trial run will work.

A dispenser full of feminine hygiene products will be placed in the University Student Center women’s bathroom, and a basket full of tampons and pads will be put in the gender-neutral bathrooms as late as midway through next semester.

Fishman said there were initially plans to put tampons in male bathrooms as well, but SG decided against it “because we thought that some immature men might be inclined to use them for non-hygienic purposes.”

SG is also considering making feminine hygiene products available in the Wellness Center.

“If we see that the products are being consistently used, then we can discuss expanding the program and get the students’ voices on where they’d like to see more,” said Jadzia “Jazzy” Duarte, SG’s student body president.

They are also narrowing down which vendor will supply the tampons. Duarte said the organization has a “strong eye” on Aunt Flow, an organization that specializes in getting menstrual products to students at college campuses.

According to Fishman, SG will likely pay for the program.

Some questions are still up in the air, though. For example, SG members are still trying to figure out whether they will refill the tampon dispensers or baskets, or if the school’s custodial team will restock supplies.

“I feel hopeful that this is going to become a big thing. And that’s why we’re doing the trial run — to see if it can become a big thing,” Fishman said. “But I think it has been necessary and that we’re heading in a good direction on this.”

“I’ve seen free hygiene products given out on other campuses and I’m so proud to say that we can bring it to the students here at USFSP,” Duarte said. “Major shout out to Lynsey Trantham for proposing this idea and helping draft it as a resolution.

“This should be a major stepping stone in student involvement with Student Government. If you have an idea, tell us about it. We’re super eager to get legislation passed and make some changes!”
Homecoming week hits the bullseye

By Savannah Carr
savannahc4@mail.usf.edu

While the staple homecoming traditions returned to USF St. Petersburg this year, students likely noticed one major change. This year, the Student Life and Engagement offices across all campuses decided to change the term “Homecoming Queen and King” to “Homecoming Royalty.” The goal was to make running for homecoming inclusive for all by removing gender labels.

“This was a system-wide decision across all three campuses to be as inclusive as possible,” said Student Programs Coordinator Akyanna Smith. “Last year, we let anyone apply for queen or king, regardless of their gender. We hope that using more inclusive language with royalty, people will feel more support in applying for court.”

The change allowed for USF St. Petersburg students to vote two male students, Daniel Ciccia and Spencer Gomez, as their Homecoming Royalty.

“I feel so grateful that Spencer and I won because we worked super hard campaigning and now we got to make history on our campus as the first two kings,” Ciccia said. “We are the only one in about 20 universities in the country to make homecoming gender neutral.

“I’m glad that Spencer and I were given the opportunity to represent our school together.”

Monday started the festivities with the homecoming kickoff, which included a balloon-drop and a performance from the South Florida All Stars dance team. Following the performance, students gathered around Cheryl the Bull for a group picture.

“The homecoming kickoff was a great experience,” junior Fred Poole said. “However, my favorite part was getting a picture with my friends in front of the Bull statue.”

The annual Carn-a-Bull was moved to the ballrooms due to rain. However, the event—which included inflatable Twister, bumper cars, and a mechanical bull—remained a hit. USF Tampa’s Battle of the Bands’ winner, Nightbreakers, also gave a free performance.

“The carnival was excellent for making memories with my friends,” said freshman Emmaleigh Tucker. “But I’m still wondering how they managed to get bumper cars and a mechanical bull on the second floor.”

Tuesday brought the “Night of Bull Royalty” homecoming ball. As usual, USF St. Petersburg students donned their best outfits for a night full of dancing.

In between songs, the South Florida All Stars performed once more, and Daniel Ciccia and Spencer Gomez were crowned.

The next day was the Laugh-a-Bull comedy show with comedian Jenny Zigrino, whose style had students roaring with laughter.

“The comedian was extremely witty, and her enthusiasm added to the positive atmosphere,” said freshman Maddie Grosse.

Thursday brought the annual cardboard boat race. This year, the Nelson Poynter Memorial Library took first place and the award for “Best Original Design.” The event seemed to be a hit with students and the local wildlife after a dolphin swam near the boats during the race.

That night, rapper Gunna performed at the Yuengling Center in Tampa. While students enjoyed the concert, Gunna made the mistake of addressing the crowd as “UCF.”

Friday featured the “Running of the Bulls” parade with a float for the St. Petersburg campus and students. The parade also had floats for different organizations across all three campuses.

The week culminated with a football game against Brigham Young University. Despite being down through most of the game, USF rallied in the fourth quarter and scored 13 points, leading them to a 27-23 victory over the Cougars.
Gunna, best known for his collaborations with Lil Baby and Young Thug, headlined the USF Homecoming concert Oct. 10.

The Cardboard Boat Race begins on the shore of Bayboro Harbor. The paddlers had to circle around several buoys and back to the finish line on the beach.

Aerial Hall Jr. (left) and Daniel Ciccia race to the finish line in the last leg of the Cardboard Boat Race. On Oct. 10, Hall, racing for LSO, eventually overtook Ciccia, who raced for Harborside Activities Board. Ciccia and HAB took home the “Most Spectacular Sinking” award.

Volunteers on paddle boards oversaw the race and made sure to pick up any remaining scraps of trash left over.
Consolidation undermines my reasons for attending USFSP

By Nicole Slaughter
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I
m my application letter to the Department of Digital Journalism and Design at USF St. Petersburg, I wrote that in the current era, where newspapers and digital outlets continue to fall and the media is attacked on a daily basis, now seemed like the one of the worst times – and maybe one of the most important – to pursue an advanced degree in journalism. Under USF’s current consolidation plan, three USF campuses, around 50,000 students and a few hundred programs, smaller programs might not make the cut.

I made a calculated decision when I chose my program and campus because both best suited my personal goals. I had to be sure to say that many of the students at the St. Petersburg campus did the same. Under President Steve Currall’s “preliminary consolidation plan,” the Tampa campus is at the helm of authority over St. Petersburg and Sarasota-Manatee campuses. Each campus maintaining individual autonomy. But here’s the thing: I didn’t choose the Tampa campus. Neither did 6,000 other students at USF St. Petersburg. And here’s my personal story as to why. I am a student at Eckerd College, sampling various writing classes to figure out which style suited me best, it was Journalism 101 that told me to tell the stories of others in and around my community, and I wanted to do so with purpose. My undergraduate experience spewed a writing career with a fast trajectory. Before freelancing, I was an editor at a national magazine. As a full-time freelance journalist and writer, I’ve put in long hours and learned on the network I created in undergraduate school. In my possession is a confidence, and I have been lucky enough to collect bylines from The New York Times, The Washington Post, CNN, Cosmopolitan, The Penny Hoarder and many others. But something was missing – I didn’t necessarily know the ins and outs of media law or ethics, because my creative writing degree didn’t delve into those topics. I also didn’t know much about photography, videography, or data, all of which in this changing, digital media landscape, skills which are highly sought after.

So I decided to pursue an advanced degree in digital journalism. I chose the USF St. Petersburg campus because it offers one of only four accredited journalism units in Florida. That is an accolade the Tampa campus cannot claim. I also wanted to learn from a faculty proven in the field and in scholarship, and many of those faculty are on the St. Petersburg campus.

The St. Petersburg campus has long catered to students with jobs and families. Its faculty understands the trials and responsibilities of being a working student. Its small class sizes and online offerings make it possible for students like me – with both a job and a family – to participate in an education that is both personalized and high-quality. I’m on a first-name basis with many of my professors. I’ve secured internships and assistships that I might not have otherwise applied for, thanks to the support of these professors.

USF Tampa and USF St. Petersburg might be just 31 miles apart in distance, but they are worlds apart in operation and student experience, which I realized when I interned on the Tampa campus. USF’s two smaller campuses work and continue to grow because they cater to their students in a way that Tampa cannot, simply because it is unfamiliar with the needs of those students. Placing Tampa’s campus on the top of the hierarchy will be serious to those faculty and thus, its necessity.

Students like me chose the St. Petersburg campus because of its small class sizes, its course offerings, which I considered the University of赣南 St. Petersburg because it is not Tampa.

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What’s Halloween without monster cereal?

By Bryce Lawson
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Halloween is on the horizon, bringing horror movie marathons and monster-themed cereal along with it. The cereal aisles are lined with a zombified Cap’n Crunch, a vampire Tony Tiger and much more. With these copycat monster cereals emerging, why won’t General Mills just bring back Fruit Brute and Yummy Mummy?

Nothing brings me more joy in life than watching Magilla Gorilla and other Saturday morning cartoons while eating a bowl of my favorite blueberry ghost cereal Boo Berry. The two original monsters were introduced in 1971 as seasonal cereal, with accompanying commercials featuring a cartoon Frankenberry and Count Chocula. To sweeten the deal, boxes included prizes such as posters and vinyl figures. Over the next couple of years, both monsters would fight over which had the highest its been, Fruit Brute and Yummy Mummy are due off its already established line up with Fruit Brute – a noisily werewolf offering fruit-flavored marshmallow cereal – and Yummy Mummy, with orange cream flavored marshmallows, as part of the monster cereal rebrand, giving the monsters new, sleek, modern looks. Personally, I am a fan of the original character designs, especially the hazy-eyed Boo Berry, who now looks like a Casper knockoff mixed with a bully. For the Brave and Yummy Mummy only lasted one year after the rebrand, but with childhood nostalgia at the highest its been, Fruit Brute and Yummy Mummy are due for a comeback. The new flavors of cherry and orange cream are more enticing flavors than the ones from the original release. Yummy Mummy actually sounded like it would be a favorite, but that orange cream flavor sounds pretty dank. It might be nice to introduce some new monsters into the lineup. Maybe a “Creature From The Black Lagoon” style monster with cinnamon apple-flavored cereal, or a “Bride Of Frankenberry,” the cereal’s raspberry flavored marshmallows.

General Mills is passing off its already established halloween cereals as Halloween cereal, because of the effort put into marketing. As a fan of all things Defunct, I thought the Funko company making various bobble heads and Funko pops based on the characters. To boost sales of the characters, General Mills should release the two in a “ coincident with the small pop vinyl figure at the bottom of each box. This model could possibly lure people to the cereal, making the comeback a possibility. It would be nice to cup with a real bowl of Fruit Brute and watch the original “The Wolf Man” next Halloween season.
Zigrino brings zingers to homecoming week

By Carrie Pinkard clarice2@mail.usf.edu

The Laugh-a-bull comedy show began in an unusual way — with the host asking the audience to submit their own jokes. Harborside Activities Board coordinators told the crowd of roughly 75 students in the University Student Center ballrooms to tweet their jokes so they could be read before the show.

Student body president Jazz Duarte raised her hand to contribute her own zinger.

"Would you rather eat a jalapeno pepper or a matter baby?" Duarte asked the host.

"What's a matter baby?" the host questioned back.

"Nothing, what's the matter with you?" Duarte concluded the joke, earning giggles from the audience.

Many of the submitted jokes produced groans, forced laughter and a palpable desire for a real comedian to come on stage.

When Jenny Zigrino, 32, finally arrived, it was obvious she knew how to work a room of college students. Her jokes revolved around online dating, parents and identity.

Zigrino said her mom is a Jewish Russian woman who gave her a Groupon to get botox. Her dad is a politically conservative Catholic who tries to keep Zigrino from "corrupting the mind" of her 12-year-old sister. She said she gave her twin sister a book about her 12-year-old sister. "Do you guys have some kind of stupid school chant you do?" she asked the audience.

"Yes!" the room full of Bulls responded, breaking out into the USF fight song. The vast majority of Zigrino’s jokes were dirty. She shared that her kink was historical reenactments, and joked that she's not allowed within 50 miles of Gettysburg.

She asked who in the audience had sent a "dick pic," and only one redheaded student in the front row raised his hand.

"Well thank YOU for being honest," Zigrino said to the student before joking about how she loves getting unsolicited "dick pics" on social media.

Zigrino kept the students laughing throughout her set. The energy was still high when she said she had to leave to drive back to Orlando.

THOMAS IACOBucci | THE CROW’S NEST

Comedian Jenny Zigrino performs in the USC Ballroom for the university’s Laugh-a-bull Comedy Show, part of Homecoming Week festivities.

What to do this week: Oct. 14-20

MONDAY
Punky’s, 3063 Central Ave., will have a Drag Bingo/charity event from 6:30 to 9 p.m. The bingo is free to play but donations will be accepted. The proceeds will go to various charities, such as Pets For Vets and Meals On Wheels.

Local art rock band Catatonic Scripts and psychedelic surf rock band Liquid Pennies will perform at The Bends, 919 First Ave., from 10 p.m. to 3 a.m. This is a free event.

TUESDAY
There will be a Council of Club Presidents Meeting from 5 to 6 p.m. in the Student Life Center, Room 1600.

Local swing band Lounge Cat will perform at Intermezzo Coffee and Cocktails, 1111 Central Ave. This free show will run from 7 to 10 p.m.

WEDNESDAY
Get in touch with your emotions at the Emotional Intelligence Workshop. This free workshop will be from 5 to 6 p.m. in the Career Center, SLC 2300.

Test your pop culture knowledge at No Vacancy, 937 Central Ave., with Millenial Pop Culture Trivia. The questions will cover pop culture from 1990 to 2010. This is a free event.

THURSDAY
Black Crow Coffee Grand Central, 2157 First Ave. S., will host a Poetry Night & Literary Vendor Market event from 6 to 10 p.m. Live music and local art will be on display at this free event.

FRIDAY
Station House St. Petersburg, 260 First Ave. S., will host Reveal: Emerge, a music and arts event from 5 to 11 p.m. An art exhibit curated by Diana Bryson will be on display, along with a panel discussion about facilitating the growth of artists. The SHINE mural festival will also host a live mural-painting, and Ichicoro ANE at Station House will sponsor a cocktail exhibition.

The First Annual Italian Food Festival will be at Albert Whitted Park, 480 Bayshore Drive SE, from 6 to 11 p.m. This free event will feature Italian-inspired food trucks such as Impasto and Engine 53.

SATURDAY
The ninth annual St. Petersburg Science Festival will be on campus from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. This free event will be along the waterfront at Poynter Park, 1000 Third St. S.

Get some spooky stuff at Hauntizaar at Studio@620, 620 First Ave. S., from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. This haunted bazaar will feature local vendors with Halloween-inspired items. This is a free event.

One of the oldest theaters in the area, the Tampa Theatre, 711 N Franklin St., will host a haunted ghost tour of the theater from 11:30 a.m. to 12:45 p.m. Tickets for the tour are $15 and can be purchased at tampatheatre.org.

SUNDAY
The Locale Market in the Sundial Courtyard, 153 Second Ave. N, will offer a special Sushi Sunday deal from 11 a.m. to 9 p.m. Gyroza and steamed bao buns will also be available.
They are twenty øne piløts and so are we

Story and photos by Thomas Iacobucci

THE CROW’S NEST

October 14, 2019

Their drop of the velvet curtain crumbled away as the lights of the Amalie Arena dissipated. A blank stage engulfed in darkness sat in front of a crowd nearing 12,000.

Two figures, one hooded with a bandana concealing his face and holding a torch, and the other, donning a black ski mask and strapped with a bass, stood atop a rusted, desolate car while a smoky mist filled the air around them.

Head perched and eyes locked with the crowd, the hooded bandana figure, Josh Dun, the duo’s drummer, walked forward to the edge of the stage, extending his arm with the torch for the entire crowd to see.

The other figure, leader signer, bassist and keyboardist Tyler, remained atop the car, waiting in anticipation as the arena held its breath.

Twenty One Pilots, or twenty øne piløts as it’s spelled and styled, played Amalie Arena on Oct. 9, returning to Tampa for the second time on the same extended Bandito Tour that brought them here in 2018.

The duo’s latest album, “Trench,” played as the main theme for the night’s show, highlighting the characters that Joseph and Dun conceptualized for the album.

As Dun held the flaming torch in his hand and the lights dimmed further, flames from underneath the hood of the decrepit car erupted with light. Joseph began playing the intro to the screaming “Clique” that filled the floor and seats.

The first three songs saw the duo remain in character as “Banditos,” fictional liberators of the city of Dema, who act as the protagonists in the world of “Trench.”

As “Jumpsuit” concluded, the band immediately transitioned into the post-apocalyptic sounding “Levitate,” before diving back into their arsenal and playing “Heavydirtysoul” to close out the intro, where the two revealed their faces to the screaming arena.

Dealing with concepts of faith, mental health, suicide and insecurity, “Trench” conveys metaphorical manifestations for confronting these issues through a wide array of sounds that fall under differing genres.

As the alternative duo continued their set, they altered between bewitching the packed arena with classic hits off their last album, “Blurryface,” though mainly focusing on songs from “Trench.”

Interacting with the crowd and leading them through the night, Joseph would divulge personal anecdotes attached to particular songs.

“A lot of times, when I try working on a new idea, I sit on the ground with a keyboard like this,” he said, sitting on the stage with his keyboard, getting ready to perform “Ride” to the waiting crowd.

With outfit changes at various points throughout the night, a second stage in the middle of the general admission pit, and crowd-surfing on platforms with their instruments, Joseph and Dun showcased their seasoned status as veterans when it comes to putting on a theatrical show.

The duo closed their two-hour set with “Trees” from their 2013 album “Vessel,” though the energy led the packed house to believe they could have kept going.

Arms clasped together, Joseph and Dun bowed and received a standing ovation.

“We’re Twenty One Pilots, and so are you,” they said. “We’ll see you next time.”

Twenty One Pilots performed at Amalie Arena on Oct. 9 as part of their extended Bandito Tour.