



UNIVERSITY OF TAMPA'S NEWS SOURCE SINCE 1933

THE MINARET

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Sodexo to Phase Out Battery-Cage Eggs

Petitions sway the company to become more animal friendly

By SELENE SAN FELICE
Asst. A+E Editor

After hundreds of thousands of signatures on several change.org petitions against Sodexo, the food-service provider that feeds UT and 41,700 other organizations worldwide announced Feb. 19 that it will begin phasing out the use of battery-cage eggs.

A national animal rights organization, The Humane League, stated Sodexo has been buying liquid eggs from battery-cage farms, which keep hens immobilized in cramped cages. Battery-cage farming has been proven to lead to the mental deterioration of hens, as well as the spread of diseases like salmonella, according to studies conducted by the Humane Society. These are the same eggs used to make omelets in UT's cafeteria.

Sodexo, a hospitality corporation, caters to students and others around the globe, including at UT. The company operates at 9,000 client sites in North America and 32,700 sites worldwide.

Battery-cage farming was banned in California this year and will be illegal in Michigan by 2019, according to the Huffington Post. Burger King has promised to phase out battery-cage farmed eggs by

2017, and Whole Foods has stopped selling caged-hen eggs.

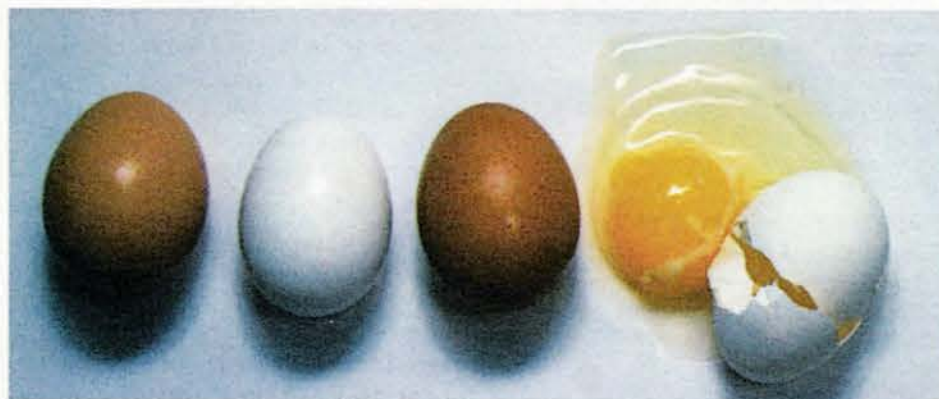
The Humane League had been campaigning for Sodexo as a whole to phase out battery-cage farmed eggs since November. The petition was started by Humane League volunteer and Jacksonville resident Jessika Hopper. In late January she asked UT to pressure Sodexo to phase out battery-cage farmed eggs.

Hopper's change.org petition got almost 16,700 signatures, and the Humane League's other petitions against Sodexo received hundreds of thousands of signatures.

Hopper said she learned about the League's campaign against Sodexo from its Facebook page.

"I saw they were targeting Sodexo's clients, so they worked with me to set up a petition similar to theirs," Hopper said. "I knew UT of Tampa uses Sodexo, and I wanted them to take responsibility for the cruelty they were supporting by using Sodexo. I hope it grabbed their attention and contributed to Sodexo finally giving in and creating the new policy!"

While Hopper is not a UT student or Tampa resident, she still felt that UT needed to realize what they had been endorsing.



Casey Budd/ The Minaret

"I just feel that any institution should be socially responsible," Hopper said. "As the petition notes, battery cages are of the cruelest practices and are even illegal in several states. It's not that UT is singled out; they were just a piece of the campaign."

The Humane League's campaign coordinator, Taylor Ford, detailed the organization's efforts to work with Sodexo. He says that after reaching out to the company in late November "to see if they'd be open to talking about phasing out the use of battery cage eggs," The Humane League did not receive a response for several months.

"They didn't respond," Ford said. "So we began working with their clients to raise awareness about the issue."

The Humane League also reached out to each of Sodexo's clients, including UT, at the beginning of their campaign. Ford said UT would have been contacted in December or January.

"The email made them aware of the concern we were looking to address and the actions we planned to take to address them," Ford said. "A lot of schools do not respond to us and some stay in communication with us throughout the campaign. University of Tampa did not

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Facebook Legacy Contact Addresses Death

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Club Tennis Team Commences Active Growth

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UT To Offer Cyber Security Major Next Fall

By BIANCA LOPEZ
News Writer

Beginning in Fall 2015, UT will offer a cybersecurity major. This in-demand major opens the doors for students to enter an exciting and challenging career protecting information.

Cybersecurity, essentially, involves the precautions and actions taken to combat hackers and protect digital information. In this age of information, cybersecurity is not just an asset; it is imperative.

Businesses and government agencies are willing to spend large quantities of money to secure their private information. Due to this demand, careers in cybersecurity are said to be relatively recession-proof.

Kenneth Knapp, Cybersecurity Program Director and Associate Professor of Information and Technology Management, has been working on the program for about a year and a half with the support of President Ronald Vaughn.

"As society becomes increasingly dependent upon information technologies, as more and more of our experiences become online experiences, all of the internet has to be secured. The tools that we use, the devices that we use, have to be

secured," Knapp said. "So somebody who has expertise in cybersecurity and information security and network security, these professionals are going to be in demand, increasing demand."

The program falls under the Sykes College of Business and will be housed in the new Innovation and Collaboration Building currently under construction along North Boulevard. The building will contain a state-of-the-art cybersecurity lab.

"The advantage of [the program] being in the college of Business is that the student learns not just about the technology, they're learning all about business," Knapp said. "That's important because somebody who works in information and cybersecurity needs to know the business of which they're trying to protect."

The constantly growing field of cybersecurity offers job stability and a competitive average salary of \$116,000 for experienced U.S. security professionals, according to a census study by Semper Secure, a

cybersecurity initiative in Virginia.

IBM Security Services monitored 1.5 million cyber attacks in the U.S. in 2013. Even UT has dealt with its share of hacking. Between July 2011 and March 2012, a UT server error resulted in the breach of 30,000 files, comprising sensitive information on present and past students and faculty members, according to a North Carolina State University IT article, "Worst 'EDU' Privacy Breaches of 2011-2012."

While a love of technology is absolutely necessary, working in cybersecurity does not mean sitting behind a computer 24 hours a day, seven days a week. Cybersecurity involves constant movement, with many analyst positions requiring travel for consultations with domestic and even international companies.

"When I left the Marine Corps my top priority was to earn my degree. I understand the importance of a

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Students Find Comfort in Four-Legged Companions

Service dogs don't only serve, but they also provide friendship and safety.

By KAI MILLER
News Writer

In the middle of the night when Andrew Golden's blood sugar falls dangerously low, his corgi service dog jumps on the bed, pounces on top of him and alerts him that it's time to take his insulin.

The black and white spotted corgi named Bandit has allowed Golden, a UT sophomore, to continue living his preferred lifestyle despite his diabetes. As a hypoglycemic diabetic, Golden has had to constantly monitor his blood sugar levels and make his health a top priority. However, since Bandit became his diabetic alert dog, Golden no longer relies on blood glucose meters, a process that would require him to constantly prick his fingers up to 10 to 12 times a day.

"My scent changes when my sugar [levels] drop," Golden explained. "He has a sensitive enough nose and the training to be able to sense it and alert me."

On Sept. 22, 2006, Bandit was born and took to Golden almost instantaneously. "I actually brought Bandit into this world," Golden said. "I cut his umbilical cord."

Golden's family has been breeding Cardigan Welsh Corgis as show dogs for quite some time now. Golden initially wanted to train Bandit for show purposes, however, their bond delved far deeper than dog and master.

Bandit has become an integral part of Golden's everyday life. From the cafeteria to Morsani, Bandit can be spotted alongside Golden keeping up with his every stride. Golden, however, draws a fine line when it comes to just how much time he spends with his furry companion. As a biology student, Golden opts out of bringing Bandit along with him to his required lab instructions.

"Working with chemicals like formaldehyde and hydrochloric acid [in a lab], is not the best place for a puppy to be," Golden said. "So, there are periods of time for sheer logistic and safety reasons that I will not bring him with me."

But in other instances, like when it comes to making new friends, Bandit is definitely an asset. On most occasions, Golden and Bandit can't make it through the Vaughn lobby without being stopped at least once by a passerby. And, when it comes to the opposite sex Bandit is most definitely a lady-killer.

"He makes it so easy to pick up women and it doesn't do me a bit damn of good," Golden said.

For other students, like Olivia-Jean Hamilton, having a four-legged

friend may not have necessarily improved her love life, but has proven to enhance her overall personal life.

"When you have bad days it's harder to get out and do things," Hamilton explained. "But when you have a dog you have to go out. So, you have no choice but to appreciate things because of your dog."

On the surface, Hamilton appears to be what most would consider normal. The UT junior is statuesque with long, blond locks and piercing blue eyes. But at the age of 10, Hamilton was diagnosed with arthritis, an ailment that has caused her to have inflammation from head to toe and high anxiety. Her goldendoodle service dog, Toby, is currently in the process of being trained to keep her calm and lend an extra paw or two when her arthritis is inflamed.

This past November, Hamilton began working with a certified trainer to teach Toby the skills necessary to perform as a service dog, a process that Hamilton says has strengthened their bond. "I think, service dogs are the future of America," Hamilton said. "Toby has changed my everyday life."

Kai Miller can be reached at kai.miller@spartans.ut.edu



Bandit alerts Golden when his sugar levels are too low. Toby assists Hamilton when her arthritis flares up. Other students depend on service animals for a multitude of reasons.

Gateways, Pathways Programs Promote Financial Literacy

By KHADIJAH KHAN
Head Copy Editor

Students attend the University of Tampa for an education in their chosen career paths, yet many students don't have all of the skills they will need in the "real world." Rebecca Bauer, the Assistant Director of Assessment for Academic Services, has been partnering with departments and organizations at UT to promote financial literacy.

"There is a need across the country for all students to be educated about their finances, and the goal of the financial literacy initiative is to promote financial literacy across campus and assist all students in becoming financially literate," Bauer said.

Bauer is working with Professor Bob Ruday, Dr. Christine Harrington and Dr. Walter Smith to help promote financial literacy on campus in the coming year. Dan Holahan, freshman and undeclared major, thinks increasing financial literacy on campus will help us in future endeavours.

"I think that it is absolutely vital. Bob Ruday is my professor in my financial literacy themed gateways," Holahan said. "I personally feel that it's essential to know for once we graduate. It's a scary concept that our generation doesn't know how to use tools that the government gives

to us in life after college and retirement. It's on us the individual to know how save for retirement, and the sad truth is that we're already starting too late."

Sophomore and new media productions major Thomas Stanley thinks understanding taxes are an essential part of becoming financially literate and it is something that students need to be able comprehend once leaving college.

"I could use more explanation on taxes; it's always been a fear in the back of my head that I'm going to mess something up out of not knowing how to do it and end up in legal trouble," said Stanley. "I personally have never been taught in a formal setting about those concepts, and I think it could certainly be useful to young adults as they transition into members of society."

Bauer is also working with Dr. Edesa Scarborough and Dr. Catherine Chastain-Elliott to promote Financial Literacy Week, which will take place April 13-17. In Reeves Theater. Fifteen financial literacy presentations will be led by alumni, community agencies, faculty, and staff and student organizations. These presentations will educate students on topics such as student

'I could use more explanation on taxes; it's always been a fear in the back of my head that I'm going to mess something up out of not knowing how to do it and end up in legal trouble.' Thomas Stanley

debt, managing credit cards, investing, facts they didn't know about college and how to save \$1 million tax-free.

This past fall, Bauer worked with the Gateways Program to help provide information on financial literacy for the incoming students who were enrolled in Gateways and Pathways classes.

Some freshmen say they find this program beneficial for the Baccalaureate Experience. They aren't just taking refresher courses, but they are learning skills that will help them follow their career path.

"I believe it's important, because it's something everyone is going to have to deal with," said freshman and undecided major Rachel Curtis. "Considering a lot of us are completely reliant on parents now, we're going to have to learn in the future anyway."

"Instead of taking all the maths that we all struggle with that we're not really learning anything with we should bring on a financial literacy course that helps teach us how to do taxes, manage money, and pay bills," said Cal Edborg junior film and media arts major. "We're not really learning anything we're just trying to get through it."

There is a Blackboard course (search course UT-Fin) that offers students a wide variety of resources to become financially literate.

Students can learn about financial success, saving, investing and budgeting. The Blackboard course also provides quizzes, articles, videos and other tools.

"We want students to have the tools to learn more about their finances and how to manage their money responsibly," Bauer said. "Students have time on their side, and that is a huge advantage to setting themselves on the path to financial freedom."

Bauer has reached out to large organizations on campus to get their support in making our university more financially literate. Student Government supports increasing the education of financial literacy across UT's campus. They will be sponsoring Peter Bielagus, a national financial literacy speaker, to be at UT all day Wednesday, April 15.

"It's relatable. It's something you can apply in real life. Teaching kids about financial literacy and how to use their money is something of value that Student Government truly supports," said Student Government Campus Wide Senator Alexis Moretti. "In high school, we don't learn about where we should invest our money, so it's a great opportunity that UT helps us in that way."

Khadijah Khan can be reached at khadijah.khan@theminaretonline.com



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INFORMATION



POLICE BEAT

Reports compiled by Zoe Fowler

Gonna Check Ebay Now

On Feb. 16, some historic property on display was reported missing from a classroom.

Pop on Scene With Seat Missing

On Feb. 17, a student reported the theft of his bicycle seat by an unknown person.

Some People Don't Learn

On Feb. 17, a previously trespassed non-student was found in a residence hall room and was arrested for Trespass After Warning by the Tampa Police Department.

Warning: Cray Cray on the Loose

On Feb. 18, a student reported that her non-student visitor's mother had followed them to campus.

Mike Tyson Copy Cat??

On Feb. 19, students were involved in a physical altercation.

AND THEY CAN'T STOPPP!!

On Feb. 21, The Tampa Police Department responded to an off-campus house party involving university students.



STUDENT GOVERNMENT

Appreciation Luncheon for Student Org Presidents

The luncheon is on April 19 at 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. on the 11th floor of Jenkins.

Advisor's Dinner


The dinner is on April 30 at 5:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. The event is for student organization's advisers and presidents.

Leadership Awards Ceremony

The ceremony is on April 30 at 6:45 p.m.

Sodexo to introduce animal welfare policy

**Sodexo's
COMMITMENT TO
Animal Welfare**



Sodexo is proud to take important steps to support the proper treatment of animals. Specifically, we will promote improved animal care within the following supplying chains.



Currently, Sodexo sources all shelled eggs from cage-free producers. Sodexo will move to source all egg products from cage-free hens by 2020.

Sodexo currently sources about

20 million
pounds of liquid eggs annually, from
750,000
egg-laying hens.



In 2012, Sodexo announced a commitment to eliminate gestation crates from our pork supply chain by 2022. We are on pace to meet this commitment.



In addition,

we will work with suppliers to ensure the use of pain relief and potential elimination of castration and tail docking.



As aligned with the American Veal Association's 2007 resolution on animal welfare, we will eliminate veal crates from within our supply chain by **2017.**



We will work with our suppliers to address the issues of pain relief and the potential elimination of **de-horning, tail docking and castration.**

Learn more about Sodexo's commitment to animal welfare at www.tinyurl.com/SDXanimalwelfare.



sodexo
QUALITY OF LIFE SERVICES

From PETITION Page 1

choose to go cage free nor seemed to express an interest in working to end their contract with Sodexo."

The Humane League has influenced change for animal rights not only in Sodexo, but in corporations nationwide. In 2014 the organization persuaded Ikea, Starbucks, Delaware North and Centerplate to stop buying from battery-cage chicken and pig farms.

In a press release highlighting its efforts to become more humane, Sodexo stated that the company "currently sources about 20 million pounds of liquid eggs annually, from 750,000 egg-laying hens. It will now move to sourcing liquid eggs only from cage-free hens with a phased-in approach that will be complete by the end of 2020."

Ford said the Humane League is pleased with Sodexo's new policy.

"It is a huge victory for animals and will impact millions of hens," Ford said.

Kristin Collins, a sophomore public health major and an intern with the Focusing On Optimal Dietetics for Students club at UT, was also happy to hear of the change.

"It is great to hear that more organizations on our campus are working towards creating a healthier, more attainable lifestyle for college students," Collins said.

Cindy Parsons, UT associate professor of nursing, has taught nutrition classes to nursing students. She said the change in egg suppliers involves many factors, including the health benefits of eggs and the quality of the product.

"The nutrient value of eggs is well known," Parsons said. "Eggs provide heart-healthy omega-3 fats, less saturated fat and cholesterol, vitamin E, vitamin A,

beta carotene and Vitamin D. One could surmise that given food intake of caged (grain and feed) versus free-range (a variety of plants native to the area they are raised in) [is] that free range would be healthier."

Sodexo announced other changes. In 2012, Sodexo agreed to phase out the use of gestation crates from its pork supply chain, which should also be completed by 2020. The company has also promised to eliminate the use of veal crates by 2017.

"In a series of next steps to protect and promote improved treatment of farm animals, Sodexo also is committed to working with suppliers to ensure the use of pain relief protocols, particularly as it relates to de-horning, castration and tail-docking procedures, which the company is working to eliminate," the company announced.

Ford said that while the farming business has a long way to go, Sodexo's change can still have an impact. He doesn't believe any animal farming is humane, but The Humane League considers cage-free farming a step up from battery-cage facilities.

"I think everyone's definition of what 'humane' is depends on how you see animals being used in agriculture... Battery cages are easily one of the worst practices in agriculture, and it also affects the largest number of animals (compared to gestation crates, etc)," Ford said. "Getting corporations to go cage-free will shift the industry and create more of a demand for more humane products. Unfortunately, it's a small step-by-step process, but we believe it's our best option."

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Growing cyber security industry promotes new major

From CYBER SECURITY Page 1

formal education and the value that comes along with a degree," said Kayla Harris, a senior management information systems (MIS) major and cybersecurity minor.

"It's a constant game of cat and mouse. Hackers will break into systems in any way they possibly can, and the cybersecurity professional will work to detect and get them out as soon as possible and with as little damage done as possible. Every day is different, this is not a field where we can go on autopilot, they say in the military 'complacency kills', it is true in cybersecurity as well."

Harris takes advantage of the program's option to take cybersecurity as a minor. Knapp explained that a cybersecurity degree could couple with a variety of majors, particularly MIS majors.

Since the curriculum for the cybersecurity minor requires four courses (three of which are already part of the MIS curriculum) and two electives, MIS students can take ITM 350, Information Security Principles, and have it double as a core class for their major and an elective for their minor.

This means that, for MIS majors, only two additional courses are necessary in order to complete the minor.

Anthony Bilotto is a returning student, who graduated from UT with

a degree in Biology. After working in academia, he returned to work toward an MIS degree and is currently considering a minor in cybersecurity.

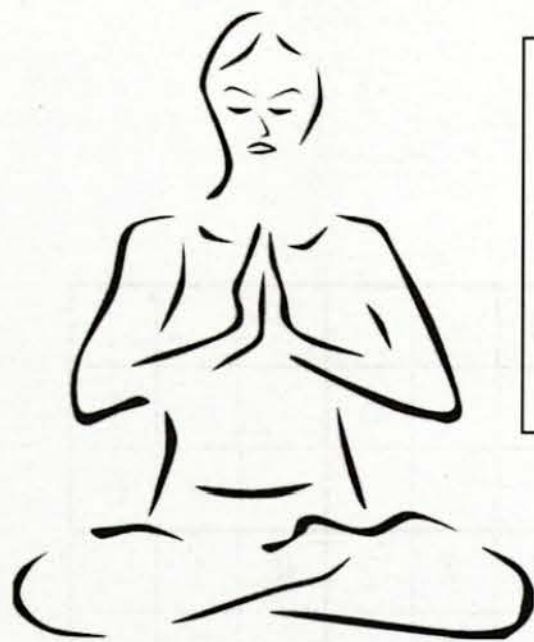
"My ultimate goal is to tie in the background that I have in science and research and apply that," Bilotto said. "I'm currently working on a management information systems degree so my goal is to try to pull those two fields together and ultimately see if I can get something in the information systems area of a biotech or pharmaceutical company."

Bilotto has always had an affinity for technology, tinkering with and building a number of computers.

"Most students nowadays, how are they not intertwined with technology in one way or another? Take what you use every day, learn more about it and create a career out of it," Bilotto said. "Just kind of take a step back and look at how important technology is in everyday life. In terms specifically of cyber security, how it's important to keep all of that data that's out there secured. Instead of just sitting there and waiting for things to happen, you can be on the cutting edge."

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Explore Inner Peace With Mind & Meditation Series



freebievectors.com

Mind and Meditation Series

Location: Sykes Chapel
When: Every Wednesday

The next meditation meeting will be posted at www.ut.edu/wellness

"Meditation is something that is very important for all people to do," Ryan said. "It helps greatly with stress release and it's also a way to grow closer to your creator."

Inspired by the success of last semester's "The Power of Pause" book club, which was centered around meditation, Ryan began the "Mind & Meditation" series in hopes of helping students learn about the different ways to meditate and relax.

"I want to help others find a way to settle their minds," Ryan said. "So, that they can be more active, more productive and stress free."

Through Ryan's efforts, peace of mind is literally within walking distance. Every Wednesday the lunchtime meditations are held in Sykes Chapel, focusing on varied

forms of the practice. In conjunction with Live Well UT's interfaith model, the series will feature meditations led by various faith leaders.

"We open up all the doors to allow faiths to share what their beliefs and traditions are," Ryan said.

On Jan. 28, the "Mind & Meditation" series began with a spiritual reflection led by a member of the Baha'i faith (a religion emphasizing spiritual unity among mankind). Participants were led through a meditation as practiced by the Baha'i, taking part in the different mantras, prayer beads and body positions associated with proper reflection.

Susan Carter, a curator for the Henry B. Plant Museum, sat in on the Baha'i meditation in hopes of learning more about the religion during her midday break. "I was not familiar with it and found the experience to be very rewarding," Carter said.

During the second week of the program, a Methodist minister led a centering prayer. During the centering prayer, participants were asked to focus their attention on

connecting with God. A practice that Ryan says advocates "being in the moment."

"A lot of the time we get stuck in where we have to be and what we have to do and then it overwhelms us," Ryan said. "So, if we can connect and be present in the moment to whatever it is that we're doing we can get the most out of life."

In straying away from the traditional form of meditation, Ryan hopes students will be open to exploring different faiths and find what resonates best with them.


"The same thing isn't going to be for everyone," Ryan said. "So, if you come in at different times and practice, you may just find something that works for you right now and helps you the best."

The "Mind & Meditation" series is expected to continue through the rest of the semester and eventually become a staple of the Live Well UT community. "I just want students to realize that there is more to us," Ryan said. "There's more to us than just our physical bodies and minds."

Kai Miller can be reached at kai.miller@spartans.ut.edu

By KAI MILLER
News Writer

If you've been searching for an effective way to de-stress, Live Well, UT's "Mind & Meditation" series, may bring you one step closer to inner peace. The meditation program is the Wellness Center's latest effort to aid students in stress relief and relaxation of the mind. Spearheaded by Leslie Ryan, Live Well UT's staff advisor, the initiative is dedicated to interfaith and self-reflection.



Explore

make it YOUR

SUMMER 2015

REGISTER ONLINE: www.ut.edu/summer

UT summer

2-Week May Term
May 11 – 22

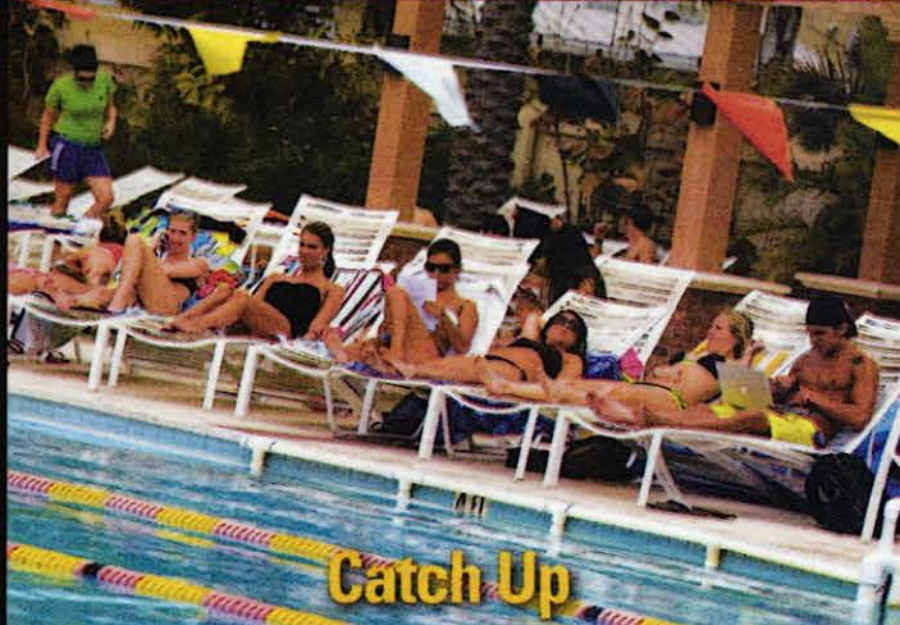
6-Week Terms
May 26 – July 2
July 6 – Aug. 15

12-Week Term
May 26 – Aug. 15

Registration Now Open!

Register Online:
www.ut.edu/summer

THE UNIVERSITY
OF TAMPA



Catch Up

Get Ahead

DIVERSIONS

ON CAMPUS

FEBRUARY 26
T. Rowe Price Employer Info
Representatives from global investment management firm, T. Rowe Price, will be on campus from 3:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. to speak with students interested in job and internship opportunities.

FEBRUARY 27
Alpha Kappa Psi Masquerade
The business fraternity welcomes the UT community to their annual masquerade party in Jenkins Hall. The event is free and takes place from 7:00 p.m. to 11:00 p.m.

FEBRUARY 28
Women's Basketball vs. Barry
Support your Spartans at the Martinez Center from 2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. Admission is \$5 or free with a UT ID.

FEBRUARY 28
Up 'Til Dawn
This all-night event welcomes student-led teams to help fundraise for the kids at St. Jude Hospital and raise awareness about cancer. Contact ashley.suarino@spartans.ut.edu for more information.

OFF CAMPUS

FEBRUARY 28
Gasparilla Festival of Arts
Explore the diversity of cultures through the eyes of a select group of artists who will be showcasing their pieces at Curtis Hixon Park. The festival is free and continues on until Sunday, March 1.

MARCH 2
Chinese Lantern Festival
This festival displays over 30 illuminated scenes built by craftsmen from Zigong village, China and will also feature performances by Chinese acrobats. The event takes place at Lowry Park Zoo and will continue on through May 31.

MARCH 4
Harlem Globetrotters
The iconic and comedic basketball team will be raiding the Amalie Arena at 7:00 p.m. Tickets are \$20.

MARCH 4
Kalin and Myles
The pop R&B duo will perform at the State Theatre at 7:00 p.m. Tickets are \$20.

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| 2 | 9 | | | | | 7 | 4 | |
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websudoku.com

PICTURE of the WEEK

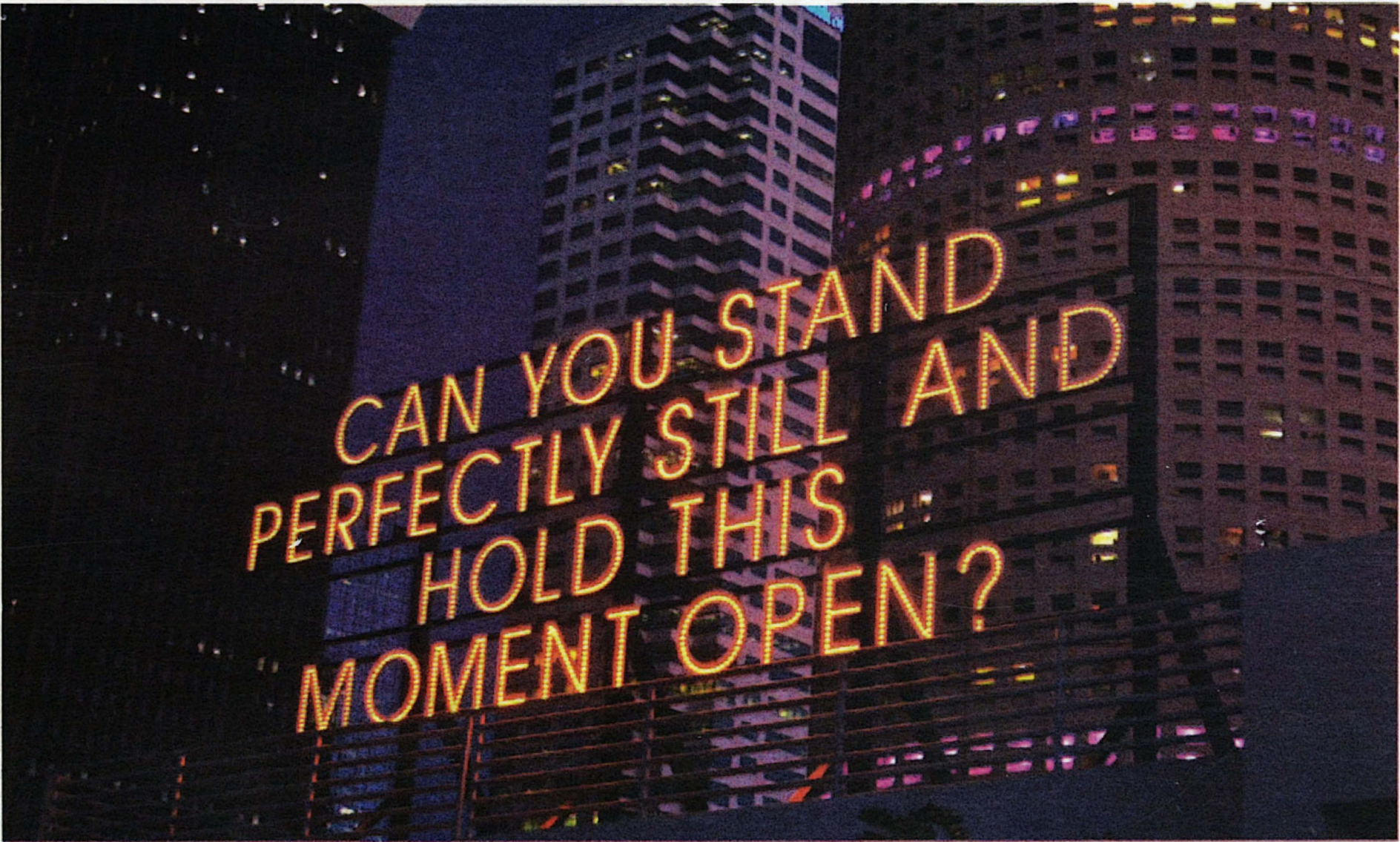


Photo by Natalie Hicks
Curtis Hixon Park hosted the Lights on Tampa festival on Feb. 20 and 21, which featured the chosen words of poet, Silvia Curbelo, along with the works of several other local artists.

ARTS + ENTERTAINMENT

Critic's Choice: CMF Best-Not-In-Show

By JORDAN WALSH
Arts + Entertainment Writer

When the top 16 films from this year's Campus MovieFest were showcased at the festival's finale on Feb. 12, not all of the university's most talented filmmakers were recognized. With over 46 films submitted, it was only inevitable that some fantastic work would go under celebrated. Luckily, all of the submitted films are available for streaming on Campus MovieFest's YouTube channel and at campusmoviefest.com. While most of these are worth a watch, not everybody has the time for an all-out movie marathon. So, here are a few of the best student films left out of the showcase:

"Heartbreak"

By Whitney Ndata and Travis Misarti, starring Carly Coutts and Whitney Ndata.

A wonderfully compact dramatic film filled to the brim with paranoia and emotional intensity, Heartbreak is simple but enthralling. The convincing back-and-forth between actors Whitney Ndata and Carly Coutts is brilliant for a project of this size, especially taking into consideration the pressure put upon performers in a talking head style production. The plot centers on a woman's (Coutts) difficulty in filing for divorce when she becomes aware of her husband's infidelity. This fear is projected in the form of a daydream in which her husband's mistress (Ndata) reacts to her in horrifying violence. The lighting in this film is especially of merit, with the actors always perfectly lit behind a pitch-black void. This makes for a soft intensity between the characters, adding a whole new level of dramatic tension that would have been lost had viewers been able to see an office or an empty room in the background.

"Leo"

By Ashley Suarino and Keely Lanzisera, starring Shaquille Glover and Alex Supkay.

When the mere concept of a film is enough to provoke laughter, it's certainly worth checking out. Leo boasts one of these concepts, a film about an actor (Glover) portraying Leonardo DiCaprio and receiving all of the accolades DiCaprio himself is often ridiculed for being robbed of (including the Academy Award). The plot of the film isn't especially tight, with each scene poking fun at the situation from a different angle (including a solid parody of Between Two Ferns With Zach Galifianakis). As a result, the film comes across as quick-on-its-feet, keeping viewers on edge and producing an impressive number of laughs for a five minute film.

"Banana"

By Kaitlyn Taurig, Mary McCune and David Rinere.

Banana is one of those shorts that can leave some viewers rolling on the floor and plenty of others simply rolling their eyes. A virtually plotless comedy about a woman with a banana for a cell phone, this student film is fueled by the same sense of humor that makes Carrie Brownstein and Fred Armisen's Portlandia such a knockout. That is, Banana is hilarious because it lets the utterly bizarre live in harmony with a perfectly normal and recognizable environment. The film also knows exactly when a joke has run its course--at only 3 minutes, Banana doesn't even need the normally constrictive 5-minute regulation run time. As a result, the movie takes its laughs graciously and departs quickly, leaving the viewer with a "what did I just watch" kind of smile on their face.

"Shadow of the Light"

By Bellaventura Pictures (Brian Stanco, Lindsay Gibson, Jake Anthony Scozzaro).

Of all the genres which would appear to be the most difficult to condense into a low budget short film, science fiction definitely seems like the hardest. With "Shadow of the Light," Bellaventura Pictures exhausts all of the resources it has at its disposal in order to make an enthralling and surprisingly complicated short science fiction film. By making use of the dense and eerie nature of Florida's forest and swamp areas and plentiful sound effects, Stanco, Gibson and Scozzaro are able to incite fear of some vicious futuristic environment that they never really need to have a CGI monster or some laser gun action.

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Youtube.com/CampusMovieFest

From top: "Heartbreak," "Leo," "Banana" and "Shaddow of the Light" feature Whitney Ndata, Shaquille Glover, Mary McCune and Brian Stanco.

Palmer and Gaiman Transform Tampa Theater into 'Heartbreak Hotel'

By LAUREN MILICI
Arts + Entertainment Writer

This year, musician Amanda Palmer and her husband, author Neil Gaiman, decided to spend Valentine's Day with over one thousand fans at the Tampa Theatre for a one-night-only engagement entitled, "Heartbreak Hotel."

Palmer makes up one-half of the dark cabaret duo, The Dresden Dolls, and broke the Kickstarter record for highest-funding music project, a crowdfunding campaign for the production of her solo album, "Theatre is Evil," back in 2012 with a whopping \$1.2 million. Most recently, her viral TED Talk, "The Art of Asking," went on to inspire her New York Times bestseller, "The Art of Asking: How I Learned to Stop Worrying and Let People Help." Gaiman is the bestselling and award-winning author of "Coraline," "American Gods," "Good Omens" and the "Sandman" comic book series. In 2011, the power couple toured the west coast with An Evening with Neil Gaiman & Amanda Palmer, a three hour event which consisted of stories, songs, poems, and Q&A's. They married shortly after.

For the Valentine's Day edition of An Evening With, the couple stayed up past midnight to share their most heartbreaking work. The show started off on a lighter note with a ukulele cover of Ella Fitzgerald's "Makin' Whoopee" sung as a duet. Palmer wore a black and gold floral dress, while Gaiman donned his usual all-black attire. A makeshift living room was set between Gaiman's podium and Palmer's piano, complete with two armchairs, floor lamps, a bookshelf and a vintage radio. The intimate setting allowed the audience to feel like

personal guests at the couple's home, rather than patrons at a show.

At the podium, Gaiman began with a response to the Charlie Hebdo massacre, inspired to do so by the recent terrorist attack at the debate on freedom of speech in Denmark. He followed with "Feminine Endings," a love letter from the perspective of a street performer (which he had emailed Palmer when they first met after learning Amanda had worked as a human statue dubbed "The Eight-Foot Bride") and went on to read several poems, short stories, selections from his new book, Trigger Warning, and two excerpts from Palmer's book—both of which were about his life with Palmer. The first excerpt told the comical, yet true tale of his rather insistent proposal to Palmer. "If we get married, will we be able to sleep with other people?" "Yep," he said. "Will you marry me?" "I probably don't want kids. That's fine, I already have three. They're great. Will you marry me?" The second reading, one of the most touching moments of the night, centered on the couple's first wedding anniversary, in which Palmer had to teach her distant husband how to care for her when she was hurt or sick.

At the piano, Palmer covered the sardonic "I Want You But Don't Need You," by Momus, and the more somber, "I Used to Say I Love You," by Robyn Hitchcock as well as her own songs, "Ampersand," a powerful rendition of "Delilah" (voted in by fans online as Palmer's "most heartbreaking song"), "Coin-Operated Boy," and two duets with Gaiman, "The Luckiest Guy on the Lower East Side" by Stephen Merrit, and Gaiman's own torch song, "I Google You." "I Google you, late at night when I don't know what to do," Gaiman sang as



Photo by Lauren Milici

Amanda Palmer and Neil Gaiman performed for fans at the Tampa Theatre on Feb. 14.

Palmer accompanied on ukulele. The song generated roaring laughter and applause from the audience; some sang along and others stood in shock, unaware that the author could actually sing in key.

She read excerpts from The Art of Asking and some poetry, including W.H. Auden's "Funeral Blues" and Sylvia Plath's "Mad Girl's Love Song," which were voted in on Palmer's Facebook as the most heartbreaking poems of all time. Palmer commented that "Mad Girl's Love Song" was a very Gaiman poem, and joked, "Don't kill yourself." "I never do," replied Gaiman. "I write stories instead. It's more fun."

The pair also did a Q&A in which the audience asked about marriage, age-difference, beekeeping (Gaiman's former profession), and sent in Valentine's Day horror stories. One story was about a man who bought tickets for himself and his girlfriend, who dumped him the night before—and ended up coming to the show with his mom. The best story of the night

was about a woman who had gotten a full body wax before putting on a cashmere sweater dress. When her date took off her dress, her entire body was covered in fuzzy black stripes. Gaiman and Palmer shared two of their horror stories, one in which Gaiman mistakenly sent a pair of wannabe-burlesque dancers to perform for Amanda at a dinner full of elderly gentlemen, the other in which Neil asked his tumblr followers to go up to her at the bar and give her a kiss.

After three and half hours of laughter and tears, Valentine's Day no longer seemed like an overdone, Hallmark production—but a celebration of love, as imperfect and unpredictable as it may be. "Don't dwell in the frightening, unknown future," Palmer told the crowd. "If you fall in love...do it."

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Gasparilla Music Fest To Feature Bands, Beers and Bites

GMF will feature Modest Mouse, MuteMath and more on March 7 and 8.

By DANIEL SOBCHAKR
Arts + Entertainment Writer

Tampa's music scene has always been somewhat of a local affair with concerts and shows crisscrossing in the city limits. With hopes to boost Tampa to the national music scene, the Gasparilla Music Festival has landed some notable acts this year including indie alt-rock group Modest Mouse, Jersey punk rockers Gaslight Anthem and New Orleans' own alt-electro-pysch MuteMath.

Gasparilla Music Festival is a local nonprofit effort that had its inaugural year in 2012. It has grown sizably since then, from a single-day small-stage lineup to a two-day four-stage all out celebration of Tampa's culture, heritage and music. The festival has always been a local based initiative, with all funding coming from Tampa Bay area businesses. One of the major initiatives brought forward by GMF is giving back to the community by supporting music education in Tampa, as well as providing scholarships to students majoring in music.

The GMF is an accumulation of indie music, honest food, micro-brewed booze and hipster runoff. With attendance steadily on the rise from a little over 6,000 in 2012 to well over 16,000 in 2014, GMF continues to become a spotlight of the Gasparilla Arts Month here in Tampa. GMF is all about keeping it local, but also showcasing over 150 regional musicians since its inception. GMF has some considerable pull as it grows, luring out Modest Mouse to break a career-long Tampa hiatus and have their first

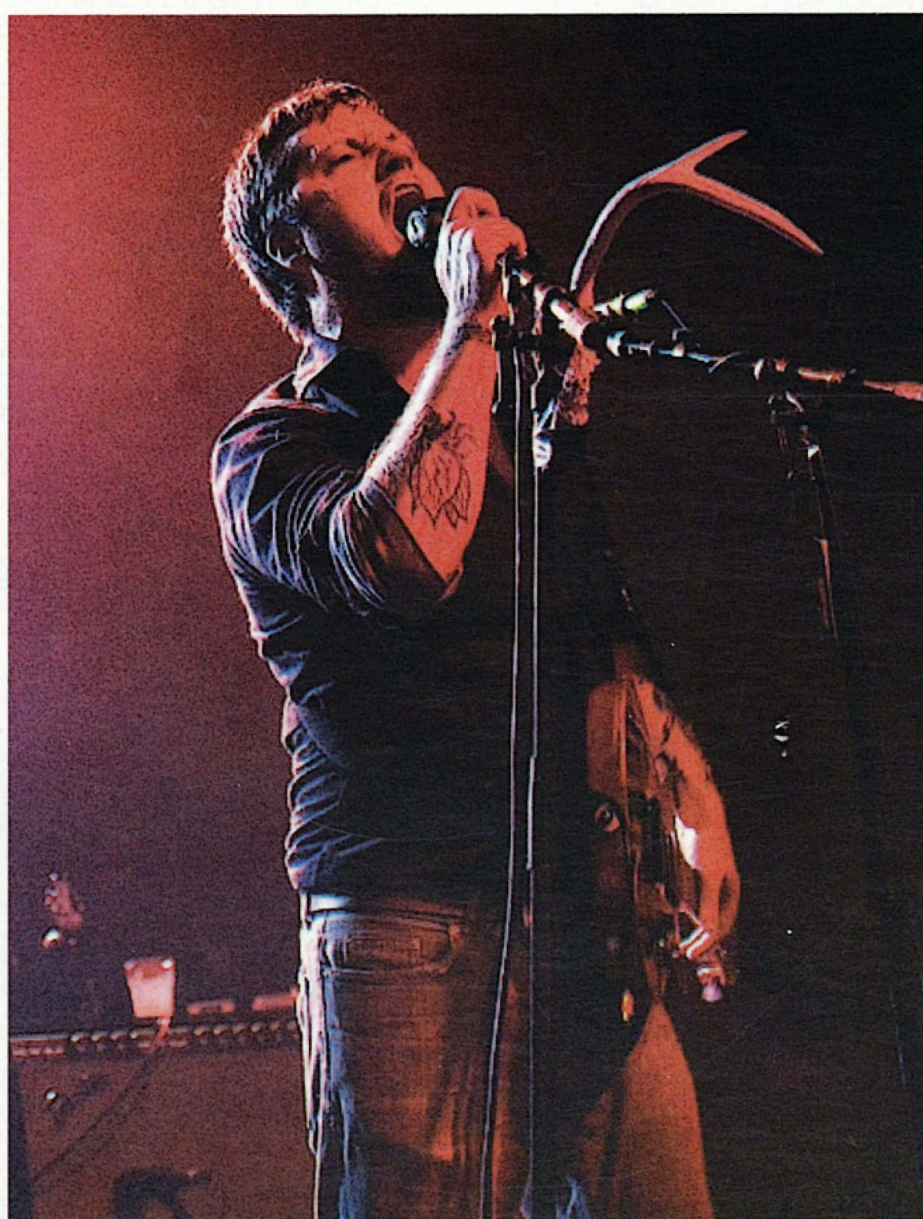
show in the Bay area. Washington natives Modest Mouse will be performing on their first stop in support of their new album "Strangers to Ourselves" that's set to drop March 17. Supporting Modest Mouse are acts such as Dale Earnhardt Jr. Jr., Trampled by Turtles, Gogol Bordello and many more.

Local is in, mass produced is out. GMF aims to offer festival goers a rich taste of Tampa's culture and heritage while only serving food from local eateries and food trucks. The curated food lineup is as diverse as the music; breakfast, lunch, dinner and dessert is covered. With everything from coffee and pie to barbeque and sandwiches (lots and lots of sandwich options), GMF has got it all. Want to start your day off with a "chicken and waffle cone?" How about an Indie grilled cheese and some sticky bunz? Choosing a place to eat may be the hardest decision you make at the festival, sans picking something off the menu. Boasting a total of 19 different Tampa area vendors, the food offerings are vast at GMF.

With more booze options than some local bars, Gasparilla Music Festival shows off the best of what's around. For beer lovers, the 'Biergarten' tent is back, and Sweetwater Brewing and Cigar City Brewing will be on tap and in full effect to quench any thirst if proper ID is shown. If beer isn't your thing, then mosey on over to the Blue Chair Rum tent or Tito's handmade vodka tent, a micro distilled option that's been made by the same distiller since its inception.

Tickets are available online with a two day general admission pass for \$60 and individual days at \$40 and \$30 for Saturday and Sunday respectively.

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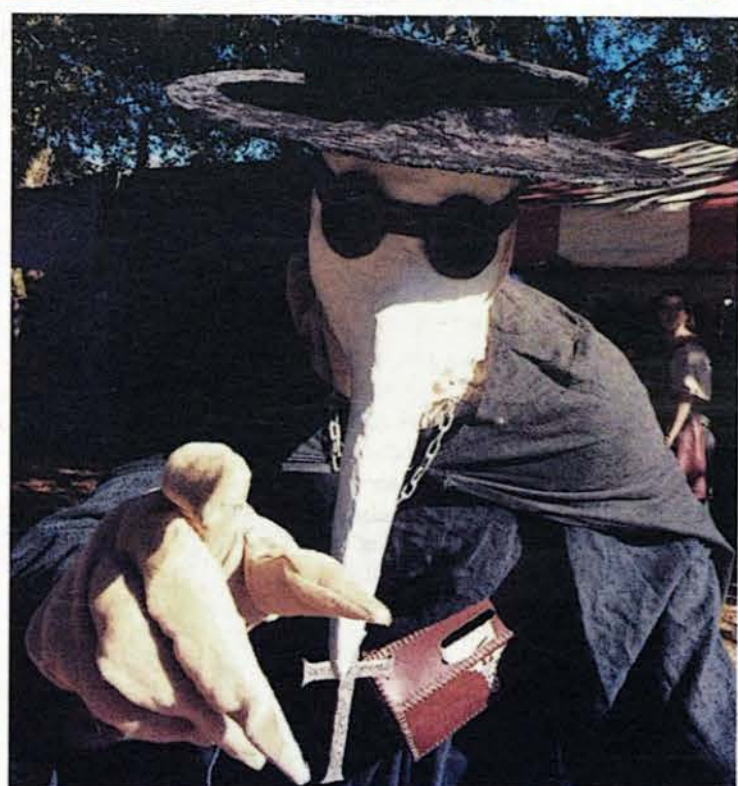
Modest Mouse/ Flickr.com

Modest Mouse will perform at Gasparilla Music Festival in Curtis Hixon on March 7.

Ye Olde Renaissance Festival is Nigh

The Ren Fest is open on weekends at MOSI from Feb. 14 through March 29.

By SAVANNAH BLACKERBY
Asst. Multimedia Editor



'White Male Savior' Theme Takes Over Movies

By GRIFFIN GUINTA
Arts + Entertainment Writer

We've seen it all before. A white "savior" is placed into an ethnically diverse environment and must rescue the minority characters from whatever plight they are suffering from—all while learning something about himself/herself in the process. This idea of a "white savior complex" genre has existed for quite some time, but it has only recently become a common staple in the average moviegoer's diet. Films such as "Avatar," "The Blind Side," "The Last Samurai," and the recently debuted "McFarland, USA," are popular examples.

To be clear, there is nothing wrong with telling a story authentically. Both "The Blind Side" and "McFarland, USA," are based on true stories, and on principle alone, it's commendable to resurrect an encouraging story that will leave everyone feeling inspired. The problem does not lie within that concept itself, but rather the frequency in which it is used with a white person as the focal point.

While these films aim with positive intent, they often miss the mark: falsely glorifying the heroic, white leader instead of the resilient community the movie is based upon. The viewer sees the tale unfold through the lens of a white (and often male) protagonist, meaning that there is a far greater emphasis on the white individual's internal struggle,

which usually pales in comparison to the cause that they are tasked with solving.

"The Last Samurai" is a perfect example of this. Tom Cruise plays a war-hardened American who sympathizes with the Samurai, a class quickly crumbling under the rise of Imperial Japan. These proud warriors cling tightly to their sacred past, but are ultimately wiped out by the Imperial Japanese Army. However, it is not from them that the movie derives its "Last Samurai" title, it's from Cruise's character. It falsely portrays Cruise, instead of an actual Japanese person, as the memorialized protector of traditional Japan.

Not only is the white savior trope an overused narrative, it's fairly predictable and boring. It would be fascinating to shake things up and see the perspective of people actually in the struggling community, for example. After all, they are the true instruments of change in these types of stories. It's insulting to suppose that people of non-white status have any kind of dependency on a white leader to aid them in their fight.

Why these flicks are churned out at such a high rate can be attributed to one major factor: Money. In fact, it has been statistically proven that white heroism is what many people want to see, according to Matthew W. Hughey, author of *The White Savior Film*.

"There is a host of sociological research that demonstrates how people

identify whites (when compared to nonwhites) as more deserving of resources and leadership because they are assumed more naturally intelligent, innocent, and hard-working," Hughey said in an interview with Temple University. "Given our current racialized worldview, it should be no surprise that stories about white redeemers carry so much purchase."

An unwillingness to depart from the status quo could be another contributory factor. No movie producer in their right mind would intentionally set out to be racist, but it is plausible to assume that they're more inclined to stick with a formula that works and generates revenue. Senior film major Nolan Tashjian believes the issue has been deep-seated in our culture for a long time.

"I think it's because we made that narrative system a long while ago in our history and it just kind of stuck in our culture whether we were conscious of it or not," Tashjian said.

There are movies in which a character of a racial minority is the primary help to a community, but they often lie few and far between. "Remember the Titans," for instance, chronicles black coach Herman Boone's battle to unite a recently integrated football team, and he isn't even "saving" a solely white community. It's hard to think of films in which African-American, Latino, Asian, or Native American saviors enter a white community and are glorified for their

monumental impact.

Only recently did a film come out ("Selma"), that celebrated the life of the greatest African-American civil rights leader in history, Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. David Oyelowo, who plays Dr. King in the film, recently expressed his agitation at the immense challenges that black glorification films have in passing through the Hollywood filter.

"Those films are so hard to get made," Oyelowo said at the Santa Barbara Film Festival this past January. "People have often said to me, 'Why has it taken so long?' I mean, [King] was assassinated almost 50 years ago. There has been no film where Dr. King has been the center of his own narrative until now."

The "White Savior Complex" film is a derivative of the larger issue of a white dominated media. One must only look to the Oscars this past weekend to see the discrepancy in exposure equality. In the most coveted categories, Best Actor and Best Actress, no person of color was even nominated. The last non-white woman to win a Best Actress award was Halle Berry in 2001.

If 2015 is any indication, this trope isn't going away anytime soon, which is a shame, because heroes come in every color, not just one.

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'Jupiter Ascending' Reaches for Stars, Misses Drastically

By **SAMMI BRENNAN**
Arts + Entertainment Writer

A shirtless Channing Tatum, who plays a space werewolf, skates on air with his flying boots through a cornfield. That just about sums up "Jupiter Ascending." It is baffling that the Wachowski siblings did not stop to think that maybe this film might be horrendous. Never have I watched a movie where, when the credits roll, a fellow movie-goer abruptly stands up in the theater and proclaims to the audience, "Well, that sucked!" I couldn't have said it better myself.

✦
.5 out of 5 stars

Jupiter Jones (Mila Kunis), born on a boat under the stars, is destined for greatness—but first she must be designated to clean toilets. When she uses her boss's name in order to sell her eggs, she witnesses a group of small, somewhat transparent naked aliens kidnapping her boss. Luckily, the aliens wipe Jupiter's memory clean and thus, she proceeds with the surgery only for the alien creatures to attempt to kill her. It's an extremely distasteful scene. Mila Kunis floating in her hospital gown while waiting to get her eggs harvested could not have been portrayed in a negative light any further. But lo and behold, Caine Wise (Channing Tatum), the genetically engineered warrior with both human and wolf DNA, comes to rescue the queen. Apparently, Jones has a bounty on her head since her power can intervene with the ownership of the planets, especially Earth.

When I first saw the trailer for "Jupiter Ascending," I kept pleading for Eddie Redmayne to drop out before it hit theaters. I haven't seen an Oscar-worthy performance

followed by a film this bad since Sandra Bullock won Best Actress for "The Blind Side" and Worst Actress for "All About Steve" within two nights. Redmayne plays Balem Abrasax, the oldest and most powerful member of the Abrasax family. When we first see Balem, he is rather shriveled and graying, which would normally explain his raspy voice. However, we learn the Abrasax family harvests human genes to make them young, and once Balem sinks into the human genetics pool and appears in his twenties again, it makes zero sense that he has to constantly speak throughout the film as if something is lodged in his throat. I couldn't help but cringe at his squandered talent whenever he gave orders to his servants and soldiers.

The dialogue throughout the movie is forced and makes viewers burst into laughter for the wrong reasons. We're not laughing with you, Wachowski siblings, we're laughing at you. At one point, a bleeding Caine and Jupiter are driving away from the city they nearly destroyed. Caine explains to Jupiter that the alien creatures wipe out the memories of everyone who witnesses anything other-worldly. For the people they miss, well, essentially, no one believes them, and they just become crazed conspiracy theorists. That could seem remotely logical, except Caine just assassinated an entire fleet of the aliens, so how exactly would the aliens know who saw what after witnesses are miles away by the time a new fleet arrives?

The most ridiculous scene in the film also happens to be in the same car shot. Jupiter notices Caine's wound and opens the glove compartment, fortunately finding a sanitary napkin. She alludes to it being "a girl's car" and places the sanitary napkin on Caine's injury. If you're waiting for some hint of chemistry between Caine and Jupiter, you're sadly out of luck. None of their interactions seem slightly genuine and the awkward tension is worse than that of "Twilight's" Bella and Edward. While



Jupiter Ascending / Twitter.com

Jupiter Ascending earned a scrawny \$18 million in the box office opening weekend.

on the spaceship, Caine explains to Jupiter that he is "more like a dog than a human" and Jupiter responds blankly, "I love dogs."

Then there's Jupiter's family, who remind the audience that they're Russian by repeatedly telling Stalin jokes, because apparently Russians only know Stalin jokes. Besides Jupiter's mother, we have zero sympathy when the family gets captured. Jupiter is portrayed as being isolated from them, especially with her lack of an accent, which is why we merely shrug when their lives are at stake. Speaking of accents, I have no idea what the Wachowski siblings were going for here. We've got the Russians on Earth, Englishmen in space, and whatever accent Channing Tatum attempts at the beginning but loses throughout the film.

All of the space battles are nauseating. It would have been great if the action scenes were what saved the film, but as the dizzying camera flips and turns, all hope is lost of any aspect saving this movie. Even the various alien races irritate rather than

intrigue. The concept of splicing DNA has something going for the movie, but Caine is the only "splice" that is to some extent interesting. There are mouse people, elephant people, and Sean Bean, the most talented in the action-field out of the entire cast, is half-bee, dwelling in his beehive of a house. To add to the absolute randomness of species, there are superfluous robotic people and absurd CGI lizards with wings. The editing is jagged and abrupt, cutting off characters before they finish their sentences and moving on to the next scene.

"Jupiter Ascending" has high ambition, but falls short of the stars. Instead, the audience is left with this cluttered, poorly acted and scripted atrocity, disappointing the sci-fi/fantasy community.

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Fresh Kitchen Offers Healthy, Delicious Options

By **MADISON IRWIN**
News Writer

In a perfect world, all food that tastes good is healthy. Unfortunately, that world doesn't exist, but Fresh Kitchen is pretty darn close to it. Although you most certainly don't have to be a health freak to enjoy the food, those who are will especially appreciate this place.

Located on South Howard Ave., Fresh Kitchen first opened on Sept. 18, 2014. This hip new healthy restaurant uses only the freshest ingredients and all meats are hormone and antibiotic free. The concept is similar to Chipotle, where you wait in a line and tell the person at the counter all the ingredients you want and they throw it all in a bowl, only Fresh Kitchen offers a wider, significantly healthier variety of options.

Steven Lanza, one of the owners of Fresh Kitchen, is a part of the Ciccio Restaurant Group, which originated in New York City. They own many other restaurants in Tampa, including Daily Eats, Green Lemon, Ciccio Cali, Ciccio's / Water and The Lodge Restaurant & Bar.

"Coming up with the theme for Fresh Kitchen was quite simple," Lanza said. "We're all really into health food, and there's nothing like that here. So we thought, 'why not make fast food healthy?'"

The first noticeable thing when walking into Fresh Kitchen are the walls covered in synthetic grass. This makes stepping into Fresh Kitchen feel like stepping into a garden. The restaurant gives off a casual, yet sophisticated vibe. Although the seating space is on the smaller side, there are plenty of tables available, including outdoor seating.

When it comes to the menu, a well-balanced meal is guaranteed. From food to juices, customers can try a variety of different products in the store. Here, the dish is completely in your hands. Start off by choosing a large or small bowl, then two bases. Some bases include sweet potato noodles, veggie quinoa and romaine & spinach. Then pick two proteins, such as

bbq chicken and tofu. Customers can even upgrade to grilled steak, tuna poke or shrimp.

The customer then chooses three veggies, with flavorful options like grilled broccolini and coconut cauliflower available. Last but not least, choose a sauce. Whether it's simple, like the herb balsamic vinaigrette, or unique like the cucumber mint jalapeno, there are plenty of sauces to choose from. If you're having trouble on deciding what to put into your meal, Fresh Kitchen has a menu of bowl selections you can choose from, such as the soho mexico (brown rice, grilled citrus chicken, grilled broccolini with black bean and corn salsa and avocado greens caesar sauce) and the bbq fresh (brown rice, bbq chicken, sweet potato mash and roasted brussels sprouts).

In addition to your bowl, Fresh Kitchen also offers cold pressed juices with natural vitamins and minerals, coffees and paleo (high-quality proteins and fats; nothing processed and grain-free) treats, like their gluten free chocolate chip cookies. Their juices are made in house and bottled fresh everyday. In terms of pricing, it's not something the average college student can eat on the regular, unfortunately. Although bowls can start at 9 bucks, the cost can add up fast. Any premiums cost extra, such as steak, which is an extra \$1.50. Also, if you want any extra sauce or cheese on anything, it's an extra dollar for it.

When it was finally time for me to build my bowl, I went with the brown rice and sweet potato mash for my bases. For my proteins, I chose the bbq chicken and baked chicken tenders. Then, I opted for the grilled broccolini and roasted mushrooms for my veggies. And for my sauce, I went with the coconut sriracha. The portions were perfect; not too much or too little (probably goes with the whole "eating healthy" concept).

The presentation of the meal in the bowl looked enticing. The bbq chicken was nicely charred and had a little kick to it. But it was the baked chicken tenders that left an impression: super crunchy on the outside, yet tender and moist on the inside. If you aren't a fan of greasy chicken fingers, then these

ones are sure to be up your alley.

Although brown rice doesn't have too much flavor in general, this rice was cooked to perfection and tasted delicious with the coconut sriracha sauce on top. If you like coconut, this is a must-have. The coconut added some creaminess to the spice in the sriracha, which married beautifully. The sauce paired well with the rest of the ingredients, as well. The sweet potato mash wasn't too sweet and

complemented the bbq chicken really well.

Both veggies were incredibly flavorful and fresh-tasting. The mushrooms were almost addictive. All in all, everything was really chock-full of flavor, making healthy food actually taste good.

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Photo by Madison Irwin

Fresh Kitchen is located on S. Howard Ave. and is open daily from 11:00 a.m. to 9:35

OPINION

Impression of Professors Skewed by Gender

EDUCATION

CAITLIN MALONE
Opinion Writer



I don't know about other students here at the University of Tampa, but the first thing I do after choosing my classes for a specific semester is look up each of my professors on RateMyProfessors.com. Nobody wants to be stuck with a boring or downright mean professor for an entire semester, am I right? Well, a recent study showed that the results on this site may be skewed by gender.

Recently, Benjamin Schmidt, a history professor at Northeastern University in Massachusetts, created a chart that uses data from 14 million student reviews on the Rate My Professor website, according to The Tampa Bay Times. The object of the chart is simple: there is a space where you can type in words like helpful or boring, and the chart will show you how often that word has been used per million words of text. It is also broken down by gender and department. The list of departments is listed down the left side of the chart and colored dots represent the two genders male (blue dots) and female (orange dots). I went on to test it out, and I was quite surprised.

The first word I typed in the box was "funny." I hit enter, and the chart shifted right there in front of me showing the results. Almost every single blue dot in all departments beat out the orange ones. The male psychology professor received the highest rating while the female engineering professor received the lowest only being used 200 times per million words of text.

Next, I typed "bossy." Female professors had the males beat on this one. It recorded that the word bossy was used 2,000 times per million words of text when referring to female computer science professors. It was only used about 900 times when referring to male history professors. I looked up a few other words, and it was clear that male professors were clearly thought to be more "brilliant" than female professors.

The chart also showed that the majority of reviews containing comments based on looks were about female professors rather than male

concerns her looks and not her credentials. I find that to be quite disturbing.

RateMyProfessors.com bills itself as the largest professor-rating website. Users have added more than 15 million ratings, 1.4 million professors, and over 7,000 schools to the site. The user-generated content on the site makes it the highest trafficked site for researching and rating professors, colleges and universities across the United States, Canada, and the United Kingdom. Each month, more than 4 million students use the site.

Having a good professor can be vital to

overall professor rating is a 3.78. Our top three professors are Kristen Foltz and Kelly Callahan from the speech department, and Lisa Suter, formerly of the English department.

The process of rating a professor is anonymous and simple. The professor's overall quality is determined by averaging their received rating for helpfulness and clarity. Other things such as easiness, interest level, textbook use, professor hotness, and average grade can be given a rating as well, but they do not factor into the overall quality rating of the professor. If a professor is rated as good looking a hot pepper will appear next to their name.

It is important to note that RateMyProfessors.com is in no way at fault for these bias ratings as proven by Schmidt's chart. That is a problem that exists within society today. A study done by fortune.com in February showed similar results: 248 reviews of the employees' overall performance in their position within the specific company were collected from 180 people. Men made up 105 of the reviewers, and 75 were women. Of the 248 reviews, 71 percent contained constructive feedback. The reviews for women received more negative feedback: 87.9 percent vs. 58.9 percent of men's. It was also noted by fortune.com that the gender of the manager giving the review did not matter when it came to the results.

When is it going to stop? There is no way the majority of those women were horrible at their jobs and the majority of the men were awesome and didn't need to fix anything. Looking at the results of that study just makes me – and I hope, many others – want to seek change.

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' When a female professor walks into a classroom, the first thing going through most students' heads concerns her looks and not her credentials '

professors. Results like that are disappointing, but I am not surprised. Women in the workplace have been treated with bias for a long time now. Clearly, the equality of males and females is still an issue. Because women and men have been treated unequally for so long, feminists are having to change the way people think about men and women. According to this chart, when a female professor walks into a classroom, the first thing going through most students' heads

succeeding in a class. I have dropped classes based solely on the fact that I did not care for the professor or his or her teaching style. On RateMyProfessors.com, students can choose from a five being the highest rating to a one being the lowest rating. Overall, UT has received a rating of 3.8 on parameters such as Internet access, social life, food, library, campus, etc. We are rated highest for our beautiful campus, which received a 4.4. Our

Commentary

BY LAUREN RICHEY



NY Museums Rightfully Ban "Selfie Sticks"

Opponents of ban should place safety over selfies

ART

LIV REEB
Opinion Writer



Due to safety concerns, museums such as the Metropolitan Museum of Art, the National Gallery of Art in Washington, and several others have banned the latest photography trend, selfie sticks, and rightfully so. The museums have not banned selfies, just the long, metal rods that pose a threat to other museum-goers and the art itself due to its swinging nature. Museums fear that someone or something could accidentally get hit by one of these sticks.

The ban on selfie sticks is a matter of safety. Although there have been

no reported issues with selfie sticks, predicted problems have caused museums to take on preventative measures, according to The New York Times. Museums are worried that someone taking a selfie may not realize what they're doing and accidentally hit another museum-goer or a piece of artwork and damage it. "We do not want to have to put all the art under glass," said Deborah Ziska, the chief of Public Information at the National Gallery of Art in Washington, according to The New York Times.

The Met is worried about personal safety and space. Someone trying to focus their eyes on their extended camera may not realize their surroundings and fall over or onto someone or something. "If people are not paying attention in the Temple of Dendur, they can end up in the water with the crocodile sculpture. We have a lot of stairs and balconies you could fall from, and stairs you could trip on," said Sree Sreenivasan, the chief digital officer at the Met, according to The New York Times. Also, to take a selfie is within one's

own personal space but with a selfie stick, which extends from two to three feet farther than an arm's reach, someone else's personal space may be invaded. Any article that swings around and takes up unnecessary space, such as backpacks, monopods, tripods and umbrellas, are prohibited in most museums for the same safety and space reasons, according to The Huffington Post.

The ban on selfie sticks is not a ban on pictures. Art museums realize that pictures of the art serves as free advertisement and museums not only tolerate pictures and selfies, but encourage them, according to The New York Times. It's great that museums allow pictures. Museums are experiences that people will look back on one day and think, "Wow, I can't believe I actually got to see that." Someone from a country across the world visiting the Met probably won't have access to that museum again any time soon, so the memories created there are valuable and worth capturing.

Selfie sticks are a part of Millennial culture. Madeline Perigaut,

an undeclared freshman at UT uses a selfie stick, "to capture higher viewpoints and a wider scope." Her selfie stick doesn't elicit a negative response. In fact, she said, "A lot of people get really excited when they see it. At Gasparilla a lot of people who saw me filming would come up, scream "Do it for the GoPro!" and then do something crazy." Gasparilla is an important part of Tampa culture and the ability to capture a wider scope of the area means that she's going to be able to remember more of the event when she's older.

Museums banning selfie sticks have rightfully done so for safety reasons, for both the property and the people at the museum. The ban on selfie sticks was a preventative measure to ensure that the art remains safe, people remain safe and everyone can have their own personal space when viewing the painted selfies of historical artists.

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PULSE Retreat Tackles Problems of 21st Century

CAMPUS

LIZ ROCKETT
Opinion Writer



Students from the University of Tampa and other institutions are taking the initiative to explore diversity by applying to participate in the PULSE (People Understanding Leadership Sustained) conference on March 20-22.

As an applicant, I believe the PULSE conference is relaying a very important message to students everywhere: to be more open-minded and accepting of other cultures, sexual orientations and just people in general.

The retreat will be located at the Dayspring Episcopal Conference Center in Ellenton, FL., where about 25 UT students will come together to learn new and improved communication skills.

When I learned I had been nominated to mediate parts of the conference, I could not have been more thrilled. Building tolerance toward individuals who are different helps us expand our knowledge and accept others' beliefs and feelings.

PULSE aims to explore identity, leadership and inclusion to prepare students to tackle the challenges of a global 21st century, according to the Sustained Dialogue Campus Network website. PULSE's inaugural year with SDCN was last April, and this year will be the first year that UT is participating, said Gina Firth, the associate dean of wellness at UT.

"One of the problems that I've

seen is that people self-select and put themselves in silos," said Firth. "And we have an amazing population that is so diverse, and we need to provide more opportunities for us to be working together and understanding each other."

Firth has been very passionate about PULSE since the application for the grant crossed her desk last year.

SDCN's website says: "The PULSE retreat curriculum is designed to form deep relationships across silos and

occurs because participants are forced to have cordial face-to-face conversations, or "sustained dialogue."

"There's discussion, there's debate, and there's sustained dialogue," said Firth. "Sustained dialogue allows people to really open up and discuss things from 'I' statements, from feeling point of views ... dialogue is set up for understanding."

Wouldn't it be nice if everyone could discuss sensitive issues

status, ethnicity, nationality, race and age. The Big 8 will be central to the subject matter participants will be learning sustained dialogue for.

"Always allowing people to have their voices heard and always learning from what you hear from others are the types of skills that are imperative for being a successful leader and friend," said Davis.

Davis enjoyed the icebreakers during the three day training session because they allowed each moderator to tell their own stories of how they identified in terms of the big 8.

"It was kind of cool because it allowed us to have that introspective time to kind of look at ourselves that you don't often get or think about," said Davis, "and then also hear how other people perceive themselves and how they portray that to others around them." Learning from other people and their experiences can be very beneficial to each individual's personal growth. I think this retreat is an excellent way to actively do that and encourage others around you to do the same.

Every student who has interest in this retreat should apply next year. Students at UT need to break out of their comfort zones and try understanding people who are different from them. The PULSE team looks for students who are willing and able to pass on the skills of sustained dialogue, people with leadership and communication skills, open opinions, those who are accepting of others, and diversity.

"You have to have some of that represented as much as possible in your leadership," said Firth.

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' Building tolerance toward individuals who are different helps us expand our knowledge and accept others beliefs and feelings '

spanning boundaries, encourage intense and meaningful exploration of structural inequities, develop better decision-making skills, practice empathy and mindfulness for effective leadership, and develop other competencies needed to tackle the challenges of a global twenty-first century."

Out of the PULSE curriculum, Firth could not pick out one part that was the most important.

Firth described how there are "... so many multifaceted things that are happening during this retreat." She pointed out that students who immerse themselves in this retreat experience a unique intimacy that

in a way that increases their understanding of others? Not only does PULSE get participants to facilitate these difficult conversations, it encourages them to pass on their knowledge and help others communicate more efficiently and respectfully.

Jasper Davis, a junior management major with a leadership minor, was one of the students chosen to moderate the PULSE retreat. During the training session, Davis learned about "The Big 8," which he described as the main categories that individuals define with. These eight categories include gender, sex, sexual orientation, socioeconomic

Facebook Legacy Contact Addresses Death

TECHNOLOGY

SAM ALLEN
Opinion Writer



Two days before Valentine's Day, Facebook revealed an innovative feature: last will and testament... of sorts. Through the use of Facebook's new "Legacy Contact" users will be able to determine what happens to their profiles after they die, according to Slate. This new feature tastefully provides a comforting place for grieving loved ones to connect with one another. Facebook is an important part of many peoples lives and it's good to see that people have open minds in regards to planning for the future. The Legacy Contact is a good step forward towards changing the way we handle death in society.

Before the Legacy Contact, Facebook's memorial options were limited, a relative of the deceased could either have the account permanently deleted or placed on lockdown, memorializing the page. My initial reaction to Facebook's new Legacy Contact policy was annoyance. Even after death I can't escape Facebook and its undeniable hold on my life. But after reading more into the policy and giving it some thought, the Legacy Contact is more important than I previously thought.

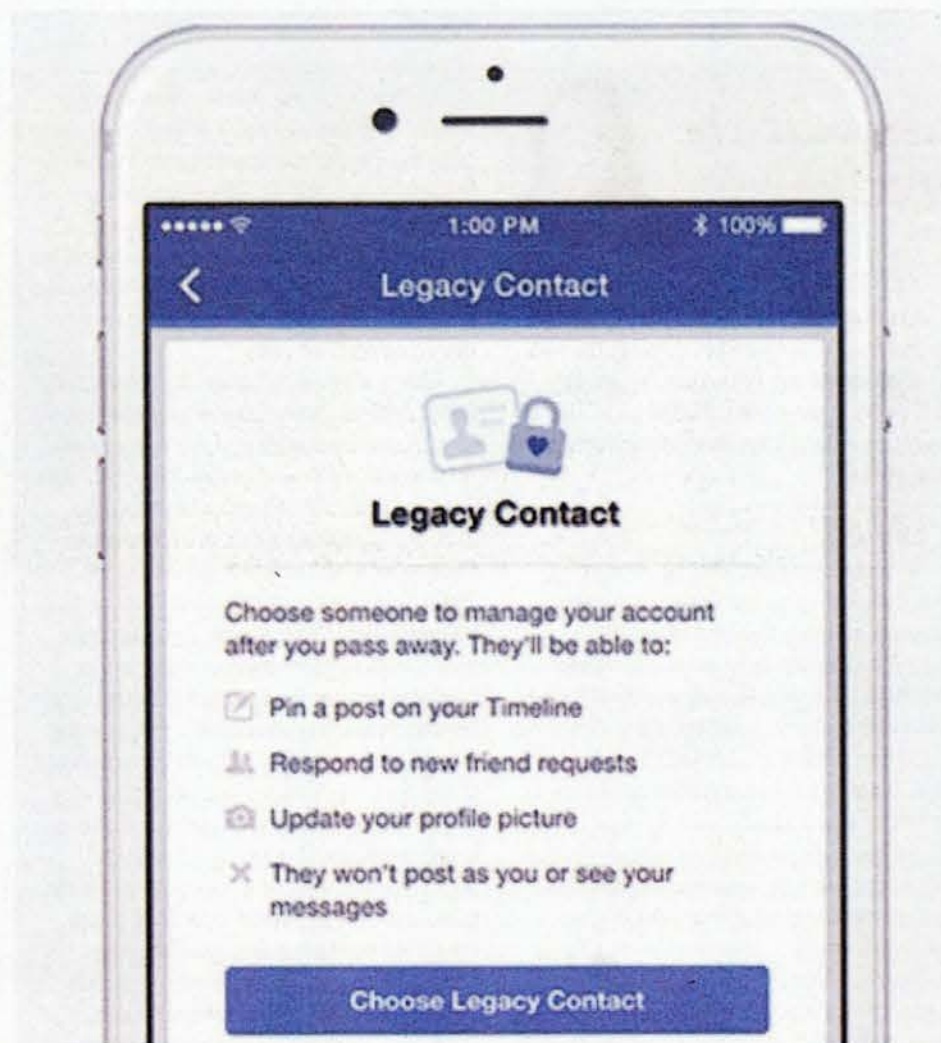
Families of the deceased will be able to "Write a post to display at the top of the memorialized Timeline (for example, to announce a memorial service or share a special message, respond to new friend requests from family members and friends who were not yet connected on Facebook [and] update the profile picture and cover photo," according to Facebook's Newsroom blog. "If someone chooses, they may give their legacy contact permission to download an archive of the photos, posts and profile information they shared on Facebook. Other settings will remain the same as before the

account was memorialized. The legacy contact will not be able to log in as the person who passed away or see that person's private messages." An official memorial page could be a great way to connect with far away family members when a death occurs. Though finding out about a loved one's death through Facebook sounds horrible, by allowing a family member to post a message or obituary on the top of the page, distant family members will be informed quicker, giving them the opportunity to attend memorial services.

Unfortunately, these features have already been abused, proving them to be problematic in some ways. Just after the release, a Danish terrorist reported himself dead to Facebook two days before carrying out deadly attacks in Copenhagen, according to Vocativ. Facebook reportedly took down the page due to a strict policy regarding the deletion of terrorist accounts. However, legacy contacts will still be allowed to download the contents of the pages for posterity. Terrorists will use whatever resource they can to carry out their crimes-- that should not stop grieving families from benefiting from the new Legacy Contact and all it has to offer.

Our funeral traditions have altered over time and today we have a strained relationship with the concept of death. Even though death covers our television screens, whether it be through news or entertainment, we as a population have shown to be quite uncomfortable discussing or imagining death happening to us directly. The new Legacy Contact might be just what we need to start the conversation about how to deal with death, making things easier for family members when a person passes away.

Death acceptance sounds like an odd topic, but that in itself is a huge problem. Some opt to not make funeral arrangements for a terminally-ill family member because they can't bear to have that conversation with someone they love only to find themselves lost after their death. Caitlin Doughty



Facebook.com

Facebook's new legacy contact allows people to choose who can take over their account when they die.

recounts one such situation in memoir about being a mortician, "Refusing to talk about [death] and then calling [death] 'unexpected' is not an acceptable excuse," Doughty says of families who are do not take the time to discuss death with their terminally ill family members. To accept that we, or a loved one, will one day die not only prepares us to deal with the death when it happens, but also encourages us to appreciate our lives and live it to the fullest. By having a Legacy Contact, Facebook has created a space for families

and friends to cope with and talk about death in a healthy way. We may not like to think of ourselves as one day being among the dead, but it is never too soon to prepare for a sudden death, whether it be through a written will or even just assigning a family member to be your Legacy Contact.

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Fashion Culture Riddled with Insensitive Products

CULTURE

MARISA NOBS
Opinion Writer



In high school, I had a teacher who strongly believed any logo, symbol, picture, or phrase we wore should be significant to who we are. On one of the rare occasions we didn't have to wear uniforms, a boy in my class decided to wear a shirt with a bicycle on it. Horrible mistake. Even before starting the class, my teacher pointed directly at him and demanded to know if my classmate frequently rode a bike or if he had some sort of emotional connection to the form of transportation. The kid laughed nervously and shook his head. Ever since this experience, I am conscientious of my fashion choices, but it seems most others don't care what they wear or how others might perceive it.

If people do not take the time to research what they are buying, they may unknowingly purchase offensive material. On the alternative side, if they are conscious yet indifferent of

their decisions, that concerns me of rising levels of insensitivity in youth. Derogatory and distasteful material can be found everywhere, and it only seems to be expanding and becoming more acceptable by society.

Almost every brand out there has a t-shirt selection that features a variety of slogans and designs to attract a wide audience. However, people seem to mindlessly buy them without really knowing what exactly they are wearing and what impression it gives off. Very quickly, something can become a trend; suddenly, everyone is wearing it, yet no one could actually tell you the meaning behind it. A prime example of this is the hamsa symbol, which is the upside down hand frequently seen in jewelry at trendy teen-oriented stores, such as Forever 21 and Brandy Melville. Embedded in both Jewish and Middle Eastern culture, the hamsa is believed to keep away the "evil eye." This is probably not the reason most people incorporate it into their wardrobe. Rather, it has carried over into the hipster trend. It could be an insulting symbol and only those educated on its meaning would know.

Over the past week, Urban

Outfitters has yet again been in the hot seat for selling controversial items, this time focusing on a tapestry featuring grey stripes and a pink triangle. At least to me, it first appeared like a simple design. If I hadn't seen the uproar online, I wouldn't think much of it. The problem is that it is unnervingly similar to the uniforms gay male prisoners were forced to wear in concentration camps during the Holocaust, which is obvious to anyone familiar with the attire. There is no way that all the people at the company who saw the tapestry, from the original designer to the store sellers, were completely oblivious to the resemblance.

Whether Urban thought it would go unnoticed, or did it as a sick publicity stunt, it is completely unacceptable--there is no excuse for commercializing one of the most horrific events in history. While it has been taken off the website, people certainly purchased it and have unintentionally draped their vintage couches with the symbolic bloodstain of millions.

There are plenty more glaringly concerning items of clothing on the market that girls and boys alike are sporting. If you just look at

the website of Brandy Melville, a popular west coast inspired brand, the "graphic" tab features shirts saying, "drop out of school" and "mermaids don't do homework." While they do not contain profanity, the minds of young teens are malleable. It may not have a negative effect on the buyer, but there is no way of knowing who will read your shirt on the street. Especially with the Internet's wide reach of viewership, a wide demographic is able to see these idolized models advocating to quit school. You could go on almost any clothing site and find similar problems. With the rising concerns of anorexia, depression and general insecurity in society, companies should be marketing clothes with positive messages.

Fashion and decorations can be fantastic forms of expression and individualism, but designers and consumers need to be more aware of the power they have. If the product sells, companies will continue to produce it. Therefore, it is left up to us to spend our money wisely.

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Exploring Your Boundaries: The Truth About Anal Sex

SEX AND LOVE

SELENE SAN FELICE
Opinion Columnist



Question: "So my boyfriend really wants to do anal and I'm not sure I'm comfortable with it. I don't wanna say no outright, but the little stuff we try doesn't make me feel good. Is anal really only a thing guys like?" -funny codename (analmous?)

Dear XXX,

To answer your question, no. Anal is something both men and women can enjoy. However, enjoying any kind of sexual experience requires full consent and comfort with the act. Keeping an open mind and trying new things is always great, but doing something you're uncomfortable with will never feel good. Wanting to make someone else happy in a relationship is normal, but make sure you're not going outside your moral limits. Sex affects both of you and it should make you both feel good, so there's no need to feel like you're making a sacrifice.

Take some time to think about what you want and what you're truly comfortable doing. Everyone has their limits and you should never feel ashamed to say "no," even to the person you love. If you still want to give the back door a try, I've got some tips to help you get started.

You did the right thing by starting with the "little stuff," but size is never the only factor in sex. First and foremost you need to make sure you're mentally and physically relaxed. If you're doubting yourself, feeling insecure, or not sure if you're ready, there's no chance anything your boyfriend does (or even what you do by yourself) will feel good. If you're in the moment and your inhibitions are gone, things

will go much smoother.

Unlike the vagina, the anus doesn't come with its own lubricant and it doesn't do its own prepping for sex. You'll need to use a water-based lubricant, and lots of it. If you want to do extra prep beforehand (some people recommend enemas and douching) go for it, but don't stress yourself out. If you and your partner are comfortable with each other and mature, extra prep isn't necessary.

Here's where size matters: If you start with full on anal sex, you're almost guaranteed not to have a good time. With anal you're essentially stretching a muscle farther than it has ever been stretched before. Pushing that limit is going to be uncomfortable at first, no matter what. Starting small will help you get used to the feeling and help you figure out if it's something you really like. There are also toys and plugs built specifically for backdoor beginners to help ease you into the feeling. Communication between partners is pertinent here. Discomfort is to be expected at first, but your partner should always be ready to stop when you say so.

When you're with your partner, make sure to communicate what feels good and what doesn't. Don't be afraid to switch up positions to make it more comfortable for both of you. Try taking it slow and staying off the deep end until both partners are sure they're ready for more. Also, be sure he always wears a condom. Just because going through the back door won't get you pregnant doesn't mean that STDs and STIs can't be spread. Even if you're in a monogamous relationship condom use and regular testing are still important parts of a healthy sex life. Be sure to keep things sanitary as well. Visitors of the back door should be cleaned before going through the front door, mouth door, or anything else you're into (no judgement).

Stimulating other parts of the body during anal play can make the act much more enjoyable, and once you're familiar enough



ISIC / Pixabay.com

Anal sex can be an enjoyable experience for both partners if they are both consenting and ready.

with your body and able to relax, anal can even have some incredible results. Cosmo writer Anna Breslaw says the best anal experiences can even be, "accompanied by a spontaneous enhanced ~**~uNiCoRn oRgAsM~**~."

A 2010 national study published in the *Journal of Sexual Medicine* reported, "Among women who had vaginal sex in their last encounter, the percentage who said they reached orgasm was 65. Among those who received oral sex, it was 81. But among those who had anal sex, it was 94," as quoted in Slate. It is important to note that 94 percent of the women who had anal sex also had vaginal or oral sex, or "partnered masturbation" in the same encounter.

For some women anal sex can be a way of reaching their G-spot. For men, being on the receiving end can stimulate the prostate and result in better orgasms for them (you may want to pose this to your boyfriend).

While anal sex is often generalized as taboo, the world is slowly becoming a more anal-friendly place. There are countless books available (over 30,000 search results on Amazon) that focus solely on anal sex tips and education. The sex toy company Good Vibrations declared August to be "Anal Pleasure Month" and even put together a timeline of anal sex history to celebrate and help normalize anal sex awareness.

So, XXX, if you're thinking anal is something only your boyfriend will enjoy, know that doesn't have to be true. Butt (pun intended), if you're still not into it, you have every right not to be.

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Festivals Offer Life-Changing Experiences

ENTERTAINMENT

By LIZ ROCKETT
Opinion Writer



Festival season has gone from a summertime celebration to all year round. Over the past few years, University of Tampa students have been posting about their experiences at music festivals on Facebook, Twitter, Instagram and many other social media outlets. With the festival death toll increasing, people are left with the impression that these events are dangerous. However, if festival goers exercise caution, serious injuries and death are highly unlikely.

Music festivals have been entertaining people since as early as the sixth century BCE, according to The Good Men Project. Events such as the Pythian Games in Greece and competitions during the Middle Ages featured musicians and singers for entertainment.

In the U.S., music festivals such as the Newport Jazz Festival in 1954 and Woodstock in 1969 have gone down in history as distinguishing moments for music and pop culture.

Today, festivals can be found from coast to coast, promoting togetherness and self-expression. Peace, love, unity, respect, or "PLUR," is a theme that is seen quite often on t-shirts, hats and other articles of clothing. Festivals have one of the most loving and accepting environments I have ever experienced.

Electric Daisy Carnival (EDC) in Orlando and ULTRA Music Festival in Miami are two of the most popular destinations for UT festival goers, most likely because of the proximity. These festivals bring EDM DJs from all over the world, but there are various festivals that offer all types of music.

Josiah Cafiero, a senior sports management major at UT, thinks most students have a very narrow interpretation of what music festivals have to offer.

"They just go to those raves and stuff; they don't really go to other festivals," Cafiero said. "You have so many ones that have different types of music. Gulf Shores Alabama Hangout Fest is on the beach, which is sick. If you like the beach and music, it's definitely for you. Foo Fighters, Beck, DJs, it's all different people playing. Then there's Sasquatch Festival; it's in Washington state at this amphitheatre that overlooks a canyon, so it's an unbelievable place to see a show."

From indie rock to country to rap, festivals cater to different crowds. Cafiero attended the Dave Matthews Band Caravan back in 2011, and has not made it to any others, but enjoys seeing concerts quite often. Even though he has only been to one festival, Cafiero definitely had a great time.

"For me, there's nothing I'd rather spend my money on than go see a show," Cafiero said, "and the variety too. You see so many acts in one weekend."

I have already been to EDC Orlando, but I will also be going to EDC Puerto Rico, ULTRA and Coachella. To me, festivals are life-changing experiences. From the remarkable people I've met, to the amazing music, I have encountered nothing but good vibes and positivity.

While these festivals have good intentions, drug use has made many people skeptical about the safety of these events. In 2014, 15 deaths were reported at festivals such as Pemberton in Canada, Glastonbury in England, EDC Las Vegas, Future in Singapore and Element 11 in Salt Lake City, according to Billboard. These deaths were caused by dehydration, overheating and even self-sacrifice. However, most of the skeptics

are focused on the infamous drug molly (MDMA).

"Molly is a term for an adulterated mystery chemical you're putting into your body with the intent to roll," said Missi Wooldridge, board president of education-focused nonprofit DanceSafe; "It's rare to get anything even close to MDMA," reported Billboard. DanceSafe is a public health organization that targets the music festival community. They provide information such as drug facts, health and safety and even how to test the purity of drugs.

Just this past weekend at EDC Puerto Rico, I witnessed a person overdose on drugs. He screamed in agony and flung his arms and legs as medics fought to strap him down to a spine board. Moments like those are the ones that make you realize that anything can happen, especially when you are dealing with a mix of drugs, alcohol, and heat.

Tre Hansen is a senior management major who has been to EDC Orlando twice over the past two years. Hansen sees drug use at festivals as a personal decision that individuals must make for themselves.

"People are gonna do whatever they want regardless of if it's legal or not," said Hansen, "and if they're willing to deal with the potential consequences, they will." Drug use at festivals is comparable to social smoking or social drinking, in a sense. Hansen thinks that people who use drugs at festivals do it so they can connect on a different level while getting a euphoric experience from the music.

"It's nothing new really, except the music is kind of acknowledging it more now," said Hansen. With DJs and artists referring to drugs and alcohol within their music, they are sending a message that says people should be doing these drugs. Even if this is not

Festivals Coming Up in the Area

March 06 – 08
AURA Music Festival
Live Oak, FL

March 07 – 08
Gasparilla Music Festival
Tampa, FL

March 27 – 29
Ultra Miami, FL

April 29 – May 3
Sunfest
West Palm Beach, FL

the artists' intention, I can definitely see how alluding to drug use in music would increase drug use at festivals.

Since peak festival season is approaching, it's important for UT students to be aware of their safety, but still have a great time. This March, the Gasparilla Music Festival will take place across the river at Curtis Hixon Park, where big names such as Modest Mouse will perform. In 2014, GMF attracted a reported 15,000 fans. It's awesome that Tampa is opening its arms up to the festival community and gaining an increasingly larger fan base. Hopefully the city will continue to draw even bigger headliners.

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A Graduating Senior's Advice for Success

EDUCATION

By KATIE DRAKE
Opinion Writer



Eighty-three percent of college students don't have a job lined up before they graduate, according to Aftercollege.com. I was definitely a number in that statistic.

I am no expert in success after college but I do know the feeling of trying to figure it out and not knowing what to do. Here are some useful tips on how to prepare for the real world through the University of Tampa's Career Services, through special courses offered and the help of faculty and staff on campus.

The job search doesn't start senior year. According to Forbes, 80 percent of jobs are not even advertised and are part of the hidden job market, leaving 20 percent of jobs for the open job market consisting of online postings. This is where you should utilize Career Services, Hire UT, faculty and most

importantly networking to find these hidden jobs.

The Career Services website and staff have numerous tools to help undergraduate and graduate students. Career Services instructs two courses, Career Decision making and job search strategies. I have taken both, and they are worth it.

Hire UT is a great resource for internships as well as on and off campus jobs. The most useful tool I have found is Optimal Resume. It is free for all students and allows you to practice your interviewing skills with just a webcam. By setting up your personal webcam you can see how you respond to each question the facilitator asks and also watch a tutorial with the response an interviewer is looking to hear.

Aside from finding an insightful advisor, you can always talk to professors. One of the advantages of going to a private university is that we have more access to one on one time with professors. A professor can help you decide a path to take based on their experience or what you learn in their class. The more connections you make

in college, the better. After all, when you graduate you are going to need reference letters so it is better to start early and form connections. You never know what connections they have and are willing to share and help you.

The most one thing I have read about getting jobs after graduation is that we have to find ways to stand out. If you blend in with the other 20 people applying for the same job, chances are they won't remember you and you won't be getting that job. One method to use during interviews is the STAR (Situation, Task, Action, Results) method. From taking the career services class called job search strategies I have learned that using this technique will help you give a focused and well developed response. The STAR method shows the interviewee how to answer a question by explaining a situation, showing what you did and how you did it, and ending with the result instead of just replying to a question with a one sentence response.

Every senior should attend the Career Expo on Friday, Feb. 27, from noon to 3:00 p.m. in Plant Hall at Fletcher Lounge with over

50 employers attending. The event is attending. The event is open exclusively to UT and Colleges of Central Florida Career Consortium students. This is the perfect opportunity for graduating seniors and even juniors to start networking and learning the art of selling yourself to employers. Many of the companies may even have an internship available so it never hurts to go see what's there. The best way to learn how to speak to employers is to go out there and do it.

If anyone has struggled with finding the right career path like I have, utilize career services, professional organizations that relate to your field and everyone on this campus. Even a complete stranger could know someone to help you get a step in the door of your dream job. Do mock interviews, get your resume critiqued, go to jobs fairs, get as many internships as you can and network because sooner then you know it, you will be walking across the stage.

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SPORTS

Club Hockey Team's Milestone Season Comes to Conclusion in Orlando

UT's attempt for revenge against USF falls short in a overtime battle

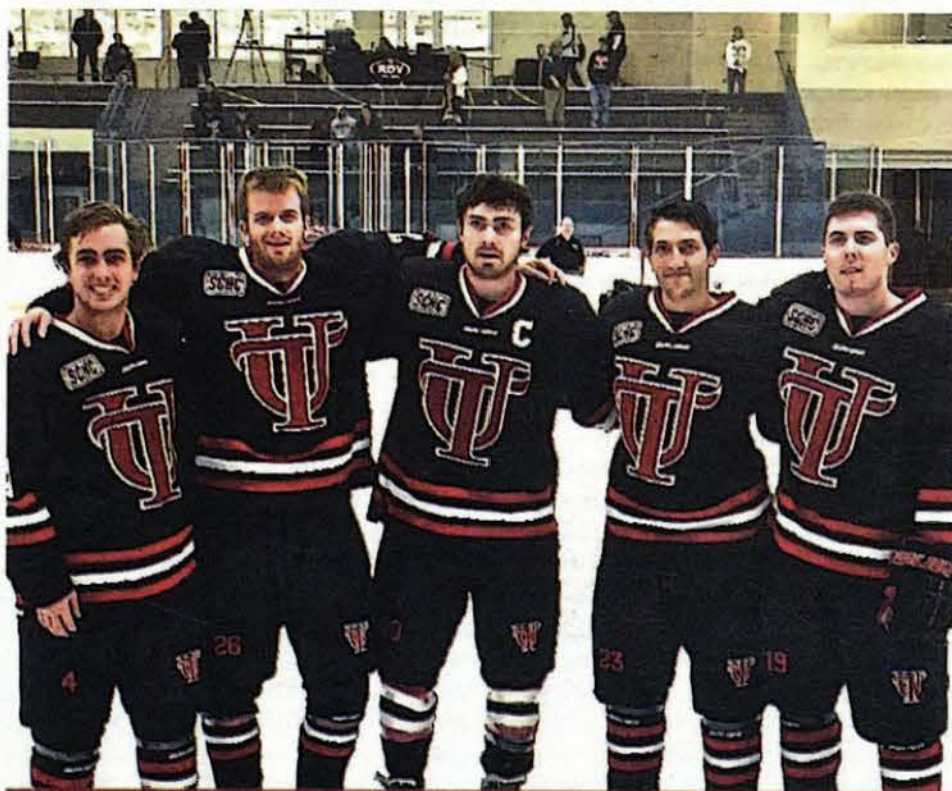
By PHIL NOVOTNY
Sports Editor

"We had a great year. I love the boys, we are a family," said senior forward and team captain Matthew Fenby of the club hockey team. Last Friday, the Spartans' quest for the American Collegiate Hockey Association (ACHA) National Tournament came to a disappointing conclusion.

The Spartans lost to the University of South Florida (USF) 6-5 in overtime at RDV Sportsplex in Orlando. Their defeat occurred in the first round of the tournament, which was the Spartans' first ever appearance. Also, this defeat was UT's second to USF in the past week after losing to the Ice Bulls 6-2 at Amalie Arena six days earlier.

The Spartans came out fighting early on as the score was tied 2-2 at the end of the first period. UT struggled to start the second period as they surrendered two goals which brought flashbacks of the lackluster second period at Amalie Arena in their previous matchup with the Ice Bulls.

Regardless, Fenby was able to cut the deficit to 4-3 after breaking his three-game scoring drought. At the end of the second



The club hockey team lost in their first ACHA South Regional Tournament appearance in school history. Photo courtesy of Matthew Fenby

period, the score was 4-3 in favor of USF.

As the third period began, UT broke through as two straight goals by juniors Nick Martin and Evan Stawarz put the Spartans on top 5-4 in the third period.

The lead did last as the USF scored the equalizer with over three minutes left in regulation to bring the game into overtime. Freshman forward Matthew Antonacci, the

Spartans leading scorer, was back on the ice after recovering from a shoulder injury that he suffered in their previous matchup against USF. In overtime, he hit a shot off the crossbar which almost gave the Spartans the victory but the Ice Bulls went on to score the game-winner on the powerplay to end the Spartans hopes of nationals.

"You hate losing to your rivals," said sophomore defenseman Alexander Carde. "After the Forum game, we knew how we could beat them but the hockey gods did not want us to have it this year. The USF games are definitely circled on our calendar for next year."

Even though the Spartans journey to nationals has come to end, they will still play in the Southern Hockey Collegiate Hockey Conference (SCHC) tournament to cap off their season as they will look to get bragging rights against their regional rivals.

The Spartans will play against Florida Gulf Coast University (FGCU) on Friday night at the Ice Sports Forum in Brandon in the first round. The other two teams in the tournament are USF and the University of Central Florida (UCF).

Even though the Spartans have eight graduating seniors, Carde believes that the future of the program is bright. "I am extremely excited for the future of this team. We are getting more organized as a whole, and people are noticing."

From where we started five years ago to now, it is a totally different club. Recruits are reaching out to us now and we are catching peoples attention from the University. Our goal for next year is to make it to Nationals and I don't see any reason why we cannot."

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Club Tennis Team Commences Active Growth

By MELISSA TORRE
Sports Writer

The Tennis Club at UT is only two years old but it already consists of 30 active members who know how to have fun while still being fiercely competitive. The club gives students here at UT the chance to become more involved on campus, but at the same time compete with a team that participates in meets with other highly ranked colleges.

The Spartan Tennis Club is looking to expand next semester by holding tryouts for the competitive team for the first time.

The club currently practices three nights a week; Monday, Wednesday and Friday from 6 to 8 pm. During this time, the team divides into two groups, recreational and competitive, to keep matches fair based on each player's skill level. Aside from practicing during this time, competitive players often help to coach recreational players sharpen their skills by showcasing their talent and helping to focus on the basic fundamentals.

Recreational players often come out only for practice during the week, but UT's competitive team has become nationally recognized by joining the USTA Tennis on Campus Florida Section, and now competes in tournaments against major schools like UF, USF and UCF. One might think that a coach or advisor helps plan out all of the details that go

along with scheduling meets and practices, but in actuality it is a few select students.

The members of the team's board are actually the ones who are behind the growth and expansion of this young team. "Board positions are meant to figure out who can handle the responsibility of the team and also break up the duties," said club

president Derek Flores.

The club tennis team has also given a sense of stability and belonging for some of its players. Freshman David Kosman is one of these players.

The team has not only gave him the chance to do something he loves, but also make friends.

"Being a freshman, it's hard to make friends out of your own little

bubble here at UT, but everyone on the team was really inviting and I really enjoyed it."

Next semester, the club is planning to implement a more concrete athletic environment by holding tryouts for the first time.

The plan behind this is to build on the club's existing competitive team for students who are serious about competing at the collegiate level. Next semester the club will have the two teams, competitive and recreational, practice on different nights.

Recreational players will still be instructed by students on the competitive team, but starting next semester competitive players who choose to help instruct will have incentive: their club dues paid in full.

If you are interested in becoming a member of the club tennis team next semester you can visit their club Facebook page to learn more information. The team will be attending a tournament at Hillsborough Community College on March 21 and 22.

This semester, the team will also be hosting their very first annual Spartan Open, which will be open to schools across the nation with players ranging from a number of different states, such as California and Wisconsin.



The club tennis team continues to expand as they have 30 active members currently on their roster. Photo courtesy of Scotty Hillard

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Baseball Team Battles Defending Champs

Spartans win two out of three games against Southern Indiana

By REGINA GONZALEZ
Sports Writer

The top ranked Spartans baseball team faced a top opponent last weekend, playing a three-game series at home against the 2014 defending national champions, University of Southern Indiana.

Winning two out of the three games, the Spartans took the field for the first game, with junior starting pitcher David Heintz on the mound. Heintz started up Tampa's seventh straight win, throwing six complete innings, allowing four hits to the 22 batters that took the plate. Junior Dylan Barrow took the mound in the seventh inning in relief, while sophomore Jake Mielock tossed the eighth and ninth innings, striking out three batters.

The Spartans defeated the Screaming Eagles 8-2 with the help of a sacrifice fly from senior right fielder Ian Townsend, a double from senior shortstop Giovanny Alfonzo that brought in two runs, and a home run from senior catcher Nick Tindall.

The Spartans defeated Southern Indiana once again in the second game of the series with a 5-2 win. Senior Chase Sparkman took the mound leading the Spartans, tossing 6.1 innings and allowing just four

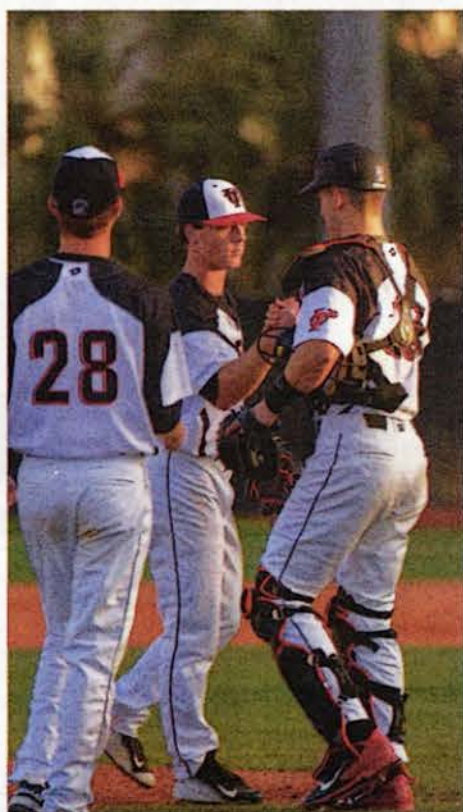


Photo courtesy of Tom Kolbe
Players celebrate victory over the team that defeated them in the first round of the 2014 NCAA Tournament.

hits before Barrow came in for relief. UT registered 12 hits on the evening, walking twice and taking advantage of five errors made by the Eagles. Senior first baseman Andrew Amaro, along with junior center fielder Casey Scoggins each recorded a stolen base.

Closing out the series, the Spartans fell to the Eagles' strong defense as they scored three quick runs in the first inning, taking an early lead. In the third inning, Tampa made a quick 5-

4 comeback, exploding their offense to get a lead, but Southern Indiana responded quickly every time the Spartans' brought in another run. The battle resulted in a 9-7 defeat.

Although the Spartans may not have swept the entire series as planned, winning two out of three games against a team that beat them in the first round of the 2014 NCAA Championship has set a new mentality for the future of the team.

"A lot of our leadership came out this past weekend, the guys knew what was at stake," said head coach Joe Urso. "This was a team that beat us in the first round last year and they were defending national champs. Our guys wanted to prove themselves and prove what this team is about, and I thought we did well in a lot of areas."

Experiencing their first loss of the season, the one defeat will not affect their chances of making it to the Sunshine State Conference tournament, so all the men can do is learn from their mistakes and appreciate their majority of wins in the series. "We went about it like any other weekend series, we just knew a little more was at stake since they were still defending champions and had something they took from us," Barrow said. "I felt we all did good, especially getting the first two wins, it's baseball, you can lose any day, but you learn a lot from those losses and it's all about how you bounce back from them."

Barrow, along with Heintz and Sparkman, were key in setting the tone

from the mound and attacked the zone, but other players stepped up their game as well. Junior left fielder Zion Bell filled in for senior captain Stephen Dezzi who could not play in the series due to a strained oblique muscle injury. Alfonzo lead the team both offensively and defensively, and Amaro made his debut for UT playing in his first series since transferring from the University of Maryland.

"I think winning two of three against Indiana was a great success," Amaro said. "I think I hit the ball pretty well for it being my first weekend playing. Playing a huge series like that one will certainly prepare us for the SSC and playoff games."

The Spartans will take the road for the first time this weekend, heading to Georgia for a three game series against Georgia Regents University. Currently holding a 4-3 record, Urso is confident that his team can tweak any errors made against Southern Indiana in practice to go and sweep Georgia.

"When you make mistakes playing a team that isn't that good you can get away with it, when you make mistakes playing a team like Southern Indiana, you learn and capitalize from it," Urso said. "Georgia had a below .500 record last year, but their pitchers locate the ball on the outer half of the plate so we need to hit the ball to the opposite field. If we've been playing defense the way we have been, we should be fine."

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Women's Lacrosse Splits Weekend Series

By TESS SHEETS
Sports Writer

The live stream read out 'watch out for Tampa,' according to sophomore midfielder Mackenzie Perna. Even though they didn't defeat the fifth ranked team in the nation, the women's lacrosse team aims to make those words ring true this season.

The team clinched their first win of the season on Sunday, Feb. 22 against Newberry College during their weekend of matches in South Carolina. The Spartans began their weekend against No. 5 Limestone College on Friday, where they fell to a score of 6-18. Despite the loss, the team uses the upset to recognize how to improve and how to show opponents that a "young team" does not necessarily mean an inexperienced one.

"As a team, we are trying to lose the 'young team stigma,'" Perna said. "We want to prove you don't need to be an old program to win games."

The Spartans proved this to be true in their next match against Newberry, where they pulled away with a victory of 17-7. Freshman Christina Burroughs, sophomore Amanda Voges and Perna lead the team with three goals apiece. Although their offensive attack was more successful in their match against Newberry than Limestone, the difference in score truly lied in their high number of assists and draw controls, according to Perna.

The Spartans led Newberry in assists 12 to four, and with a total of 22 total face-off wins, they bested Newberry

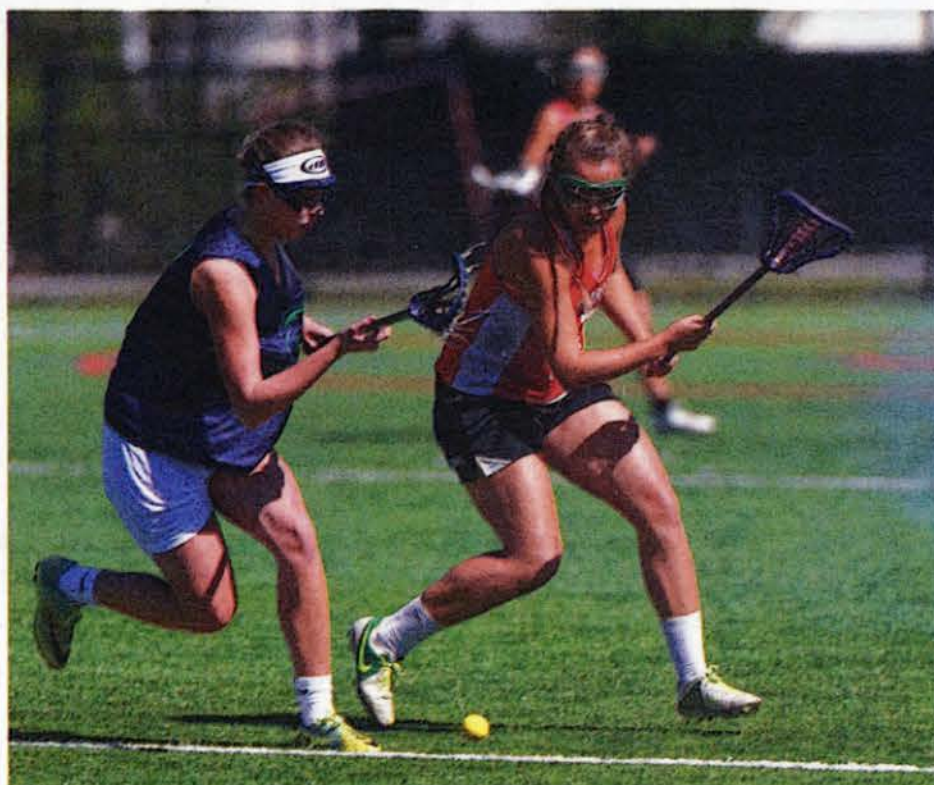


Photo courtesy of Tom Kolbe
Midfielder Amanda Rom battles for the ball to put her team on the offense in a game against Molloy.

by 18, thus allowing them to take the offensive position more successfully.

"Draws are very important to our team because when we win the draw and gain possession, it helps our team gain the momentum," said freshman midfielder Amanda Rom, who is the primary face-off player. "We need to go straight to offense and score a goal. Our team likes to push the ball forward and have a fast break, we use the momentum off the draw to get ahead of our opponents."

The Friday match against Limestone was the Spartans' second time playing a ranked team this semester, as they competed against and fell to No. 18 Rollins College on Feb. 8. Despite the loss, however, the progression from Rollins to Limestone to Newberry has been noteworthy, according to Rom. The team has consistently been focusing on becoming more successful in terms of stats with every new match.

"We played a ranked team on

Friday and during this game we made a statement that Tampa lacrosse is improving every time we step onto the field," Rom said. "We had our first win on Sunday, this game is a turning point in this season. We dominated the field the entire 60 minutes."

In order to keep improving, the team notes the importance of maintaining unity on the field, especially through future matches against nationally ranked teams. Although the team is composed of a wide assortment of individually talented players, the challenge ultimately comes down to finding a successful method of collaboration. This weekend of play showed the Spartans where this aspect both thrived and faltered.

"We saw more chemistry in our Limestone game I would say, particularly on the defensive end," Perna said. "[However], Limestone, being ranked fifth in the nation, has a very strong team offense. In the Newberry game, we had more time to control the ball on our offensive side."

Although Limestone was the last ranked team that the Spartans are scheduled to face in the regular season, it is likely for the team to see this type of competition again if future victories bring them to compete in the Sunshine State Conference Tournament beginning on April 24. The women's lacrosse team will continue their season on Mar. 4 against Wheeling Jesuit University.

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Women's Golf Starts 2015 Season Off Strong

Women's golf finishes tenth out of 17 teams in St. Augustine

By **ANDREW STAMAS**
Sports Writer

308 is the women's golf magic number this season after setting a goal to break their previous record of 313.

UT shot the magic number in the second round at the World Golf Invitational but a higher bar is already being set. They look to try to break that record in one of their upcoming events.

The event hosted by Flagler College in St. Augustine was played at Slammer & Squire Golf Course. It was a great outing for the Spartans as they finished in tenth place out of 17 teams.

In the opening round, the Spartans shot 322 and the ladies finished the event with a total of 630 strokes after the two rounds of play.

The Spartans were led by junior Fatin Amin, who shot 152 during the event and finished in twenty-fourth place overall.

Sophomores Alyssa Morahan and Grace Schian each shot 159. Freshmen Jess Wild and Hanna Grevelius shot 161 and 167, respectively.

Coach Missey Jones knows that her team deserves to celebrate. "It's fantastic. These girls are really working

hard. They're united like a family," Jones said. "They challenge each other in practice. I'm so happy for them. Their hard work is paying off."

Amin is also proud of her team's achievement, but knows that they need to keep improving.

"With a great start to the season, the team is confident to keep pushing for a better score and of course trying to beat our 308. We're getting better each day and I think with that low round it definitely built confidence in the girls," Amin said.

The Spartans then traveled to Lakeland for the Florida Southern Invitational Feb. 16-17. Unfortunately, the weather conditions were not ideal and the Spartan golfers struggled to cope with the windy conditions.

UT placed sixteenth overall out of 17 teams. In an invitational that consisted of three rounds, the Spartans scored 324, 333, and 342 for a total score of 999.

Grevelius led the Spartans with a total score of 248, finishing sixty-ninth overall. Wild carded 253, Schian 255, Amin 257 and Morahan 258. Sophomore Holly Cannon finished with 262.

Although it has been tough for the Spartans to keep up with their counterparts from other SSC schools, they have come a long way over the past few years. In just four full seasons since the program began, they



Photo courtesy of Tom Kolbe

The women's golf team looks to hit the magic number of 308 in their upcoming tournaments.

have made immense progress despite all the obstacles they have faced and continue to cope with.

Jones described that in addition to there not being any scholarships for golfers at UT, the girls also miss a lot of class, often competing during school days. Despite absences and having to wake up at the crack of dawn for long practices, the girls have a very strong bond as a team.

Jones also noted that the girls are very high academic achievers, with several girls having a 4.0 GPA last semester while traveling and golfing at different competitions.

Amin, Jones and the rest of the Spartans will look to continue to improve through the remainder of the season.

Their next event is the Rollins Invitational in Winter Springs which will take place March 2-3.

They will then travel to Dunnellon for the Morehead State Invitational March 22-24, before heading to Sorrento for the Sunshine State Conference Championships April 12-14.

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Men's Golf Finishes Fourth to Kick Start 2015

Men's golf looking to improve despite top five result

By **ERIN TOWNSEND**
Sports Writer

The men's golf team is starting their season off strong, finishing fourth at the Brevard Invitational in Melbourne, FL.

This was their first time back on the course since the fall season, where they finished top five in three out of the four tournaments.

"Any time you have a top five finish it's a good achievement. There wasn't a particularly strong field but it is an optimistic start to what is the business end of our year," said senior Patrick Fereday.

The Spartans finished off the Brevard Invitational with a total score of 918 (+54), while Webber International won first place by shooting an 897. The invitational was the first of six tournaments scheduled for the current spring season. The team's excited response to the top five finish, on top of their drive to continue to improve, seems to be unanimous.

When asked about their reaction to the team's performance at Brevard, freshman Gray Barnes and junior Zach Schuster both shared goals to work hard where there is room for improvement and further the team's success throughout the rest of the season.

Barnes shot a 226 at Brevard, tying fellow Spartan junior Jason Steele, for tenth place overall.

The beginning of this season has not been without its setbacks.

"We are facing some speed bumps with minor injuries, but we still have a lot of time this season to put the pieces



Photo courtesy of Tom Kolbe

The men's golf team is optimistic after a good start at the Brevard Invitational Tournament in Melbourne to commence their 2015 spring campaign.

together and start finishing closer to the top of the leaderboard in these upcoming events," Barnes said.

The men's golf team is eager to work

next compete at the Webber International Invitational, where last October they not only placed top five, but walked away with first place.

"If we can keep our bad rounds from getting out of control, we should keep improving as a team."

hard and keep this streak going. They are setting their goals high and putting in the effort to meet them. "If we finish top five in our next events that would be a terrific set of results," Fereday said.

The team is obviously ready put in the work on and off the course. They will

Schuster shot 215 (+2), placing second overall, and Steele placed third overall with a score of 216. This upcoming invitational will be played at Lake Wales Country Club instead of River Greens Golf Course, where the October invitational was held.

The Spartans are focused on the busy season ahead of them. After playing at the Webber International Invitational, they will be going to Sebring, FL for the Warner Invitational to kick off March.

When it comes to how to continue their success throughout the season Schuster said, "I believe that mental focus and positivity on and off the course are things that go a long way when only a few strokes can mean winning or losing."

When asked the same question, Steele added "We need to remain focused for the whole round even if we think our individual round might not count, it still could."

If we can keep our bad rounds from getting out of control, we should keep improving as a team."

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Coach's Corner: Head Coach Tom Jessee

Women's basketball head coach reflects on storied career

By ED KERNER
Sports Writer

Women's basketball head coach Tom Jessee started his collegiate coaching career at his alma mater Bluefield State of West Virginia during the 1988-1989 season. The Lady Blues, as they were called, competed in the West Virginia Intercollegiate Athletic Conference (WVIAC), for nine seasons under Jessee. During his nine seasons in charge, the Lady Blues finished either first or second in the division six times. Jessee's Lady Blues won four WVIAC championships while also reaching the National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics (NAIA) national tournament twice. Jessee's best season as coach of the Lady Blues came during the 1992-1993 seasons in which the team finished with an impeccable record of 25-4 and a conference championship.

Coach Jessee reflects on his time at Bluefield State, "I remember the championship games that we played in and all the players that I was blessed to have play for me."

After Bluefield State, coach Jessee decided it was time to move on. Jessee had compiled an outstanding 170-89 record, averaging over 18 wins a season. Jessee left Bluefield State due to family reasons, but planned on continuing his coaching career in his new home state of Florida. Jessee became Head Coach of the New Port

Richey Gulf High School girls basketball team, where he coached the team to a 75-67 in five seasons. Jessee was named the Tampa Tribune Pasco County Coach of the Year in 1998.

After coaching at the high school level Jessee decided to go back to the collegiate level, taking a job at UT. Jessee found immediate success leading the team to a 23-8 record and earning them a bid into the NCAA tournament. Jessee was named the Sunshine State Conference (SSC) Coach of the Year for leading the Spartans to the semifinal round of NCAA Division II South Regional.

Jessee reached a new level of success during the 2008-09 season in which his lady spartans amassed a 26-6 record. During the impressive run, the team won 13 straight games: a UT school record. The spartans would go on to win the SSC tournament and achieve a national ranking of 19, which was the highest in school history at the time.

The odds of repeating with another record setting season were against them, but coach Jessee was confident in his team. "I start the season off every year with the same goals. The first is to continue to graduate my players and to win a national championship," said Jessee.

Jessee's 2009-10 team was one for the record books, as they were able to match the previous seasons record of 26 wins. For the first time in school history, the team was ranked in the WBCA national top 25 for the entire season. The team would advance to the NCAA South Regional semifinals, where it lost to No. 4 Arkansas Tech 69-68.

During the 2013-14 season the team achieved a school record of 14 league games, including the SSC regular season



Photo Courtesy of Tom Kolbe

Women's basketball head coach Tom Jessee is in his 13th season coaching here at UT.

championship. Jessee's team had five victories over nationally ranked opponents, including two in the top-ten. He led the team to the NCAA South Region championship for the first time in school history.

Coach Jessee has been very successful over the course of his 21 year collegiate career. "I have been very blessed to have great players play for me here at UT as well as great support from the athletic department and the University as a whole," said Jessee.

Jessee has the statistics to back up his illustrious career. His .679 winning percentage ranks No. 17 among active coaches and No. 33 all-time nationally. His 419 wins are good for No. 27 on the active coaches list.

His 249-109 record at Tampa gives him the program's top overall winning percentage at .696 as he is also the

program's all-time winningest coach. He was also the fastest coach in UT women's basketball history to 100 victories and led his 2005-06, 2006-07, 2007-08, 2008-09, 2009-10 and 2010-11 teams to six straight 20-plus win seasons for the first time in program history. He has coached many successful All-Americans, as well as the NCAA Division II all time three point scoring champion.

Jessee always puts his players first. "At Tampa, I remember all the players who I have been able to help transition into their careers and watch them become adults. The building of the program into a conference and national contender has been a lot of fun."

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"Senior Citizens" Make Playoffs With 4-0 Mark

By ANN MARIE DISTASI
Sports Writer

Veteran intramural dodgeball team strives to be the league's best

A competitive edge is forming on the dodgeball court, as the "Senior Citizens" landed their fourth straight win of the intramural season this past Tuesday. With the regular season coming to an end, players share some of their secrets and their hope to land a spot in the playoffs.

Seven players, consisting of roommates and close friends, make up the team of UT seniors.

Senior criminology major Jorge Robert Anderu came up with the team name Senior Citizens for two reasons: one being that all of the players are seniors and the second being because they tend to get injured easily.

Aside from dodgeball, each of the players have had experience playing other intramural sports such as sand and indoor volleyball, as well as basketball throughout their years at UT. Given the team's years of participation, their first priority is to have fun. But as the games heat up so does the competition.

"We're really competitive, that's the biggest thing," said senior nursing major Jessie-Lee Luttenschlager. "Even though it's just dodgeball and we're just doing it for fun, we're so competitive and that's why we're winning all the time."

Competition is not the only secret to success for the "Senior Citizens." Communication and teamwork are two of the biggest contributions to their winning record so far.

Senior captain and criminology major Michelle Levonowich uses ball retrieval as an example when she explains one of the strategies her team uses to stay on top of the game.

"If all of the balls are in the back one of the players will go and get them to hand out to the stronger players," Levonowich said. "Teamwork is a big thing with us."

The team depends on senior sports management major Dan Roehrer to shut down the opposing teams with his strong arm.

The chemistry between the teammates also serves as a contribution to their success. Luttenschlager and Levonowich are roommates and have had a tight bond with the other five players throughout their career at UT.

Considering all of these skills, the team's ultimate goal is to finish the league on top.

"With a 4-0 record, they will definitely have a shot," said freshman referee Sean Brophy.

Brophy said dodgeball is a lot different from the other intramural sports because there is no concern for point differentials that could hold a team back from the title. Since the games are best out of five, teams are ranked based on number of wins.

Chris Gottlick, assistant director for campus recreation and

wellness, believes that sportsmanship is another factor which determines whether teams can make it into the play-offs. At the end of each game, referees give the teams a score between zero and three with zero being the worst.

"Everyone is guaranteed four regular season games," Gottlick said. "If you come out of the regular season with at least a 500 record, so 2-2, and at least a 2.0 sportsmanship average, then you would be eligible for the playoffs."

The 12 top teams in the league

are guaranteed to move onto the play-offs games after their record and sportsmanship averages are determined.

"As long as everybody shows up and comes ready to play we'll win it for sure," Luttenschlager said.

Team players as well as referee's believe that the "Senior Citizens" have a shot at finishing strong and ending their last semester at UT with a bang.

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Ann Marie Distasi/The Minaret

"Senior Citizens" looks to capture the title for intramural dodgeball for the spring season.

Elite Defender Discusses Stellar UT Career

Junior Marty Heyn is an integral part of the Spartans' defense

By **GRIFFIN GUINTA**
Sports Columnist

"Off the field, he's the nicest kid you'll ever meet," freshman lacrosse midfielder Greg Browne said of his teammate Marty Heyn. "He's also a huge clown and is always joking around."

Though Heyn is a loveable goofball in person, make no mistake—he's all business on the field. In his illustrious three-year career as a Spartan, Heyn has crafted an impressive resume, including selections as an All-American, First Team All-SSC, and the Commissioner's Honor Roll.

A primary reason for all of those accolades is his innate ability to shut down opposing offenses. To put it in a relevant analogy, he draws comparisons to Darrelle Revis, the New England Patriots' staunch cornerback, a player often called upon to negate the other team's most formidable offensive force.

"He is a huge presence on the field and also an amazing on-ball defenseman who can lock down the opposing team's best attackman," said sophomore attacker Conor Whipple, his All-American teammate.

Before he received any of that glory, though, he was just a kid from Gaithersburg, Maryland, who (much like the aforementioned Revis) had ambitions of becoming a football star. However, a variety of circumstances, including lack of height to play his intended position, prevented him from attaining that goal.

Fortunately, another option was available: lacrosse. Noting its similarities to football, his mother signed him up for lacrosse when he was in the seventh grade and he hasn't stopped since.

According to Heyn, the switch to lacrosse wasn't the smoothest transition. "I'm going to be honest, when I first started playing I hated it," he said.

"It's not one of those sports you can just pick up. I wanted to quit, but my mom urged me to keep playing. I guess it worked out pretty well."

These days, Heyn considers lacrosse his passion. His work ethic has earned him unanimous respect among his teammates and coaches, and he lives and breathes the game daily.

Unsurprisingly, his favorite aspect is just being in the presence of his teammates, whom he considers to be his second family.

The SSC-based Spartans seldom travel outside Florida, but Heyn always relishes the times when they finally do. For him, travelling always produces an abundance of stories—stories in which the end result is always impossible to forecast.

He recalled one road trip in which the team travelled to Colorado and the entire team fell ill with some kind of bug.

"You really get a lot of quality time on road trips. When we went to Colorado my freshman year, the entire team got a stomach flu and it was actually terrible. But it was also so memorable that I'll remember it for the rest of my life," Heyn said.

Things have vastly changed since that chaotic road trip back in 2012. After the departure of several key senior players in 2014, Heyn was tasked to lead a young defense comprised of mostly freshmen, sophomores,



Photo courtesy of Tom Kolbe

Junior defenseman Marty Heyn keeps dominating his defensive skills during 2015.

and transfers this year.

"I try to just communicate and set an example for the younger guys. They're doing a really great job this year, they picked it up really fast. My role is to be a facilitator," Heyn said.

His teammate Browne emphasized the value of Heyn's presence on the field.

"He's our most experienced defender and usually covers their best attacker. His physical style of play gets everyone fired up. I'm not sure where we'd be without him—he's a major part of our defense," Browne said.

This season, Heyn will be depended on to keep the ship buoyant as the Spartans eye a run at the National Championship. On the pitch, Heyn injects a spirit of tenacity and resilience into the young squad, and off it, his cool, confident mindset reminds everyone to stay relaxed and upbeat. When asked about the

devastating Feb. 14 loss to rival Limestone, for example, Heyn had this to say:

"It's National Championship or bust. We have some work to do after last week, but I'm really confident in our team and our players. Right now in February, we're just trying to be the best we can be today. I'm confident that we can get back to and even surpass where we were last year," he said.

As Heyn mentioned, the team is working hard to carve their identity and prepare themselves for another run at the championship, and given that only three games have transpired, the Spartans have quite a bit of time to do so. One thing is for sure, though: they'll need Marty Heyn every step of the way.

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Women's Soccer Scores On National Signing Day

By **MARCUS MITCHELL**
Sports Columnist

This past season, Lucey and the Spartans finished with a 13-4-4 record and were runner-ups in the Sunshine State Conference (SSC). Now their attention turns to the offseason, where they must plan to fill the holes left by departing seniors and transfer students.

"When we took a look at our needs after this season, we identified a number of areas that needed strengthening," Lucey said. "It wasn't just positional but also our mental condition that needed to be improved upon."

The Spartans excelled on the offensive side of the ball this past season, averaging over two goals a game. However, Lucey is still looking for fresh young talent to complement the attacking force.

Head coach Gerry Lucey and his coaching staff have gotten eight National Letters of Intent (NLI) from athletes who will join the team next fall.

Signing for the Spartans is the versatile Maya Matouk. An experienced player from Trinidad and Tobago, Matouk has played at the international level for her country in World Cup qualifying matches and Caribbean tournaments. Matouk attends the renowned IMG Academy, where she has developed into a student of the game. A natural goal scorer, Matouk will fit nicely with the other attacking options that the Spartans have to offer.

Also signing with the Spartans is Florida native Rose Amato. Amato is a central forward from Sarasota who played for Cardinal Mooney Catholic High School and FC Sarasota, the latter of which she led to the State Cup Final Four. Amato is a physical striker and adds considerable depth to the position for Lucey.

Accompanying Amato and Matouk as signees who will bolster the attack are Shae McCarty of Chalfont, Pennsylvania and Heidi Snyder of Lakewood, California. McCarty brings a tall body to the Spartans' roster and gives an aerial option for the team. Snyder is a quick player whose speed can give the Spartans an edge over opponents.

Altogether, the four will strengthen an offensive unit that implements a system of high possession and frequent creation of chances. "A focal point to our system is the technical and tactical awareness needed by our players," Lucey said. This "tactical awareness" originates in the midfield and the roster is littered with players who can create chances to score. Gabby Russo and Amber Pennybaker have developed into

premier wide players and central midfielder Lauren Moore led the team in assists (11) as team captain.

Adding to the options in the midfield, Madison Munroe of Kenosha, Wisconsin and Alexa Sheridan of Smithtown, New York both signed with the Spartans. Munroe is a talented left-footed player and has an ability to whip the ball into the box from the wider sides of the pitch.

Sheridan is an experienced central midfielder who has captained Smithtown High School West in all four of her years there. There she was named an all-league player and led her team to three league championships in her time there.

On the defensive side of the ball, starting senior Candice Shield is graduating but the

future of the position looks bright. Freshmen centerbacks Madison Cox and Miranda Gonzalez paid huge dividends to limiting opponents to averaging less than a goal per game. Looking to make a similar splash in her debut year is Alison Robinson, who is among the others to have signed. A defender from Magnolia, Texas, Robinson is a strong physical force in the air and was named Defensive MVP for the All South Zone.

Accompanying Robinson as a defensive signing is Jessica Moreno of Temecula, California. Moreno is a seasoned defender who can play anywhere along the backline. She played club soccer for the nationally recognized club Carlsbad Elite and has international experience playing for her native country of Mexico, where she helped win the under-17 Women's CONCACAF (North, Central American and Caribbean Confederation) Tournament.

With these eight new additions, the Class of 2015 is dripping with talent from top to bottom. Yet Lucey still believes there is more work to be done. "I am still looking for two to three top attacking players who can make an immediate impact," Lucey said. "A couple of those may be transfer students and another will probably be an international student with national team experience behind them."

If Lucey can find such players then he believes that the Spartans can return to the pinnacle of Division II soccer. "We have a strong core of players returning this fall and a talented incoming class who will help greatly in terms of impact and depth," Lucey said. "If we can round out a very strong group with a few more additions then we will make a great effort to be back amongst the elite this year."

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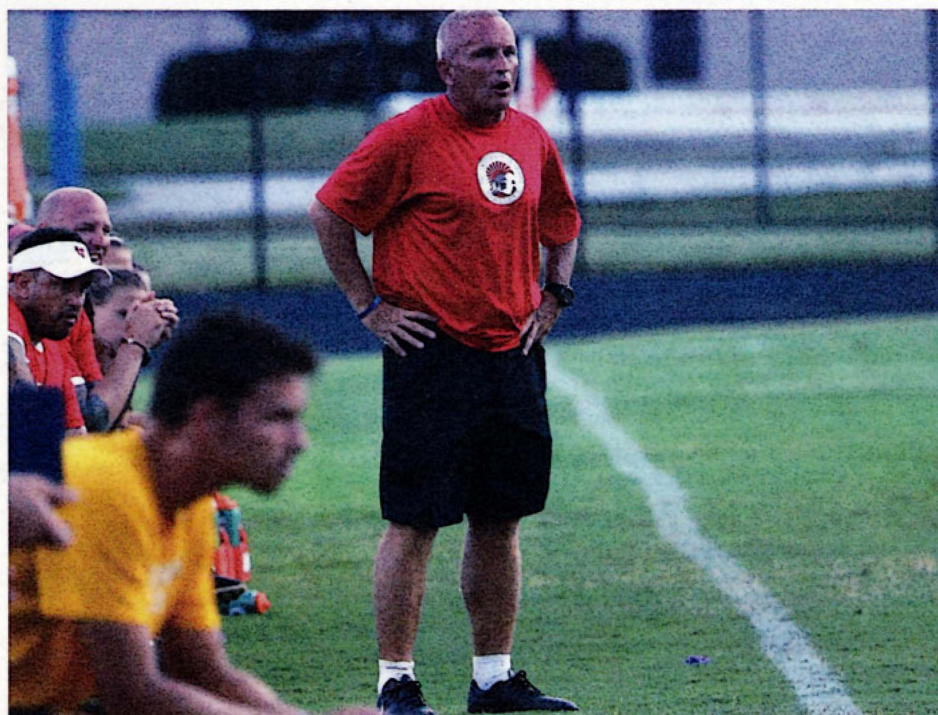


Photo courtesy of Tom Kolbe

Women's soccer head coach Gerry Lucey's recruiting class is going to be the future of the program.