

# The Minaret

February 16, 2001

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## Philosophy: a major dilemma

By VANESSA IRIZARRY  
Staff Reporter

The University of Tampa does not currently offer a philosophy major, which is one of the basic elements of a liberal arts education.

In 1994, under then-President David Ruffer, UT experienced a grave decline in enrollment, and it was decided that not all faculty could be maintained. Some faculty positions had to be eliminated and it was decided that the philosophy department would undergo a major downsizing.

The decision was made that UT would no longer offer philosophy as a major but as a minor. With this change also came the elimination of religion as a minor.

Any student who had declared a major in philosophy before its

elimination was guaranteed by the school that they could take the necessary classes to finish out their major.

In November 2000, at a College of Liberal Arts and Science (CLAS) meeting, faculty addressed the issue of having another tenured professor for the philosophy department.

Dr. Mary Jane Schenck, professor of English, said that in the November meeting a resolution was offered "so faculty could express their support for hiring a second full-time philosophy professor." The resolution was accepted unanimously by the CLAS faculty. UT faculty have strongly supported the idea of reinstating a major in philosophy.

On the reinstatement issue, Schenck said, "It should be one of our top priorities for the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences."

Schenck added, "It is impor-

tant to note that classes in philosophy and religion are always filled."

As of now, Dr. Kevin Sweeney, associate professor of philosophy, is the only tenured professor in the philosophy program. In Sweeney's opinion, "We are seeming to be a liberal arts college rather than being a liberal arts college."

Sweeney said he would be pleased to see the philosophy major re-instated. Every semester, five courses are offered in philosophy although the courses that are offered vary in their availability.

At Rollins College in Winter Park, Fla., of the 1,500 students who attend, 25 students have declared philosophy majors. To Professor Tom Cook, chair of the department of philosophy at Rollins, this is a respectable number considering the size of the student body.

Cook expressed surprise that philosophy, "the oldest discipline in the liberal arts curriculum," is not of-

fered at UT.

The majority of students who are philosophy majors nationwide go on to graduate school and others attend law school, noted Cook.

For Cook, it is hard to imagine students not being given the opportunity to receive a major in philosophy at UT.

"For 2,500 years, the specific form of reflective critical thinking represented by philosophy has been central to liberal arts study," Cook said.

Some individuals feel that because UT does not offer a philosophy major, the liberal arts curriculum is lacking a very important element. Sweeney feels that "philosophy is central to our thinking." He is not alone in his statement.

Cook said, "Philosophy deepens one's thought and character."

Since enrollment has been increasing the past few years at UT, many faculty and students would

view the reinstatement of a philosophy major as a positive step toward a complete liberal arts program.

Matt Robinson, a freshman at UT, is pursuing a minor in philosophy but had hoped he could have declared himself a philosophy major. Since UT does not offer one, Robinson said that if the addition of a philosophy major does not happen soon, he would transfer to another university that does offer a major in philosophy. In Robinson's opinion, "Philosophers take a different perspective on things that everyone else takes for granted." This is why a major in philosophy appeals to him.

For students who want to see the philosophy major reinstated, Sweeney recommends that students put letters in the suggestion box as a way to make their opinions known.

(from L to R) Kant, Nietzsche, Foucault, Sartre, Wittgenstein: if you're not familiar with these names, it's not entirely your fault



## Random acts of kindness spread across UT

By SARAH MORGAN  
Staff Reporter

Today ends the Student Activities Office's National Random Acts of Kindness Week. For the third year in a row, faculty, staff and students have been urged to perform random nice acts both for those they know and complete strangers.

The week began on Monday with a kickoff celebration on the

east verandah of Plant Hall. University President Dr. Ron Vaughn, Dean of Students Bob Ruday and Student Government President Jim Moriarty were on hand to cut the yellow ribbon to start off the week.

Each day had a different theme or event: Monday had the kickoff, Tuesday was yellow day, Wednesday was the pass-a-carnation campaign, Thursday had a snack break in the Lobby and today, a kindness paper chain.

Every day this week, the Stu-

dent Activities Office has had a table in the Lobby passing out everything from free hug coupons to smiley face stickers to pinwheels and kindness postcards to send to someone, perhaps to make their day a little brighter.

Random Acts of Kindness Week started in 1982 by Ann Herbert who penned the phrase "practice random kindness and senseless acts of beauty." She started to spread the concept of being nice just for the sake of being nice.

Slowly but surely, the thought of just being friendly and kind spread across the nation. However, the movement did not explode until 1991 when people were starting to become pessimistic due to the Gulf War and violence throughout the country.

It was during this time that Conari Press compiled many stories of random acts of kindness and started a foundation in honor of this concept.

The first Random Acts of

Kindness Week was celebrated in February of 1995, and since then has spread to over 100 towns and cities throughout the country and around the world.

Just because Random Acts of Kindness Week is over on the UT campus, doesn't mean you can't celebrate it all year long. You can always hold a door open for someone, or pay the toll for the car behind you. Kindness is free, so you won't break the bank by just giving it away.

### ON THE INSIDE...



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# Police Beat

By RAQUEL PITTIGLIO

Staff Reporter

**Feb. 6**

**Student passes out after presumably using inhalant**

A resident assistant went to the security office with information that a student had passed out in her room. They went to the room and knocked on the door, but no one answered. After keying into the room, they found the victim curled up on the couch with a blanket covering her body and head. Empty containers of "Whip-It," which is used with balloons to get high by inhaling the gases, were found on the floor. Tampa PD was contacted, and a small plastic bag found on her desk was tested for drugs. The test result was negative. The victim refused to go to the hospital but was transported to the health center by security.

**Criminal Mischief - Vehicle vandalized near McKay**

A student reported to security that his vehicle was vandalized while it was in the McKay parking lot between Jan. 25 and Feb. 4. Black spray paint was used to write words on the trunk of the vehicle. Security investigated and gave the victim the non-emergency number for Tampa PD so he could file a report.

**Student loses jacket, files police report**

After switching rooms, a student noticed his leather jacket was missing. After checking both rooms, the jacket could not be found. The jacket was last seen on the bed in the student's original room before moving into the new room.

**Feb. 7**

**Criminal Mischief - Door destroyed in Brevard Hall**

In Brevard Hall a suite's front door was destroyed beyond repair. The student who was home reported to security that he was in bed and heard a loud bang at the door. When the student went to locate the source of the noise he was unable to exit his room due to the damage to the door. The door was cracked in several places, and the locking mechanism was demolished. A work order was issued and the door was replaced.

**Feb. 8**

**Student receives harassing phone calls**

A resident contacted security and reported that she was receiving harassing phone calls from her ex-boyfriend. The victim reported that the caller had phoned every few minutes until there were approximately 50 received phone calls.

**Feb. 9**

**Suspicious person ends up in jail**

Around 10:40 p.m., two students informed security that an apparently intoxicated female was walking near McKay asking residents for cigarettes. Security searched the campus and found the woman in front of the swimming pool. The officers approached the female and questioned her. She said she was checking out the campus and might enroll here. During the field investigation, the officers observed her slurring her words and stumbling around. She was transported to the security office and Tampa PD was contacted. The officers conducted a local warrants check with the Hillsborough County Sheriff's Office, and found out the lady had a warrant for her arrest. She was taken into custody by Tampa PD and given a trespass warning banning her from UT property.

**Feb. 10**

**Anonymous tip leads to drug confiscation in Crescent Place**

After receiving an anonymous tip, a resident assistant in Crescent Place contacted security stating that a student allegedly used marijuana and stored it in her bedroom. Once outside the room, the officers knocked on the door three times and announced their presence. No one answered the door, and the officers keyed into the room, which was unoccupied. After determining which items belonged to the alleged violator, the officers found a baggie containing what appeared to be a "roach" with marijuana seeds. An officer conducted a test of the seeds and they proved positive for THC, the active ingredient in marijuana. Tampa PD was contacted, and one of their officers also performed a test on the seeds. Once again, they tested positive. The TPD officer took control of the evidence and logged it as found property. The student was referred to the judicial review board for violating the university's drug policy.

## Dr. Toro lectures on the atomic bomb

By MATT LEEBOVE

Staff Reporter

Dr. Emilio Toro, of the University of Tampa's honors program, recently delivered an informative and interesting lecture on the events leading to the nuclear bombing of Hiroshima.

His lecture titled "Dear Mister President: Einstein and the Making of the Atomic Bomb" was presented in the UT Library. Dr. Toro is an associate professor of mathematics at the University of Tampa.

He has proven many times his

ability to take complicated subjects, such as nuclear war, and explain them to people using fun and interesting methods. One point that was stressed during this program was the secrecy the nuclear bomb program had.

According to Dr. Toro, not even the scientists taking part in the development knew exactly what they were working on. The research program was divided into groups, with each group working on small fractions of the larger project. Dr. Toro later explained that America

did not become serious with their nuclear research until December of 1941 when the Japanese forces attacked American naval ships at Pearl Harbor.

It was after this attack that the funding for nuclear programs increased significantly and an offensive maneuver was created so America could develop the weapon before any one else.

During his symposium guests viewed videos of the early nuclear test at Los Alamos, New Mexico. Everyone in the room felt the dev-

astating power of the explosions. The video shown was the only film of the August 6th bombing of Hiroshima.

Dr. Toro presented his information in a historic method, stressing the devastation of the blast. A fellow UT professor who attended the symposium raised the idea that many of the scientists responsible for the design were of Jewish descent, and they believed they were designing a bomb to be used on Germany. When they discovered that their creation was going to be

used on Japan, many attempted to prevent the deployment of the atomic bomb.

Dr. Toro added that the military believed the American people deserved a return on their investment after millions of dollars were spent on research and development; thus, the bombing of Japan became a moment in history many people will never forget.

The next symposium will be held in March and is titled "Holocaust Denial."

## Parking lots get upgrade

By SAMANTHA HORVATH

Staff Reporter

Several changes were recently made on campus in an effort to keep the faculty and staff parking lots reserved for their use.

Last week, parking gates were put in effect in the Plant Hall west and Sykes' faculty parking lots. The fundamental reason for the parking gates, according to Rod Plowman, Exec. Dir. of Admin. Services, is that the enforcement policies of those lots were just not enough to keep unauthorized people out of the faculty and staff lots. Another explanation is the potential to have the entire campus card accessible after Vaughn Hall is completed.

The gates to the parking lots go up automatically between the hours of 4 p.m. and 10 p.m. to accommodate evening students and faculty. The lots are also open during the weekend for campus visitors. This does not mean, however, that residential or commuter students may park in the lots over the weekends.

The other entrances to each of the parking lots have been temporarily barricaded. The barricades prevent people from entering or exiting without using the gates; however, this situation will not last for long. Soon, bollards will be placed over the area. Several small poles connected by chains will replace the barricades. There will be open spaces on either side of the outside poles to allow pedestrian and golf-cart access.

The staff involved in this project tried to make the transition as easy as possible. Several days before the card access system was placed online, the gates remained permanently open to allow faculty and staff to become familiar with the new procedures. The faculty and staff seem to be happy with the improvements, and the feedback has been positive.

Right now, the soon-to-be defunct student union will not be razed and turned into a parking lot, although there are no definite plans for the student union.

## Did you know... ? ? ?

By VANESSA IRIZARRY

1. In 2000, there were 79 reported shark attacks all over the world. Florida alone reported the highest number with 34 shark attacks, all of which were unprovoked.
2. For now Napster will stay in business, but only temporarily. This decision was given by the U.S. court of Appeals for the 9th Circuit Court. The case will return to court in three weeks.
3. Many loggerhead turtles in south Florida are falling ill because of a mysterious illness. Already an endangered animal, approximately 100 turtles have died. Scientists are baffled at what might possibly be the cause of the disease, and they are vigorously working on treatments to help the already affected turtles.
4. Former President Bill Clinton has given up on his plans to lease office space in Carnegie Towers, which would have cost taxpayers \$800,000 a year. He is looking at office space in Harlem after he received a lot of criticism over the high cost leasing space in midtown Manhattan would have totaled.
5. *Hanibal*, the sequel to the 1990 smash hit *The Silence of the Lambs*, opened this passed weekend to mixed reviews by both moviegoers and critics alike. *Hannibal* grossed an estimated \$58 million in its debut weekend.



# Court drops bomb on Napster

By BILLY O'KEEFE

TMS Campus

In what company officials are saying could be a fatal blow, the 9th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals has ordered music-swapping service Napster to discontinue facilitating the trade of copyrighted music.

The three-judge panel ruled that Napster must prevent its more than 53 million members from accessing and trading copyrighted music, and in its ruling said that the company may be liable for "vicarious copyright infringement."

"Napster, by its conduct, knowingly encourages and assists the infringement of plaintiffs' copyrights," read part of the 58-page ruling.

Additionally, the court ruled that District Court Judge Marilyn Patel would need a July injunction, in which she ordered the service to cease operation. The court ruled that the injunction should apply only to the file-trading portion of Napster's application and not to the chat or other services.

Members of the recording industry naturally approved of the decision.

"This is a clear victory," Hilary Rosen, president and CEO of the Recording Industry Association of America, said in a public statement. "The court of appeals found that the injunction is not only warranted, but required. And it ruled in our favor on every legal issue presented."

Users flooded Napster's servers this weekend in a last-ditch ef-



Photo courtesy of TMS Campus

Sean Fanning of Napster

fort to download music from the service.

No mention has yet been made about how the ruling will affect Napster's future plans, which include a partnership with German publishing conglomerate Bertelsmann, which owns BMG Music, and a pay-only service, which was scheduled to replace Napster's free service some time this summer.

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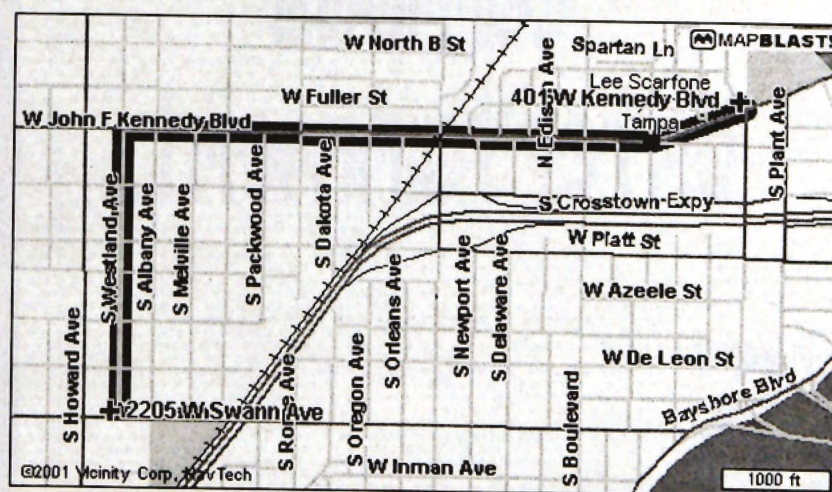
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# Bush's faith-based plan continues to stir debate

By WILLIAM E. GIBSON  
*Knight-Ridder*

President Bush's plunge into "faith-based" solutions to social problems has generated concerns for Americans who fear the government's power and purse could be used to "Christianize" the nation and break down the wall separating church and state.

At the same time, some see a place for religion in the councils of government. And a public survey indicates that most people think churches, synagogues and local civic groups are more effective than government agencies in solving community problems.

Bush embraced a diverse group of religious leaders last week while promoting his plan to harness faith-based groups to carry out social missions using billions of taxpayer dollars. This approach would add government money to the "thousand-points-of-light" strategy of his father, the elder George Bush, who looked to volunteers and charities rather than government bureaucracies to address community needs.

The younger Bush expanded on this strategy by saying local religious and civic groups have a proven record of effectiveness when working with drug addicts, the poor and homeless, so why not tap their skills, dedication and down-to-Earth links to the community.

The president's plan unleashed enthusiasm and also many questions. Will church groups seize this opportunity to proselytize? Will conservative Christians use public money to promote their agenda? Will some conservative do-gooders try to curb abortion rights, spurn non-believers or deny services to gays and lesbians?

The overriding question, which

will be debated extensively when Congress considers Bush's proposal, is whether faith-based initiatives would violate constitutional principles and lead to discrimination.

"President Bush has done more in his first two weeks in office to erode the separation of church and state than any president in memory. His program would lead to one thing only, and that is government-sponsored proselytizing," Rep. Robert Wexler, D-Boca Raton, said last week. "President Bush did not get a mandate to Christianize America," he said. "For a man who got no mandate, he seems to think the time is right for tearing down established principles in the U.S. Constitution."

Other Democrats took a more benign view of Bush's plan, including last year's vice presidential candidate, Sen. Joseph Lieberman.

"President Bush has issued a commendable call to conscience today, challenging our nation and our government to do better in harnessing the constructive force of religious and civic organizations to help us solve our most pressing societal problems," said Lieberman, D-Conn., who accompanied Bush at an unveiling ceremony for the faith-based initiative.

Lieberman, an Orthodox Jew who thinks that government action should be tempered with moral values, said he was "optimistic that we can strike the right balance of inclusion, and harness the best forces of faith in our public life without infringing on the First Amendment and without excluding those of different beliefs."

Bush also tried to reassure those concerned about separating church from state by saying the government will fund the social missions of these groups, not their religious mission. "But when people of

faith provide social services, we will not discriminate against them," said Bush, who gave up drinking and became a born-again Christian at age 40.

Public opinion surveys have shown a rising distrust of government, especially the federal government, since the Vietnam War and the Watergate scandal of the early 1970s. Support for big institutions of all kinds has faded since the 1930s and '40s, when the federal government helped millions survive the Great Depression, created lasting programs like Social Security and fought fascism in World War II.

"People used to believe in the federal government, and for whatever reason have ceased to do so in thinking of it as a way to address local problems," said Dwight Morris, president of the Campaign Study Group, a consulting group that conducts public surveys. His group asked 1,830 adults last October to name the main problem-solvers in their communities. Local police topped the list, followed by churches, synagogues and mosques and non-profit groups such as the Salvation Army. Local government came in fifth in the survey. The federal government was 14th on the list, followed only by labor unions.

"African-Americans were much more likely to place the federal government high on the list," he said. "Given the role the government played in protecting civil rights, that makes a lot of sense." Local activists, many of them organized in religious or civic groups, have taken up the mission of helping the poor, confronting drug addiction, housing the homeless and sustaining the needy. This trend has deep roots.

Religion has played a major role in government since the

nation's founding, reflected by George Washington's decision to place his hand on a Bible at the first presidential inauguration and add the words "so help me God" to his oath of office.

Church-based groups already dispense public money to provide social services. For example, the Ruth Rales Jewish Family Service of South Palm Beach County is a Medicare provider, arranging mental health care and home-care services for the elderly. Costs are reimbursed by the government.

However, religious groups are required to create separate organizations that neither promote religion nor discriminate when hiring or competing for grants. Such grants have mostly been confined to welfare, drug treatment and community-development services.

Bush's plan would dramatically expand the practice by opening up billions in public funds to religious groups and by providing tax breaks to encourage charitable giving. Under the proposal he sent to Congress, religious groups could compete for all federal grant programs.

While awaiting congressional action, Bush signed an executive order to clear away regulatory hurdles and many of the rules limiting the administration of grants by religious groups. He signed another order to create a White House Office of Faith-Based and Community Initiatives, as well as offices in five government departments to promote the new grant competition.

All this makes some Americans wary of how the plan would be implemented.

"Expansion of dollars to local communities should be encouraged. When services are developed and implemented on a local level, they can truly respond to local needs,"

said Jaclynn Faffer, executive director of the Ruth Rales Jewish Family Service. "But people like myself are cautious about whether to embrace the plan."

Many Jewish leaders say they also are on guard against religious discrimination.

"This has struck a raw nerve," said William Gralnick of Boca Raton, southeast Florida regional director of the American Jewish Committee. "Let's say services are delivered as designed, but in a building or suite of offices where non-secular things are hanging on the walls or literature abounds that is heavily religious," Gralnick said. "Then the atmosphere speaks to a use of the money that's not intended and not supposed to be permitted."

"I don't think the president even in his heart wants an official religion for the United States. The question is whether the administration understands that this action could create an environment which reinforces those people who think this is a Christian country and should be a Christian country."

He and others predicted that the president's plan will be challenged in Congress and in the courts.

Bush nevertheless pressed ahead last week, surrounding himself with religious and community leaders to make his case for faith-based solutions. At the annual National Prayer Breakfast, he said that without his strong faith, "I doubt I'd be here today." With faith, he said, "millions of Americans serve their neighbor because they love their God."

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# Color guards compete in Tampa

By JODY LINK

Staff Reporter

On February 3, the University of South Florida Sun Dome played host to over 20 Winter Guard International squads when the Suncoast regional competition took place there.

Winter Guard International (WGI) is proclaimed as "The Sports of the Arts" and has males and females involved in competitions combining elements of dance, marching, and traditional color guard equipment to create a performance both emotional and artistic.

Although most people associate color guard with high school students, almost every major college that has a football team will have a marching band. And more likely than not, there will be a color guard accompanying the band on the field and in the stands.

WGI exists in the United States, Canada, Belgium, Holland and seven other countries.

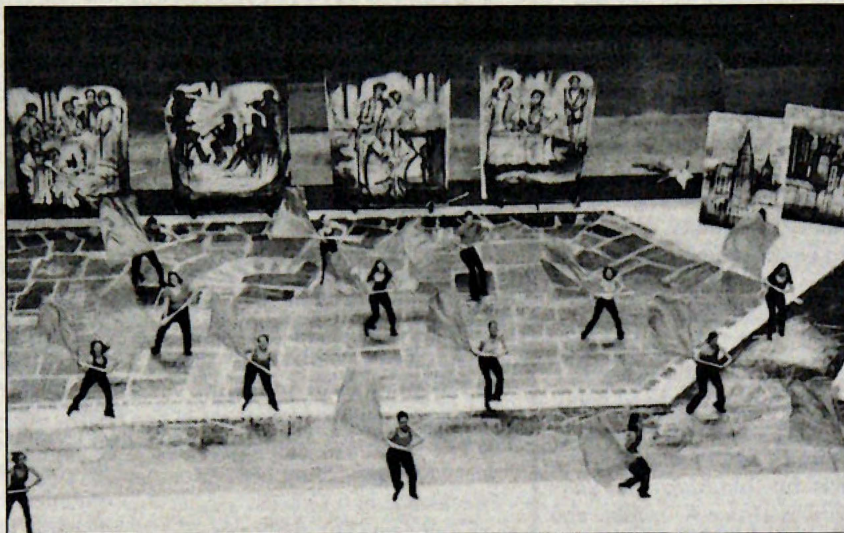
Universities such as Central Florida and Penn State have their own color guards in WGI and they compete across the country.

The guards are critiqued by a total of six judges in four different categories consisting of individual analysis, ensemble analysis, general effect and timing & penalty.

The individual analysis portion, worth a total of 40 points from two judges, is broken into two subcategories, with each judge scoring a separate set of skills. One of the two judges assigns a score based on body and movement, while the other assigns a score based on the use of equipment throughout the show.

The ensemble analysis is worth another 20 points and is judged by a single judge. This analysis is based on form, equipment use and projection of style.

The general effect portion is worth 40 points and consists of two judges, sitting above the contest floor, who base their score on the overall effect and appeal of each guard. Originality, discipline, and



Paradigm members perform during competition

Jody Link

the "wow-effect" are used, in part, to determine each guard's score.

The timing and penalty judge deducts points from the overall score for things such as flag code violations, timing, and boundary violations.

Depending on the guard's classification, it will have either eight, nine, or ten minutes to perform. Within this time, the guard must position their own floor mat, equipment and props. At the end of the performance, the guard must remove all the items used, and be off the floor within the allotted time. With all this to do, the actual performance may only be five minutes long or less.

The guards are divided into "Scholastic" and "Independent" classes. The former being directly affiliated with and taught at a particular high school. The independent class is reserved for guards not affiliated with a particular high school and has no restrictions on where the members come from. It also allows for a wider age range.

These are then split into three different classes. The "A" class is for the guards who are starting out, or who do not wish to compete in the tougher classes. The "Open" class has the more experienced

guards, and the expectation is for them to go above and beyond the level of an "A" class guard. For a guard to enter the "World" class, it must be highly skilled and advanced. It is the toughest of the classes, and it takes a tremendous amount of rehearsal time and skill to be able to compete in this class. These guards are judged very strictly and are considered by some to be the "best of the best."

Michael James, director of "The Knights of UCF," is in his third year at the University of Central Florida and graduated from the University of South Florida with a degree in dance. He has been involved with color guard since 1982, and marched in Drum Corps International.

The Knights practice only on the weekend because of scheduling conflicts throughout the week with the students. By the time their weekend is over, The Knights have usually practiced 25 hours or more rehearsing their routine that will take less than nine minutes to perform.

The music used for the performance is decided upon by the director, and can range from fast, techno dance mixes to slow, emotional ballads.

Paradigm, affiliated with Lake City Community College includes college students from Jacksonville, Gainesville, and Tampa.

Their show, "Birdland - Jazz Corner of the World," features music by Manhattan Transfer, Freddie Hubbard, and Maynard Ferguson.

Paradigm, like many independent guards, recruit students who graduate from local high schools, or are just interested in joining a guard.

Jill Decamp, a junior at Bloomingdale High School in Valrico, Fla., says she likes guard because, "it gives me confidence and keeps me in shape."

The competition started at 8:00 a.m., with inspection for the first guard at 7:32 a.m. The preliminary competition featured 42 color guards, and ran until 4:20 p.m. Each class of guards was narrowed down based on the scores. The finals began at 6:00 p.m. with the remaining guards performing again.

Hialeah High School placed first in the Scholastic "A" class with 77.50 points. In Scholastic Open, Stoneman Douglas high school placed first with 75.50 points. St. Augustine High School's "Coast One" placed first in the Scholastic World division with 71.50 points. Coast One's mean grade point average per students is 3.8.

In the Independent "A" class, Paradigm received first place honors with 73.70 points, while "The Alliance of Miami" took the top place in the Independent Open class with 76.60 points. The Independent World class featured another unit from "The Alliance of Miami" and they scored first place with 75.40 points.

The Suncoast regional is one of the first regional competitions of the year; thus the scores will be lower now, allowing for improvement throughout the season. Each guard is competing to make it to Milwaukee, Wis-

consin where the WGI World Championships will be held this year.

It will be the largest competition to date with over 400 color guards competing. Twelve years ago, WGI began distributing scholarships to members of affiliated guards. Now, they award over \$20,000 during the world championships.

For more information, visit their website at

[www.wgi.org](http://www.wgi.org)



Jody Link

A member of The Alliance of Miami shows her true excitement

## Tax breaks are available for students

By MARK SCHWANHAUSSER

Knight-Ridder

There's no cure for the ulcer brought on by college-tuition bills. But there is a broad menu of tax breaks for higher education, whether you're a parent with a kid on the path to college or one already chasing a diploma, a graduate whittling down student loans or an adult returning for an MBA.

The problem is, they sometimes overlap and negate one another. For instance, you generally must pick just one break per student among the Hope Credit, the Lifetime Credit or a withdrawal from an Education IRA. So, take care to craft the best deal in your case.

Here's an overview:

Hope vs. Lifetime:

The Hope Credit is worth up to

\$1,500 per student, the Lifetime Learning Credit up to \$1,000. But they use different formulas to get there. The Hope gives you a dollar-for-dollar refund on the first \$1,000 you spend on qualifying expenses and 50 cents per dollar on the next \$1,000. The Lifetime gives you a refund of only 20 cents on the dollar, but it covers the first \$5,000 you spend.

— Credit window: The Hope applies only to freshman and sophomore years; the Lifetime is available for an unlimited number of years.

One complication with the Hope is that a student who enters school in the fall will typically have qualifying expenses that can straddle three tax years, but you may claim it only twice. That forces you to either guess or amend in order to

maximize the credits.

In some cases it might be better to take the Lifetime credit the first year, the Hope credit the second and third years, then go back to the Lifetime credit, said Kathy Burlison, a manager of tax operations training for H&R Block Tax Services Inc. in Kansas City, Mo.

"Go back to those old tax returns," she said, "and ask, 'Was there anyone in my family who had educational expenses, and did I miss it?'"

— Qualifying expenses: Tuition and fees — but not room, board or books — at any college, university or trade school that's eligible for federal student aid.

— Who's eligible: Both credits apply to you, your spouse or dependents. But for the Hope, the student must be in a degree program at least

half-time. The Lifetime can apply to courses to improve or acquire job skills.

— Tip: If your income is too high to claim the Hope or Lifetime credits for a dependent, consider cutting him or her loose to file a separate return. The student must have paid last year's bills and have enough income to claim a full credit, however, because neither credit is refundable.

Education IRA:

It's more accurately a custodial account than an individual retirement account, but who's to say Uncle Sam can't be creative with marketing? You or other family members can contribute up to \$500 total each year for a specific student (or student in grooming) who is age 17 or under. There's no tax deduction for the contributions, but the

earnings grow tax-free.

Student loan interest deduction:

You can deduct up to \$2,000 of interest paid on qualifying education loans during the first 60 months you must make interest payments. It's an "above-the-line" write-off, meaning you don't have to itemize to claim it, and it reduces your adjusted gross income rather than being subtracted from it.

Early IRA withdrawals:

You can tap your traditional IRA early to pay certain higher-education bills for yourself, spouse, your children or grandchildren. You'll owe income tax on the withdrawals, but you can duck the penalty for withdrawing cash before you turn 59½.



# Getting to know...

The Minaret's weekly spotlight on noteworthy campus figures

By NICOLE STUMPF  
Staff Reporter

Dr. Arthur Hollist is an English professor who teaches Composition 102 here at UT. He is a thirteen-year veteran to our campus.

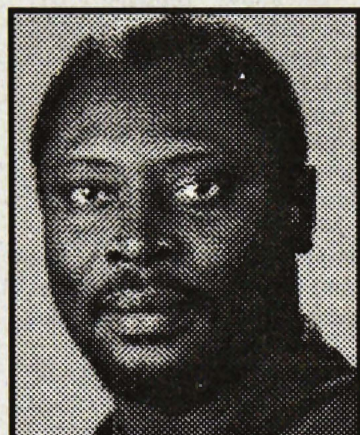
Originally from Sierra Leone, Professor Hollist moved to the United States in 1983 to begin work on his doctorate in English Literature at USF. Having been given a fellowship he began his teaching career at USF, where he remained till the completion of his PhD. Dr. Hollist continues to live in the Tampa area with his wife and two daughters.

Dr. Hollist was born and raised in Sierra Leone, a nation located on the northwest shore of Africa's Atlantic coast. This small country, which borders Guinea and Liberia, has been the host of civil unrest for most of the last decade. The conflict Dr. Hollist explains as "hard to pin down."

It has been a long complicated war that has devastated the small coastal nation. The most lucrative export of this region is diamonds. The Revolutionary United Front, a large anti-government organization, have sold the resource and used the profits to purchase weapons to

support their cause. Sierra Leone has a predominantly black population being made up largely by 12 tribal groups.

Dr. Hollist feels it is valuable to learn about other



cultures. With all his experiences and knowledge on African culture Dr. Hollist is submitting a curriculum proposal. This course would be considered a Women's Studies class, and its concentration would be African Woman Writer's. It would include a study abroad component. This would comprise a two-week tour of Ghana.

Dr. Hollist is particularly excited about this course and feels it would be fliffling for

any student to take. He reminds however, "programs and classes need the interest of not just the faculty, but of the student body if we wish to have these types of curriculum."

Another project that Professor Hollist is working on is a chronicle about relationships among different ethnic groups in the black community. This would be the relation between African, African-American, Caribbean, and other black cultures.

Some books that Dr. Hollist would recommend being February is Black History month are *Song Of Solomon* and *Beloved* by Toni Morrison, *Race Manors* by Bruce A. Jacobs, and *Losing the Race. Self-Sabotage in Black America* by Joha H. McWhorter.

*I enjoyed meeting with Dr. Hollist and think it is important to show interest in our campus. This would include applying and suggesting such study abroad opportunities like the one Dr. Hollist is trying to create. I relized by his few words the importance of not singling out someone as one in a particular crowd, but as all being part of a community.*

# When Gays Move Into Mr. Rogers' Neighborhood

By SUZETTE KRAJEWSKI  
Staff Reporter

"When did you first realize you were straight?" This was just one of the many mind-probing questions used by Joe Bertolino and Bil Leipold on Monday, February 5, at their presentation, "When the Gays Move into Mr. Roger's Neighborhood..."

With the objectives to educate about false and inaccurate beliefs, instruct about oppressive attitudes, and teach what it means to be an ally, Joe and Bil put on a hilarious and informative presentation. As a part of Greek Week, the event was well attended by both Greeks and non-Greeks.

Joe and Bil, while not focused on the subject, spoke about how it felt to be a gay Greek. Joe is a member of Delta Sigma Phi, and Bil on the board of Sigma Phi Epsilon.

They were very open in their speech, and receptive to any questions. Their abilities to share their "coming out" stories were, in some instances, sidesplitting and at others tear-jerking. Bill was frank with his pain at the way he was treated in college, and Joe humorously related his shock when his own mother tried to hook him up

with the "Gay Gap Boy."

The presentation also included an activity which proved to be thought inducing. Bil and Joe first asked the audience to name some of the words used to portray homosexuals, derogatory or not. Everything from the normal to the outlandish descriptions heard everyday were named. Next, Joe and Bil asked the audience to think of someone they knew who was gay, and give words to represent them. Hands shot up as words like, "best friend" and "genuine" were called out. Much to the surprise of everyone, Bil and Joe then combined these illustrative names, and came up with phrases such as "Athletic Ass-Assassin" and "True Leather Dyke Daddy". The point was well taken.

Joe and Bil also defined an ally - "anyone who believes everyone should be treated with dignity and respect" - and hoped the members of the audience would be allies in regards with all aspects and walks of life. All in all, though some may have walked away still containing ill feelings in their heart, most left with a smile on their face, free boxers in their hands, and opportunity to call themselves an ally.

# Shedding tears over The Bluest Eye



**The Bluest Eye**  
by Toni Morrison  
Alfred A. Knopf  
Hardcover  
\$12

By CHRISTA TINSLEY  
Staff Reporter

Nobel laureate Toni Morrison's first novel is written in prose but it reads like poetry, telling the painful story of Pecola Breedlove, an eleven-year-old black girl, through the

perspective of Pecola's peer Claudia MacTeer. Claudia tells the town stories town of Lorain, Ohio, transferring her own order and value to its people and events. Claudia's narration turns into myth as she recounts the past and foretells future of her town.

Pecola possesses a tragic desire for her own eyes to be blue - to have, in fact, the bluest eyes in the world. The entire Breedlove family believes that they are ugly, and this conviction is the root of all of their actions. Belief is the most important element to the outcomes of *The Bluest Eye*.

The community encourages the idea that only Shirley Temple look-alikes are pretty, constructing a painful inferiority complex in its black girls. It is Pecola's belief that she is ugly that compels her to go to a witch doctor of sorts and requests blue

eyes; eventually Pecola comes to believe that her eyes actually have turned blue. Is it a happy ending because Pecola is content in thinking she finally has her coveted blue eyes? Not at all. The tragedy that befalls her, despite her absent state of mind, surpasses any joy Pecola feels in her improved appearance that is known only to her and the reader.

Morrison said of her writing, "My language has to have holes and spaces so the reader can come into it. He or she can feel something visceral, see something striking. The we come together to make this book, to feel this experience." Without preying on the reader's feelings or invoking sentimentality, Morrison constructs a highly emotional novel. It takes courage to read this book.

# Questia: Crib notes for the computer literate

By CHRISTINA AGOSTO  
Staff Reporter

Questia is the newest addition to the dot com world.

The internet is a place where students can access entertainment and news. It has not, however, always been a reliable source for quality research. The founders of Questia.com are endeavoring to change this.

Troy Williams, CEO and founder of Questia Media, Inc. sought to make available on the web what traditionally could only be found in the library. With the help of librarians and professors, Williams has intergrated academic texts and research tools together.

With the click of the mouse, a student can access information on virtually any subject they desire. Questia boasts an online li-

brary of 50,000 titles covering 25 majors.

Users are able to search the service's entire collection for free, but a subscription fee is required to read the full-text of books and to use the set of research and writing tools. Students desiring this convenient approach to research will pay a price for it. A monthly subscription to Questia is \$19.95 and an annual subscription runs \$149.95.

With an average of eight papers a year, students may begin to look more towards the convenience of the internet and less towards their university libraries.

However, as long as Questia and other companies like it have the added competition of free versus paid services, the library doesn't have to worry about closing their doors just yet.

## Lost items

During a program at the end of last semester, a book titled *I Could Never Forgive* and other personal items including a notebook with life stories, personal comments, and pictures of children and grandchildren was lost. If you know of their existence, please return them to the security office.

## Criminology Internships are available

Anyone interested in Summer or Fall internships in criminology, should contact Dr. Philip Quinn in the Science Wing, room 200 or x3329 by February 23.

**Acapulco**  
**Cancun**  
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**Florida**

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# The Jae ZONE

Written by  
Leslie Jae Dennis

## Looking to keep chicken wings out of the theater

Well, here we are in Tampa, Florida in the spring of 2001. Wow, there's an opening line that really grabs you. The point is, for many UT students that line may sum up the entire excitement of things outside of school. Many of you are here for college studies and, realistically, the weather and beautiful idealism of living in a scenic locale for four years. There are plenty of activities on campus and, surely, by now you have worn out Ybor City, but, as unofficial tour guide and Florida girl I am here to show you there is more to Tampa than Ybor.

Throughout this semester, turn to my column in the Minaret for a partier's guide to this area and the whole of Florida in general. Fasten those seat belts it's going to be a bumpy ride! First stop on the tour will be alternative films.

If you think *Dracula 2000* and *Dude, Where's My Car?* are the best movies you've ever seen you might find my tour as exciting as cleaning your dad's toenails. If, however, you are seeking beautiful cinematography, original themes, foreign flicks, and rich metaphor then step right this way. I bring this up because being a college student is all about trying new things...legal things.

You have heard of Tampa Theatre. You may have even been to Tampa Theatre. To me, it is one of the greatest local treasures we have here. Just to get it out of my system, Tampa Theatre rocks!

The history alone is worth knowing (feel free to use this history lesson to impress your dates). Get a good seat by heading to the balcony level. Sitting under the dome ceiling as clouds drift slowly by while stars twinkle above gives you a feeling of being outside. Architect, who John Ebersson built the theater in 1926, created the feeling of a romantic courtyard. The design is usually described as "Florida Mediterranean."

When you go there, look around; especially check out the elaborate stage which includes touches of Baroque, Greek Revival, Italian Renaissance, Spanish, Mediterranean, and Byzantine. Miniature statues of Greek and Roman mythological figures (even one of Christopher Columbus) adorn the stage area made to look like a courtyard. In the walkway behind the seating area of the first floor is a remarkable 400-year-old apothecary chest (don't touch it or an usher will have your head...I touched it but was faster than the usher).

In its early days, Tampa Theatre showcased vaudeville shows, the Tampa Theatre Orchestra, and silent films. Today, Tampa Theatre features a variety of accredited film series from around the world. The theatre also hosts live concerts and special events.

Other cool facts about Tampa Theatre, ticket price for first movie: 25 cents, number of Seats: 1,446, number of stars in auditorium ceiling: 99, number of events annually: 550, number of Mighty Wurlitzer Theatre Organ pipes (played before each movie): nearly 1,000 Longest Employment Tenure: 45 years (Blondelle Gladney, box office 1926-71).

They have a great deal for students as well. The best bet is to buy a \$1 membership that is good for a year. With it, you get discounts on movie tickets (buy a strip of them for even bigger discounts), free refills on coffee, popcorn and coffee, a preview subscription, a Tampa Theatre T-shirt, weekly schedule updates via email, preferred seating for concerts (I have second row center for Dar Williams), and more.

Keep in mind that Tampa Theatre is within walking distance from campus (cross the bridge into downtown, straight up Kennedy a few blocks to Franklin St., left on Franklin a few blocks to Zack and you are there).

You just missed the Jewish Film Festival, but there are plenty of exciting things coming up. The movie *Before Night Falls* begins on Friday, February 15 and runs at least until the 22nd. This is a flick you should definitely go see.

Directed and screenplay written by Julian Schnabel, who has already made a name as an artist for his paintings. *Before Night Falls* stars Sean Penn, Johnny Depp (yeah we've heard of them), and Golden Globe for Best Actor winner for this movie, Javier Bardem, who plays the writer Reynaldo Arenas.

The true story comes from the memoirs of the brilliant Cuban author and exile Reinaldo Arenas. It spans his early life and his early embrace of the Revolution to the persecution he would later experience as a writer in Castro's Cuba, to his exile and death in the United States. It portrays a man who search for freedom - artistic, political - defied poverty, censorship, persecution, exile and death.

If you like old classics, Tampa Theatre hosts classic movies every Sunday at 3:00. Presently they are hosting the Winter Classic Movie Series. Other events include, the 1st annual Tambay Film and Video Festival—March 8-11, John Hiatt concert—March 15, Dar Williams concert—March 20

(tickets are cheaper at the theatre box office than at Ticketmaster), the Oscar Night America Party (watch the Oscars on the big screen)—March 25. One last item about Tampa Theatre, if you are of age, they serve beer and wine. Drink in moderation, however, if you plan on following a subtitled movie.

If you'd like to see cutting edge films in a more modern atmosphere (it could happen) hit up the new Channelside Regal cinema (straight down Zack in downtown, right on Channelside Drive).

As of January 12, they have opened nine screens that are all devoted to alternative films. The theaters are designed with those new, cushy, lean-back chairs and superior sound systems. You'll find a lot more than candy and popcorn at the snack bar for sure (for me, chicken wings at the movies smell nasty and that lapping, sucking sound belongs in a dog pound).

Be sure to catch *Crouching Tiger, Hidden Dragon* (a story of two women, both capable fighters, during the Ching Dynasty, whose two destinies will lead them to a violent showdown), *A Time for Drunken Horses* (the youngest boy of a destitute Iranian Kurdish family suffers from a terminal illness. In desperation to pay for an operation, the eldest sister agrees to marry an Iraqi man, willing to care for the brother. At the border exchange, however, the family of the Iraqi man rejects the sick boy and plan B begins), and *Amiee & Jaguar* (a heart-wrenching story of two women/ lovers, one Jewish, one Christian, in Hitler's Germany).

You can see a Channelside movie for just five bucks with your student I.D. Check the paper since these change about every week.

Coming March 2 to Channelside is the Imax Theater. If you haven't experienced Imax at the MOSI near USF, now you can get it right near home. The Imax is a special dome theater that encompasses you within the frame. In front, behind, and above, these incredibly scenic films can make you dizzy your first time.

The first two rotating movies will be, *Into the Deep 3D* (an underwater film that will leave you feeling happily wet), and *Fantasia 2000* (ask your dad about how he watched the original). By the way this theater is just a mile from Ybor if you have a date that likes frozen mudslides at Adobe Gilas (parents, pardon the second alcohol reference).

Finally, USF is holding a "Foreign Film Series" at 7pm Tuesday nights in their Centre Gallery. This is a bit of a drive but the movies are free. Call to see what is playing at (813) 974-5464.

Well, that ought to keep you entertained until next week. Stay tuned while I direct you to fun spots, secret creepy towns with haunted hotels, the awesome out-of-the-way beaches, the best place to spot dolphins in the wild, short-cuts to Key West, the best dates, the cheapest dates and all the other stuff only the locals know.

## Uncle Kracker proves he's not a Kid anymore

By STEVE CHAMPLIN

Staff Reporter

Uncle Kracker, the longtime friend and dj for Kid Rock, has stepped out onto his own with the release of his debut cd "Double Wide."

The cd starts with an opening track of Kid Rock sending Kracker off of the tour bus and out onto his own. And it fits the make up of the tracks very well. Looking at the liner

notes, one can see that all of the songs on this release were recorded on the tour bus in various cities throughout the US. Most were finished outside of the concert venue that Rock was performing at, but the track "Steaks 'N Shrimp" was recorded "drivin' down Highway 10 somewhere."

Despite what one might think about haphazard workmanship, the

cd is really quite good. Kid Rock (who produced the cd) is a guest on only one song "Heaven," where Hell is equated to Salt

Lake City for those who are from Detroit. Kracker gets into the typical dj battlin on the track "Who's your Uncle?" And puts the best work into the soulful track "Follow Me," which mixes several styles of mu-

sic in an expert fashion. And this is what was done throughout all of the cd. It's a good blend of spinning, southern rock, a bit of country and a healthy dose of blues thrown in for good measure. Whether it runs to your taste or not, there's got to be something on this cd which will get you tappin your foot or singing with the refrain.



## Keanu can act? In Sweet November, anything's possible

By STEVE CHAMPLIN

Staff Writer

*Sweet November* opens with a quick glimpse of the life of Nelson Moss. And that's a pretty good description of how he lives his life. For Nelson, everything is now, now, now. He lies a very rushed demanding life and the fact that he has little joy in it, or few

ways. And again Nelson gives her the brush off.

But then Nelson's loses control. In short order, he loses his job, his trophy girlfriend, and the company car. Now with all this time on his hands, Sara's offer doesn't look too bad after all. And as he starts to share the days of November with her, he does start to loosen up. He actually begins to see the little things in life which he had been missing when his life revolved around his ego and his work.

*Sweet November* isn't the first time we've seen Keanu Reeves and Charlize Theron working together. They shared screen time as husband and wife in *The Devil's Advocate*. But this time, the film is built entirely around these two actors. And they do very well together.

Reeves has been much criticized for his 'stoic' manner of acting, but in this film it works with the character of Nelson. He's a stiff guy with no time for anyone but himself. As this follows his turn in *The Gift*, people might actually think that he can act.

Theron is perfect as Sara. A woman who is vibrant and joyful, yet who also spends a great deal of the time lying to herself and hiding secrets about herself from those people who love her.

The movie goes for a bitter-sweet, tearjerker ending, but I can't say that I cried to it. I will say that it's a good date movie, and definitely worth the price of admission for the post-Valentine's Day weekend.



friends doesn't mean anything to him

That is, until he runs into Sara Deever. As demanding as Nelson is, he can't quite get out of having to go down and put up with the detestable people at the DMV when he has to renew his driver's license. Nelson and Sara sit next to each other and it's his fault that she gets caught for cheating and thrown out of the office. Nelson feels a little guilty about it, but even a little guilt takes too much of his time and he is quick to stuff her into the back of his mind and forget about her.

But being the very determined person she is, Sara forces her way back into his life and tells Nelson that he desperately need her help. Sara can easily see the kind of controlling, demanding person he is, and thinks that some time spent with her will cure him of his micromanaging





## Crossing by Sean Bloomfield

First Prize, Prose

Zane sucked in the last drag of his cigarette and sunk beneath the black, glassy surface of the Gulf Stream. His arms and legs were like useless weights, numb and gelatinous from treading water for so long. In his mind he was slipping into a warm bed, nestled up against the soft body of his girlfriend. Her sleep-breaths were like tropical wind in his ear.

Goodnight sweetheart, he thought to himself.

The seawater poured into his nostrils, filling his sinuses, steadily trickling into his lungs and gradually the dark abyss began to glow.

"You can't keep doing this shit," said Zane's husky, gray-bearded father, Skip. "Keep 'er on course, kid."

Zane quickly corrected the course by gently guiding the large mahogany wheel to starboard. He had been neglecting the compass and instead was steering toward a bright, flickering star on the eastern horizon. He had forgotten about the earth's rotation.

Skip guzzled the last of his warm Kalik beer and fell asleep again in the bridge chair. His head was cocked in an awkward position, his hands folded in his lap as if in deep prayer. He snored loudly.

Zane perched himself in the captain's chair and steered with his feet. He activated the huge bow-mounted spotlight, surveying the water in the boat's path. He clicked on the marine stereo and sang along with Bob Marley's 'No Woman, No Cry'. A feeling of perfect calm engulfed him as the warm sea breeze moved across his sunburned face and flowed through his salty, unkempt hair. Leaning back, he peered up at the expanse of stars in the moonless night.

If only she were here, he thought to himself. If only she were here we'd make out all night.

It had been nearly a year since Zane discovered Gretchen. She was waiting tables at a waterfront bar overlooking Palm Beach inlet. Her eyes were as blue and clear as a Bahamian tidal flat. Her shiny, tanned skin seemed to have been basted with spiced rum. She soon gave him a Goombay Smash without asking for ID, looked into his eyes and smiled. That was all it took. A drink and a smile and Zane was hooked.

Their first date was a late night fishing trip in a back-bay of the Indian River. Zane held her hand as they waded through the shallows. She was captivated by the water's ghostly glow when the phosphorescence was disturbed. Zane held Gretchen from behind and guided her first cast, his chin resting on her shoulder as together they reared back with the fishing pole and let the lure soar into the night.

Zane had never envisioned himself being locked into a rela-

tionship, but nothing made him more at peace than being with Gretchen not even the ocean. During long trips at sea, all he could think about was coming home to her waiting smile. He was even beginning to think about creating a family, and he often daydreamed about spending Christmas Eve on a boat with Gretchen and the kids, about how he would answer if his little clones were to ask if Santa would be able to deliver presents on the ocean.

Zane checked the compass once again and made a slight correction in his steering. Pulling out a plastic baggy from his wind-breaker pocket, he extracted a cigarette and lighter; he had long ago learned that keeping his smokes dry was a top priority while on the ocean. He lit one and peered out at the smooth Atlantic, marveling at how, with the lack of smog and manmade light, the stars were as bright on the horizon as they were directly overhead. Zane guessed that by now they were nearing the outer edge of the Gulf Stream, which meant they had come halfway to Grand Bahama Island.

Delivering boats was Zane's most coveted side job, except for when he had to do it with his father. Skip had taught Zane everything about life on the sea, but being a captain was about all the two had in common. So far, this trip had been just like all the others; after getting a call that an American expatriate had purchased a 50-foot trawler from Lauderdale and wanted it delivered to Port Lucaya, Skip was again forced to solicit his son's help. No other mates would work with Skip, the man whom the South Florida fishing community referred to as "The Drunkard". And so, like every other crossing, Skip stayed sloshed and lethargic while he let Zane do all the work, occasionally waking at odd times to ramble grouchily about proper seamanship.

"Turn off that goddamn racket!" Skip had just woken and was now glaring at his son with dreary, half-open eyes. "This isn't playtime, kid."

Zane turned off the radio and Marley's voice fizzled out, but an abnormal noise remained. Zane and Skip turned toward the stern of the boat. One of the engines was sputtering and clanking. Skip smacked his son on the back of the head.

"See, kid," he said angrily.

"See what happens when you flick around."

Zane touched his scalp where he had been hit. "I was only."

"Get back there and check it out," Skip blurted.

Zane sighed and started for the stern, climbing down a metal ladder. With only a knee-high rail separating him from the ocean, Zane walked cautiously along the narrow gangway that led to the stern. The clanking and sputtering grew louder as he neared the engine hatch. He could see little puffs of black smoke coming from the exhaust. Lifting the hatch, the clamorous sound of the engine seemed to rattle his teeth. Coughing against billows of smoke, he peered into the dark engine compartment. He could see no broken belts or leaky pipes or cracks in the hoses. But then he noticed the large pool of shimmering, syrupy liquid that swirled about in the bilge.

"Shit!" he cried. "No oil!"

Zane let go of the hatch and let it slam shut. "Dad! Shut her off!" Unable to see the captain's bridge from the stern, Zane bolted toward the ladder, racing along the slender gangway. Scraping his arm on a metal cleat, Zane lost balance and began to falter toward the sea. He quickly grabbed a rail handle but it broke loose in his hand; screaming helplessly, Zane tumbled into the ocean.

On the bridge, in the captain's chair, Skip was locked in solid sleep.

Zane emerged and took a gasping breath. He frantically tried to grab onto the large trawler as it went by, but his arm was badly cut by barnacles. "Stop the boat!" he screamed. "Dad!" But the loud droll of the engines resonating through the steel hull drowned out his voice.

Zane screamed and waved his arms in the frothy wake of the trawler. He expected the boat to make a sudden turn at any moment, coming back to pick him up. When they got to the islands, Zane imagined, he and his father would laugh about the whole incident at a beach bar, finally realizing how much in common they really had, burying their tumultuous past over an icy bucket of Bahamian beer. But the trawler kept going and soon became only a series of dim lights on the horizon.

Oh, God, he thought. Don't let this be the way.

Zane turned away from the trawler lights and faced west. Out of sight and fifty miles away lay the coast of Florida, with his friends and his pick-up truck and most importantly his Gretchen. What was she doing now? He wondered. Probably sleeping in her large, warm bed. Dreaming of me, perhaps.

He kicked off his sneakers and let them sink, and his feet became less heavy. He shivered against the chill of the water, coupled with fear and adrenaline; his body sent little ripples across the otherwise smooth surface. Sharp pains shot through his entire body, and a faint buzzing began to ring in his ears. It was only then that he realized he was still

tightly clenching the rail handle that had broken off. He threw it hard toward the distant trawler and began to cry.

Five thousand feet, he thought to himself. How insignificant my body is with five thousand feet of water beneath it.

Zane realized that if his father did not discover his absence soon, there was virtually no possibility of him ever being rescued. He was afloat somewhere in the Gulf Stream, a swift-moving current that had been known to carry broken-down boats from the coast of Florida to somewhere off the Carolinas in less than two days. Furthermore, treading water for an extended period of time without the aid of a life jacket was impossible even for an experienced swimmer like Zane.

As he shivered again, something rose to the surface and bumped against his side. Zane jolted with fear, but as he looked, a slight smile came onto his face. He picked up the baggy and shook it off. Inside were his dry cigarettes, three of them, and a lighter. He cautiously opened the baggy and placed a cigarette in his mouth, lit it and inhaled deeply. The smoke swirled around his body like a fine mist before dispersing into the still air. With trembling hands he began to slide the lighter back into the baggy, but it slipped away and plunked into the water. Zane tried to grab for it with his free hand but it had already sunk.

Not the lighter, he thought to himself. Not the damn lighter.

He sealed the baggy tightly and stuffed it back into his pocket. Lacking a lighter, he would have to chain-smoke. With the lit cigarette dangling from the corner of his mouth, Zane extended his arms and floated on his back, staring up at the cosmos. His ears submerged, he began to hear strange, eerie sounds. There were little chirps and shrieks, odd clicks and moans, and finally something that sounded like a gurgling roar; Zane rose his head abruptly and began treading water again.

They were just the sounds of fish and crustaceans probably miles away, he knew, but they were nonetheless unnerving. He would rather keep his mind off the fact that he was floating in waters that contained such abundant life, with an especially large population of sharks. On other crossings he'd seen tigers and makos that were notorious for having rows upon rows of vicious teeth. There were also good numbers of bull sharks, which could detect even the slightest traces of blood from distant sources, and Zane's arm was badly cut from the barnacles.

With a trembling hand, he lit the second cigarette with the one that was nearly gone. He flicked the spent one away and watched it tumble end over end like a space shuttle booster falling back to earth. Taking a drag, he thought of the time he and Gretchen watched the shuttle launch while eating blue crabs on the deck of Schoolie's Crabhouse in Port Canaveral. The first time he had taken Gretchen for crabs, he realized she was the girl of his dreams. He recalled the graceful way she held the mallet, tapping the crab shell rather forcefully until it would split perfectly down the middle. And then, as if an expert, she would slowly break open the crab shell

with both hands and extract the strands of white, succulent meat with the tips of her teeth. She was smiling all the while until the shuffle was launched and all the windows began to rattle.

Zane's eyes caught movement and he looked up. For an instant, he saw a squadron of white rescue planes soaring high above, but then he realized they were only terns. They circled and glided through the air, heading west back toward the Florida coast. Zane recalled how on a long-ago fishing trip with his father, a similar tern had gotten snagged by one of the trolling lines. Reeling it up, Skip covered the frightened bird with a tattered rag and snapped its neck. Seconds later, the hook just fell out of its wing.

Zane pulled his last cigarette from the baggy and lit it with the remains of the previous one. Instead of littering, he put the empty baggy back into his pocket. He smoked this cigarette slowly, meditating on each steady drag and watching the exhaled smoke float languidly in the air.

"My last choke," he said to himself. It was at this moment that he realized he could no longer hear; the buzzing in his ears had escalated, replacing the sounds of water. The coldness seemed to be seeping into his bones, making them tight and achy. His body was slowing down, his arms and legs beginning to cramp. He found it difficult to muster any strength at all.

There were two, perhaps three drags left on the cigarette. He thought about how nice it had been to sleep with Gretchen, and how he would often wake to catch her staring at him. She would smile and kiss his lips, then fall back against the pillows and stare at the ceiling. He recalled how at age seven, his father came to his school for show-and-tell and presented the class with his collection of shark jaws; throughout that year the other children admired Zane for having such a cool "pirate-dad".

Zane looked up at the starry sky, then inhaled the last drag of his cigarette. Closing his eyes, he could see Gretchen sleeping so serenely, the covers wrapped loosely around her naked body. He slipped quietly into bed, trying desperately not to wake her. As he lay down, the darkness was taken away by a strange glow which was like a swash of phosphorescence. He felt Gretchen's hands fumbling across his body in the blinding light. And soon he could feel her arms wrapped around him, holding on so tightly that it hurt.

But suddenly he was dragged out of Gretchen's bed and in every part of his body there was pain and someone was pushing fervently on his chest. He could feel the cold, metal hull of the trawler against his back. Coughing up a burning mouthful of seawater, Zane glanced up at his drenched, terrified father.

"Aw, Zane," Skip whispered. "I'm so sorry, kid." And his words became murmuring sobs as he embraced his only son.

The beam of the trawler's spotlight still shone into the sea, setting the placid Gulf Stream waters aglow.



# and the winner is...

First Prize, Poetry

## walk her down the aisle

by

Stephania Loumpos

aisle 9 is

the place where I find  
the tuffy beans and arugala,  
okra and frozen yucca.

aisle 9 is where people drop the things that they  
pick up throughout the store—  
the reject aisle.

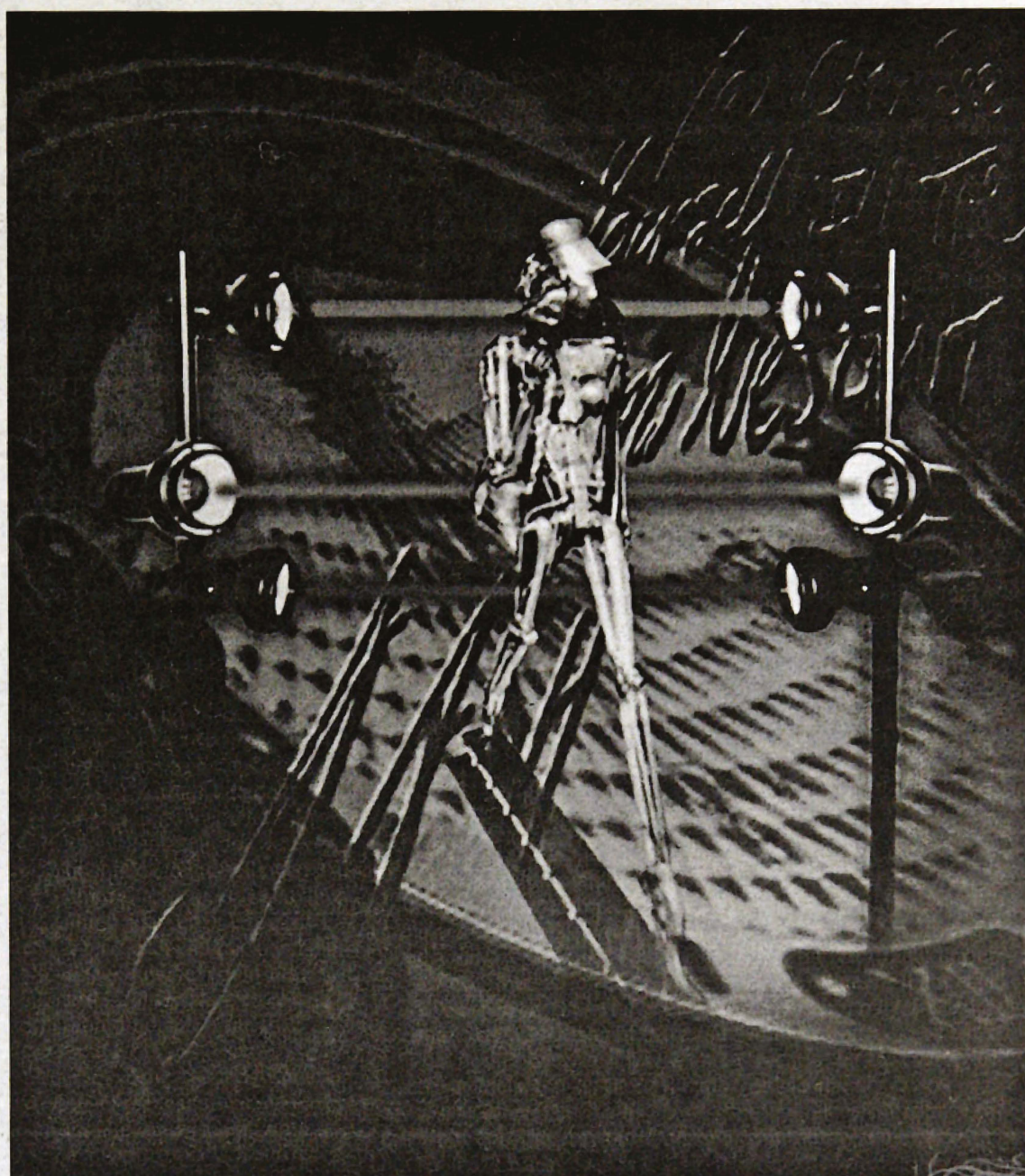
where across the floor are strewn  
some  
good for your kidney beans.  
grocers are a funny lot,  
you know how obsessive  
they get about how the mandarin or-  
anges and tangerines have  
to be separate but equal.  
rotten meat and cottage cheese  
are the nightmare of super-  
supermarket owners.  
but that's what I find  
in aisle 9.

where grape juice bottles are broken  
and poor boxes of raisins  
lie mutilated on the shelf.  
and you young couples make love  
astride 30 lb. bags of rice.  
you get adzukis in your pants and  
tofu in your hair,  
walk her down the aisle.  
the other girls are disgusted  
by the scent of curdling milk,  
but she likes to fall in with the rejects  
of aisle 9.

she doesn't mind brushing loose  
jellybeans to the linoleum  
from the metal shelf behind you  
as she wraps an arm around  
to bring you close.  
she relishes the soupy fudge ripple  
she may slick her hand in  
distractedly in some moment.

and she pays no attention to  
the old men swimming in the breads—  
rye, wheat, sourdough, any kind you'd  
like.

she is waiting for the store to close,  
wishing it never would, so  
she wouldn't have to return home  
to her normal life  
with a gallon of milk.



## Catwalk by Paul Trusik

First Prize, Visual Arts

Among those who also received recognition for their work:

in prose,

*Secret Boy* by Leslie Jae Dennis, Second Prize

*The Olds* by Michael Fisher, Third Prize

in poetry,

*Thanks, Jerron* by Renj Reichart, Second Prize

*July4th, 1989--somewhere in Texas* by Ramona Bethke

in the visual arts,

*House in Morocco* by Billy Reis, Second Prize

*Le desert du sahara* by Nicole Victory, Third Prize

Contestants achieving first distinction in each of the three categories were awarded with \$150 each in cash prizes. Second prize recipients were granted \$75 individually, while those participants of third place merit received \$50.

Congratulations to all those who submitted their work and special thanks to all those who helped make this year's festivities a rousing success.



# Our knees are starting to bruise

EDITORIAL

Here it is. A futile editorial on the necessity of reinstating a philosophy major at the University of Tampa. Certainly it's naïve to assume that such imploring will have any effect on the voluntarily deaf ears of our administration. All this has been done before. The student testimony proclaiming disappointment at the failure to offer a philosophy degree; facts and figures denoting that both the reputation and the scholastic integrity of our institution are compromised without this essential field of study; concerned faculty voicing as much distress as possible without stepping across a line which would earn a rebuke from university policy makers and salary providers.

All this has been done before. So often, in fact, that one staff member, when approach for comment on the issue, suggested filling out those ever so quaint comment cards located in Plant Hall Lobby rather than running a story on this pertinent and too long ignored issue.

Dr. Tom Cook, head of the philosophy department at Rollins College, when asked to comment on the virtues of a university philosophy program, quizzically replied, "Do you guys still have a liberal arts program over there?" Dr. Cook was very eager to provide us with insightful and thought-provoking information. However, the same cannot be said for the majority of our own faculty who were asked to speak upon the issue. While some agreed to express their opinions with us on the record, and to them we are greatly indebted, there were many more whose responses proved evasive, if they were even willing to respond at all.

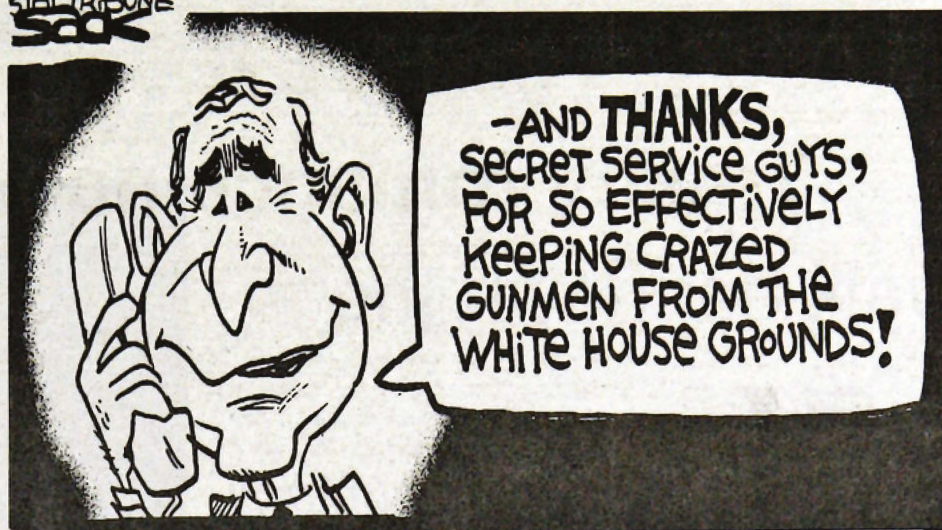
We can only conjecture as to the cause of this reticence by the faculty to cooperate with the student population's primary news source. It may certainly be that *The Minaret*, however, hard as we've tried, has not managed to distinguish itself for outstanding journalism. We do not hesitate to recognize and admit our various flaws as a publication. Perhaps the faculty is hip to the notion that such investigative journalism will fail to provide tangible results. Will the administration read it? Yes. Will the administration get upset? It depends on what is said about them. Will the administration take our attempts for the constructive criticism and damn near begging that they are? No.

Yet, what concerns us is that our teachers are complacent. We fear they are of the mindset that, with tenure achieved and house payments being regularly met, the less rocking the boat the better for all concerned. We dread that our faculty may succumb to the administrative politics so commonly practiced throughout the nation's college campuses, neglecting to see that their students are going intellectually malnourished.

Policies such as sabbatical are important. They undeniably affect the quality of our classroom experience. Yet, as we support your demands for increased fairness with regard to issues such as salary, benefits and hiring, we beckon you, our teachers, to voice our concerns to those who need to hear them, those who refuse to meet and speak with us. It is not enough for you to side with us, for we are only students, the peons of the university hierarchy.

Without a viable philosophy curriculum, we can not realistically call ourselves a liberal arts university. As money continues to flow into the construction of new residence halls and much attention is paid to resolving the problematic situation of faculty parking, we are forced to retreat to the second floor of the campus library, where antiquated and often untranslated volumes of Heidegger and Sartre sit dusty. If you need to speak to us, that's where will be. The philosophy shelf is to the left and all the way back.

STACRIBUNE  
Sack



## Mysterious signs could be omens

COLUMN

Like many, I am superstitious. Some would even go as far to say very.



By  
SARAH  
MORGAN

Umbrellas must never be opened indoors. If salt spills, you better believe I already tossed some over my left shoulder before the last granule hit the table. Always start upstairs on the left foot. Fingernail polish must never match toenails, and the like.

Along with regular superstitions, I also pay close attention to astrology and other arcane signs. The moon and stars play significant roles in the shape of your personality as well as your future. Other little signs may be as simple as your watch stopping, but did you notice the time?

Chances are, something happened during that time, besides your wristwatch dying.

Speaking of watches and time, the other day three out of the four clocks in my room suddenly stopped, or had a wrong time on them. My computer—that feels the need to piss me off on a daily basis—was running 17 minutes fast, so before I hopped in the shower I reset it. When I got out and looked at it again, it was telling me I was going to be 17 minutes late for class. The watch that never leaves my wrist except for showers, stopped at 3:18—a.m. or p.m., I will never know—not that it matters. My wonderful Budweiser clock that my grandfather gave me stopped at 2:54.

The only physical sign of time that was working was my alarm clock.

For the past two and a half weeks, I have awakened many times during the night and early day to make sure I had not slept past the alarm—or if I had even set it at all. Of course it had been set, and I had not slept in, but the sense of time lost seemed to keep me up.

I took these clock coincidences as a sign. Now, what kind of sign it was, I'm still not sure. All I know is that some other force was telling me something. I took it as a message to slow down, that once I wake up and face the day, time should not be of the essence, to take it slow—or at least as much as one can in college—and sure enough, after a few days of taking it easy. If I keep going like this, I'm going to crash and burn.

**I** took these clock coincidences as a sign. Now, what kind of sign it was, I'm still not sure. All I know is that some other force was telling me something.

So I took this message for what I thought it was. I slowed down, and sure enough, all the clocks with the exception of the watch that had to get a new battery,

restored themselves. The Bud clock caught up with itself and I guess my evil computer's Microsoft-mind figured out what was wrong, and righted itself without human assistance.

I take these signs seriously, because whatever force causes them is usually right. The past two weeks have been a killer, and not the good kind of killer either. Tests, papers and general stress plagued me and chances are I very well could have crashed and had even more problems.

Some people think I'm weird for believing in and following these "signs." I'll do it till the day I die, because superstitious little me dares not go against some force greater than I.



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# LETTERS FROM OXFORD

## Trashy romance novels as mental vacations

COLUMN

I am a student of English Literature, sent to Oxford to delve into the theatrical worlds of William Shakespeare and modern British dramatists. So if I'm holed up in my room late at night with my nose buried in a book, what am I studying? Shakespeare's tragic heroes? The importance of Harold Pinter's silences? Of course not. I'm more likely lost in the world of a trashy romance novel.

It's an addiction. No joke. I went for two weeks without reading one and went through mild withdrawal. It's not that I missed the intellectual stimulation, because there is none. I know the plot even before I open the book: a couple meets and is instantly attracted to each other. It might at

first be lust combined with an antipathy that quickly finds release into the first physical contact, and by the time they finally have sex they have fallen in love with each other but won't admit it. They then undergo some kind of crisis moment because they are scared to be in love, which is followed by a brief separation before the person in doubt wises up and finally asks the other back. If this person who instigated the doubt is the male partner, he produces a ring and they live happily ever after. If it's the type of romance novel with a Fabio-esque muscle man flexing his all on the cover, they might literally ride into the perfect sunset, but I have never bought the type with such a cover. Even I have standards with my smut.

Why do I keep reading these books? For

the ideal romance? Perhaps. More importantly, when I'm reading such books, I'm not required to think. If I already know the plot, the character types and the ending, what else does my mind need to do than process the words? For guys, it's the same thing as reading adventure novels such as those by Tom Clancy or John Grishman: they're all the same story with slightly different plots and situations. I also enjoy reading these adventure books from time to time, but I don't always like surrounding myself with war and murder all the time.

To me, romance novels are brain candy. Some people might unwind by zonking out in front of the television, but instead I lose myself in the ridiculous worlds of idealized smut.

Reality is barely a factor, so it's much more pleasant than watching the news, and they're more interesting than the so-called "reality TV" drivel that's currently taken over the networks.

I know that love in the real world isn't the same as love in romance novels. I'm above that, but I'd like to believe that it always works out for the best and that, in the course of, say, three weeks, I could be happily engaged to who was put on this earth simply to make me happy, but that doesn't really happen.

Still, I hold no malicious feelings towards these characters because they are just that: characters. If these were actual people who so easily found love, then I would never choose to read about them because it would remind me how unlucky the rest of the 99 percent of us are. That's the beauty of disbelief. I don't feel jealousy, only the slim chance that someday it might happen to me, which is why as soon as I'm done with the current brain candy in my backpack, I'll go and pick up another one, and another one and another one.



By  
JEN  
MILLER

## The West Nile virus has entered the U.S.

FACULTY FORUM

The West Nile Virus (WNV), first identified in Uganda in 1937, has now entered the U.S. Previously common only in America, the Middle East, West Asia and Mediterranean Europe, the virus was discovered in the New York City area in 1995.

The Center for Disease Control (CDC) in Atlanta has confirmed the link between the West Nile-like virus found in birds in NYC and the ongoing human encephalitis outbreak in that area. The virus was found not only in tissue samples from humans who died from encephalitis in NYC, but also from a number of dead birds as well.

At least 60 species of birds and 12 species of mammals have been found to harbor the virus, including crows, ring-billed gulls, rock doves, sand cranes, blue jays, bald eagles, laughing gulls, the American robin, Belted Kingfisher, Red-tailed, Cooper's and Broad-winged hawks, as well as rodents and horses. Crows appear to be highly sensitive to the virus. In the New York area, the crow population declined between 60-90 percent within a few months.

The variety of birds found harbor-

ing the virus is disturbing because many of these species migrate from the Northeast to other regions of North America, including the Southeast. Presently, the virus has spread to 11 states along the East Coast (from Maine to North Carolina) and is expected to reach California within five years.

Various public health programs have placed "sentinel chickens" all over the East Coast and Gulf Coast states, and along more than 3500 miles of the Canadian Border, as an "early warning system" to detect and monitor the potential spread of the virus. In addition, many local municipalities have been spraying pesticides to reduce mosquito populations. The U.S. Dept. of Agriculture has also increased wildlife surveillance for the detection of WNV throughout the northeast and southeast.

The WNV is an arbovirus, closely related to the St. Louis encephalitis virus, and is transmitted to humans from the bite of several common species of *Culex* and *Aedes* mosquitoes that pick up the virus after feeding on infected birds. There is no evidence that this virus is transmitted from person to person or from birds to persons.

There is growing evidence that the common house sparrow and blue jay, which can tolerate the virus, are the major "resevoirs" for WNV on the East Coast at the present time. Blue jays sampled from New York and Connecticut, showing no signs of illness, contained over a million

viral particles per milliliter of blood. The virus will kill crows at much lower concentrations. There is currently no reliable vaccine against WNV encephalitis.

Although many people who are infected exhibit only mild symptoms, or none at all, others with decreased immunity such as the elderly or those suffering from other infections, can become quite ill. Recorded epidemics in the 1950s through 1980s—in Romania, Israel and South

America—resulted in mortality rates ranging from three to 15 percent in individuals ranging from six to 80 years of age. Seven people from New York City have died since 1999, and over 62 have been treated for the disease.

Symptoms include fever, headache, body aches, skin rashes, swollen lymph glands, neck stiffness, disorientation and inflammation of brain tissues. More severe cases can also lead to tremors, convulsions, paralysis, coma and death. Some patients exhibit lingering neurological damage characterized by muscular weakness and memory loss. There is no evidence to date that a woman's pregnancy is at risk due to any infection by the WNV. If you should experience any of these symptoms, seek medical attention as soon as possible.

You can take several steps to minimize the chances of becoming infected:

\*When hiking, wear pants and long sleeve shirts, and spray your clothing with insect repellent. Use a brand that contains 5 - 10 percent of DEET (N-diethyl-methyl-meta-toluamide) for children, and 20 - 30 percent for adults.

\*Remove all sources of standing water (where mosquitoes breed), including old tires and ceramic pots, from your property.  
\*Make sure that your windows and doors have tight-fitting screens, and clean and chlorinate swimming pools, hot tubs and outdoor saunas.

\*Cover (or turn over) any plastic wading pools when not in use.

\*Clean your roof gutters regularly, change the water in any bird baths at least once per week and drill holes in the bottom of recycling containers left outdoors.

It is only a matter of time before the WNV is discovered in Florida (if it is not here already). If you should see any dead birds (especially crows), please notify health officials immediately by calling the county health department or via the internet ([wld.fwc.state.fl.us/bird](http://wld.fwc.state.fl.us/bird)). For more information, study the U.S. Geological Service (USGS) fact sheet on WNV ([www.usgs.gov/wnvfactsheet.html](http://www.usgs.gov/wnvfactsheet.html)).

Fred Punzo is a Dana Professor of biology.



By  
DR. FRED  
PUNZO



# Valentine's Day reminds us to show our love

COLUMN

Now that Valentine's Day has come and gone, I'm wondering why we even have such a holiday. Every February, across the country, candy, flowers and gifts are exchanged between loved ones, all in the name of St. Valentine. But who is this mysterious saint and what is this holiday meant to celebrate?



By  
**LISA  
CHOJNACKI**

The history of Valentine's Day — and its patron saint — is shrouded in mystery. St. Valentine's Day, as we know it today, contains vestiges of both Christian and ancient Roman tradition. Like most holidays, it has some connection to religion—namely, the Catholic Church—as do Christmas, Easter, Halloween and St. Patrick's Day.

John, the beloved disciple, explained that God is love. Commercialism, America's beloved discipline, tells us love means money. Wherever I went this past week there were boxes of candy, stuffed animals and cards telling us: "If you really love her, you will visit the Gold and Diamond Source and buy her that tennis bracelet she's always wanted."

Looking back on Valentine's Days past, I remember high school and how I arrived at school at 6:30 in the morning to decorate my boyfriend's locker with red and white construction paper, homemade fudge and a big teddy bear that said "I love you" on it. I'll never forget the moment he'd open it, with all of our friends around, and reached over and gave me a big hug and kiss.

That's all I really wanted for Valentine's Day, just to know that I was loved. I think that's what most of us want—just to be recognized as people, to know that we are appreciated and thought of. One of our most basic needs as humans is the need for safety and belonging and feeling our existence matters, at least to someone. Hundreds of dollars in Valentine's Day gifts will never meet those needs. But here's what will: giving someone a hug, telling them how much it means that they are in your life, showing them that you think enough of their friendship to make time for them.

A classmate who I've long considered one of my better friends always talks about how he would like to "get together" for

lunch or dinner. He has good intentions, but those plans never seem to materialize. Sometimes, we even set a date to get together, but inevitably something always "comes up" and he has to cancel. I understand, because sometimes things do happen at the last minute—it's happened to everyone—but if we consider our friends expendable, if we think they're easy to blow off because they're our friends and will understand, we may lose them some day.

Some of us have bought into a terrible lie: "It's all right to ignore the people we're supposed to care about; everything will be fine if you just give them what they really want—money."

Some learned it at home, from parents who would much rather write a check than spend time doing things with us, or listening to us. As teenagers, we rebelled against them, and perhaps it was necessary, but as adults many of us would like to have an equal relationship with our parents. Maybe Thomas Wolfe was right, you can never go home again, but I think that we get a second chance with our friends and co-workers. We get another chance to build the type of friendships that

are both nurturing and fulfilling.

Another good friend of mine, for whom I have enormous respect and admiration, has always done everything to make me feel valued and cared for. He sits and talks with me; he laughs at my jokes, even when they're not funny, and when we say, "Let's have lunch," it really does happen. He's the type of man who does something nice even when it's for nothing in return except to see you smile. I wish that everyone were that way.

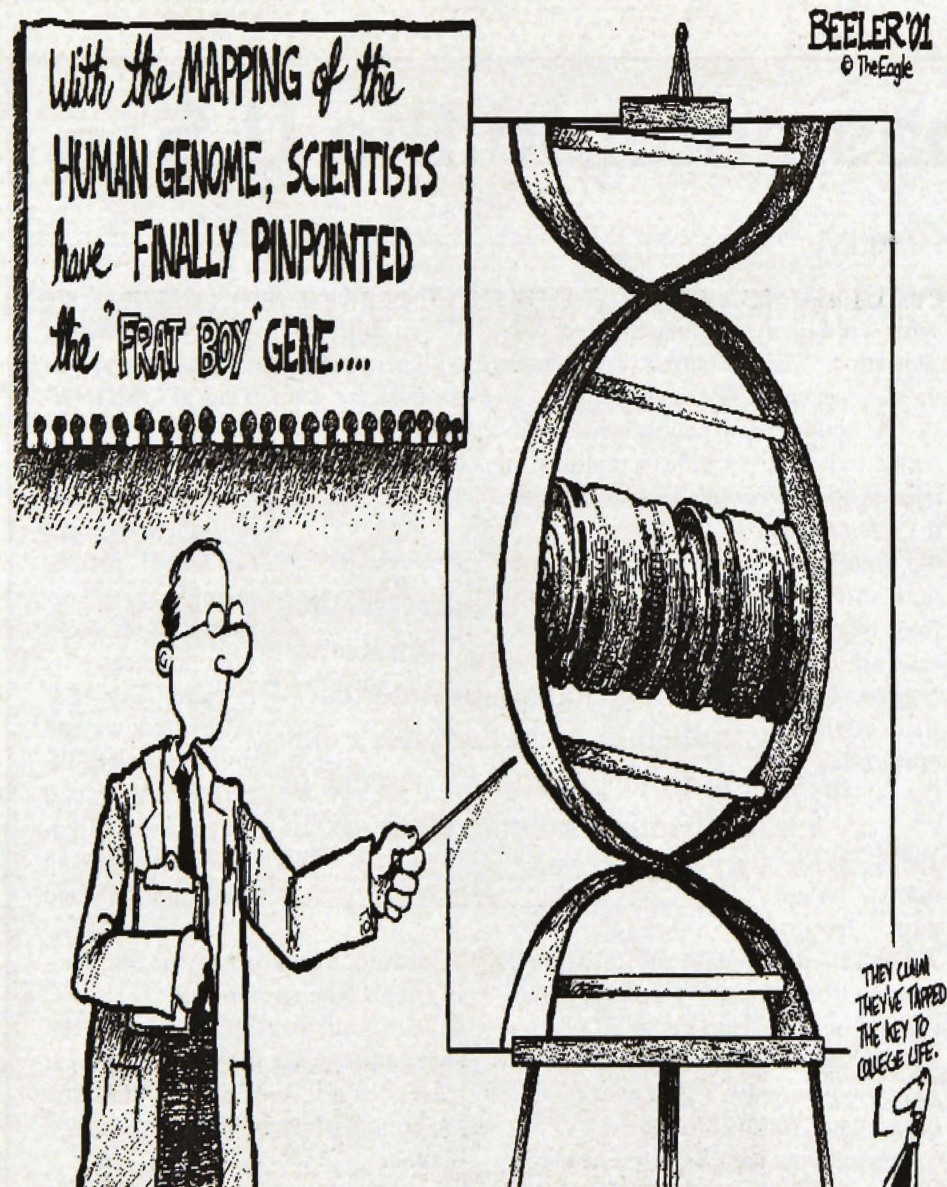
It would be so inspiring if everyone made time for one another. We should all want to be the best friend we can—not showing our love for one another just with gifts, but actually taking the time to share lunch together or take a walk together.

The best gift that we can give one another is a sense of belonging, a sense of companionship, that we're not alone in this world. Sometimes I wonder, though, maybe it's just easier to give someone a box of candy or write them a check rather than take the time to talk with them and really listen to them.

When does a loving gesture, like giving someone a gift, become prosaic and trite? It becomes that way when we don't put the effort into the relationship to back up the candy and flowers.

When the candy is eaten and the flowers die, and we look around for the friend or lover who gave them to us, can we find them?

## Commercialism, America's beloved discipline, tells us love means big bucks.



## Want to write for us?

Meetings are Mondays  
at 5p.m. in the Student  
Government Office.

Call x3462 for more  
information.

### Letters...

*Letters-to-the-editor must be typed and double spaced.*

*Please submit letters to The Minaret office (Student Union, room 4), by e-mail to "e\_minaret@hotmail.com" or to UT Box 2757 by 5 p.m. Friday to appear in the next Friday's issue.*

*Letters must be signed and include an address and telephone number where the writer may be contacted regarding editing. If you do not leave this information, your letter will not be printed.*

*Editors must check letters for libel and space considerations. Names can be withheld at the writer's request.*

### An Invitation to the Faculty

The Minaret believes that a campus newspaper should provide a central forum for reasoned discourse. Toward that end, we invite you, even urge you, to send us articles of 500-1000 words in which you feel free to offer your thoughts on any issue you feel would be of interest to the university community, whether a campus issue, a local one, or one of national or international concern. Our newspaper will be only as good as the copy it receives, and we ask that you help us produce a Minaret of which the university will be proud.

Sarah Morgan  
Commentary Editor



# Spartans bedazzle Bobcats in weekend stint

Continued from page 16.

Cruz and Maybin home to take a 3-1 lead.

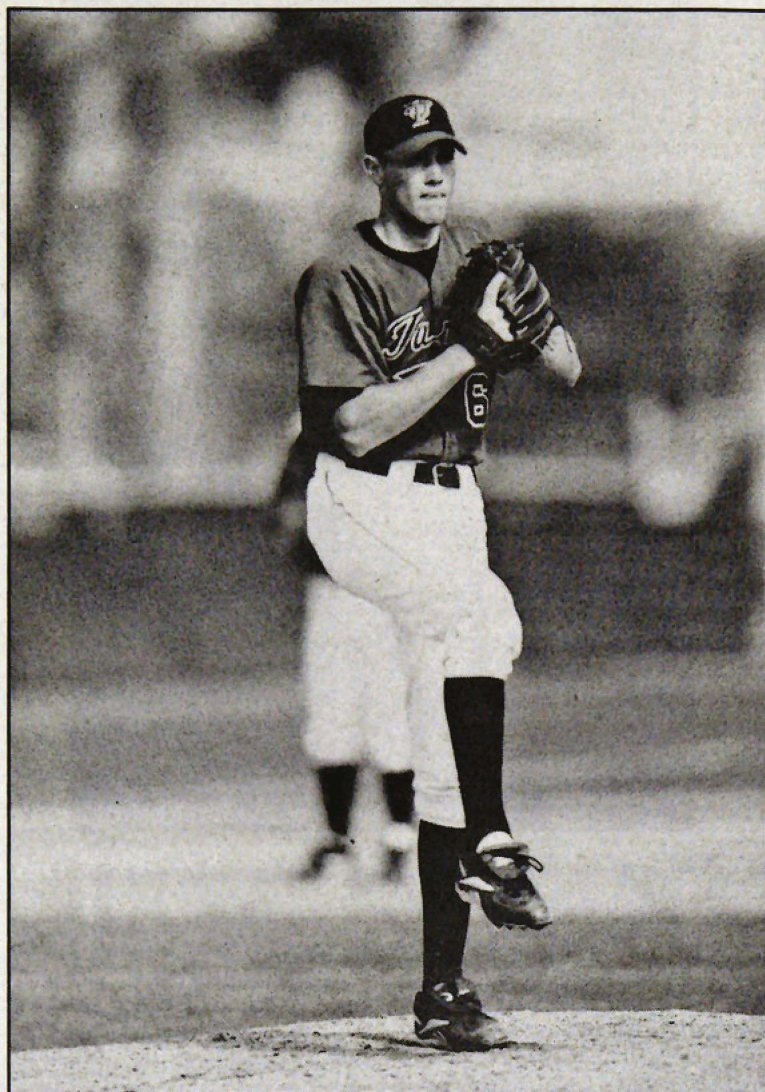
Tampa tacked on another run in the fourth behind a single by White that drove in Jason Chehova to make it 4-1.

The Bobcats came back in the top of the fifth inning. Gary Harris led off the inning with a single and stole second. Chris Carr then walked, before Alfredo Lugo hit a three-run blast over the left field fence to bring the score to a 4-4 tie. Tampa then went ahead again in the bottom of the fifth when Edge scored on an error. Tampa then tacked on another run in the sixth inning as Jason Chehova scored on an error as well.

The Bobcats were not out of it yet, as they put a scare into the Spartans in the top of the seventh inning. Craig Puckett led off with a single for the Bobcats but was soon replaced with Jason Samples. Chris Carr then homered to leftfield bring the core to 7-6, but their hopes ended on stikeout by Christian Corvos.

Kenny White led the Spartans going 3-3. Mike Sullivan improved his record to 2-0 as he pitched five innings striking out six and giving up four runs.

Tampa finished its sweep with a 3-1 win over the Bobcats on Sunday. Kris Sutton picked up his third save in two days as the Spartans improved to 7-0 om the season.



-- Sports Information

Charlie Manning not only picked up a victory this weekend, but he also hit a homerun.

## This week in Spartan baseball

By MARK JOHNSON

SID

**This Week:** The Spartans (7-0) take on West Florida this weekend at Sam Bailey Field. They play a double header at 1:00 pm on Saturday and a single game on Sunday at 1:00 pm. Last season Tampa defeated West Florida all three times with scores of 6-5, 16-3 and 5-4. Charlie Manning earned the victory in the middle game of the series. The Spartans are 7-1 all time against West Florida.

**Last Week:** Tampa swept its home opening series against Nova Southeastern and Georgia College and State. On Friday, the Spartans defeated Nova in a rout 16-0. Charlie Manning and Tom Carrow each had a homer and Joey Watts picked up the victory throwing seven shutout innings. On Saturday, Tampa took a pair from #3 Georgia College and State with scores of 2-0 and 7-6. Charlie Manning picked up the win in the first game pitching seven scoreless for his first win of the season. The second game saw Kenny White lead the offense with two doubles and a single. On Sunday, Tampa was down 1-0 for six innings until Dwight Edge homered to tie the score. Neal Maybin would double in Manning for the go ahead run as the Spartans won 3-1.

**SSC Award:** Reliever Kris Sutton won Tampa's first Sunshine State Conference Pitcher-of-the-Week award. Sutton pitched in each of the Georgia College and State games earning three saves in four innings of work. Kris struck out five batters and gave up no hits and no walks.

**Statistics:** Tampa is hitting .315 as a team and has an ERA of 2.14. Mike Rabelo, junior, is leading the team in hitting at .417. Mike is 10/24 with four RBI and one double. Matt Smith is hitting .407 with two doubles and seven RBI. Tom Carrow is hitting .400 with one double, one homerun and four RBI. Charlie Manning has an ERA of 0.00 in 10 innings with eight strikeouts. Joey Watts has 13 strikeouts in nine innings with an ERA of 2.00. Mike Sullivan leads the team with two wins and Sutton has four saves.

Coach Urso says: "Our pitching and defense was outstanding with one error all weekend. We had some big hits late in the game in tight situations. I am very excited that we played well in close games."

## Spartan swimmers roll over Rollins

By ANDY BOTT

Reporter

UT's swim teams breezed past Rollins last Saturday in their final meet before the Sunshine State Invitational.

The women (7-7) sped out to a 58-15 lead, and raced exhibitions the rest of the way en route to a 97-76 final score. The men (7-6) led 60-8 and also raced exhibitions, leading to a final score of 80-58.

"They're a little more rested now than they were (at the last meet)," said Coach Ed Brennan. "I think it has to do with training and decreasing yardage for non-qualifiers."

There was a little extra incentive for some swimmers. "They were swimming for relay slots- they had a good reason to swim hard."

Several UT women swam excellent races. Jackie Majer won the 50 meter freestyle with a time of 25.56. Teammate Brooke May was not far behind, clocking in at 26.19.

Freshman Shannon Treen enjoyed another excellent meet, winning both the 400 meter Individual Medley, by 16 seconds, and the 500 meter freestyle, with an exceptional time of 5:20.95.

Melissa Fielder was another victorious Spartan, winning the 100 meter freestyle by 1.3 seconds over Majer.

Overall, Fielder was happy with her performance. "It was good considering the conditions today," she said. The skies were overcast, and the temperature was stuck at 60 degrees.

Fielder's best event is actually the 200 meter freestyle. "In the 200 I hope to make nationals, but in the 100 I just hope to drop time."

The Spartan men also had plenty of stars. Jim Kiner continued his excellent swimming by winning the 200 meter freestyle in 1:46.78. He even placed third in the 200 meter backstroke, a race he never swims.

Senior Preston Bokos had a strong showing in the 500 meter freestyle, winning it with a time of 4:54.49. Teammate Steve Foster also scored a solid victory, taking the 200 meter backstroke by almost 10 seconds.

According to Coach Brennan, the team victories are secondary to each swimmer's personal performance. He was happy with these performances, and was looking ahead to Saturday, Feb. 24, when UT hosts the Invitational.

## Eckerd tennis team defeats Spartans

By ANDY BOTT

Reporter

On Friday, Feb. 9, the UT tennis squad started out a four-match homestand with a competitive 5-2 loss to Eckerd.

The team of Christine Rivac and Kristen Kowal took the second doubles match for the Spartans, 8-6, while UT's Katelyn Demers won her singles match against Kate Heilman in a tiebreak, 7-5, after the women split the first two sets 6-4, 2-6.

Demers jumped out to a 3-0 lead in the first set, thanks to a combination of strong backhand winners and unforced errors from Heilman.

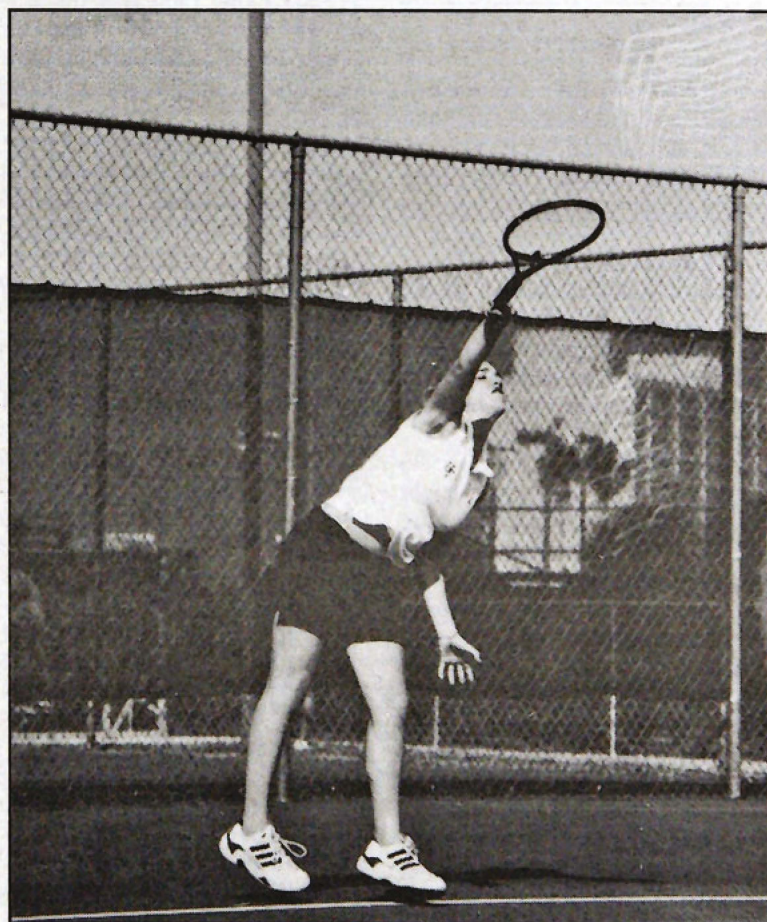
After Heilman managed to break Demers and get back on serve at 2-3, Demers broke right back to regain control of the set, which she eventually won 6-4. Heilman had two unforced errors to put herself down 0-30, and Demers took advantage of this, winning the game on a nicely- angled forehand that barely caught the line.

The second set started out tight, as each woman held serve twice. Demers started to unravel, however, after she was broken to go down 2-3.

Heilman went to the net more often and more effectively, rattling Demers a bit and forcing more errors. Her volleying skills allowed her to sweep the rest of the set. The tiebreak was closely fought. It was tied at four when Demers rifled a wide ace. After Heilman won a point on a ball that was really out, Demers reacted strongly by pounding a winner.

She then won the match on a good serve that Heilman could only hit back into the net.

Eckerd's Sabra Lofgren and Magdalena Lorren were their team's main reasons for victory. They teamed up in first doubles to defeat UT's Abby Shelide and Leina Makurath, 8-3. Then, Lorren swept



-- Jody Link

Lena Makurath serves the ball for Tampa.

through Makurath in second singles, 6-0, 6-0, in a simply incredible performance.

Lofgren had a tougher time with Shelide in first singles. Lofgren was victorious, 6-1, 6-2, in a match closer than the score indicated. Shelide evened the first set at one on her first service game of the match. After she double faulted to go down 0-30, she swept the next four points, getting a strong first serve in each point.

Lofgren kept the ball deep throughout the rest of the set, limit-

ing Shelide's power and forcing her into a slew of errors off her forehand.

The second set was closer, but Lofgren wore her opponent down. Shelide was down a break and receiving at 2-3, and expended a lot of energy in her attempt to get back on serve.

Lofgren eventually won the hard-fought game, and Shelide didn't have much left for the duration of the match.

The next home match is today, Feb. 16, vs. Lynn at 3p.m.

**For a good time  
call The Minaret  
x3462.**



## Sunshine State Conference

### Standings

Team	W-L	W-L
FSC	18-5	9-2
Eckerd	19-5	8-3
<b>Tampa</b>	<b>19-4</b>	<b>8-3</b>
Lynn	16-7	7-4
Rollins	17-9	5-6
St. Leo	11-12	4-7
Barry	14-9	3-8
FT	4-19	0-11

### Leaders

#### Scoring

J. Junker, Barry 18.0ppg.

#### Rebounding

C. Humbert, Tampa 9.1rpg.

#### Steals

J. Junker, Barry 2.35spg.

#### Blocks

S. Bryant, Tampa 2.91bpg.

#### Assists

J. Gibbons, FSC 5.32apg.

### Player-of-the-Week

Saint Leo University guard/forward Gary Downing averaged 26.5 points, 8.5 rebounds, one assist and three steals in two games. The Fort Lauderdale, Fla. resident was 15-26 from the floor for a .577 percentage and 20-25 from the free throw line. Downing was also 2-4 from beyond three-point range.

# Brown vs. the boards of basketball of BU

By STEVE CHAMPLIN  
Reporter

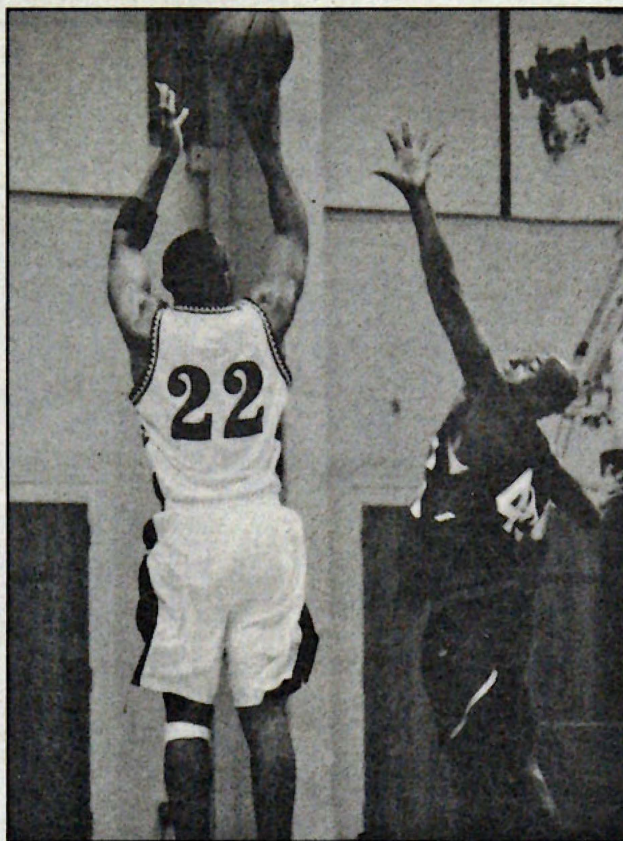
Last Saturday, the UT men's basketball team hosted the Barry University men's team. It was the second meeting of these teams this season. Barry had won the first, a thriller which was led by Curtis Tonge's 20 points.

Barry was coming off an impressive victory over Eckerd, in which they had knocked the Tritons from the top of the conference standings. And though the Spartans had the second best conference record, they had lost two of the last three at home.

Early on, it was a close contest as the team traded shots and kept things close in the first half. The Spartans showed they weren't afraid to try to establish a lead early on, as they attempted twice the number of free throws the Barry Buccaneers did (14-7).

The Spartans shot from the free throw line extremely well in the first half (73 percent), but Barry out-rebounded the Spartans and helped them to keep the game close. At the half, the Spartans went into the locker room with a slim 34-33 lead.

In the second half, the Spartans shot far fewer three pointers and started to pound the ball into the post. They also started grabbing more rebounds than the Buccaneers and began to control the entire pace of the game.



Jon Brown led Spartans this week with a total of 41 points in the two games played.

The referees also got into the game more in the second half. Barry's Peter Riggs got called for two early fouls and was sent to the bench as he looked ready to draw a technical foul. Then shortly after that, both Barry and UT did draw technical fouls as players tried to

protest calls to the officials. Unfortunately, the officials weren't hearing any of it in the second half.

The game was close until late in the second half, when Elijah Piazza posted up on Barry's Peter Riggs (who had calmed down enough to come back into the

game). Sylvere Bryan gave him a well-placed low entry pass. Piazza took it, dribbled, and rose up to the hoop as Barry's Mark Thomas tried to close from the front side and blocked the shot.

Piazza, listed a couple of inches shorter than both of the Barry players, rose above the rim, and dunked the ball down, and got the foul called on Barry's Thomas. Piazza completed the three-point play from the line, and the Spartans never looked back as they cruised to an easy 15-point victory.

### Tampa 87 Lynn 72

Tampa enjoyed a lop-sided victory to demolish the Lynn Knights and avenge an early-season loss. The Spartans shot an amazing 61.5 percent from the floor in the second-half including 66.7 percent from three-point range en route to victory.

Gecarri Freeman led the Spartans to victory with 29 points. Freeman shot 50 percent from the floor and 4-7 from beyond the arc. He also connected on 9-10 free throws and added four assists.

Jon Brown added 24 points in the win while grabbing six rebounds and adding four assists. Sylvere "J.B." Bryan also scored in double figures with 12 points on 4-5 shooting from the floor, including 2-2 from three-point range.

Kenny anders led the Knights with 23 points, and center Darian Bryant grabbed nine rebounds and had four blocked shots in the loss.

# Kolbe's Korner: This week in men's basketball

By TOM KOLBE  
Reporter

**LAST WEEK:** Tampa improved its record to 19-4 overall and 8-3 in the Sunshine State Conference while stretching its winning streak to four games with two victories.

Tampa traveled to Boca Raton, where they defeated Lynn 87-72, avenging an early-season loss to the Knights in Tampa. The Spartans returned home and defeated Barry Saturday afternoon by a score of 82-67.

**THIS WEEK:** Tampa hosts Florida Tech on Wednesday night and travels to Rollins Saturday evening. The Spartans defeated Florida Tech 70-63 in Melbourne on January 24 and fell to Rollins at home by a score of 68-62 on January 27.

The Spartans have just three regular season games remaining before the Sunshine State Conference Tournament from February 25-27 in Lakeland.

**THE SERIES:** The Spartans hold a commanding 28-12 all-time mark against Florida Tech as Tampa has won the previous four meetings against Florida Tech. Tampa has also won four consecutive games at home against the Panthers.

Tampa holds a 51-32 advantage against Rollins as the Spartans have taken six of the last seven games from the Tars. Tampa also holds a four game winning streak on the road against Rollins.

**THE RANKINGS:** Tampa remains unranked after being ranked number 22 before dropping out of the rankings two weeks ago.

The Spartans have spent eight weeks in the Division II Bulletin top 25 poll and opened the season at number 12 team in that poll. Tampa had previously been ranked each

week throughout the season. The highest ranking Tampa had this season was number seven in the December 18 poll as the Spartans have spent four weeks this season in the top 10.

The pre-season pick to win the Sunshine State Conference, the Spartans are now ranked third in the South Region by the NCAA Basketball Advisory Committee after ranking first in the initial South Region Poll.

**PICKING IT UP:** As the season has progressed, Gecarri Freeman has taken over as a leader and clutch performer for Tampa.

Freeman's versatility has caused Tampa's opponents problems as the former post player leads Tampa in three-point shooting while making 38 of 104 long-range shots for 36.5 percent, all team highs.

Freeman has enjoyed several top performances this season as he matched his career high of 29 points against Lynn last week while making 4-7 three-pointers.

He also was a key factor in the victory over Florida Southern as he scored 23 points and grabbed 10 rebounds.

**THE SIXTH MAN:** Elijah Piazza has now scored in double figures in four of the last five games and has given Tampa an instant spark off the bench.

Piazza scored 14 points while grabbing eight rebounds against Barry and was a main factor off the bench in the Florida Southern game as he scored ten points and recorded eight rebounds.

With just four post players on the team, Piazza has stepped up big for James Mereus and Sylvere Bryan when they require a breather or get into foul trouble.

**ON THE OFFENSIVE:** James Mereus has stepped up in a big way on the boards since being inserted in the starting lineup 11 games ago.

Mereus has proven to be a ma-

jor force on the offensive boards as he picked up seven of his ten rebounds against Barry on the offensive end of the floor.

Mereus leads Tampa 56 offensive rebounds as he has recorded five or more offensive rebounds in three games this season. Mereus is also coming off his second double-double of the season as he picked up 14 points along with ten rebounds against Barry.

**NEWCOMERS COMING THROUGH:** After showing some reluctance to play Jon Norris and Will Gregory early in the season, Schmidt has given the two newcomers some time on the floor as Norris has come through as a key defender and Gregory has stepped up as a reserve post player.

Both have added solid depth and have produced when the regulars come out of the game. Leonard Kelly has also seen some time at point guard and is known for his competitiveness and quickness.

**TOUGH GUY:** Chuckie Powell received a bit of a scare in the Florida Southern game when he came up limping with a leg injury and came down limping again in the Barry game.

While the injury is just a bruise to his ankle, Powell continues to improve as he hopes to be at 100 percent for the Rollins game.

**MOVING UP:** Chuckie Powell is Tampa's leader with 103 assists and 48 steals, as he recently moves into the top five on the all-time Tampa assists category with 309 career assists.

He is closing in on Roscoe Brown (336), but is appears that he will not challenge the record set by Kevin Starnes (487). Powell's previous career high of assists in a season was 80 last season as he recorded 78 as a sophomore and 48 as a freshman. The record for assists in a season is 190, which was set in the 1989-90 season by Starnes.

**BROWN SCORING BIG:** Jon Brown enjoyed two solid performances last week as he scored 24 points while grabbing a team-high six rebounds against Lynn.

Brown then answered that performance with a team-high 17 points against Barry Saturday. Brown has now scored in double figures in 13 games this season.

**WILLIAMS HURT:** Freshman Earnest Williams played 13 minutes against Florida Tech last Wednesday and was beginning to work himself into the regular rotation before suffering an injury to his ankle.

While Williams is expected to fully recover in the near future, he

remains doubtful for the Florida Tech game as the uncertainty of a return date remains. However, Williams does expect to be at 100 percent for the SSC Tournament.

**AGAINST RANKED TEAMS:** Throughout the first 17 games, Tampa has played two top-25 ranked teams. Tampa defeated number 9 Salem International by a score of 97-74 on November 25 and number 22 American International 75-50 on January 28. Tampa fell to the number one team in Division III, Carthage, by a score of 80-74 in overtime on January 2.

The Student Activities Office, in celebration of Black History Month, presents an evening conversation with ...

## Tampa Bay Lightning Goaltender Kevin Weekes



Monday, February 19th  
7:00 PM  
Fletcher Lounge

Mr. Weekes will discuss his travels through professional hockey, followed by a question and answer period. Refreshments will be provided.

Any questions? Contact Charles Yezak, Coordinator of Intramurals and McNeill Fitness Center, at 253-6233 ext. 3615



Sunshine State Conference

Standings

Team	W-L	W-L
Rollins	21-2	10-1
FSC	18-5	8-3
Tampa	17-6	7-4
FT	15-8	7-4
Barry	18-5	7-4
Lynn	11-15	4-7
Eckerd	14-11	1-10
St. Leo	6-17	0-11

Leaders

Scoring

K. Rullison, Lynn 17.5ppg.

Rebounding

D. Phillips, FT 10.0rpg.

Steals

M. Brown, FSC 3.26spg.

Blocks

J.McDowell, UT 3.26bpg.

Assists

M. Brown, FSC 6.39apg.

Player-of-the-Week

Barry's Diane Lewis earned Player-of-the-Week award as she averaged 20 points, six rebounds, 3.5 assists, one block and 3.5 steals. The Haines City, Fla. resident was 14-27 from the floor for a .519 percentage and 12-15 from the free-throw line.

Lady Spartans slay Knights, get Buc'd up

By DAVE MACE

Reporter

Barry 72 Tampa 69

The Tampa Spartans lost another heartbreaker to the Barry Buccaneers this season, only this time it was at home.

The Bucs jumped out with a 2-0 lead at the 19:38 mark in the first half and never lost the lead. At one point the Bucs led by as many as 18 points.

With 2:50 left in the game, Tampa did put together a respectable run to try and catch the Buccaneers. Freshman Yushonda Morse hit a put-back shot off a Jessie McDowell to start the run. Senior Chandra Holden then scored five straight points connecting on a jumper and three-pointer. A layup by Amy Holmes brought the Spartans within one point, but Barry's Amra Alagic hit a layup to end the Spartans hopes.

Four Spartans were in double figures in the loss. Senior Chandra Holden led the squad with 17 points on 5-8 shooting and 2-2 from beyond the arc. Sophomore center Jessie McDowell recorded a double-double scoring ten points and grabbing a game-high 16 points.

Freshmen Morse and Amy Holmes also scored in double figures, with Morse netting 16 points and Holmes nailing down 12 points.

The loss put the Spartans' at 17-6 (7-4 SSC) and the Bucs improved to 18-5 (7-4 SSC).



-- Jody Link

Yushonda Morse (#42) and Jessie McDowell (#32) chase after Barry's Diane Lewis and the ball.

Tampa 56 Lynn 48

The Spartans completed their season sweep over the Lions this past week, in a game in which the Spartans never trailed.

Three players landed in double figures for the Spartans with Jessie McDowell leading with 13 points. Yushonda Morse also played her usual consistent game by scoring 12 points and grabbing nine rebounds.

Nichole Blair also scored in double figures with 11 points.

The Lynn Knights were led by Michele Newman with 12 points and Kerri Rulison added 11 points.

This week in women's basketball

By DAVE MACE

SID

Previous Games: The Spartans are coming off a split week. The Spartans defeated the Lynn Knights in Boca Raton last Wednesday 56-48 to complete a season sweep.

Sophomore center Jessie McDowell led all scorers with 13 points. She also added seven rebounds and three blocked shots.

Freshman Yushonda Morse added 12 points and nine rebounds in the effort, while junior-transfer Nichole Blair had 11 points.

This past Saturday, the Spartans hosted the Barry Buccaneers and lost 72-69. Four Spartans did score in double figures though, with McDowell posting a double-double with ten points and 16 rebounds and Chandra Holden with a team-high 17 points. Freshmen Amy Holmes and Morse also scored in double figures with Holmes scoring 12 points and Morse netting 16 points.

Next Up: The Spartans (17-6, 7-4) will host Florida Tech (15-8, 7-4 SSC) on Wednesday at 5:30PM. Tampa will then travel to Orlando to face #8 Rollins College (21-2, 10-1 SSC) on Saturday at 5:30PM.

Series Notes: The Spartans defeated Florida Tech earlier in the season 63-57. Nichole Blair led Tampa with 16 points in the game and Yushonda Morse had a team-high nine rebounds. Tampa is 17-17 against FIT in their overall series.

Rollins defeated the Spartans at Tampa earlier in the season 87-71. The Tars are 31-21 against the Spartans all-time.

The University of Tampa

SPRING 2001 INTRAMURAL UPCOMING SPORTS

SPORT	ENTRY CARD/ ROSTER AVAILABLE	ENTRY CARD/ ROSTER DUE	MANDATORY CAPTAIN'S MEETING	PLAY BEGINS
7-on-7 Co-Ed Outdoor Soccer #	Feb. 15	Mar. 15	Mar. 16	Mar. 19
Softball #	Feb. 15	Mar. 20	Mar. 21	Mar. 26
Golf Doubles +	Feb. 15	Mar. 22	n/a	Apr. 7

# sport has a regular season and playoff single-elimination tournament  
+ sport has a one-day tournament

- 1) All entry cards and rosters are available in the Student Activities Office.
- 2) All participants must sign a waiver of liability and hold harmless agreement.
- 3) The team captain and/or assistant captain must attend the mandatory captain's meeting in order for their team to be eligible to participate. Captain meetings will be held at 5pm on the above mentioned date. Site of meetings TBA.
- 4) Completed entry cards and rosters may be submitted to the Student Activities Office on or before the due date.
- 5) All intramural winners will receive a UT Intramural Champion t-shirt.

Questions or comments? Contact Charles Yezak, Coordinator of Intramurals and McNiff Fitness Center, at 253-6233 ext. 3615



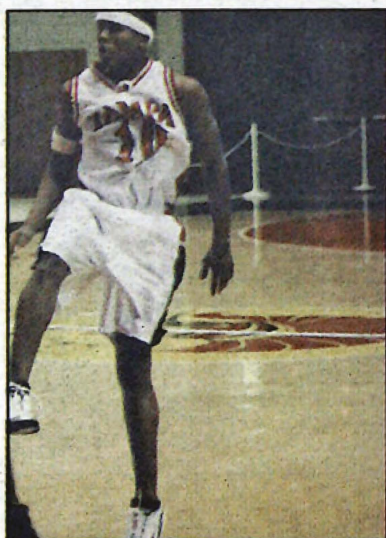
# Inside...



Women's basketball team loses heartbreaker to Barry 69-72. Page 15.



Tennis results. Page 13.

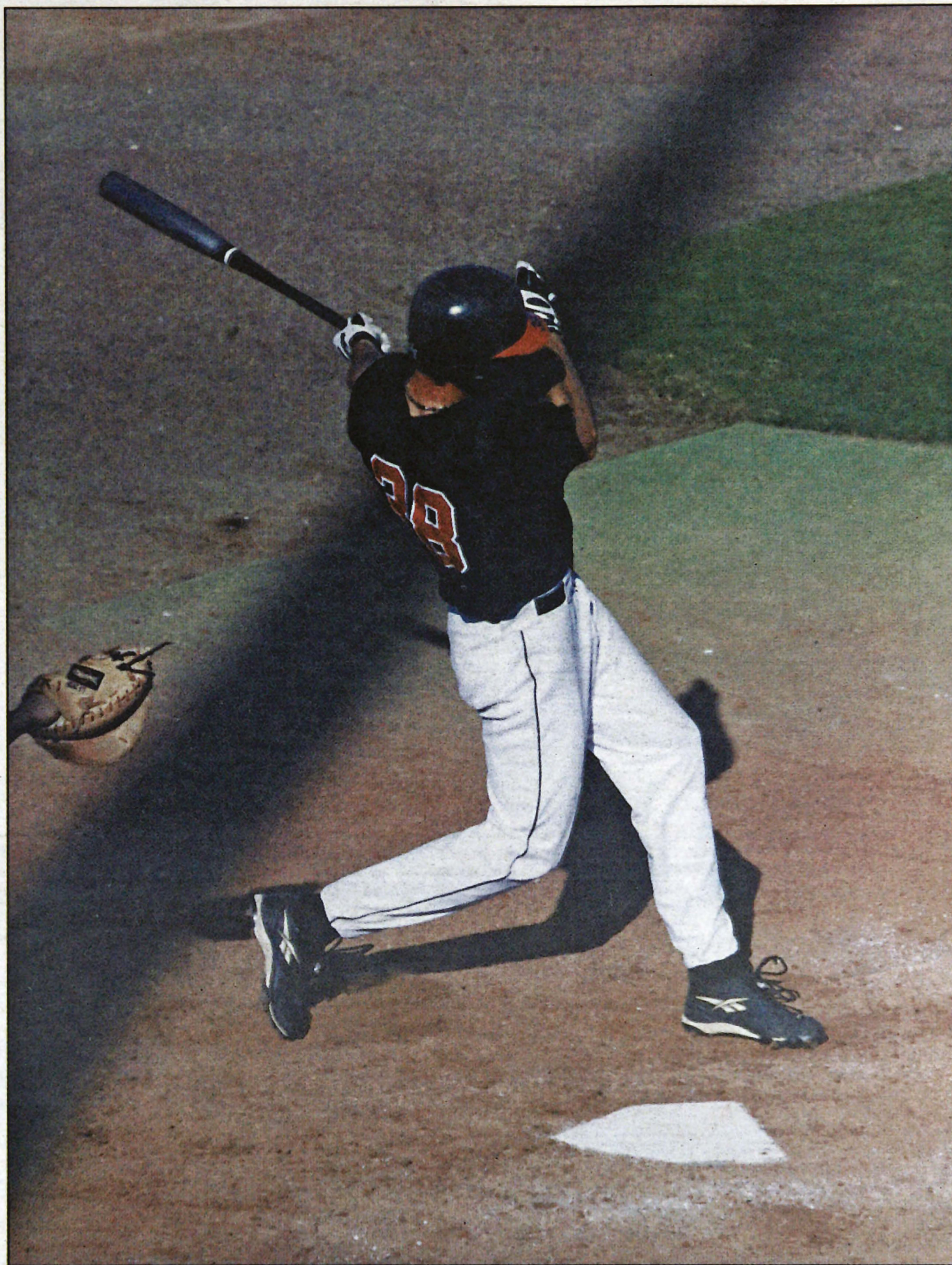


Men's basketball team in second in SSC. Page 14.



Swimmers defeat Rollins. Page 13.

# Spartans sweep #3 Bobcats



--Jody Link

Dwight Edge and company swept Georgia State to become #2 in the nation.

By DAVE MACE  
Reporter

The Tampa Spartans had an amazing weekend, winning their home-opener against Nova Southeastern and sweeping the #3 Georgia College & State Bobcats. WCW superstars Mike Awesome and Jimmy "The Mouth of the South" Hart were on hand to see the Spartans defeat Nova Southeastern 16-0 this past Friday.

The Spartans led off the scoring attack in the first inning. Kenny White led off the inning with a walk and then stole second. The multi-talented Charlie Manning then took the plate and sent one over the fence in right-center to take a 2-0 lead. Then with two men on base, Dwight Edge singled in a run. With Edge and Mike Rabelo on base, Thomas Carrow homered to bring the score to 6-0 with two men on again, Manning drove in another

run and was in turn brought home by Neal Maybin. The Spartans ended the inning with an 8-0 lead. The Spartans didn't score again until the fifth inning. Rabelo led off the inning with a single and then advanced to second on an error. Angel Cruz then doubled to centerfield to drive Rabelo in. Carrow then followed with a double of his own and drove in Cruz to bring the score to 10-0. Manning got his third RBI of the game as he followed up with a single that drove in Carrow. Maybin then singled home Jason Chehova and Edge followed with a single to drive in Manning. With the bases loaded, Rabelo was hit by a pitch to score Maybin to bring the score to 14-0.

Tampa then added two runs in the seventh inning to closeout the game with a 16-0 win. Maybin went 4-6 for the Spartans with two RBI's and two runs. Manning was 3-4 with four RBI's and a homerun, Carrow going 2-5 with

four RBI's and a homerun in the win.

Joey Watts picked up the win by striking out nine in six innings to bring him to a 1-0 record on the year.

On Saturday the Spartans hosted the #3 Georgia St. Bobcats in an entertaining double-header. The Spartans defeated the Bobcats 2-0 in the first game.

Tampa didn't score until the fifth inning when Jason Chehova drove in Thomas Carrow on a ground-out to the second baseman for an unearned run.

Tampa scored the only other run of the game on the eighth inning on a single by Matt Smith that drove in Kenny White to bring the total to 2-0.

Smith led the Spartans going 3-4 with an RBI. Carrow was 2-3 with a run scored to aid the Spartans in their victory.

Charlie Manning picked up his first win of the year as he gave up only three hits and struck out four

in seven innings. Kris Sutton come on in relief and earned his second save of the year. In the second game of the double header the Spartans would again prove victorious.

The Bobcats came out scoring in the first inning. Gary Harris led off the inning with a walk and was driven in by Chris Carr to take a 1-0 lead.

In the second inning, Tampa tied up the game on a wild pitch by Jay Ziersch that sent home Dwight Edge.

Tampa, however, would continue to come back and forge ahead in the bottom of the third inning. Kenny White led off with a double down the leftfield line. Angel Cruz then followed with a single, before Neal Maybin drove in White with a double. Matt Smith then drove

Story continued on page 14 "spartans bedazzle..."