

The Minaret

February 9, 2001

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UT's Grading Scale

Fair Assessment or Faltering System?

By JOE SANSONETTI
Staff Reporter

There is a possible injustice going on at the University of Tampa which can be attributed to three letters: GPA. The injustice is not about how teachers arrive at assigning grades, although some students would argue that point. The problem lies in the discrepancies between grading scales used by different professors in converting numerical grades into letter grades.

UT students receive money based on our academic performance through academic scholarships which are provided by the university. The university bases much of its scholarship issuance on classroom performance. If in a particular class using one grading scale, a 90+ is an A, and in another class, using a different grading scale, a 94+ is an A, discrepancies in performance, and therefore scholarship eligibility, are bound to arise.

In addition to the absence of a university-wide standard of grading, UT seemingly fails to provide monetary recognition to improving students. The only opportunity students have to be considered for academic scholarships is during the initial admission and enrollment process.

For instance, if a transfer student applies with a 3.0 GPA, he or she is eligible the Dean's Scholarship. However, if, while attending the University of Tampa, the student improves his or her grade point average to 3.5, though that student would then qualify for the more prestigious (and, financially, more substantial) Presidential Scholarship, university policy refuses to recognize the scholarly advance through an increase in scholarship.

Yet, if a UT student fails to meet the requirements of a scholarship, academic probation is issued (in regards to the scholarship) for one semester. For a second offense, the scholarship is revoked entirely. There is an appeals process that a student can go through to try to get

it back by means of a letter to financial aid.

Of course, there are other places to be awarded scholarships departmentally. These can be applied for, but the scholarships based on grade point average are automatic.

What does all this mean? First of all, it means that if you are on the line and close to losing your

pressure and converted to a grading system as confounding as that which could be found in *The Matrix*.

What do students think about this? A group of anonymous students had some pretty strong feelings about the fact they had the opportunity to lose money through a discrepancy in the system. "That would be extremely inaccurate by the university's part if they did not have some measure to correct this type of error." Another student stated "I would sue."

Although there is not a universal grading system for the entire university, there do exist departmental scales, which are consistent throughout. The education department has a grading scale that all of its teachers are required to use when determining grades.

Dr. Hunter O'Hara, head of the department of education, explains why this system works in education. "We have a department that is state accredited which needs to meet certain criteria for our students." He proclaimed that when the education department went over a complete reorganization of its mission and it standards one of the components of the reorganization was the mandating of a grading system.

Some professors, such as Dr. Mary Jane Schenck, professor of English, feel that a universal grading system would be strongly opposed by the university faculty and would not eliminate inconsistencies in the grading system anyway. Schenck states, "Many professors use various strategies for grading and a universality would inhibit their freedom as teacher."

Seemingly, there is no clear solution to rectify this problem. One of the flaws of a universal system is the compromising of a professor's ability to create their classroom syllabus and environment. However, as long as the current grading system retains its befuddling grasp on university policy, many UT students may continue to go without well-deserved acknowledgement and financial assistance.



Photo courtesy of The Moroccan

scholarship, you hope that your classes and teachers have a student-friendly grading system

Beyond the monetary reasons for this obvious discrepancy are the principles upon which the theory of education is based. Dr. Martin Favata, professor of linguistics and language, believes that the origin of this discrepancy lies in the grading system itself. "The process we use assigning grades as a measure of intelligence through education is a fallacy in itself," says Favata.

There have been universities that have tried to measure performance through the process of written evaluations, rather than lettered grades. One of these places is the University of California-Santa Cruz. Up until a few years ago, UC-Santa Cruz one of the few places left in America that did not assign grades in measuring academic achievement and advancement of knowledge. The university has since crumbled under immense



Students enjoyed dancing the night away at last week's event --Jody Link

Students show off their togas to raise money for charity

By CHRISTA TINSLEY
Staff Reporter

On Thursday, February 1, the Phi Delta Theta fraternity and Student Productions kicked off the first-ever campus-wide toga formal. All proceeds from the event went to benefit the Moffitt Cancer Center, which has been Phi Delta Theta's philanthropy for several years.

The Moffitt Center is a non-profit organization that donates millions of dollars in research towards a cure for cancer. Raising over \$500 with around 300 people showing up, the event went above and beyond all expectations set for the evening.

"Without the participation of organizations and the donations of individuals, we wouldn't raise any money," said Jason Stewart, Phi Delta Theta's special events chairman. "It's fun—and it's for a good cause."

Stewart, who has chaired the theme week in the past and was in charge of this year's toga formal, was inspired to start a campus-wide event when he noticed the waning attendance at the homecoming dance in the fall.

"Over the years, I've seen homecoming really go down the tubes, and there really is no participation."

He continued by saying, "I wanted to use the Greeks to bring in independents to get everyone together, and homecoming made me want to do that even more. My goal was to see that everyone had fun."

The toga formal used to be a part of Phi Delta Theta's theme week every March, but this year it stood on its own and was highly publicized in order to attract both Greeks and non-Greeks.

"Because of all the good publicity it got last year, we had a lot of independents show up who were curious, and everyone who showed up had fun," reported Stewart of this year's event.

"It brings more people out to do their own thing and just have a good time."

A good time was had by all in attendance. There was much work done to ensure that all the activities throughout the evening could be enjoyed by students involved in a greek organization, and those who weren't.

Taking place in a packed and creatively decorated Fletcher Lounge, the event featured many people who donned their bed sheets, or other homemade creations, and showed up in tie-dyed, animal print, and sequined togas.

The night included limbo contests, best-dressed male and female awards, free prizes, a full dance floor and a giant DVD screen.

Jordan Baszner of Kappa Sigma, Amber Tucker of Alpha Chi Omega, Jim Brigham of Residence Hall Association and Alicia DiStefano of Sigma Delta Tau were crowned king, queen, prince and princess, respectively of the event.

Those who missed the year's event will be pleased to learn that they can look forward to next year's toga formal.

ON THE INSIDE...

Recent plays reviewed
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The Minaret's guide to a
great Valentine's Day
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Check out the Sports
section's new look
page 16

Police Beat

By RAQUEL PITTIGLIO

Staff Reporter

Jan. 31, 2001

*A Chevy Blazer was stolen from North "B" St. The vehicle, which was parked directly in front of the security office, was stolen between the hours of 10:30 p.m., Jan. 30, and 1:30 p.m., Jan. 31. The Tampa Police were notified of the stolen vehicle.

*Security received a phone call from a person stating there were two people illegally passing out advertisements for Bar Tampa. When security scoured the campus, two males were seen wearing Bar Tampa shirts. A third man arrived and took charge of one of the students passing out the flyers. The other perpetrator, a former

UT student, was taken to Security and given a trespass warning.
Feb. 3, 2001

*A library staff worker contacted security and reported that a non-student was using the computers to access pornography. An officer questioned the man and the man told him he was using the computer because he had nowhere else to spend his two-hour break from ARAMARK. The officer took the man to the security office and contacted Tampa Police. He was also given a trespass warning.
Feb. 4, 2001

*A female student living in ResCom reported receiving two obscene phone calls in less than two minutes. She requested a trace be put on her phone.

Quilt Coffeehouse Weekend February 8-10th



**Saturday Feb 10th: Open
Mic reading in the Rat,
8pm. Winners of Quilt
contest announced.**

UT holds leadership conference for students

By SARAH MORGAN

Staff Reporter

On Friday February 2nd, approximately 70 people gathered in the Music Room (formerly Dome Theatre) to partake in the Student Activities Office's Spring Leadership Conference, "Constructing Leaders."

Guest speaker Brian Wooten, Coordinator of Student Activities at Kennesaw State University in Georgia, presented his theory on situational leadership to a room full of eager leaders. Mr. Wooten clearly identified the four basic types of students who are involved, and also the four basic types of leaders who participate in extra-curricular activities.

Brian started the evening by explaining the different styles of the followers.

The "novice" is a follower who is just beginning with a task. They need a lot of direction, but need little encouragement since they are already motivated to try.

The "learner" has done a task for a while but still needs instruc-

tion and most likely will need lots of encouragement if the task isn't turning out to be as easy as it was the first time.

The "burnout" has done a task for a long time and needs little instruction because they have performed the task many times, but may still need a lot of encouragement due to dwindling motivation. Personal problems, job-related stress and boredom might affect burnout's greatly.

Finally, there is a "rising leader." This person is ready to lead others in the task. They need little direction and little encouragement, since motivation and skills are high.

After taking a look at the followers, Mr. Wooten took the audience into the world of the four types of leaders.

He started with the "director." The director gives lots of direction with only a little encouraging behavior.

The "coach" displays a lot of both direction and encouragement. This seems to be the best type of leader, but sometimes is the one no

one ever sees.

The "counselor" is a popular style of leadership. It focuses more on encouragement, rather than direction.

The "delegator" is the last of the leader-types. Here you see little encouragement and little direction.

After his presentation, the audience ate dinner then was escorted to the Grand Salon where they took part in an interactive project. The room was split into sections—counties of a fictional state—and each "county" was given a different amount of money to build their community. After thirty minutes, each community was presented and discussed.

Saturday, February 3rd, was a day of volunteering fun for the participants.

Three options were given—building houses with Habitat for Humanity, volunteer at Tampa General Hospital or play with children at Shriner's Hospital.

Each semester the Student Activities Office sponsors a leadership conference.

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TAMPA CREW

Want to be a part of Spartan athletics?
Are you a full-time undergraduate?

The women and men's crews are currently seeking coxswains (pronounced *cox-ens*).

Any full-time undergraduate who weighs **120 pounds or less** (male or female) is eligible. **No experience or prior knowledge of rowing is necessary.**

Coxswains are in charge of the boat and its rowers and must be decisive and able to take charge.

If interested, come see Bill or Steph at the boathouse (on the river behind the library) at either 4 or 4:30 PM Monday through Friday, the first day you are able.

Lee County day a success

By STEVE CHAMPLIN
Staff Reporter

Last Friday, 370 kids from ten different Junior ROTC programs invaded the University of Tampa campus. Most of the participants travelled all the way from Lee County, Fla. in order to take part in the 16th annual Lee County Adventure Day which was hosted by the UT campus and the Spartan Battalion ROTC.

They came here to be exposed to such things as rappelling off the Spartan Tower, crossing a single rope bridge, administering first aid, simulating a grenade toss, using a magnetic azimuth, pace counting, and staying afloat with water survival.

Additionally, the high school students were given a tour of the UT campus and recieved information about the various other educational experiences that will be available to them should they decide to attend UT.

The only downside to the day was the Spartan Tower, normally a big hit with the kids, was forced to

be closed due to the foggy, misty weather that was experienced all around Tampa on that day. But, it wasn't a great setback as the high school students were compensated by getting more time in the swimming pool learning water survival and using other stations as well.

"The purpose of this day was really two-fold," said LTC Diedre Dixon, the Professor of Military Science.

"First, it was to give the kids not just a taste of our ROTC program and school, but to also give the senior cadets (at UT) experience as officers. It was the fourth year cadets who planned the entire operation from start to finish. Myself and the other cadre members only supervised the operation."

"The UT cadets did quite well. They even covered and had planned for the contingency of inclement weather. Overall, it was a good experience for the JROTC kids, and a great experience for our cadets."

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Did you know... ? ? ?

By VANESSA IRIZARRY
Staff Writer

1. President George W. Bush's nomination for attorney general, John Ashcroft, was approved with a 58-42 vote by the Senate on Thursday, February 1.
2. The United States government is concerned smallpox, a deadly disease eradicated in 1980, may be used as a biological warfare agent. Only 10 million doses of the smallpox vaccine remain. The government is taking necessary measures to reproduce the vaccine, a major undertaking given to BioReliance Corp. by the government.
3. Amazon.com will lay off 1,300 employees due to dwindling losses. To add insult to injury to the employees who were laid off, Amazon.com asked that the employees refrain from making any discrediting comments in reference to the online company.
4. If you have a scheduled flight with Delta Air Lines and need to make an unforeseen ticket change, expect to pay \$25 more for the ticket-change fee. The cost has risen from \$75 to \$100. This fee increase pertains to all domestic and connecting flights.
5. Diminishing sales have forced the Sega Corp. to report its plans that the Dreamcast video game console will no longer be produced. Competition from Playstation and Nintendo 64 aided in the Dreamcast's decline.

Florida state fair comes to town

By SAMANTHA HORVATH

Staff Reporter

Do you like entertainment?

How about an entirely stress-free day? If so, head to the Florida State Fair this weekend in North Tampa.

There is a variety of live music that is sure to appeal to any genre you may like: pop, orchestral, country, oldies or Latino. Whatever you may like, it is sure to be played throughout the fairgrounds. Of course, there are the usual rides, however, if you and your friends are on a tight budget, the additional

little pricey.

A family fun pack that includes four gate admissions and 80 ride



Photo courtesy of www.floridastatefair.com

Mark Chestnut will perform Feb. 8 at 2 p.m. & 7 p.m.

additional \$5 once you pass through the gate.

There will be free entertainment and activities each day, with an experience for everyone. From trains and planes, to vintage towns and food there is something here to delight almost any one.

The Botanical Garden Florida State Railroad is for all of the conductors out there. It is a 300 foot display with to-scale villages, people, cars, and of course, trains. There are even two waterfalls in the display.

There is also the Spanish Lyrical Theater and Runa Pacha (traditional music and dress of Peru and Ecuador).

National headlining singers such as Sammy Kershaw, The Drifters and Pat Benatar perform at various times. There are also several

local bands performing during the week-long event, including The Alley Cats, and Rick K. & The



Photo courtesy of www.floridastatefair.com

Allnighters.

For the nature lovers, there is an exhibit and aquarium show presented by the Florida Fish & Wildlife Conservation Commission.

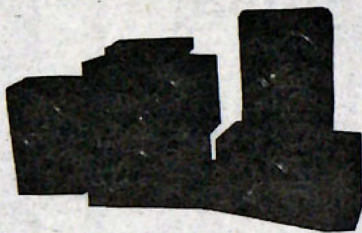
"Kachunga and the Alligator" is a demonstration similar to that of "Steve Erwin the Crocodile Hunter," so watch out for sharp claws and biting teeth.

There is also Wynn's petting zoo, the Welde bear show, and an equestrian show and competition. And, for people looking for something a little less than normal, there is Rosaire's Royal (Pig) Racers! Join the fans as they cheer for their favorite swine.

Are you longing for the days of your youth, or a worry-free and amusing time? Then try the Royal Hanneford circus.

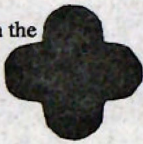
TECO Energy is sponsoring a nightly laser light show at the fair this year. So, stop by and enjoy the various exhibits, concerts, attractions, and rides at this year's Florida State Fair.

For more information, call 1 - 8 0 0 - 3 4 5 - F A I R , o r visit their website at www.floridastatefair.com



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Like writing? How about photography?

Want credit for it?

Join *The Minaret* staff. We meet at 5:00 p.m., Mondays in the SG office.

Your sponsorship of the 2001 UT Gasparilla Float is appreciated.

Also, thanks to the UT Spirit Squad, mascot and ROTC for their participation!

THANK
YOU!





Minaret Movie Marquee



New This Week

Redford's absence fails to stall Sundance 2001

By ANDREW RODGERS
Tribune Media Services

Writer-director Henry Bean's "The Believer," a film about a Jewish Nazi, won the Grand Jury Prize in the dramatic competition at the 2001 Sundance Film Festival.

Taking home the Documentary Grand Jury Prize was "Southern Comfort," directed and produced by Kate Davis. The film follows the family of a Georgia trailer park transsexual suffering from cancer.

Director Stacy Peralta's skateboarding flick "Dogtown and Z-Boys" and Tom Shepard's "Scout's Honor" shared the coveted Audience Award in the documentary category, while Cameron Mitchell's "Hedwig

and the Angry Inch" won in the dramatic category.

Peralta and Mitchell also each won the directing award for their films, and Shepard's film took home the Freedom of Expression Award (given to a documentary film that informs and educates the public on issues of social or political concern.)

The festival's lone Chinese movie, "The Road Home," took home the World Cinema Audience Award.

"Memento," the imaginative thriller starring Guy Pearce and Carrie-Anne Moss, saw its writer and director, Christopher Nolan, take home the Waldo Salt Screenwriting Award.

Tom

Wilkinson and Sissy Spacek received a Special Jury Prize from the dramatic jury for their work on "In the Bedroom," a story about parents who must endure a family tragedy.

"Children Underground," the haunting documentary

about the plight of homeless children in Romania, took home a Special Jury Prize from the documentary jury.

For Sundance's Latin American Cinema Awards, "Possible Loves" and "Without a Trace" shared the top honor, while "Coffin Joe: The Strange World of Jose Mojica Marins" was given a Special Jury Mention by the Latin American jury.

In the short films category, "Gina, An Actress, Age 29," directed by Paul Harrill won the Jury Prize in Short Filmmaking. Receiving Honorable Mentions were: "Delusions in Modern Primitivism," "Jigsaw Venus," "Metropolitan," "Peter Rabbit and the Crucifix," "Pie Fight '69," "Sweet" and "Zen and the Art of Landscaping."



"Valentine" proves bitter, not sweet

By STEVE CHAMPLIN
Staff Reporter

"I was drawn to this movie because it's different than the typical 'horror/slasher' films." - Denise Richards

On the surface that might seem like a good reason for a young star to want to do a movie on a genre she isn't

usually known for. And in the first reel, Valentine looks like it just might be different after all. Sure, we start out with a little flashback seen where some poor dolt is severely traumatized at the junior high prom, but I guess you can escape from a genre without a little foreshadowing or back story.

Then, we flash forward many years and the little girls are now responsible adults, and even though each of them seems to have a good handle on life (decent jobs, nice places to live, etc), they are all lacking something in the romance department - namely, a man to romance them. But as we go on, that doesn't really seem to be a surprise. Just about every man who attempts anything with them is instantly dismissed as a

member of the loser caste.

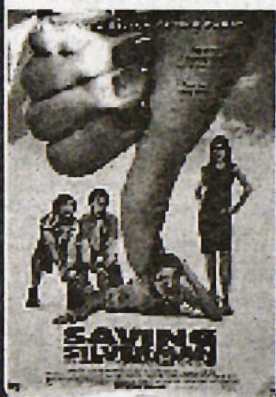
"After talking to (director, Jaime) Blamks, and hearing how enthusiastic he was, and how much he cared about this project, I was convinced this would be a good film to do." - David Boreanaz

Well, this is a 'slasher' film, and the bodies to start to pile up around this Canadianized version of San Francisco. Sometimes in imaginative ways, and sometimes in ways that allow the audience to experience the characters' horrible death through their own imagination. One thing that can be said for Blamks' direction is that he does try to imitate the horror films of the 1950s with his story telling.

Granted the main female characters are pretty detestable as people go, but they are also shown as full, complete people and not caricatures. Even the climax of the film takes place in a beautifully setting that you normally wouldn't find in the run of the mill teen horror picture. And even as Blamks tries to be poignant at the ending, it comes off as a typical Hollywood gimmick a just about everyone in the audience gasped "Sequel ?!?" So you'd be better off saving this one for video.



SAVING SILVERMAN



Tampa Theatre hosts 5th Annual Jewish Film Festival February 8-11

The Tampa Bay Jewish Film Festival will celebrate its fifth year with six films representing various facets of Jewish life, from Holocaust stories, race relations, and Yiddish comedy to Israel's Yom Kippur War. The

festival, sponsored by the Tampa JCC/Federation, is expected to draw more than 1,000 local film enthusiasts.

The festivities will be held once again at the historic Tampa Theatre, in downtown,

Feb. 8, 10 and 11.

The films to be shown on Saturday, Feb. 10 are *The Personals: Improvisations on Romance in the Golden Years*, which received an Academy Award for Best

Documentary Short in 1998, and *Kippur*, which recently premiered at the New York Film Festival.

Scheduled films for Sunday, Feb. 11 in documentary *Into the Arms of Strangers*, a

Yiddish musical comedy from 1936 titled *Yid Mitn Fidl*, and French director Emanuel Finkiel's *Voyages*.

Student tickets are \$5 per screening and are available at the Tampa Theatre box office.

Babysitter wanted

General babysitter wanted for toddler boy. Transportation is not necessary, but references are required. Contact Christina at 251-1232

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.

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Body image may be causing failure

By RAQUEL PITTIGLIO
Staff Reporter

Stereotypically women are the ones who suffer from bad body image. Millions of people men and women in the United States suffer with a body image problem. Many of these people do not look as if they even have a problem. Anything that a person constantly stresses over could possibly have a bad body image problem.

In a survey conducted recently of 30,000 people 93% women and 82% of men cared about how they look and wanted to improve it in some way. However, there is a disorder called Body Dysmorphic Disorder (BDD), which take typically normal concerns to a higher level. People who have BDD would like to worry less about how they look but they cannot.

Some people who have BDD are able to function like everyone else. Occasion-

ally they are late, and avoid social settings, but do have good relationships with friends and do well at work. Sever cases of BDD can make ones life horrible, from not having any friendships, intimate relationships, and their work collapses.

Although, BDD is not sporadic, the reason that most



people do not seek treatment is because they are ashamed.

Estimates of the number of people who have BDD can be up to 5 million in the US alone. BDD does not discriminate in social and economic class or culture. People from all around the planet have BDD.

An article in Shape discussed how a group of women ranging in all ages, talked about how they feel about their body.

Many talked about they let the way they looked control how they felt about themselves. According to the article these women were attractive and did not have any real physical flaws. Most of the women had circumstances that made them feel as if they were less adequate and focused most of their pain on their bodies. When they talked about their problems during a four-day workshop, the participants left with the experience of how a Positive Body Image is powerful enough to change the way you think of yourself.

Ways to combat low body image is through trying to be healthily, like eat right and exercise. Not over doing it, to an extreme which could in turn cause more harm than good. However, if you think that you do have a problem you can visit the mayo health clinic online, or visit the Health Center on Campus. People have a wide variety of resources, if they take the first step and admit that they want and

The Scarlet Pimpernel: The lighter side of war

By BONNE KRAMER
Staff Writer

It's about trickery, blackmail and stealth. It's also hilarious. We're talking about the French Revolution. Ok, so maybe the French Revolution isn't that funny, but it sure seems like it in the theatrical confines of the Tampa Bay Performing Arts Center.

The Scarlet Pimpernel did everything from instilling horror among its audience as the guillotine severed heads, to bringing the audience in an uproar over show stopping numbers such as *The Creation of Man*.

The story revolves around a dashing, yet comical character by the name of Percy (played by Ron Bohmer). Percy organizes his fellow companions to help him save the innocent French from being beheaded by the guillotine. As leader of the group, he becomes *The Scarlet Pimpernel*.

It's hard to cast a handsome man with a great voice that can play both drama and comedy. Thank goodness Ron Bohmer can. Despite the, at times, excessively shrill laughter, his performance led to a well-deserved standing ovation.

Percy marries Marguerite (Amy Bodnar),

believing her only minutes after their wedding to be a spy. Percy therefore hides his secret identity as the Scarlet Pimpernel from her. The loss of Percy's love leads her to sing in her rich belting voice, "When I Look at You". Leading the cast with a dark baritone voice is Chauvelin (William Michals) who sings the tantalizing "Falcon in the Dive".

Many of the songs run parallel to that of *Jekyll and Hyde* and *Les Miserables*. Both *Pimpernel* and *Jekyll and Hyde* were, after all, composed by the brilliant Frank Wildhorn. Certain parts of *Pimpernel* contain a baroque-pop sound. Among the favorites is "Where's the Girl", the choreography of which is absolutely thrilling. It isn't flashy, but bold, and the connection between the actors is indescribable.

But, let's be realistic. There's always something that isn't great. Certain bonds between characters, such as Marguerite and Armand, her brother, are uninteresting and underdeveloped, their relationship leaving no imprint once the curtain is lowered.

Though most modern musicals seem pretty predictable in terms of love relationships and heroic endings, but anyone who has seen *Pimpernel* will admit that the ending is a shocker.

Even if you have terrible seats like I did (I was so far back, Chauvelin looke as if he could have been Matt Lauer), the music is still worth it. Just because it's the French Revolution, doesn't mean it's a downer. You might even find yourself laughing your way through most of the war.

E Ink: The Future of Print Media

By MATT LEOVE
Staff Reporter

We are entering an age that reflects the imagination of Hollywood producers.

The future is approaching and weather we are prepared or not, we must accept it. From super computers to virtual reality, consumers will soon have numerous new technology products to choose from. On of these new products that will effect every students life in the future, is electronic ink. Currently being developed by two companies, Xerox and E Ink, electronic ink is programmable ink. This next generation ink can be reprogrammed allowing the display of it to change on demand. Imagine the possibilities, instead of purchasing six or seven individual books for a semesters class load, you purchase one book created with electronic ink. This book is your math book during math class, then its you chemistry book during chemistry class and in the morning it's your newspaper.

At first glance, electronic ink resembles regular ink, but it is actually made up of three components. First are millions of tiny microscopic capsules, then an oily substance filling those

capsules and last pigmented charged chips floating in the capsules. The chips are positively or negatively charged. These tiny electronic ink capsules form a grid on the surface they are applied to. When an electric current is passed through the grids, the charged chips in the ink rotate, allowing the image on the printed surface to change.

One of the companies producing electronic ink sees the immediate market for their product, advertisement signs. The signs can be reprogrammed by electronic signal uploads. There are many benefits to using this technology for advertising, including the ability to use one sigh for many different messages. E Ink (the company making the signs) plans to implement their product next into personal devisees such as palm pilots. Representatives of the company have suggested that an electronic ink book is approximately 5 years away.

The applications for this product are endless. One day you may paint your house with electronic ink and be able to change the color of the walls with the flip of a switch. Students will be able to download books and literature with the strike of a key. One of the future avenues E Ink is researching, is the multi-color ability of the product. Multi coloring would allow video displays to be made with electronic ink. One-day, students may be able to watch a television episode in



need help. their notebook during class. And we thought Napster was a breakthrough.

For more information about electronic ink go to WWW. Eink.com

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COLLEGE
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THE UNIVERSITY OF TAMPA

RSVP Required with PAYMENT



Seeking to attract college car owners, Honda introduces "Model X"

By LAWRENCE UTRICH

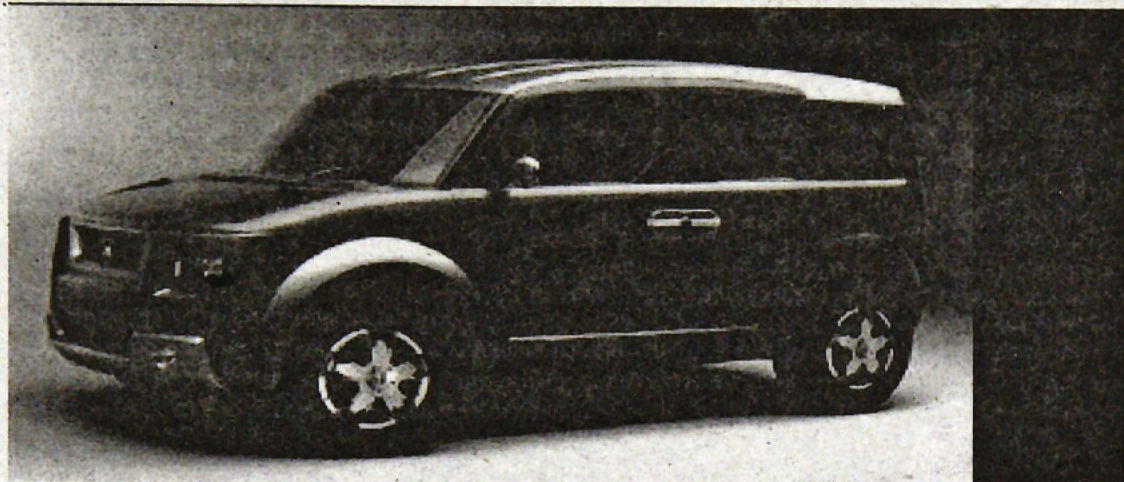
Knight-Ridder Tribune

Several carmakers are chasing the youth market, but Honda Motor Co.'s latest concept

vehicle aims at an even smaller slice of the market pie: young, active college guys.

With skateboarders and mountain bikers performing

tricks on U-shaped ramps near the stage, Honda unveiled the Model X on Tuesday at the North American International Auto Show. The show opens to the public Saturday.



Model X is a boxy blend of a pickup truck and sport-utility designed as a hang-out space for guys, their friends and their outdoor gear.

The four-seat Model X converts into a pseudo-pickup with a rear roof section that slides forward and a rear window that drops into the tailgate. Double side doors swing out to provide a wide-open loading space.

Rear seats fold and slide forward to create cargo space or napping room for occupants, presumably after a long day of biking or partying. With college students not known for their tidiness, the Model X features an interior floor made of an easy-to-clean textured resin, along with durable, washable seats.

Powered by a next-gen-

eration Honda four-cylinder engine, the Model X concept also features a five-speed manual shifter and a navigation system.

Eric Schumaker, Honda exterior design manager, said the company has not decided whether to build the Model X. Honda officials were coy about which vehicles the Model X would compete with, saying there are few new vehicles that college students both want and can afford.

"They're a fairly affluent generation, but you can't do something stupid on price," said Schumaker. "The Model X would have to be under \$20,000."

O'Connor's *Wise Blood* weaves erotic, bizarre tale

By CHRISTA TINSLEY

Staff Writer

The author describes her book as a "comic novel," but Flannery O'Connor's characters are so dark and unusual that laughter is no the first impulse when reading of their bizarre lives. Hazel Motes is a man just out of four years in the service who goes to Taulkinham, Tennessee to restart his life, where the first thing he does is lose his virginity to Mrs. Leora Watts, "the friendliest bed in town."

After running into a blind, repentance obsessed

preacher who prophesies on the streets, Haze begins preaching his own religion, "the Church without Christ," around the town; instead of accepting a "savior" into his life, Haze determines

to become one.

Through his strict evangelism, Haze becomes acquainted with an eager young

strumpet pining for his affection, a boy whose blood instructs him to do strange and illegal things, and the pseudo-Jesus of a rip-off of Haze's new doctrine.

Morbid fascination will keep the reader of this story turning pages to find out how O'Connor plans to neatly bring together in the end a stolen gorilla suit, a shrunken mummy, and a man who deliberately blinds himself.

The truth is she never does tie up the loose ends, leaving much to the reader's imagination and making *Wise Blood* an intriguing, but unsettling read.



Phantom of the Opera: Keegan shines in "Music of the Night"

By BONNE KRAMER

Staff Writer

With the arrival of *The Phantom of the Opera*, The "Music of the Night" certainly filled the Tampa Bay Performing Arts Center.

Based on the novel *Le Fantome de l'Opera* by Gaston Leroux, *The Phantom of the Opera* tells the story of a deformed musical protege who tries to live his musical life by devoting all his energies to the young soprano, Christine Daae.

As her "angel of music", the Phantom also tries to seduce Christine while in his own lair. Raoul is also in love with the soprano, and presents conflicts when he becomes engaged to Miss Daae. The humor of this dramatic plot lies in the two men who run the Opera House, Andre and Firmin. Both eventually find themselves complying with the Phantom's commands.

If you own a recording, you most likely own that which features Sarah Brightman as Christine Daae and Michael Crawford as the Phantom. With that incredible recording ringing

in my ears, it was hard for me not to compare the two as I sat in the audience. By the time the Phantom began to sing his love song to Christine, I slowly found myself amidst the thrill of the story, and not concentrating on the difference between the actors on cd and those on stage.

Ted Keegan leads the 36-member cast as the Phantom, along with Rebecca Pitcher as Christine Daae and John Cudia as Raoul.

As an avid *Phantom* fan, and having seen it performed four times, including once on Broadway, I have never seen an actor play Phantom with such stealth, madness and seduction: everything a part such as the Phantom calls for. Not only did Keegan have a voice that instilled horror among the audience, he also had a tender voice for those times he acted as the "angel of music", and needed sympathy from Christine as well as the audience.

As the Phantom, it was clear that Keegan wanted the audience to understand every word he had to say because he believed it was important. He

didn't just "act", he told the story. As he seduced Christine in "The Music of the Night", his timing and punctuation showed his true professionalism. His mix of both madness and hopelessness were perfectly combined to make a pitied, yet horrifying Phantom. As



audience members, we need to feel that the Phantom should be pitied and understood on a different level. Keegan did no less.

In a musical, actors are expected to have incredible acting skills as well as incredible voices that fit their characters. As expected, opera stars are opera stars, not actors. Christine Daae, the lead soprano, and Carlotta Giudicelli, the ingenue in the Opera, have of course, lovely trained voices, but even more

surprisingly, acting skills. Another role wonderfully portrayed was that of Raoul, the love interest of Christine Daae and rival of the Phantom. Raoul's good looks and delicate voice help to make the audience uncertain as to whom Christine should choose to be with in the climatic "Past the Point of No Return".

Half of a musical such as *The Phantom of the Opera*, revolves around the orchestra as well as the talent on the stage. The pit was alive and attentive to all the actors. The orchestra made necessary dynamic changes leaving the audience focusing on the stage without fear of an overpowering orchestra.

Of course the story of a Phantom living underground, seducing a young ingenue and disappearing as if by magic is all but realistic. Melodrama at times can seem a little too ridiculous. And so naturally, there were times that any level headed thinker would be transported back to the reality of life. However, for most of the show, I found myself mesmerized by the phenomenal talent, and beautifully composed music presented on stage.

Although you have

missed the opportunity to see *The Phantom of the Opera* with this tour, chances are that it will return in several years. Hopefully, Keegan will still be there to once again possess his audience.

Upcoming Events at the TBPAC:

Sacco and Vanzetti
3/16-18

Complete Works of William Shakespeare
running through 3/18

Fosse
2/27-3/4

Cabaret
3/20-25

CELEBRATE BLACK HISTORY MONTH

AT THE UNIVERSITY OF TAMPA

ON-GOING EVENTS:
Look for articles in the *Phoenix* about the historical events in the Blackstone House and the Blackstone House Center for Black History. Stop by the Library to see their featured readings.

FEBRUARY 6 & 7 - EYES ON THE PRIZE VIDEO
10am-2pm in PH Lobby
Stop by Plant Hall Lobby to catch a viewing of the documentary classic *Eyes on the Prize* about the civil rights movement. The University of Tampa Students will staff the display.

FEBRUARY 6 & 12 - BOYS AND GIRLS CLUB
3-7pm
Come volunteer in the community with local children at the Tampa Boys and Girls Club. Contact the P.A.C.E. Office at 354-975 for more information.

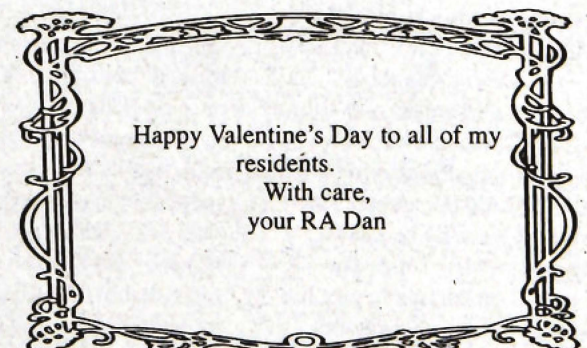
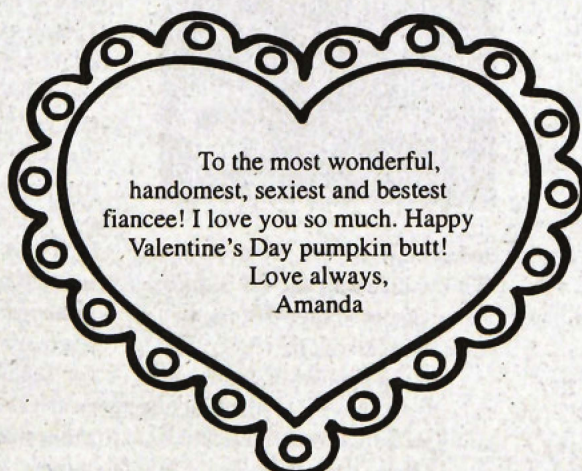
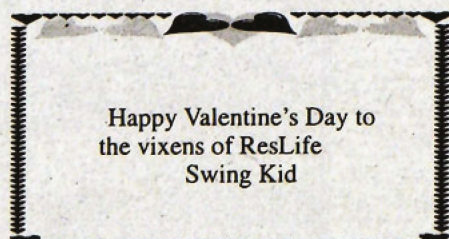
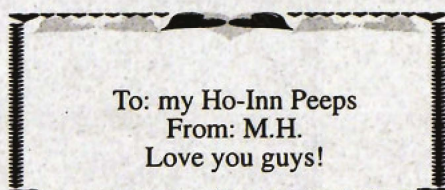
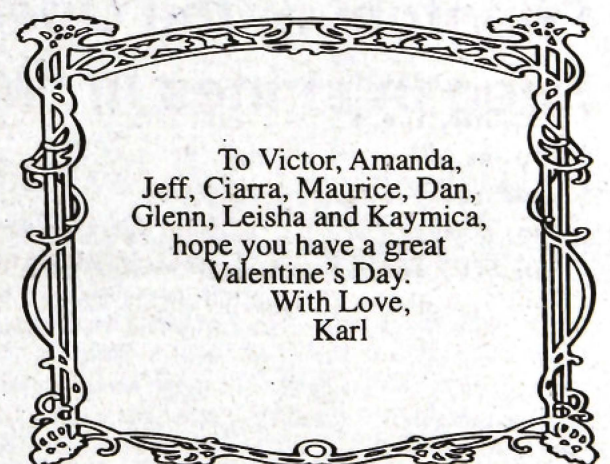
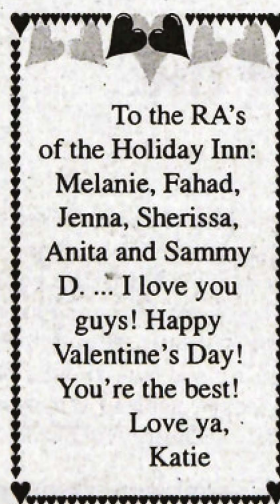
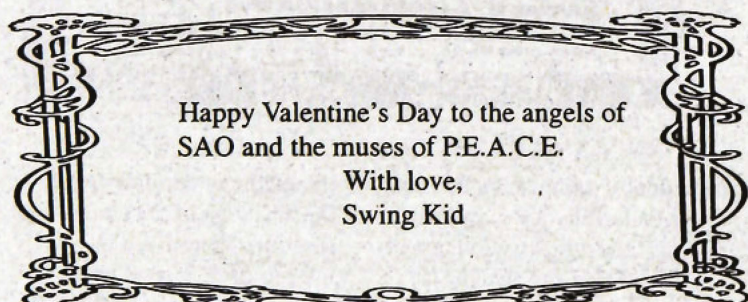
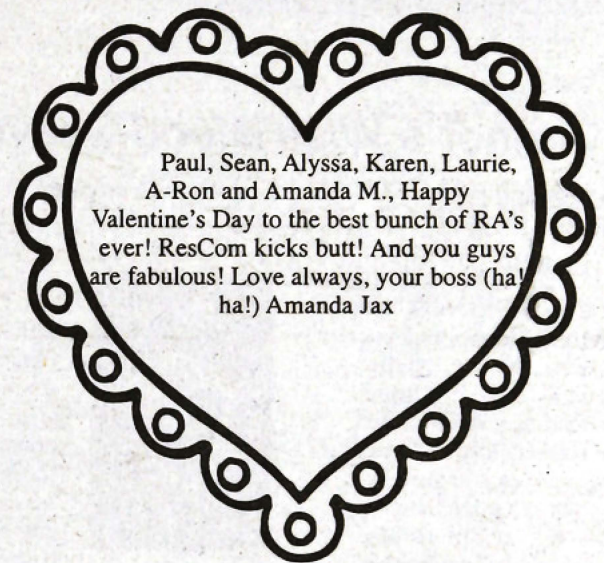
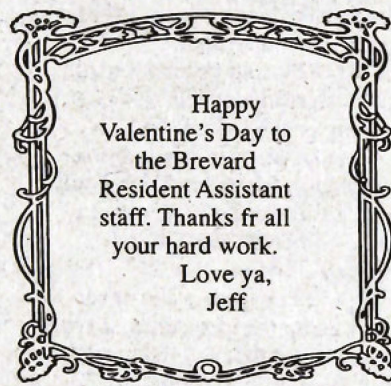
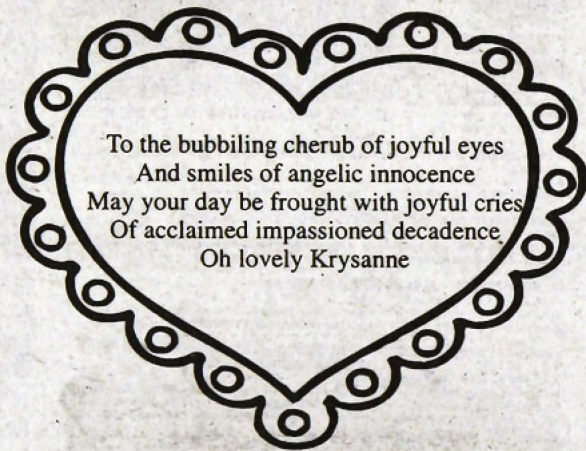
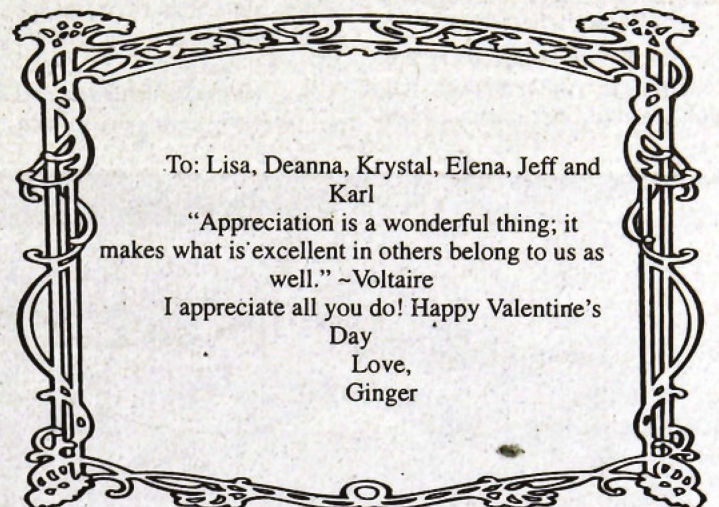
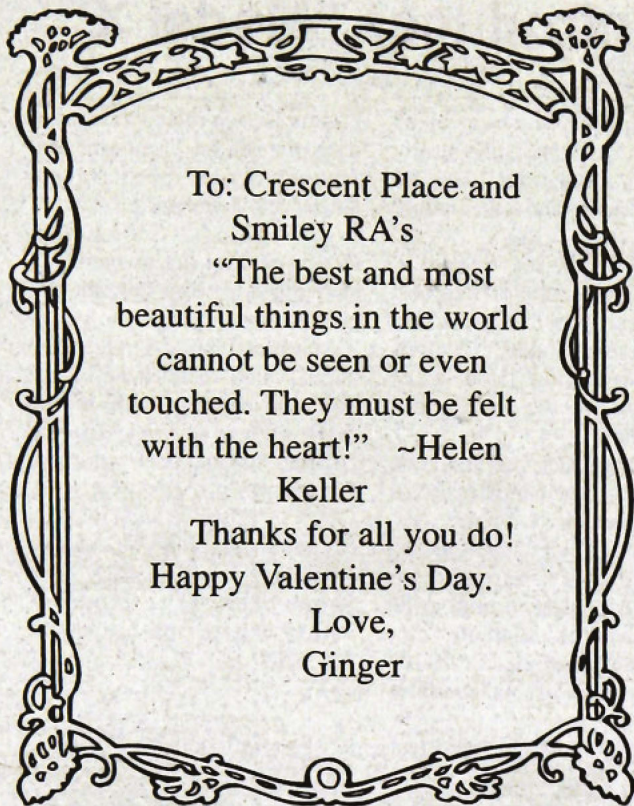
FEBRUARY 7 - GOSPEL LUNCHEON
11:45am-1pm in the Grand Salon
Come join off Black History Month with good food and great music. This exciting event is free to UT students and \$4 for faculty staff. RSVP's are due to Student Activities (x6233) by January 31, 2001.

FEBRUARY 11 - ROBERT SAUNDERS & LEON RUSSELL CIVIL RIGHTS SYMPOSIUM
7pm in the Music Room (formerly Home Room)
Dr. Robert Saunders, NAACP Leader and author of *Bringing the Gap*, and Mr. Leon W. Russell, the Human Rights Officer for Pinellas County Government and a member of the National Board of Directors of the NAACP, will provide an insider's account of Florida's civil rights struggle. The event is sponsored by ELITE (Educating Leaders in Today's Environment).

FEBRUARY 20 - HAIR-STYLE DEMOS
10am-2pm in PH Lobby
Ever wonder what your hair would look like in a traditionally black hairstyle? Come by Plant Hall Lobby for a free demonstration and for information on the difference of hair texture and style of ethnic populations.

FEBRUARY 22 - ROOTS, ROOTS, AND MORE ROOTS
8pm, Location TBA
Come to this celebration of culture, sponsored by Zeta Phi Beta.

FEBRUARY 27 - A SAMPLING OF SOUL FOOD
Caterers during normal dining hours
Come sample some traditional soul food in the Cafeteria to express your taste buds to a different culture.



The Minaret's Guide to VALENTINE'S DAY 2001

Best Valentine's Day Restaurant:

Bern's Steakhouse

Best Valentine's Day Restaurant You Can Afford:

(tie) Bernini, The Castaway, Malio's, The Melting Pot, Bella's

Best Valentine's Date Spot:

(tie) Tampa Theater, stroll along Sand Key, Wal-Mart (tip the geriatric door greeter a five-spot and he'll croon you a love song.)

Best Valentine's Date Spot, If You're Single:

Mon's Venus

Best Makeout Spot:

(tie) Parking Lot, Ballast Point Park (end of Bayshore Blvd.), backseat at Funland Drive-In

Best Valentine's Day Gift:

A puppy

Most Boring Valentine's Day Gift:

(tie) Roses, Chocolates

Worst Valentine's Day Gift:

(tie) "Honey, I'm pregnant!", a swift kick to the crotch, a Hallmark card with instant lottery tickets inside

Song Which Best Typifies Valentine's Day:

(tie) "Let's Stay Together" by Al Green, "Close to You" by the Carpenters

Song Which Least Typifies Valentine's Day:

"Go Your Own Way" by Fleetwood Mac

Best Valentine's Day Film:

Casablanca

Best Valentine's Day Skin Film:

Forrest Hump

Most Romantic Shakespearean Sonnet:

116

Most Creative Position:

Anything involving the word "tantric"

Most Creative Position, if you're not Sting:

(tie) On top of the refrigerator, Sanitation Engineer ("C'mon, they're just garbage men!")

Best Valentine's Day Cologne:

(tie) Drakkar Noir, Polo, Michael Jordan's Airborne

Best Valentine's Day Perfume:

(tie) Allure, The natural smell of woman

Best Song to Set the Mood:

(tie) "Insatiable" by Prince, "Let's Get It On" by Marvin Gaye

Worst Song to Set the Mood:

(tie) "Cream" by Prince, "Pray" by MC Hammer

Celebrity You'd Most Want to be Your Valentine (Male):

(tie) Natalie Portman, Anna Kournikova, Colleen from "Survivor"

Celebrity You'd Least Want to be Your Valentine (Male):

RuPaul

Celebrity You'd Most Want to be Your Valentine (Female):

(tie) Dennis Quaid, Steve: The Crocodile Hunter, Brett Favre, The Hanson Brothers (from Slapshot)

Celebrity You'd Least Want to be Your Valentine (Female):

(tie) Russell Crowe, Charlie Sheen, Dennis Rodman, The Hanson Brothers (singers of "Mmmm Bop")



*Bern's
Steakhouse*

ART IN STEAKS



The undisputed champions of seduction: Prince and Marvin Gaye



To: Jeff C., Jennifer R., Jesse A.,
Paula T., Belinda G., Stephanie S., Jim
M., Jennifer R., Jen H., Serena B., Jason
B., Michael J., Joy J., Cory S., Charielle
C., Troy D., Amy O., Matt F., Qiahna
W., Terrell L., Stephanie B., Dalven H.,
Amanda J., Laurie H., Alyssa B., Karen
D., Aaron C., Amanda M., Paul R., Sean
F., Ginger H., Harold H., Melissa C.,
Masonya P., Mindy B., Robyn D.,
Sabrina G., Adalberto T., Kendra V.,
Monifa E., Alison W., Aron L., Cheryl
M., Iler R., Andy Z., Kirsten J., Francis
R., Karl N., Maurice L., Dan B., Leisha
C., Glenn T., Ciarra J., Jeff G., Victor
M., Amanda L., Katie C., Melanie S.,
Fahad S., Jenna S., Sherissa C., Anita
B., Sam D.

Happy Valentine's Day from the
Office of Residence Life!!

We lose our hearts so many times
Yet darling, I swear you're the first
You stole my heart with sapphire
eyes
And bought my soul with a laugh
Oh, sweet Melanie

Paul, my dearest. To the
good times and even to those bad
times. I love you more than I
thought I could ever love anyone.
You're the best 333!!

Love,
Sarah

Oh Emily, you
came and you found
me a turkey on my
vacation away from
worky.
-Joe

Good Enough to Hang on the Refrigerator

EDITORIAL

Aside from money, grades are the principal force around which contemporary academic institutions have been revolving for generations. The achievement of satisfactory evaluations is what leads to a diploma, the culmination of four years of effort and thousands of dollars spent. With so much at stake during these expensive and ever-decisive years at university, students can ill afford to fall behind in the coursework, even if it means they run the risk of losing their education.

College is a time for experimentation, both inside the classroom walls and outside. For students who are certain of their specific career goals, higher education offers a fine tuning of the resources most need to excel in that certain field. For those who have yet to decide on their future, college allows a range of subjects to entice and appeal to a diverse range of student interests. Yet, as college tuition continues to inflate and experience continues to be a discriminatory factor in the professional future of any young job applicant, the opportunity for enrichment is overwhelmed by the necessity to perform rapidly and well in the collegiate environment.

In fear of falling further behind, as well as further in debt, a student is often forced to declare a major which may be neither preferred nor practical. "I love my criminology classes, but it's to late too change my major; I'm already so far along in biology," or statements similar, can be heard resonating throughout Plant Hall's corridors and behind the closed doors of academic counselors. At such a desperate and frustrated state, the student then views the remainder of the college experience as an exercise in patience and endurance rather than learning.

While many students struggle to meet the academic standards which are imposed upon them by the conventional American university, there are also those who succumb to the notion that grades are the embodiment of achieving education. These students are convinced that an "A" means they learned something valuable, when all they've learned is the importance of punctuality and turning in assignments. Despite interest provoked in a classroom reading or discussion, rarely do students deviate from a professor's scripturesque syllabus, for fear that outside research may prohibit the timely completion of additional and unrelated handouts. In many ways, the letter "A" becomes the proficient student's narcotic: addictive in its nature and unshakable in its unrelenting grasp around the scholar's mental stability.

Students must be evaluated. For teachers to be effective and students to learn, a method of formalized feedback is necessary. Yet, the awarding a letter grade has become the wall which separates master from pupil. As each student's performance differs in aptness, a single character is in no way sufficient to guide the apprentice scholar along the difficult road towards enlightenment and understanding. Letter grades make students feel as if they are simply one of many, rather than an individual with intrinsic and celebrated differences. For all those who labor incessantly on 15-page term papers, a lonely letter grade which so demonstratively sits atop the cover sheet hardly proves adequate.

Grades are tolerable, as long as they do not supplant the passion for learning which is becoming ever difficult to find on the college campuses of modern society. Remember, it is quite possible, however unlikely, that the student always falling asleep in class was not out at Ybor till last call, but up late plowing through a novel that neglectfully went unsigned in the course syllabus.

This week's excuse for problems

COLUMN

I have finally found the answers to all of life's little problems ... well, if nothing else, I've found an answer I am content with, for a while anyway. All semester long, I have been complaining about school, work and life and the terrible pain in my butt they all are, especially when working with each other in some sick attempt to drive me to the insane house. But



By
SARAH
MORGAN

low and behold the answer: the infamous sophomore slump.

I can't believe the answer escaped me for so long. We all know what a sophomore slump is—most of our favorite music personalities went through it, so why should we measly college students be immune? The sophomore slump is that period of time when all is wrong in the universe, only after all was so wonderful.

The concept is simple: the first step outside the "box" we once knew, we met with great enthusiasm and bravery. Once we were here, we realized this college thing wasn't so hard after all. A summer break later, and a few days into class, BAM! It hits us. That mean, evil slump that plagues us incessantly, every day of our existence, almost a taunting.

The sophomore slump is that period of time when all is wrong in the universe, only after all was so wonderful.

Well, I am here to call out the taunting. Once and for all, to quote a favorite movie of mine, "I'm here, damnit, you can't get rid of me." There's no way I'm going to let some little bump in my road of life keep me from moving on. This damn thing has held me back long enough.

So what is one to do about that dreaded setback that we all will face sometime or another? Anyone? OK, I'm stumped too. I found the answer to the problem, but I didn't find an answer to the question the answer brings. Wow, that was a load of crap, now wasn't it?

Some would preach meditation, to quell the homicidal feelings. Others suggest dropping off the face of the extra-curricular planet. I wish it were that simple. I've tried meditation—fallen asleep every time. As for the dropping off the face of the earth

thing, too many people would be after my head if I did that, so I dare not try. Must we wait until this slump runs its course? Are we destined to pine away until the cosmos corrects itself without anyone intervening? There are too many opportunities that can be passed by; too many experiences lost to sit idle while my sophomore year fades into darkness. So here's a quick heads up: for the next two and a half months, give or take, I, along with some others, may not be the easiest to get along with. But not to worry, it's just a passing phase.

Some messes are forever

COLUMN

As I drove home last Wednesday night, I learned more than I wanted to about how some feel it is all right to make a mess and leave others behind to clean it up.



By
LISA
CHOJNACKI

At first, the rush-hour traffic flowed normally. Soon though, traffic slowed, and to my right I saw cars clustered on the side of the road. I

parked and climbed out of the driver's side, into the grass on the shoulder. There, a man knelt beside a dog, lifeless and limp in his arms.

Oh my God, I thought, and all I could say was, "Is he dead?"

"Yes," he said, "there's another over there," and he gestured to his right, where three women huddled around another dog.

"Where are the people who hit him?" I asked.

"They drove off, I guess," one woman replied, "faster than anyone could see them."

Is that what we think is our right as humans, to make a mess, and have someone else clean it up? I

squatted beside the aching animal, bleeding from his mouth and panting fast from shock. The woman talked on a cell phone to a vet, and I stood there, helpless. I reached down and touched his head, stroking him, cooing to him, "It's okay, baby, you'll be all right." I prayed it would be the truth.

An EMT just getting off his shift pulled over, grabbed his medical case and a blanket from his car, and we all helped to cover the dog while the EMT took his vital signs. He looked up and said, "We have to get him to a vet, or he's gone."

A volunteer for the humane society came and called the animal hospital he was affiliated with to prepare them for the dog's arrival. We used the blanket as a sling to carry the weak, terrified puppy to the back of this man's truck. It was amazing how total strangers could all come together for one moment to work for something larger than themselves and save another living thing. It gave me hope for the human spirit.

But then I walked back to the other dog who wasn't so lucky. There he lay, as the sun was setting across Tampa, his life's sun already set just moments ago. He lay motion-

less in the grass, his eyes still open. I wish I could have closed them, so his soul didn't have to see what would happen next.

The man who had first been there, who stood with me and watched this dog take his last breath, walked over and said, "He's dead. Turn around, miss," and he gestured for me to turn away.

I did as he asked, still numb that I had just watched an animal die before my eyes. But I couldn't resist turning around. I saw the man throw the dog's dead body into a trashcan. There. Gone. Let's forget about it. It's over, and life goes on.

Maybe to you, mister, but not for me. How can you just discard his body like he never meant anything to anyone? A friend said later, "Lisa, everything that that dog once was, everything that made that dog who he was, is gone now. His body's no longer important to him."

No! I wanted to scream. But why? Why did I feel such overwhelming pain because of this dog's body being cast away?

As the tears kept coming, I remembered how coldly and unfeelingly my grandfather had simply discounted my body when I was three and he was raping me. It didn't matter that there was a soul inside my little frame, not at all. His needs were more important.

Now that I'm 22, I can understand the feel-

ings that once perplexed and sometimes still overwhelm me.

The problem with the Daisy and Tom Buchanans of the world is that they

leave messes behind for others to clean up. They're numb to the pain and suffering of others.

Because of some reckless driver, there's a dead animal and another who was severely wounded. I stood there weeping, and as I drove the rest of the way home, I sobbed and shook, crying like I had lost part of myself that night, crying for our human race, for how we act, not only towards animals, and how we sometimes yell at them or hit them or leave them outside alone, but also towards each other as well.

Hit and run seems to be a theme in many of our lives, whether it's hitting an animal and leaving him for dead, or betraying a friend's trust and then leaving him or her to pick up the scattered pieces of their life. It's not fair and we all know that. We ask ourselves, Why are we even here? What are we supposed to be doing?

Well, I'll tell you one thing: we are not here to destroy what keeps us alive. There are only so many times you can walk away with blood on your hands before the blood can never be washed away.



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LETTERS FROM OXFORD

Valentine's Day: great holiday or just another day?

COLUMN

It's that time of year again, the two-week season of cards, hearts, chocolates and flowers. It's almost Valentine's Day. The world is in a red and pink bloom, card stores announcing the event in giant lettering across their windows, storefronts showcasing what wears they think would be perfect for your significant other.



By
JEN
MILLER

I thought I'd escape the holiday while in England, but, unfortunately, the Anglican Church has the same saints as the Catholic, so Valentine's Day is also a major commercial holiday in Europe. With it comes the same urgency among

the masses that for some reason, Valentine's Day is a looming beast that must be satiated with some type of romance. For example, Oxford is holding a chocolate and champagne dance; Borders Bookstore is doing a singles night; late night phone line commercials promote instant-found love just in time for Wednesday.

At the same time, the anti-Valentine's Day groupies are preparing their own parties where black attire is required, any kind of alcohol BUT champagne is served, and the evening's activity (besides commutatively lamenting their lack love-luck) is watching smash-em-up technical feats of cinematic genius, drowning their

sorrows in alcohol and car explosions. Then there's how the other half-lives. Couples plan romantic evenings, restaurants are booked up, as are local bed and breakfasts. Some people will be engaged after

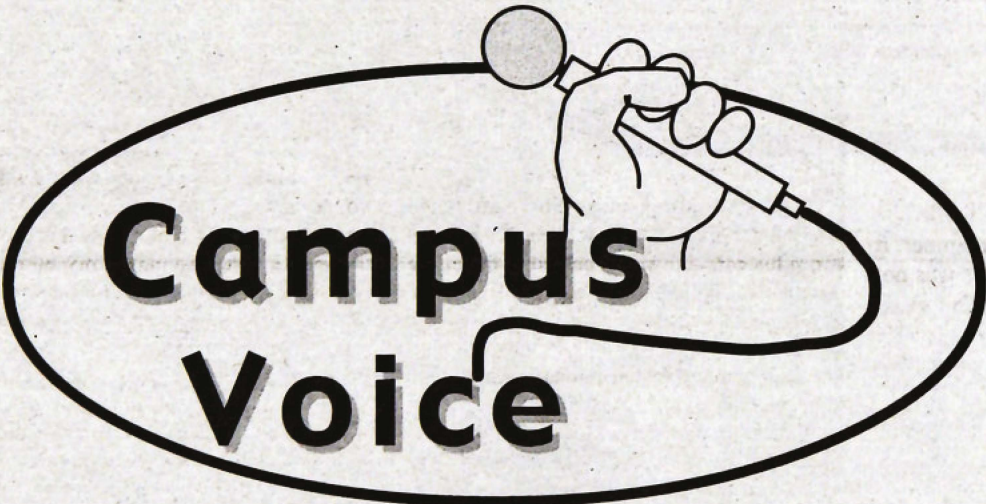
I found the holiday much more enjoyable in grade school when I got a Valentine from everyone in my class. Now the day is tarnished with a heavy sexual overtones and pressure to create the perfect night of romance.

Wednesday night. I have a roommate who is even flying back to the United States to surprise his girlfriend.

And then there's me, in a state of Valentine limbo. As it has been for the last few years, Valentine's Day fails to affect me. I found the holiday much more enjoyable in grade school when I got a Valentine from everyone in my class. Now the day is tarnished with heavy sexual overtones and pressure to create the perfect night of romance.

Since those elementary days, I've greeted the holiday with apathy. Valentine's Day is an excuse for me to wear a red or pink shirt, colors I barely wear in public, and to secretly mock those who loathe the day. Only once have I worn black on Valentine's Day, and it's because I got dumped a week before, but I still celebrated the day with friends at a party, black shirt and all.

As my Valentine's Day most likely won't be following along the lines of the perfect romantic evening, I'm looking at Wednesday as a greeting card holiday and a way to buy chocolates at half-off on Thursday. I wish luck to all couples who are trying to create the "perfect evening," but at the same time, I'll soothe the broken-hearted if they need a shoulder to cry on. I've been in both positions before, but I prefer my limbo: no pressure to create romance and no lamenting love lost. A few children's greeting cards in my mailbox wouldn't hurt, though.



What was your best or worst Valentine's experience?

By JODY LINK



"My then-boyfriend left me a teddy bear and a dozen roses in my car in the middle of the night."

Katherine Figueroa
Sophomore



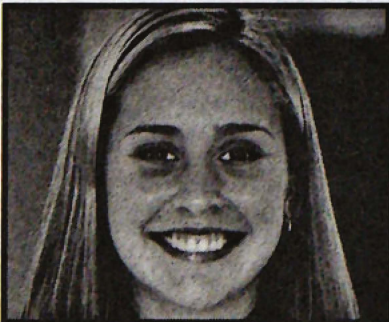
"After giving my then-girlfriend a heart-shaped box of chocolates, she threw it out, got upset, cried and walked away."

Aaron Lurie
Senior



"Every Valentine's Day, I make dinner for my boyfriend."

Jodi Michaelson
Sophomore



"My daddy sent me a big box of chocolates."

Melanie Paulus
Senior



"The one Valentine's Day that I had a valentine, it was just a card. it was the only one ever."

Rob Mulhearn
Sophomore



"My single girlfriends and I decided to have a 'girls day' and have a cocktail party."

Carlin Reagan
Senior



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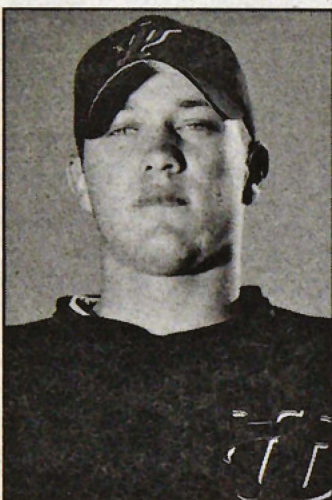
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A look ahead: Spartan baseball draft preview



Mike Rabelo



Charlie Manning

By JOE SANSONETTI
Reporter

With the start of a new season, the University of Tampa baseball team comes the usual coinciding predilections for the individual performances of the players, as well as the team.

With the #2 ranked Spartans off to a good start and much of the attention placed on team performance, there is already a buzz about this years Amateur Baseball draft and for good reason.

With all juniors and seniors eligible to be drafted by any of the Major League Baseball teams, the excitement and anticipation is always high.

This years crop of stars from the Spartans is lead by *Baseball America's* #1 rated Division II prospect, center fielder Dwight Edge. Edge, who is a 6-6, 235 pound senior, is expected to put up some extremely impressive numbers this year after coming off a sub par junior season at the plate.

Not only does this scouts dream hit for power to all fields and for average, but he runs like a lead off hitter, covers ground in outfield like a sponge, and throws with that cannon that hangs out of his right sleeve.

He is a true five-tool player; just what the scouts are looking for. Edge has been drafted twice in his career; once by the Pirates out of

high school and other by the Athletics two years ago.

He feels in order to live up to the predilections he "must be more consistent at the plate with both his power and his average."

Not far behind Edge is *Baseball America's* #2 rated Division II prospect, catcher Mike Rabelo. He is 6-1, 210 pounds of pure animal and will stop at nothing from leading the Spartans to another National Championship.

Rabelo is a junior and is one of the highest ranked catchers in America, in any division in baseball. The main reason behind this is his rifle for an arm that he possesses. With one the fastest home to second times in the country, scouts are sure to take him higher than he 13th round in which he was selected out of high school by the Boston Red Sox.

The key for Rabelo is consistency. Already having crafted himself as a premier defensive catcher, Mike feels that "maturing as a hitter and a leader" will increase his draft status.

With the almost certain jump in power numbers that will come this year, look for Rabelo to be a lottery pick.

Closing out this trio of highly rated prospects is *Baseball America's* #4 ranked player, Charlie Manning.

Manning, a 6-2, 190-pound southpaw, impresses scouts with his tenacity and determination. It also

helps that he throws 90+ mph, with three different fastballs and a slider and changeup that buckle more knees than Faith Hill.

Manning, a pre-season All-American, was drafted last year by the Seattle Mariners in the 9th round and opted to come back to school for his senior year.

Although there is a lot of commotion about the draft, Manning does not seem to let it get to him. "I have not really thought about it and I don't want to make it a priority right now."

This kind of team attitude will unquestioningly allow the Spartans to continue with their winning ways.

Although not rated as high as the other three, a sure draft pick from the Spartans is pre-season All-American Kris Sutton.

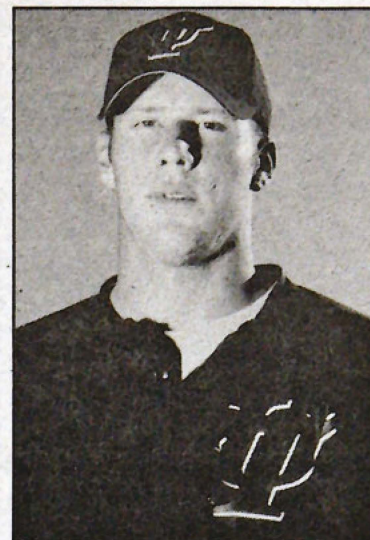
Coming of an 11-1 season and posting a 1.15 earned run average, Sutton is expecting to be selected in the draft. He hopes to improve on his save numbers from last year and feels that it will be a key in improving his draft status.

Sutton boasts a sidearm style that is tricky to opposing batters and possesses the ability to saw off any right-handed batter that steps to the plate.

Being able to throw all of his pitches for strikes allows Sutton to use his entire arsenal at any time keeping hitters off balance and guessing.

These four players are expected to perform and be drafted, yet others on the Spartans have hopes of Major League Baseball as well.

Look for a break out year from 6-4 senior right-hander Kevin Provencher. With more command of the strike zone he will surely be drafted.



Dwight Edge

Transfers Thomas Carrow and Sam Figueroa still have to prove themselves at this level, but are sure not to disappoint and will likely be selected at some point in the draft.

Others to look for are Matt Smith and Jeff Harmeling both key contributors to the Spartans.

Shannon Treen: an ebullient new face

By ANDY BOTT
Reporter

When you're short, you get nicknames like "The Little Machine" and "Energizer." When you're a female freshman, you take a few falls into trashcans.

It leads you to say things like "The guys on the team have no mercy!" However, Shannon Treen is the one showing no mercy in the pool, helping to lead the women's team back to respectability and earning the respect of these same male teammates.

Treen's arrival has "helped transform the women's team," Swimming Coach Ed Brennan said. She is one of several freshmen whose impact has aided the once-floundering program, which is currently ranked #7 in Division II.

"She has as good a work ethic as I've ever encountered in a competitive swimmer, and she's in the top one percent in terms of kids willing to hurt themselves and work hard," Brennan continued. Yet, she also "comes with a smile and is enthusiastic."

Treen is definitely enthusiastic all the time. "She's absolutely effervescent," said Brennan. Going a step further, it is doubtless that she is one of the most ebullient people on this campus.

Roommate Jackie Majer said, "She's totally awesome—she's a fun person."

Majer felt free to say for her teammates also, "Everyone likes her. I don't see why they wouldn't."

Treen is from Slidell, La. (close to New Orleans), where she graduated from Northshore High School last year. She swam for the Hurricane Swim Club since age eight, under the tutelage of Ed Kelly.

Kelly "saw my potential," Treen said. "He was an old military man who drilled a good work ethic into my head." He also aided Treen



-- Jody Link

Shannon Treen is all smiles after her meet.

in her college selection process.

Shannon has a brother, Kyle, 17, who also swims, and she has his future mapped out for him. "My brother and I are really close," she said. "I hope he'll come here. He's my best friend and the one person I miss the most."

Homesickness has not been a problem for Treen, however. "I was ready for a change—I like being a freshman," she said. "I'm having the time of my life."

Even if she was not swimming so successfully, Treen would be having fun, but her surprising success has brought more than fun to

the women's team. "We've languished for 10-12 years," said Brennan. Now, with the additions of Treen, and Alicia Moreland, plus returnees such as Melissa Fielder and Keri Laurence, the team is flourishing.

Treen's success is bred largely from her hard work. Coach Brennan said that, because of her height, "she is at something at a disadvantage, but training ethic makes up for it."

"It's mental ability," continued Brennan. "She's very tough. Because of the training she can carry the speed she has over longer distances."

Treen is currently ranked 4th in the nation in the 200 meter butterfly, and, in the 400 meter individual medley, she is ranked 10th.

She has already made the nationals, an event that, according to Coach Brennan, only one out of 50 swimmers makes. They are being held next month in Ohio. "I don't like to put undue pressure," Brennan said, "but she's a solid chance to finish in both events, be in the top eight."

Teammate Alicia Moreland is also heading to Ohio, and, ironically, is the #1 200 meter butterfly swimmer in the country. Surprisingly, this has not been a problem. "Alicia's been good about taking other events," Brennan said.

"Often, one (of them) swims out of place. Helping a teammate win is winning too."

Treen helps, and is helped, by male swimmers also. She often trains with David Bohnsack. "He's from outside of New Orleans too," she said. "Now we're closer friends and we train a lot of the hard stuff, the distances, together."

The men wish that "Energizer" merely trained with them. "Shannon beats the boys," said Brennan. "It puts the women's team in a whole different light for the men."

Treen's swimming has been integral in winning her team respect from the men.

Treen's personality has not only won her respect but made her a lot of friends. Majer says, "She's my best friend here. She makes me have fun with the little things, not taking them for granted."

"She's always seeing the funny side in everything."

Majer said that, in addition to laughing a lot, Treen "likes to dance."

Treen did not admit to dancing, but she did say, "I really like music. I have my headphones on everywhere I go."

"I really wish I could be an

MTV VJ, but they don't have a major for that."

There are plenty of other things for Treen to do instead. "I like to draw and decorate, that creative stuff. And I'm definitely a picture freak." Treen has many photos of familiar people that she puts up on her dorm walls.

"I make collages in the shape of Louisiana," she said. Also, she puts up "post-it quotes of what people say."

Also, Treen enjoys writing. "I like writing poetry," she said. Interestingly, she went on to say, "But I hate reading it."

Wait, there's more. "I love the beach," Treen said. "We play frisbee and football. I really want to learn how to surf."

It helps that Treen is a freshman and can wait to worry about her scholastic future. "I am undeclared," she stated sheepishly.

True to form, she continued, "I kinda want to do everything." When asked to narrow that down, however, she did reply, "some type of biology. Maybe marine biology."

When Jackie Majer said that Shannon Treen is "very dedicated, giving 100 percent at all times," she was not only talking about Treen's athletic career.

Treen fully enjoys and lives life, and she does not take anything for granted. We should learn from her and not take her for granted while we are enjoying every minute of her company.

Editor's note:
The men and women's swimming teams raced against Rollins this past week. A full story will be published in next week's issue of the Minaret.

Sunshine State Conference

Standings

Team	W-L	W-L
Eckerd	18-4	7-2
FSC	16-5	7-2
Lynn	16-5	7-2
Tampa	17-4	6-3
Rollins	16-8	4-5
St. Leo	10-11	3-6
Barry	13-8	2-7
FT	4-17	0-9

Leaders

Scoring

T. Broadway, Barry 17.6ppg.

Rebounding

S. Bryan, Tampa 8.9rpg.

Steals

G. Morales, Lynn 2.67spg.

Blocks

C. Humbert, FSC 2.89bpg.

Assists

J. Gibbons, FSC 5.89apg.

Player-of-the-Week

The University of Tampa's Gecarri Freeman captured Player-of-the-Week honors this week. The junior forward/guard averaged 15.5 points, seven rebounds, 2.5 assists and 1.5 steals in two games. The Titusville, FL resident was 12-of-20 from the floor for a .600 percentage and was 7-of-11 from the free-throw line for a percentage of .667.

Freeman and company sweep Moccasins

Continued from page 16, "Spartans..."

With the Spartans up by five, Southern's Foster hit a three-pointer to get the Mocs within two points, but Tampa countered with a three-pointer by Mereus and a jumper by Jon Norris to go up by seven points and their largest lead of the night.

The game got heated as FSC's (Cedric) Powell fouled Piazza and then was slapped with a technical foul at the 8:09 mark.

Unfortunately Piazza only connected on 1-4 of those shots, but that was the definitive mark in the game, as the Mocs never seemed to regain composure after that.

In the last 32 seconds of the game, the Spartans iced the game by hitting 7-8 free-throws to close-out the game with a six point victory.

Jon Brown hit four consecutive free-throws, followed by Freeman with two and Howard with one before he missed the last one. The Spartans had made nine in a row before the miss.

Freeman led all scorers with 23 points on 9-13 shooting from the floor and 5-8 from the line. He also added ten rebounds to record a double-double. Mereus added 14 points, eight rebounds and three blocks in the effort, while Piazza netted ten points and grabbed eight rebounds.

(Cedric) Powell led the Mocs with 19 points including 12-13 from



Elijah Piazza came off the bench to score ten points.

-- Jody Link

the free-throw line. Humbert aided in the effort with 14 points (10-19 free-throws) and Foster netted 12 points including 2-3 from three-point range.

With the victory Tampa improved to 17-4 (6-3 SSC) and Florida Southern fell to 16-5 (7-2 SSC) on the season.

Tampa 73 St. Leo 54

Tampa continued to show their domination of Saint Leo University with a season sweep last week. The Spartans enjoyed early success with a first-half lead of 36-23 and never looked back as they glided to a 19 point victory.

Spartans Jon Brown and James Mereus led the squad with 17 points each. Brown connected on 5-7 from the floor, 2-3 from long range and 5-7 from the stripe to go along with a team-high five assists. Brown also added seven rebounds and three steals.

Mereus was almost perfect, connecting on 5-6 from the floor, 1-1 from three-point range and 6-6 from the line.

Chuckie Powell and reserve Elijah "Pizza Man" Piazza also scored in double figures. Powell had 13 points with four steals and three assists, while Piazza had ten points with six rebounds.

Sylvere "J.B." Bryan led the Spartans with nine rebounds, all defensive. He also led the team with two blocked shots.

Gary Downing led the Lions 16 points and Matt Hogarth added 13 points in the loss.

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

By TOM KOLBE
Reporter

LAST WEEK: Tampa (17-4, 6-3) got back on the winning track as they were victorious in both games last week. The Spartans traveled to Saint Leo on Wednesday and defeated the Lions 73-54 and returned home to outmatch Florida Southern 75-69 on Saturday night.

The Spartans completed the regular season sweep of both Saint Leo and Florida Southern with last week's victories.

THIS WEEK: Tampa travels to Boca Raton for a Wednesday night match-up against Lynn as the Spartans seek to avenge a two-point loss on January 17 to the Knights.

Tampa returns home and will play host to Barry on Saturday in a game that will tip-off at 4:00 PM. Tampa is seeking a regular season sweep of the Buccaneers as the Spartans won at Barry by a score of 77-75 back on January 20.

THE SERIES: Tampa leads Barry 24-6 in the all-time series as the Spartans took both regular season games from the Buccaneers last season before falling to Barry in the Sunshine State Conference tournament.

The Spartans trail Lynn 2-6 in the all-time series, however, Tampa took both games from the Knights last season after losing the first five games in the series to Lynn.

THE RANKINGS: Tampa is currently unranked after being ranked number 22 last week in the Division II Bulletin and opening 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 sea-



Peter Howard goes up for a shot against Florida Southern. Howard scored eight points in the game.

--Jody Link

son in the top 10.

The pre-season pick to win the Sunshine State Conference, the Spartans are now ranked fourth 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 33 of 92 long-range shots for 35.9 percent, all team highs.

Freeman has also been a key factor on the boards as he is coming off a 10-rebound effort against Florida Southern.

Against Florida Southern, Freeman registered his first double-double of the season as he also scored a game-high 23 points on 9-13 shooting.

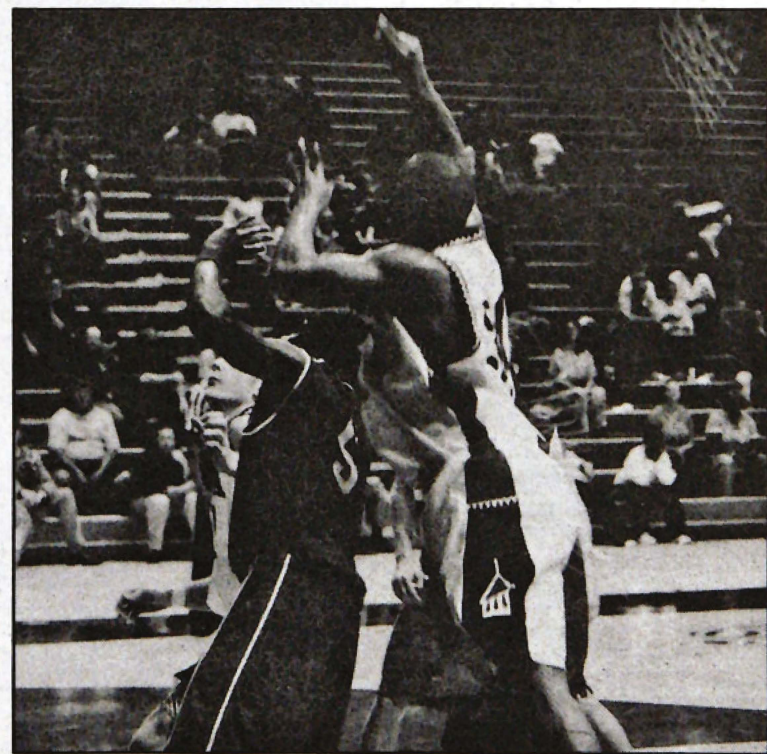
THE SIXTH MAN: Elijah Piazza has now scored in double figures in the last three games and has

given Tampa an instant spark off the bench. In the past three games Piazza has scored 32 of his 33 points in the first half. He has also been active on the boards as he grabbed eight rebounds against Florida Southern, including four offensive rebounds.

is closing in on Drexel Deveau (307) and Junior Hanna (308).

MEREUS PLAYING BIG: James Mereus has made a smooth transition into the starting lineup and continues to improve with each outing.

Mereus has now scored in



Gecarri Freeman scores one of his 23 points.

-- Jody Link

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

After going to the sidelines, Powell appeared to be in a considerable amount of pain. It was good news when he found out that it was only a bruise and he will be fine for the Lynn game.

Powell is Tampa's leader with 91 assists and 43 steals, as he currently stands seventh on the all-time assist list with 297 career assists. He

double figures in six consecutive games and is coming off a 14 point, eight rebound effort against Florida Southern. He also recorded a team-high three blocks against Florida Southern.

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.

Sunshine State Conference

Standings

Team	W-L	W-L
Rollins	19-2	8-1
FSC	17-4	7-2
Tampa	16-5	6-3
FT	14-7	6-3
Barry	16-5	5-4
Lynn	10-14	3-6
Eckerd	14-9	1-8
St. Leo	6-15	0-9

Leaders

Scoring

K. Rullison, Lynn 17.6ppg.

Rebounding

D. Phillips, FT 10.0rpg.

Steals

M. Brown, FSC 3.38spg.

K. Storr, Rollins 3.38spg.

Blocks

J. McDowell, UT 3.19bpg.

Assists

M. Brown, FSC 6.76apg.

Player-of-the-Week

Eckerd College junior center Rachel Thompson averaged 25.5 points 11.5 rebounds in two games. The native of point Fortin, trinidad added one assist and a blocked shot in her efforts. She made 20-of-32 field goal attempts for a percentage of .625 and was 11-of-18 from the free throw line for a percentage of .611.

Thompson is currently second in the Sunshine State Conference in field goal percentage (.507), third in rebounding (8.6rpg.) and 12th in scoring (13.4ppg.)

This week in women's basketball

By DAVE MACE
SID

PREVIOUS GAMES: Tampa is coming off a split week. Last Wednesday, the Spartans traveled to Saint Leo and defeated SLU 80-61.

This past Saturday, they hosted conference rival Florida and lost 55-54 to the Mocs.

Sophomore Jessie McDowell led all scorers in the Saint Leo game with 19 points on 9-12 shooting from the floor.

Freshman Yushonda Morse (15 points) and junior-transfer Nichole Blair (17 points) also scored in double figures. Morse also recorded a game-high seven rebounds and four steals.

The Florida Southern game once again saw three Spartans in double figures with Morse leading the way with 15 points and 15 rebounds.

Blair, along with fellow junior-transfer Kara Bowman, also scored in double figures with Blair netting 13 points and Bowman scoring 12 points.

THE MORSE FORCE: Freshman Yushonda Morse has dominated as of late. This past week she netted a combine 30 points, grabbed 22 rebounds and had nine steals.

In the game against Florida Southern she recorded her second double-double of the season with 15 points and 15 rebounds (career-high). Morse also had career-highs in defensive rebounds (10) and steals (5).

Lady Spartans tame Lions, get snake-bitten

By DAVE MACE
Reporter

Florida Southern 55 Tampa 54

After leading 27-25 at the half, the Spartans lost a heartbreaker in the final seconds of the game.

The game started out quite with a showcase of haphazard play, as one can expect when two overzealous rivals match-up. Neither team scored until the 17:20 mark as the etams combined for a total of seven turnover and six missed shots until Florida Southern's Becky Kowallek made a layup.

The Spartans then scored on a free-throw by freshman Yushonda Morse, but did not score a field goal until Morse made a layup at the 13:14 mark. Luckily, the Mocs were unable to produce during that stretch as they only had a 5-3 lead.

The Spartans then tied with a layup by freshman Amy Holmes and then took their first lead of the game on a pair of free-throws by Morse. The Spartans took their biggest lead of the game at the 5:02 mark on a jumper by Nichole Blair to bring the score at 18-15. Tampa then matched that lead with 27 seconds left in the half on a layup by Morse to give the Spartans a 27-24 advantage. The Mocs' Melissa Brown countered with a pair of free-throws to end the half with Tampa ahead 27-25.

Morse led all scorers at the half with 11 points. The freshman also had a team high nine rebounds in just 14 minutes of play in the first-half. FSC's Antonia Newman led the Mocs with 11 rebounds and five rebounds.

The second-half was played more strategically and better executed by both teams as they traded leads for the first 12 minutes of the half until the Mocs gained the lead at the 7:41 mark on a pair of free-throws by Jocelyn Koch that would last 2:12.

At the 5:29 mark Blair hit a layup to tie the game for the Spartans and re-ignite their fire. A three-pointer by senior Chandra Holden



-- Jody Link

Tampa's Yushonda Morse tries to defend the shot of FSC's Antonia Newman.

would then give the Spartans their first lead since the 8:48 mark earlier in the half.

The Mocs' Alicia Evans countered with a three-pointer to tie the game and then stole the ball form by Holden and hit a layup to regain the lead. The Spartans then tied the game with 1:55 left on a pair of free-throws by Liz Wetenkamp.

With 20 seconds left, Florida Southern's Newman made a free-throw to go ahead 55-54 and win the game.

Tampa 80 Saint Leo 61

After falling to the tenth-ranked Rollins Tars the previous week. The

Spartans were looking for vengeance and vengeance came at the expense of the Saint Leo Lions.

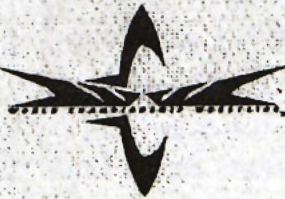
Tampa completed their season sweep of the Lions with a lopsided victory at Saint Leo. The Spartans led at halftime 35-14 and never looked back.

The Spartans began the first half with a 5-0 run sparked by a jumper and a steal by Yushonda Morse that culminated into an 18-2 run.

The run was led by Sophomore Jessie "The Body" McDowell with four points, two blocks and a rebound, and fellow sophomore Liz Wetenkamp with two points, three assists and a rebound.

Meet WCW's Mike Awesome and Jimmy Hart

Friday February 9
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#5 Tampa
VS
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Mike will be throwing out the first pitch
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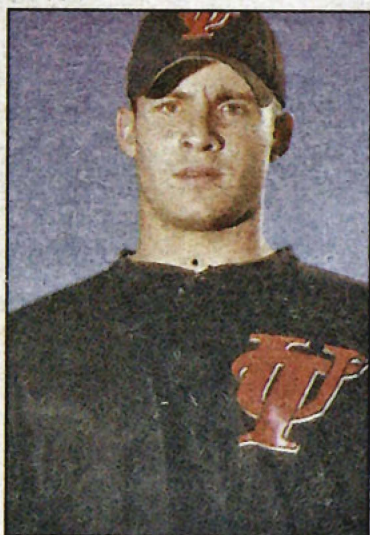
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Inside...



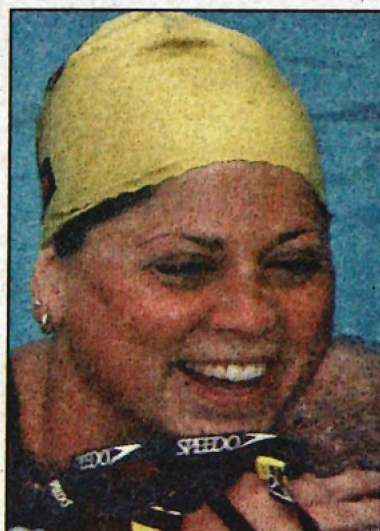
Women's basketball team loses heartbreaker to Florida Southern 55-54. *Page 15.*



Baseball team draft preview. *Page 13.*



Men's basketball team defeats Saint Leo 73-54. *Page 14.*



Swimmer Shannon Treen. *Page 13.*

Spartans Mutilate Mocs



--Jody Link

Gecarri Freeman and the Tampa Spartans defeated the #25 Florida Southern Moccasins 75-69. Freeman had a game-high 23 points.

By DAVE MACE
Reporter

For the second time this season the Spartans defeated archrival Florida Southern. The Mocs, ranked 25 in the nation, were swept by the Spartans.

The first half was tight the entire way and ended in a 38-38 tie. The first half saw 12 lead changes and nine ties.

The Spartans did out-shoot the Mocs in the first half 50.0 - 39.1 percent and out-rebounded then 21-12, but Southern kept it close by connecting on 18-21 free-throws compared to the Spartans hitting 6-10.

The Mocs' leading scorer, Christophe Humbert, led off the game's scoring by hitting two free-throws. The Spartans' Gecarri Freeman then answered with a jump shot to tie the game.

The game was kept within three points until FSC's Cedric Powell (brother of UT's point guard Chuckie Powell) hit a three-pointer to give the Mocs a five point lead with 6:15 left in the first half.

The Spartans then tried to crawl back with a pair of free-throws by sophomore Peter Howard, but FSC's Nick Railsback hit a three-pointer to push the lead to six points.

Tampa did manage to come back, however, as Sylvere "J.B." Bryan scored two baskets and Elijah "Pizza Man" Piazza hit a free-throw to pull within one point.

Southern once again did pull ahead with a four-point lead as Tampa's Leonard Kelly turned the ball over and in frustration fouled FSC's Ian Foster, who in turn nailed both of his free-throws for a 34-30 lead.

Gecarri Freeman scored a lay-

up and Piazza hit two free-throws after being fouled on the offensive glass to tie the game up at 34-34.

Tampa then took a 38-34 lead on a jumper by Freeman and a thunderous dunk by Piazza, but Southern came back to tie the game on a pair of free-throws by (Cedric) Powell, a steal and an assist that led to a Jerry Edwards lay-up that ended the half at 38-38.

Freeman led the Spartans at the half with 12 points on 6-8 shooting from the field and grabbed five rebounds. Piazza added to the "Freeman Show" by scoring nine points on 3-5 shooting from the floor and 3-4 from line and adding five rebounds as well.

(Cedric) Powell led the Moccasins with 15 first-half points on 3-6 shooting from the floor including 1-2 from beyond the arc and shooting 8-9 from the stripe.

He also added three steals and

two assists. Humbert added eight points including a 6-6 effort from the free-throw line.

For the first five minutes of the second half, the game mimicked the first half as the teams traded leads six times and tied twice.

The Mocs' Jay Gibbons (son of former FSC head coach and current Tampa Bay ThunderDawgs' head coach Gordon Gibbons) scored the first basket of the half to give the Mocs the lead.

At the 15:57 mark, Tampa's James Mereus hit a put-back lay-up to go up 45-43, and FSC's Foster countered with a lay-up to tie the game for the game's last tie.

Mereus would then hit another lay-up to put the Spartans ahead for good.

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