



THE MINARET

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Weapons Policy, Promotes Mass Discussion

Students want protection options

By KRISTA BYRD
News Writer

Safety on college and university campuses has garnered national attention in recent months, with the shooting at Florida State University and multiple campuses dealing with sexual assault, like Vanderbilt University and Columbia University. With these cases has come a heightened sense of the need for self-

defense. While some students have access to self-defense skills, others want to pack tasers, but University of Tampa officials warn that weapons are not welcome.

Weapons intended for self-defense, including tasers, are forbidden at UT -- even if you store them in your car or dorm room.

Among the banned items are tasers and firearms including BB guns, pellet guns and rifles, swords (decorative or real), bow and arrows, slingshots, martial arts weapons (like ninja throwing stars), hunting knives and darts.

"Chemical agents designed to be used as a personal protective device are permitted, but may be used only as a defensive weapon," said Dr. Linda Devine, vice president for operations and planning. Chemical agents include mace and pepper spray.

Devine and Campus Safety Director Kevin Howell said ROTC members, campus safety

and training corps members may have a firearm or weapon, but only when they are using it for training or official duties. Police officers on campus may also possess a firearm.

While firearms are currently banned, Florida House Bill 4005 (HB 4005), which would allow college students to carry concealed firearms, has passed the Criminal Justice Subcommittee of Florida's House. This bill, if passed, would not apply to private institutions like UT, but would apply to public schools in the area, including University of South Florida, Hillsborough Community College, Florida State University and University of Florida, among others, according to the measure. The bill would still have to go through several other committees before passing, and, if passed, would

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US Should Provide Military Support to Ukraine

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Top Ranked Baseball Team Off to Roaring Start

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Addressing Sexual Assault on Campus

By BRIANNA KWASNIK
News Writer

The issue of sexual assault on college campuses is a growing concern for many universities across the nation. In recent months, many colleges like Columbia have faced criticism regarding to how they handle reported cases of sexual assault.

A total of three sexual offenses have been reported in 2013, seven in 2012 and three in 2011, according to UT's Annual Security report. The statistics show offenses reported on campus in residence halls, campus property and non-campus property (Barrymore hotel, formerly known as the Howard Johnson). Reported offenses occurring off-campus, and offenses reported to counselors (due to confidentiality) are not included in the security report numbers.

UT's code of conduct describes how students attending the university are expected to behave. Students are protected from discrimination based on gender in any educational program or activity which operates on federal financial assistance, according to Appendix I, Article IX.

Article IX also considers sexual harassment, which includes sexual violence as a form of sexual discrimination. The code defines sexual misconduct as any sexual act that occurs when the victim is unable to provide consent (intelligent, knowing and

There are three options available to students who need to report a case of sexual assault: Title IX, student conduct or through the Tampa Police Department.

voluntary agreement). The code of conduct provides definitions of terms you may have heard before, but aren't necessarily clear about defining sexual harassment, public indecency, voyeurism and sexual battery. Should a student find themselves guilty of sexual battery, depending on their case, sanctions can include suspension with termination of residency to being expelled from the university.

"Bystander education programs are becoming more popular and proving to be effective means of educating students on how to contribute to a safer campus environment," said Monnie Wertz, Chair of the Student of Concern Committee.

UT has recently teamed up with the national sexual assault education group, One Student (onestudent.org), in order to develop an educational program for UT students regarding the issues of sexual and relationship violence.

There are precautions that you can take while out with friends to reduce the risk of potentially dangerous situations.

"Being aware of resources to utilize if you see a potentially dangerous situation, awareness of the inaccuracies of many myths about sexual violence, awareness of our own limits, awareness of general safety practices such as traveling in groups and not leaving intoxicated friends alone will go very far in preventing this type of crime," Wertz said.

To remove any hesitation about reporting, the school will not pursue any potential violations of the victim/survivor that may have occurred at the time of the sexual assault. For example, if the victim was engaging in underage drinking, he or she would not receive any consequences. There are three options available to students who need to report a case of sexual assault: Title IX, student conduct or through the Tampa Police Department. Students can use one or all of these reporting options. There are 37 security personnel on campus, with officers patrolling 24 hours a day.

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MINARET M

EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

Mia Glatter
mia.glatter@theminaretonline.com

MANAGING EDITOR

Lauren Richey
lauren.richey@theminaretonline.com

ART DIRECTOR

Justine Parks
justine.parks@theminaretonline.com

NEWS + FEATURES

Katherine Lavacca, Editor
katherine.lavacca@theminaretonline.com
Zoe Fowler, Asst. Editor
zoe.fowler@theminaretonline.com

ARTS + ENTERTAINMENT

Jackie Braje, Editor
jacquelyn.braje@theminaretonline.com
Selene San Felice, Asst. Editor
selene.sanfelice@theminaretonline.com

OPINION

Richard Whitaker, Editor
richard.whitaker@theminaretonline.com
Avery Twible, Asst. Editor
avery.twible@theminaretonline.com

SPORTS

Phil Novotny, Editor
philip.novotny@theminaretonline.com
Jordan Llanes, Asst. Editor
jordan.llanes@theminaretonline.com

MULTIMEDIA

Doha Madani, Editor
doha.madani@theminaretonline.com
Savanna Blackerby, Asst. Editor
savanna.blackerby@theminaretonline.com

PHOTOGRAPHY

Casey Budd, Editor
casey.budd@theminaretonline.com

ADVISER

Tiffini Theisen
ttheisen@ut.edu

COPY EDITORS

Khadjah Khan, Head Copy Editor
khadjah.khan@theminaretonline.com
Tess Sheets, Copy Editor
tess.sheets@theminaretonline.com
Caitlin Malone, Copy Editor
caitlin.malone@theminaretonline.com
Daina Stanley, Copy Editor
daina.stanley@spartans.ut.edu

STAFF WRITERS

Madison Irwin
Krista Byrd
Jordan Walsh
Ariel Hernandez
Brianna Kwasnik
Rebecca Turner
Liv Reeb
Kamakshi Dadhwal
Marisa Nobs
Kara Delemeester
Katie Drake
Tess Sheets
Candace Martino
Ed Kerner
Andrew Stamas

COLUMNISTS

Marcus Mitchell
Griffin Guinta
Liz Rockett

GRAPHICS

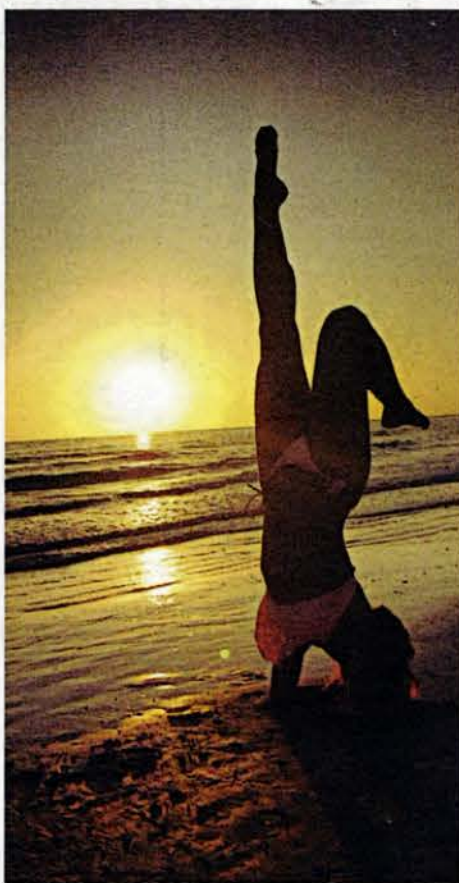
Wendy French
Tori Pavel
Kaytlyn Sims

MORE INFORMATION

THE MINARET is a weekly student-run publication at the University of Tampa. Letters to the Editor may be sent to editor@theminaretonline.com.

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Student Yogi Creates Positive Atmosphere Through Classes



By MADISON IRWIN
News Writer

Students lay on their mats in silence as they prepare for Sunrise Yoga on Tuesday morning. The class starts off with some meditation and deep thought. Soothing music plays in the background while Natal tells her students to concentrate on their breath, and to imagine what it looks like. The class then warms up with a simple stretch, which includes head rolls. A few downward dogs and child poses later, the real stretch begins.

Students work on their core, as well as their straddle, which Natal helps them with by slowly pushing them forward from behind. The class ends with another meditation session with Natal walking around, rubbing her students' heads with essential oils, switching up the scent once and awhile to keep it fun.

Born in New Jersey and raised in Cape Coral, Florida, Erica Natal is a senior performing arts major and double minor in speech theatre and exercise science. Students know her as everyone's favorite yoga instructor on campus. Having a balance in all things is an important way of life for Natal, and yoga allows her to do just that.

"Before I got into yoga, I used to be a perfectionist in high school. I still am, but I've found a happy medium," Natal said. "It taps into my soul. I could be having my worst day, but after work, I feel so illuminated."

Natal, who has been a yoga instructor at UT for three years, is certified in yoga levels one, two, three and five. She is also qualified for prenatal, anatomy and yoga props. These levels signify the difficulty of teaching. Natal is three certifications short of her 200 hours; 500 hours is the maximum. When it comes to her classes, the 21-year-old describes herself as a canvas and her students as the paint and brushes, creating their own masterpiece.

"I try to cover all the areas: mentally, physically and spiritually. I love that all my students leave with something and that they end up feeling truly balanced," Natal said.

According to Natal, yoga helps in terms of physical health and mental health. Not only does it build flexibility, but it relieves stress from creating endorphins just like any other form of exercise. It also builds strength, endurance and lowers your

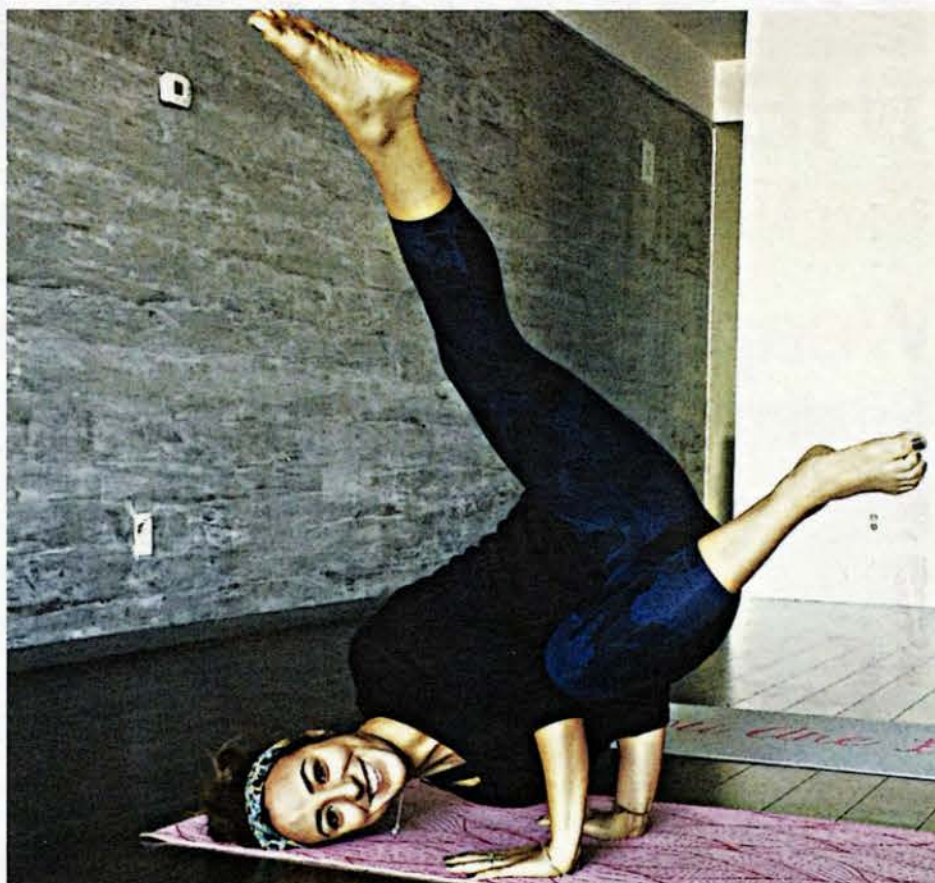


Photo courtesy of Erica Natal
Erica Natal is a senior and loves to provide a relaxing release from hectic schedules.

blood pressure.

Erik Tiitus, a sophomore economics major, has been taking Natal's yoga classes ever since she first started instructing.

"When I was a freshman, I first saw her when I was at the gym one day with my friend. She was doing a bunch of crazy yoga poses and we asked, 'how do you do that?' So, that's when she told me to come to her classes, so I did and I've loved it ever since," Tiitus said. He especially enjoys her Sunday night classes. "She really creates a nice, relaxing atmosphere."

Alicia Waldner, a sophomore marketing major, has been taking Natal's classes since she first transferred to UT in the fall.

"Erica is so awesome. She makes my day better," Waldner said. "At each yoga class, she has a specific goal for the class that day. I really like the sunrise yoga class because it's a really good refresher in the morning."

Another student, Krystal Kirby, recently started taking Natal's classes a few weeks ago and says she is already hooked.

"Her classes are amazing. She combines relaxation with strength training, which I really like," Kirby, a junior ad and PR and psychology double major, said "She's not afraid to push you to do the most you can within your limit. She also does a variety of different things, so you never feel like you are doing the same thing over and over."

Erica is involved in many other extracurricular activities in addition to being a yoga instructor. She is the student coordinator of Balance UT, a gateways mentor, a hostess at the Straz Center, a

server at Macaroni Grill and a sister of Delta Zeta, all while being in the honors program. In addition, she recently got a job at House of Creative as a yoga instructor. Apart from all that, Natal loves to perform. She has been singing since she was in the sixth grade and has been performing in musicals since high school. She has also performed in some musicals at UT, such as Cabaret and Company.

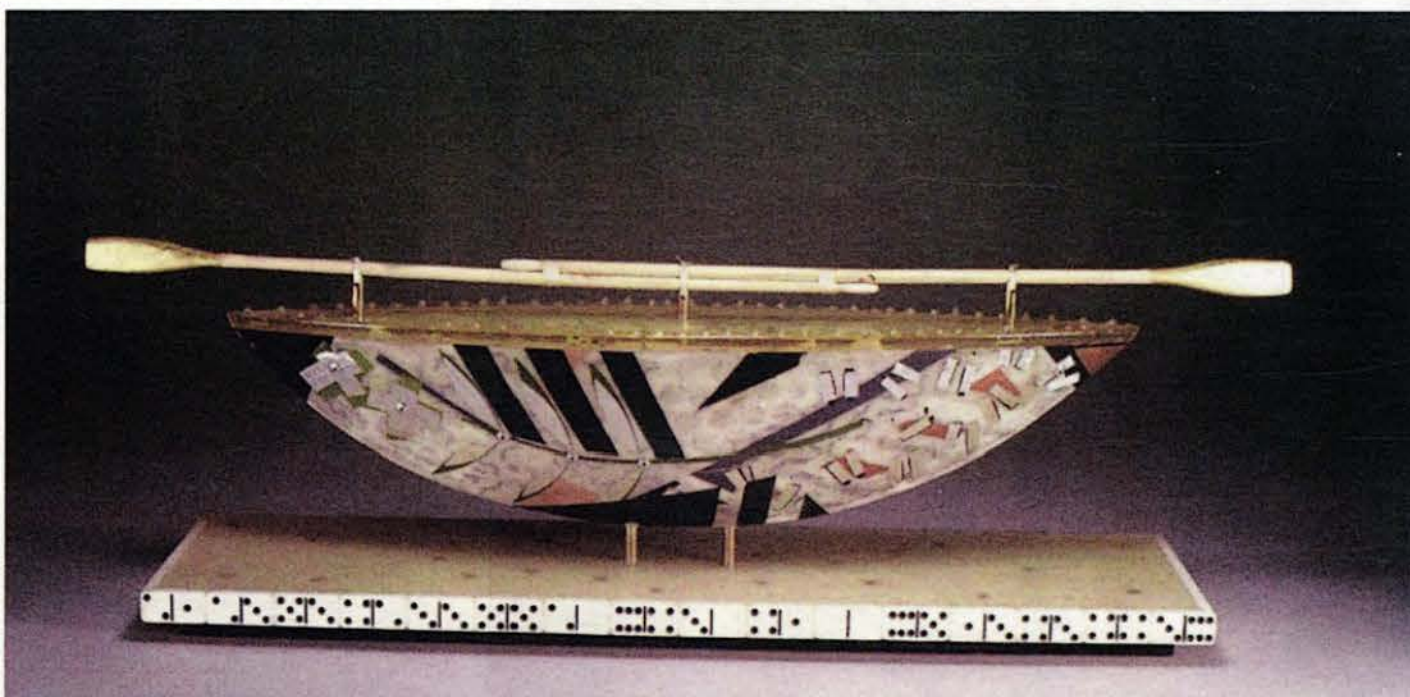
Chanel Vanzant, a senior international and cultural studies major and one of Natal's closest friends at UT, describes her as gentle and charming, as well as having one of the most infectious laughs she has ever heard.

"Erica is incredibly gifted at whatever she puts her mind to. I have witnessed her succeed in multiple areas across campus over the past four years in a way that inspires and uplifts others," Vanzant said. "I truly admire her beautiful outlook on life. I have never met someone who is able to turn a negative situation around quite like she does while looking flawless."

As far as Natal's career is concerned, she wants to pursue all three of her passions, which are yoga, performing and event planning. She is excited to graduate and to see what else the world has in store for her. Natal's senior showcase will take place on Saturday, Feb. 27 in the Grand Salon at 7:30 p.m., where she will be singing. She will also be holding a special Valentine's Day themed yoga class on Thursday at 8:15 p.m. at the McNiff Fitness Center. There will be treats and a love playlist.

Madison Irwin can be reached at madison.irwin@spartans.ut.edu

Alumnus, Professor Juggles Two Mediums



Jack King, a professor at the University of Tampa for twenty-three years, strives to elevate students to their full artistic potential in his classes and provide an open, creative environment. *Photos courtesy of Jack King*

By JORDAN WALSH

A+E Writer

Balancing two passions can be an overwhelming task, but University of Tampa professor Jack King does his best to divide his energy in equal measure. Now in his twenty-third year at UT, King both teaches and practices art for a living—a lifestyle he describes as understandably “exhaustive,” but “always rewarding.”

King has been an artist “with seriousness and intensity” since 1966. Working primarily in ceramics and sculpture, King calls this balancing act “one of the biggest challenges an art professor faces.” He points toward the mental difficulty of having two primary passions, aside from the more obvious physical complications of time management.

“It’s much more than just a matter of scheduling one’s time,” King said. “Students involved in the creation of art soon realize the exhaustive part of the process is not so much the physical exertion, even though that can be significant, but more the mental exhaustion which arises from the issues

encountered in problem solving.”

This is especially difficult in the arts, according to King, due to the unexpected complications that can arise in the creative process, and the lack of correct or incorrect solutions to these complications.

“There are no text books, no equations, no experts one can go to for a solution to the current problem you may be having with a particular piece,” King said. “This can be extremely frustrating.”

King stressed the importance of not providing a clear answer for his students’ problems, and instead helping to guide them towards a mindset where they can solve them of their own accord. Carly Vitolo, a senior art therapy major, has experienced this first hand as one of his students.

“Jack is extremely passionate about encouraging students to think creatively in alternative ways,” Vitolo said.

As an artist who has encountered these issues in creating his own work, King knows this is the best way for

them to hone and develop their craft.

“Going through this process, developing the stamina such requires is an essential part of becoming an artist,” King said.

But professor King never downplays the satisfaction of following through with one’s creativity.

“So why would any artists endure such travails? Simple, the joys, the pleasures, the excitement of finding a solution makes everything else worth the effort,” King said.

While encouraging and assisting his students in sculpting and other artistic pursuits, King never forgets the pleasure of producing his own work, which he said is inspired primarily by current events, modern fiction and classic literature.

“For centuries, artists have given visual form to human thoughts, ideas, aspirations, etc. which are articulated in literature and poetry,” King said. “Currently I’m fascinated by *The Divine Comedy*, by Dante Alighieri. The important point is I’ve no interest in providing a visual illustration for Dante’s vision, but rather using his

vision to inspire mine – rethink his ideas in a contemporary vernacular.”

An alumnus of the university himself, King has also had a big hand in expanding the art department at UT—he’s part of the reason why the university now has a growing art therapy program. He plans to aid in the continuation of this expansion going forward, hoping to “afford UT students greater options and possibilities to incorporate the visual arts into their long range educational plans.”

King has also been sculpting pieces to serve as award statues for The National Society of Teachers of Family Practice Medicine since 1985, and is contracted to do so for at least the next ten years.

He continues to display his latest work in faculty art shows, which take place in the fall of every school year, while also working with private individuals. Some of his work can also be seen at his website, jackking.net.

Jordan Walsh can be reached at jordan.walsh@spartans.ut.edu

INFORMATION



POLICE BEAT

Reports compiled by Zoe Fowler

A is Getting Out of Hand

On Feb. 3, two students reported receiving threatening and disturbing texts from an unknown member.

Budding Artist

On Feb. 4, property damage was discovered on the inside door of the Thomas Parking Garage elevator.

Oprah Warned Us About This

On Feb. 5, a student reported being targeted in a scam from an unknown person.

Too Eager to Finish Construction

On Feb. 6, two students were found inside a fenced, posted construction area on campus.

GUILTY AS CHARGED

On Feb. 6, two students were referred to the Office of Student Conduct for theft and one of the students was also found in possession of a fraudulent driver’s license.

Spy Kids 5

On Feb. 7, criminal mischief at an off-campus building was documented.



STUDENT GOVERNMENT

OSLE Leadership

OSLE Leadership and Dragon Boating is on Feb. 21 at 12-5 p.m. Sign up in OSLE.

Voting Info

Voting opens on March 24 at 8 p.m. and ends on March 29 at 11:45 p.m.

UT Fast-A-Thon

One of their big events is being held at The Outpost on Thursday, Feb. 19 from 7-11 p.m. 100 percent of the proceeds is going to anti-trafficking causes.

GLTSBA To Host Gender Neutral Dance

GLTSBA PRIDE & SPARTAN SWINGERS PRESENT AN

ALL-GENDER DANCE

LEAD OR FOLLOW, REGARDLESS OF GENDER!

THURS 2/12. CASUAL DRESS.
PLANT HALL FLETCHER LOUNGE
OPTIONAL LESSON: 7:30pm
OPEN DANCE: 8:30pm-10pm

For more information,
contact Taylor Allman at
Taylor.Allman@spartans.ut.edu

Photo courtesy of Taylor Allman

By ARIEL HERNANDEZ
News Writer

"When dancing, you are taught that men lead and women follow, however, not everyone agrees," said Krystal Kirby, the Gay Lesbian Transgender Straight Bisexual Asexual Pride's (GLTSBA) Marketing Chair.

GLTSBA (a club that promotes acceptance and understanding with all UT students of all sexualities and gender identities) and The Spartan Swingers (a club put together to educate students about swing dancing), will be partnering up to host a Gender Neutral Dance. The Spartan Swingers will be teaching students the necessary steps they need to know for swing dancing.

The purpose of the Gender Neutral Dance is so that women and men can decide whether they want to lead or follow. It also allows for students to dance with whomever they'd like.

"I feel everyone, whether male or female, is entitled to take whatever role suites them," said Brittney Watson, junior management and information systems major. "There should be a common ground or some level of fairness between partners."

The events will begin at 7:30 p.m. in Fletcher Lounge on Feb. 12. The Spartan Swingers will go first, and then the Gender Neutral Dance will follow at 8 p.m.

"I got the idea from a time when I

went to The Spartan Swingers' dance event," said Taylor Allman, President of GLTSBA. "They didn't say you'd typically have to lead if you're a guy and follow if you're a girl; but it's something that happened anyways. I hope that everyone will have a fun time no matter what they identified as."

There is no specific audience targeted for this event. Kirby aims for a variety of students to show and do something they've probably never done before. She also wants people to look at dancing in a different light after this event.

"I think the whole concept of the dance is a good idea," said Hannah Hughes, sophomore digital arts major. "It makes sense that anyone should lead if they wanted to; I often have problems with following, so this is great."

The Gender Neutral Dance is set the week of Valentine's Day to accommodate the festivities. There is no dress code for the event; everyone is entitled to wear whatever they feel comfortable wearing.

"Any opportunity we see that can make the University of Tampa more diverse, open and inclusive, we want to explore," Kirby said.

For more information on the dance, you can visit the UT events page or the GLTSBA Facebook and Instagram.

Ariel Hernandez can be reached at ariel.hernandez@spartans.ut.edu

Sexual assault policy provides anonymity

From ASSAULT Page 1

Title IX includes a variety of regulations that apply to each college campus in the country. Even if a report is not made, if school officials have knowledge of an assault, they must investigate what occurred and take steps to resolve the situation. It is required for every school to have a policy against sexual assault and for that policy to be accessible and handed out on campus.

UT has responded to the Title IX regulations by establishing deputies to focus on certain areas, according to Timothy Harding, Associate Dean of Career Development and Engagement. The Title IX Coordinator, Donna Popovich, Executive Director of Human Resources at the University of Tampa is responsible for appointing Title IX Deputies who assist her in implementing the regulations of Title IX.

"The University of Tampa has a well-trained team of individuals who immediately take action upon receiving allegations," said Harding. "Depending on the situation, these individuals will meet to discuss approaches to investigations, when needed; recommendations for remedies; and other courses of actions to protect student safety."

It is Harding's responsibility to investigate alleged student-on-student harassment and sexual violence. Qualifications for this position include training, which is provided by national higher education professional associations, and may include: seminars, conferences, workshops, or webinars. Harding also has a certificate in Student Affairs Policy and Law from Stetson University and the National Association of Student Personnel Administrators.

"I would encourage that it is never too

late to report," said Wertz. "While physical evidence may be lost in later reporting, students may get rape kits done at the Crisis Center without filing a police report and the Title IX and student conduct programs accept reports at any time."

In the 2013-2014 year, two students who reported rape cases to the Crisis Center of Tampa Bay attended UT. There were seven reports where students chose not to identify which school they attended.

Amanda Brennan, Victims Advocate from the Crisis Center, said a third of victims will choose to report or seek services.

"It is important to note that this data is based on what our clients tell us," Brennan said. "If they don't want us to know they go to UT, they don't have to inform us."

At the Crisis Center of Tampa Bay, Sexual Assault Services provides a forensic exam, in which a Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner will collect any possible evidence. Clients are provided with preventive medications to protect themselves against STDs and unwanted pregnancies.

Regardless of whether a client has filed a report with law enforcement, the Crisis Center of Tampa Bay will hold their evidence for up to a year in case the client changes their mind.

Sexual assault continues to be a major problem both on and off college campuses. Awareness and education of these events is essential in the fight to reduce their occurrences in the future.

For more information regarding Title IX, visit: <http://www.ut.edu/rightsandresponsibilities/#6>

Brianna Kwasnik can be reached at brianna.kwasnik@spartans.ut.edu.

SEXUAL ASSAULT ON CAMPUS STUNNING LOOK AT THE NUMBERS

THE POTENTIAL FOR SEXUAL ASSAULT ON OR OFF CAMPUS IS A REAL AND PRESENT DANGER FOR STUDENTS AND INSTITUTIONS!



25% of college-aged women report experiences that meet the legal definitions of rape or attempted rape.

1 in 5 WOMEN ARE RAPED WHILE ATTENDING COLLEGE.

ONE THIRD of SEXUAL ASSAULT SURVIVORS are FRESHMAN STUDENTS, 17-19 YEARS OLD.



85% OF RAPES ARE COMMITTED BY A PERSON THE VICTIM KNOWS



THE INSTANCES OF COMPLETED RAPE INCREASE LATE AT NIGHT



51.8% OCCURRED ON CAMPUS AFTER MIDNIGHT



36.5% OCCURRED BETWEEN 6 PM & MIDNIGHT



11.8% OCCURRED BETWEEN 6 PM & 6 AM



1/12 COLLEGE MEN ADMITTED TO COMMITTING ACTS THAT MET THE LEGAL DEFINITION OF RAPE



35% OF MEN REPORT SOME LIKELIHOOD THAT THEY WOULD RAPE IF THEY COULD BE ASSURED THEY WOULDN'T BE CAUGHT OR PUNISHED



NEARLY 60% OF RAPES OCCUR IN THE SURVIVORS' RESIDENCE HALL



81% ON-CAMPUS | 84% OFF-CAMPUS SEXUAL ASSAULTS ARE NOT REPORTED TO THE POLICE

FEWER THAN 5% OF ATTEMPTED/COMPLETED RAPES ARE REPORTED TO LAW ENFORCEMENT

81% OF WOMEN WHO WERE STALKED BY A CURRENT OR FORMER PARTNER WERE ALSO PHYSICALLY ASSAULTED BY THAT PARTNER

Graphic courtesy of campusanswers.com

Proposed weapons policy change concerns campus residents

become effective July 1, 2015.

"Just, no. Absolutely no," said Maria DesRocheres, a sophomore ad PR communications major when asked about HB 4005.

For many UT students, the ban on weapons is a relief, especially in light of November's FSU shooting.

"I would not feel safe knowing that students are carrying guns with them. Accidents do happen and innocents get hurt," said Giannina Vallas, a junior nursing major. "I feel safe on campus."

Like Vallas, some students feel that campus is a safe place but think it is necessary to keep self-defense items for when they go off campus.

"I walk with a group when I go off campus," DesRocheres said. "But there are some creepy men around and we are like prey [off campus]. I would only feel safe if we had a taser, or maybe karate lessons, at night off campus."

The campus crime statistics provided by the UT website report three forcible sexual offenses, three robberies (all reportedly off campus), two stalking offenses and two incidents of domestic violence in 2013. Those numbers would indicate ten of the university's 7,752 students (according to the UT website University Profile) or 0.13 percent

of UT students were victims of those crimes.

However, 20 crimes including theft, robbery, theft of an automobile and home burglary have been reported within a quarter of a mile of campus since August, according to the Tampa Police Department. In the 2014-15 school year so far, six crimes involving theft and auto theft have required police assistance on campus at UT. Additionally, 12 known sexual offenders have been reported as living or staying less than one mile from the university in the last month, according to the Tampa Police Department RAIDS Online crime tracker.

UT students have received 11 emails so far in the 2014-15 school year from campus security reporting muggings and sexual assaults off campus. Students are warned in the emails how to keep themselves safe by staying in groups and are encouraged to report any incident off campus to campus security.

When you add the average of 25 weekly incidents -- including robbery, theft, and assault, reported by the Tampa Police Department within 2 miles of the campus gates -- with the campus security incidents, some students have been forced to consider how they can defend themselves.

There are three options available to students who need to report a case of sexual assault: Title IX, student conduct or through the Tampa Police Department.

One option, aside from carrying a small mace or pepper spray, is to take self-defense courses. UT does not condone violence of any form and reports all violent incidents to the Tampa Police Department but encourages all students to be proactive with their self-defense, according to Devine and Howell.

"Campus Safety offers RAD (Rape Aggression Defense) courses that can be helpful. There are other community resources for similar education. If you can avoid being part of escalating situations, that's always the best defense," Devine said.

RAD classes are available at multiple locations throughout the year. A full schedule is on rad-systems.com. There are also self defense classes at COBRA Academy in Tampa, which teach not only physical but psychological aspects of self-defense.

If a UT student is found with a taser, firearm or other weapon on campus, he or she will be

subjected to the campus student conduct processes. The outcome will vary based on the student's behavioral history.

"I would be more scared with weapons on campus," said Bri Mooney, a sophomore musical theatre and communications major. "I would be more scared someone would do something to me. I mean, what if someone was just playing around and wanted to tase someone?"

Devine warns that students -- commuter or resident -- need to follow the rule, saying "It is important to comply with university policy and state law."

For more information on specific rules and laws, visit UT.edu/safety.

Krista Byrd can be reached at krista.byrd@spartans.ut.edu.

UNIVERSITY OF TAMPA'S NEWS SOURCE SINCE 1933

THE MINARET

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DIVERSIONS

ON CAMPUS

FEBRUARY 13
Spartan Speed Dating
Join Red Flag and SASS at Spartan Speed Dating for the chance to meet new people or a potential Valentine's Day date. The event will take place in the Brevard Community Room from 3:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.

FEBRUARY 13
Gluten-Free Improv
Enjoy a night of improv at the Falk Theatre at 8:00 p.m. Admission is free and donations to St. Jude Children's Research Hospital can be made after the show.

FEBRUARY 14
Water Biking on the River
Campus Recreation is making an off-campus trip around the Hillsborough River. Sign up at the McNiff Fitness Center by Feb. 13. Admission is \$5 and lunch will be provided. The event begins at 9:30 a.m.

FEBRUARY 18
Ash Wednesday
Catholic Mass for Ash Wednesday will be held in the Chapel from 12:00 p.m. to 1:00 p.m. The service is open to the public.

OFF CAMPUS

FEBRUARY 14
The Renaissance Festival
The opening day of the 37th annual Renaissance Festival takes visitors back to the era of kings, queens, jesters, jousting and, of course, human chess. Tickets are \$15.95 with a student ID.

FEBRUARY 14
Knight Parade
Following the Gasparilla parade, the Krewe of the Knights of Sant 'Yago invites you to invade Ybor City for beads, music, and floats galore. The parade will begin at 7:00 p.m.

FEBRUARY 16
Oscar Shorts: Live Action
View the 2015 Oscar nominated best live action short films at the Tampa Theatre at 7:30 p.m. Tickets are \$11.

FEBRUARY 18
Against Me!
Florida-bred punk-rock group Against Me! will perform at the Ritz with openers Creepoid and Worriers. Tickets are \$20 and the show begins at 7:00 p.m.

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	9	8	1			4		
2					9		3	
4	7	1						
		3		5	2	7	8	
	2						5	
	4	5	6	3		2		
						1	2	3
	1		7					5
		9			1	6	7	

websudoku.com

PICTURE of the WEEK



Photo by Savanna Blackerby

The annual Florida State Fair originated in 1904 and offers exhibits, fried food oddities, rides and the chances for the state to show off its agricultural industry.

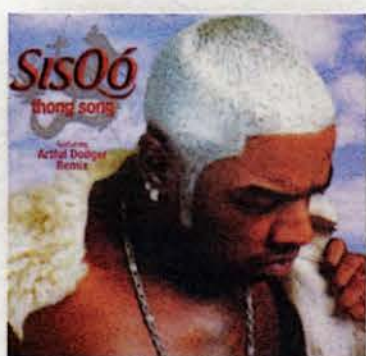
ARTS + ENTERTAINMENT

Setting the Mood

Valentine's Day Playlists
Presented by NEON

By The A+E STAFF

Whether you'll be cuddled up with a significant other, your family and friends, or a jar of Nutella this Valentine's Day, we've got a playlist for you. The Minaret has collaborated with NEON, UT's creative community, to curate the perfect playlist for every V-Day scenario. Check out the tracklists below and tune in on NEON's Facebook page to set the mood.

Getting Ready For
A Tinder Date

- F**kin Problems by A\$AP Rocky (Feat. Drake, Kendrick Lamar)
- #STUPIDFACEDD by Wallpaper
- #Selfie by The Chainsmokers
- D*ck In a Box by Lonely Island
- Get Ur Freak On by Missy Elliott
- Damn You Look Good and I'm Drunk by Cobra Starship
- Thong Song by Sisqó

Mattress Music

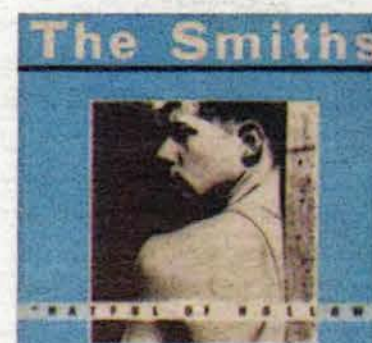
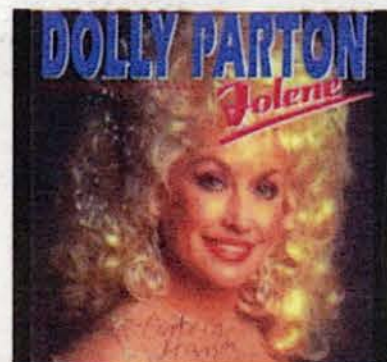
- Bed Peace by Jhene Aiko (Feat. Childish Gambino)
- Child's Play by SZA (Feat. Chance the Rapper)
- Goody by Glass Animals
- Pop Thieves (Make it Feel Good) by Childish Gambino
- Dip it Low by Christina Milian
- Take Me by Sisyphus
- Thinkin Bout You by Frank Ocean
- Lost by Chance the Rapper (feat. Noname Gypsy)

Friend Zone

- Just a Friend by Biz Markie
- Thank You for Being a Friend (Golden Girls Theme) by Andrew Gold
- You Got Friend in Me by Randy Newman
- You'll Always Be My Best Friend by Relient K
- Don't You Forget About Me by Simple Minds
- I'll Be There For You by The Rembrandts
- Just Friends (Sunny) by Musiq SoulChild

Old School Romance

- I've Just Seen a Face by The Beatles
- Good Vibrations by The Beach Boys
- Can't Help Falling in Love by Elvis Presley
- Tonight You Belong to Me by The Lennon Sisters
- Hooked On a Feeling by Blue Suede
- Rock With You by Michael Jackson
- Indian Summer by The Doors
- (You Make Me Feel Like) A Natural Woman by Aretha Franklin



Me, Myself and Ice Cream

- Bang Bang (My Baby Shot Me Down) by Nancy Sinatra
- Boyfriend by Best Coast
- I Am Very Very Lonely by Chance the Rapper & The Social Experiment
- Lover, You Should've Come Over by Jeff Buckley
- Sk8er Boi by Avril Lavigne
- Comfortable by John Mayer
- I Try by Macy Gray
- All By Myself by Celine Dion

Sweet Jealousy

- Jolene by Dolly Parton
- Paper Bag by Fiona Apple
- Mr. Steal Your Girl by Trey Songz
- Here Comes Your Man by The Pixies
- Mr. Brightside by The Killers
- I Want It That Way by Backstreet Boys
- (I Can't Get No) Satisfaction by The Rolling Stones
- Hey Jealousy by Gin Blossoms

Together 5Ever

- 400 Lux by Lorde
- Open by Rhye
- Borns by Electric Love
- The Girl by City and Colour
- She's Enough by Atmosphere
- Yellow by Coldplay
- Neighborhood #1 (Tunnels) by Arcade Fire
- Halo by Beyoncé

Creeping On Your Crush

- I Need My Girl by The National
- Creep by Radiohead
- I Will Possess Your Heart by Death Cab For Cutie
- Say My Name by Destiny's Child
- Please Please Please Let Me Get What I Want by The Smiths
- I Want You to Want Me by Cheap Trick
- My Paper Heart by All-American Rejects
- Its Gonna Be Me by N*SYNC

Writers at the University Hosts UT Authors

Don Morrill and Andy Plattner will read at the Writers at the University series.

By KARA DELEMEESTER
Arts + Entertainment Writer

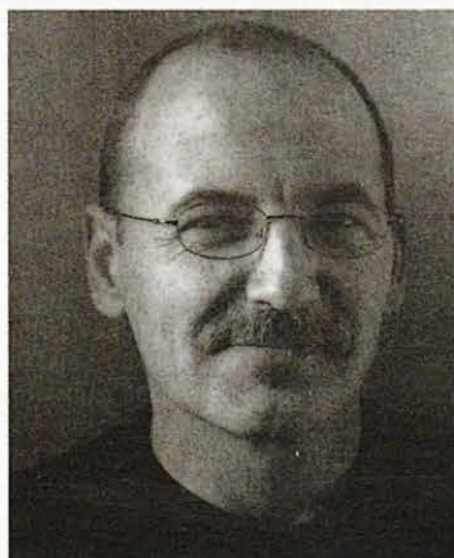
For the last few years, professor Erica Dawson has had the privilege of running the Writers at the University (WAU) series here at UT. Twice a year, Dawson hosts writers who are on the Florida Literary Arts Coalition (FLAC) writer's circuit. Writers such as novelist Larry Baker and poet Laura McCullough go on a tour that makes stops at eight Florida schools from the University of Miami up to Flagler. Dawson also has the opportunity to invite other independent writers to come read to the students of UT.

"This is a great way for me to introduce our students and campus community to both established and up-and-coming authors," Dawson said. The next WAU event is Feb. 18 at 7:30 p.m. in the Scarfone/Hartley Gallery. The visiting authors are UT's own professors Andy Plattner and Don Morrill.

Plattner is a Visiting Assistant Professor in the English & Writing

Department. He received his Bachelors degree from Kansas Newman College and his Masters and Doctorate from the University of Southern Mississippi. His short story collection *Winter Money*, published in 1997, won the Flannery O'Connor Award for Short Fiction. He has since published *A Marriage of Convenience* (2011) and most recently *Offerings from a Rust Belt Jockey* (2014) which won Dzanc Book's inaugural Mid-Career Novel Prize. Plattner grew up around horse racing, which ended up greatly influencing his writing career. Plattner is a long-time horse racing journalist, and all three of his short story collections are centered around racetracks.

Morrill is the Associate Dean of Graduate and Continuing Studies, as well as a professor in the English & Writing department. He received his Bachelors and Masters degree from Drake University and his Doctorate from the University of Florida. Morrill has published four books of nonfiction, *The Untouched Minutes* winning the River Teeth Nonfiction Prize and *Sounding for Cool* winning the American Library Association/AAUP "Best of the Presses" Award. He is also the author of three volumes of poetry, *Awaiting*



Photos courtesy of Andy Plattner and Don Morrill.
(From left) Don Morrill and Andy Plattner will be showcased at the Writers at the University series.

Your Impossibilities, With Your Back to Half the Day and *At the Bottom of the Sky*. Morrill focuses his poetic writing on the mature themes of life such as mortality, love, grief, resilience, and experiences everyone can relate to.

Whether the visiting writer is a professor at UT, an author just getting their foot in the door of the writing world, or a well-established crowd pleaser, Dawson is always thrilled to be hosting them.

"Running a reading series like this is a way to help our students understand that literature is not only alive and well, but accessible and contemporary, and crazy fun," Dawson said. "Some of my best UT memories are of WAU guests and students talking about generating ideas as if they're classmates sitting around a workshop table."

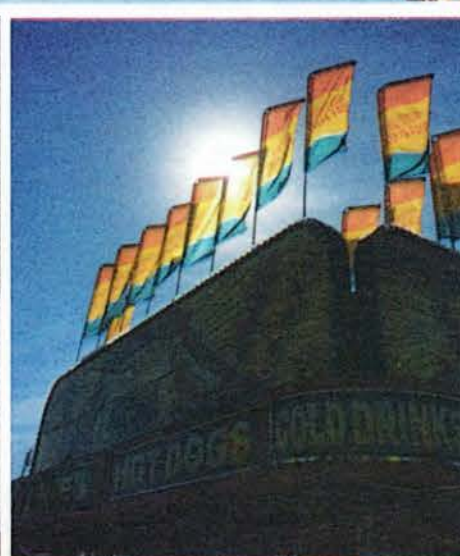
Kara Delemeester can be reached at Kara.delemeester@spartans.ut.edu.

Florida Warmly Welcomes the 37th Annual State Fair

The opening weekend hosted rides, music, food, and a "Salute to Heroes."

By SAVANNA BLACKERBY
Asst. Multimedia Director

The Florida State Fair is up and running until Feb. 16. The price of admission is \$11, making access to the shows and competitions fairly cheap. Wristbands might seem a little steep at \$25 to \$35 a pop, but they're worth it with rides ranging from \$4 to \$6 dollars a piece. There's plenty of free events ranging from dogs competitions, to sea lion shows and "gator wrestling." Be sure to check out the schedule of events for the day you plan on going. For more information visit www.floridastatefair.com/events.



Jack White Lashes Back at University of Oklahoma

Jack White, Oklahoma and guacamole—what a strange mess this is.

By JORDAN WALSH

Arts + Entertainment Writer

Controversy broke out last week when the University of Oklahoma's student newspaper, *The Oklahoma Daily*, published Grammy-winning rocker Jack White's contract and tour rider (a performer's set of demands), highlighting some of the more interesting requests, including a very specific guacamole recipe and a strongly worded aversion toward bananas.

While a statement from *The Oklahoma Daily* asserts that the original purpose for the perusal of the document was in an effort to report the cost of the concert to the university, the story was first published in tandem with the document. The first story, headlined "'We want it chunky' and other gems from Jack White's contract with OU," focused entirely on the somewhat humorous portions of the tour rider. A tour rider is a document that lists the requests of a performer and their crew, often including technical details and preferences in food and drink provisions.

The Huffington Post reported that White's team also took issue towards the newspaper's use of photographers at the event despite the terms of the contract, which dictated that no press photography passes would be granted.

While no staff photographers were present past the entrance of the venue, they did use photographs taken of crew members around the venue and of the students waiting to be admitted. This also violated the contract.

According to *oudaily.com*, this led to an off-hand remark from White at the event on Feb. 2, announcing on stage in response to the publication's actions, "Just because you can type it on your computer doesn't make it right." White, still touring in support of last year's Billboard-topping "Lazaretto," also reportedly complained about the campus' anti-tobacco and alcohol policy.

In addition, *huffingtonpost.com* reported that White's booking agency, William Morris Endeavor Entertainment, had blacklisted the university, and would no longer book any of its artists for campus events as a result of the situation. White's management later released a statement disputing the blacklisting, while still condemning the newspaper's actions as "unfortunate, unprofessional, and very unwelcoming."

The animosity on both sides of this dispute is laughable and entertaining, but perhaps a bit too reactive. *The Oklahoma Daily* was certainly in the right when it came to publishing the financial details of the performance. This information is both available to the public and of importance to the population of the community of the university. As *oudaily.com* points out, the University of Oklahoma is a public

school—anyone who wanted to see the contract could have requested a copy.

As far as publishing the tour rider and making fun of the requests, well there's not much wrong about that either. It's an entertaining story with campus interest tied right in, a no-brainer for a university journalist. However, *The Oklahoma Daily* did perhaps cross the line when poking fun at the strict "no banana" request, since food allergies are common and the request could have sincerely been in the interest of the health of the crew members. The joke made in response to this was a bit insensitive, and more thought should have been put into its publication.

Aside from that, the article is pretty innocuous—the angle is more promotional than anything, even linking readers to a website where tickets could be purchased for the show. It was poking fun, sure, but ultimately in service to White's interests.

But it follows that, in firing shots of ridicule, White's camp had every right to fire back. The relationship between the press and the music community has always been salty, to say the least—this kind of reaction should have been expected with this notion in mind, even if the University of Oklahoma seems like a small target for a decently famous rock star like White.

It is important to note that rock bands have a history of making tour riders into huge jokes. According to *Noisey*, Van Halen's tour rider in the 1980s was especially ridiculous, requesting an

inordinate amount of M&M's candy with all of the brown-colored candies picked out. The same source points out Marilyn Manson's standing rider request for "a bald, toothless hooker." These requests are clearly to be taken with a grain of salt, and it wouldn't be a stretch to assume that White and his crew are acting in jest both in the document and on-stage.

Perhaps the biggest issue up for debate here is the newspaper's deliberate disregard of the no-photo policy. The publication stood its ground here.

"In White's contract it says that no photographs may be taken in or around the venue," said Assistant Life and Arts Editor Emily Sharp. "But constitutionally this is not something that can be enforced. If you are in a public place, you can take photos."

This is really where White's party might have a leg to stand on—this is a clear breach of contract, even if it may be a problematic provision. Had White's booking agency actually blacklisted the university, this would have been a reasonable justification.

Other than the photography dispute, this clash, which *eater.com* has deemed "GuacamoleGate," is really an issue of joker vs. joker. It's been an entertaining back and forth, but in the end the only real result of substance is a recipe for a Mexican dip.

Jordan Walsh can be reached at jordan.walsh@theminaretonline.com

"The Walking Dead's" Return Is Disarming

The second half of season five premiered on Feb. 8.

By JORDAN LLANES

Asst. Sports Editor

We are in a new Golden Era for television. With top shows such as "Game of Thrones," "The Americans" and "Mad Men" utilizing a new type of character-driven storytelling, this era's moniker is justified. AMC's hit zombie-filled drama, "The Walking Dead," is a prime example of an outstanding character-led show. The midseason premiere of the fifth season's second half, which aired last Sunday, was a classic example of the show's case of character study.

The episode, entitled "What Happened and What's Going On," focuses on the immediate aftermath of what happened during the midseason finale that aired in December. In case you have been living under a rock over the past couple of months, let's take a minute to talk about what happened. After searching for Beth since the middle of last season, Rick, Daryl and the rest of the group were finally able to track her to a hospital in Atlanta with the help of Noah, who worked in the hospital. A swap is arranged: Beth and Carol would go back to the group, while our main characters would return with two cops who worked at the hospital. But the swap goes wrong, and Beth is killed by Dawn, the leader of the cops.

The final shot of the midseason finale is one that will be ingrained in the memories of any "Walking Dead" fan: Daryl carrying Beth's body out of the hospital, and Maggie, Beth's sister, falling to the ground, screaming out in agony as she sees her sister for the final time.

The first two minutes of the midseason premiere establish the group's next destination: Richmond, Virginia, which is where Noah is from. Beth wanted to get Noah there, so Rick and the group decide to do it for her. The rest of the episode focuses on the quintet of Rick, Noah, Glenn, Michonne and Tyreese. While Noah is optimistic and upbeat about finally returning home, the other four preach caution, saying that his home might not be as he remembers it. And in true "Walking Dead" style, the words of the veteran survivors ring true, and the five of them must adjust in turn.

Many people consider the show to just be another "zombie story." While that is true to an extent, the story is much more focused on how Rick and his group now survive in a world that is constantly trying to kill them. The zombies (called "walkers"

by the group) are just one threat that Rick and company have to contend with. Other threats include fellow survivors, a shortage of resources and the lack of a location that can help them repel any type of danger, including walkers and fellow humans.

The combination of these very real threats, and how the group responds, is what makes "The Walking Dead" so great. The death of Beth is one that would have broke the group in seasons past. Now it just hardens them even more, and compels them to find a place where they can all be safe together. "Surviving together is all that matters," Rick states in the trailer leading up to the midseason premiere. As the season progresses, that will most likely be a major theme. On their way to wherever they can be finally be safe, will they survive together? The group has lost so much to this point. Every surviving

character has lost at least one character that they love, and many of them have been pushed to the breaking point at least once. Just take a look at Rick. After losing his wife Lori in season three, he lost his mind for a few episodes.

The rest of this season will be key to the development of these already complex, gritty and superb characters. The evolution of these survivors will be the main reason to tune in each week. If you aren't watching already, then hop on Netflix to catch up. If the first nine episodes of season five are any indication, then Rick, Carl, Glenn, Maggie, Abraham and the rest of our hardened yet hopeful group are in for their toughest challenges yet.

Jordan Llanes can be reached at llanes@theminaretonline.com



"The Walking Dead" mid-season premiere showed Rick and the group dealing with yet another tragedy.

The Walking Dead / Facebook.com

Netflix Guru: 5 Films to Help You Forget V-Day

By **CLAIRE FARROW**
Arts + Entertainment Writer

The dawn of February brings a certain distinctive air--aisles upon aisles are filled with teddy bears possessively hugging hearts, heart-shaped boxes are filled with (cheap) chocolates and discounted romantic movies are on unapologetic display in the film section. Everything is pink, red, heart-shaped and fluffy. Truly, this "holiday" is an assault on one's senses. Overly commercialized love is in the air. Many people are filled with those mushy feelings and anticipating the PERFECT date night, which is often the stereotypical dinner and a movie. Luckily, for all of those romantics out there, Hollywood is very much in-tune with Valentine's Day. It is constantly regurgitating the same sappy, star-crossed lovers plot and merely repackaging these very predictable movies with different titles, actors, accents and/or time periods.

For those who aren't buying into the lovey-dovey scene this year, single or otherwise, Valentine's Day is the most sickening time of year. Thankfully, there are just enough films out in the world devoid of lingering, forlorn stares, awkwardly overindulgent kisses and physically defying acrobatic sex scenes to get one's mind off of love and romantic relationships. Here are five films to help get you started on blocking out the rosy, celluloid glare engulfing the month of love.

"The Silence of the Lambs" (1991)

Who says you need a sexy date to enjoy a romantic dinner? After all, you could just end up as the main course yourself. And who says you have to be wearing the latest fashion to attract

someone...for all you know, you could be the next trend in the fashion world. "Silence of the Lambs" will certainly curb many of your hopes for the perfect blind date, and quite possibly your appetite, too. This film is chilling, full of suspense and brilliant performances. Jodie Foster plays FBI cadet Clarice Starling who is drawn into the intricate mind of a serial killer, Dr. Hannibal Lecter. She must enlist his help in the hopes of catching another serial killer, Buffalo Bill. Sir Anthony Hopkins serves up a frighteningly beautiful performance as the cannibal, and Ted Levine slices up a character that is equal parts creepy and fascinating. Various twists and turns take place as the mad manhunt sweeps the viewer along for a half-crazed adventure.

"Mulan" (1998)

Let's talk about an independent woman, who doesn't need a man to save her or her country. "Mulan" is a must for any "Galentine's Day" at-home movie marathon. Girl power is at its finest in this film; Mulan (voiced by Ming-Na Wen) proves she won't get distracted by the oft-shirtless Shang (BD Wong) while she saves the entire empire of China from the villainous Huns. Mulan is certainly not perfect, but she doesn't let her "inability" to fit the mold of a traditional woman get in the way of her being herself. "Mulan" also carries a tremendous amount of humor and heart. Eddie Murphy provides many of the laughs for this film as the lovable, hapless guardian-dragon Mushu.

"Rain Man" (1988)

Forget that mushy, lovey-dovey relationship filled with romance and kissing and sex. If you want feels void of such gushy-ness tune in to "Rain

Man," a touching sibling relationship story full of laughter mixed with a bit of frustration and heartbreak. "Rain Man" is a classic, rightfully so, that showcases the importance of family and connection. Tom Cruise is, as they said back in 1980s America, a yuppie named Charlie Babbitt, who, after the death of his father, learns of the existence of his older brother, Raymond, a high-functioning autistic savant (Dustin Hoffman is brilliant in this Oscar winning role). What ensues is a heartwarming cross-country road trip where the two men become more than just brothers in name, but in heart.

"Se7en" (1995)

If you thought your ex was a psycho, just think about John Doe (Kevin Spacey) and his murderous ode to the "seven deadly sins" trope for a moment (then you can go back to thinking such things about your ex if you must). Though there is a classic rookie cop teams with veteran cop storyline (Brad Pitt is the hunky rookie, and Morgan Freeman is the wise veteran), the working relationship feels very genuine between the two of them. Also, it doesn't hurt to give Pitt's character some very snarky quips. A tumultuous ride from start to finish, this film simultaneously freaks you out and intrigues you, keeping you on the edge of your seat and making you wonder what's next. Also, props to screenwriter Andrew Kevin Walker's writing and David Fincher's directing for creative, if a bit grotesque, representation of the seven deadly sins.

"The Emperor's New Groove" (2000)

Sometimes you just need a laugh in order to forget the world's judgment on



The Silence of the Lambs/ Flickr.com
Anthony Hopkins in "Silence of the Lambs."

your singleness or non-commercialized "traditional" romance. Reliving your childhood is one way to distract you from those complicated "adult" relationships, and "The Emperor's New Groove" gives you such a nostalgic flashback. Of course, the older you get, the funnier this movie becomes as you realize the many veiled adult jokes hidden within it (such as the drag scene and when Yzma lifts her skirt, among others). The film's family friendly jokes are quite humorous as well. David Spade (Emperor Kuzco), John Goodman (Pacha), Patrick Warburton (Kronk), Eartha Kitt (Yzma), Wendy Malick (Chicha, Pacha's Wife) and Tom Jones (Theme Song Guy) round out this hilarious voice cast.

Claire Farrow can be reached at claire.farrow@spartans.ut.edu.



The University Of
T A M P A

Attention

First-Year Students and Seniors

UT wants your feedback!

A sample of first-year and senior students are being invited to complete the

National Survey of Student Engagement (NSSE)

Why?

If chosen to participate, you will provide administrators and faculty with valuable information to help improve curriculum and general campus life.

Look for an invitation in your spartans.ut.edu email.

OPINION

World Hijab Day Promotes Acceptance of Cultures

RELIGION

LIZ ROCKETT
Opinion Writer



World Hijab Day took place on Feb. 1st and is a day for women of all religions and cultures to try wearing a hijab, more commonly known as the veil. World Hijab Day promoted their cause on the official Facebook page, which received 509k likes since it was first established three years ago. World Hijab Day also trended for the first time this year on Twitter, with the tag #worldhijabday. A hijab looks similar to a head scarf, and is worn by some Muslim women because of their belief that beauty is attained through modesty.

Celebrating World Hijab Day at UT would be a great way to show support of diverse cultures while putting ourselves in their shoes. To some non-muslims and muslims alike, the hijab is considered a form of women's oppression, reported Farhad Kazemi in Gender, Islam, and Politics. The hijab is a symbol of modesty, much like how a nun would wear a hood, so there is no reason to criticize Muslim women.

World Hijab Day is a good opportunity for women of all cultures to choose to dress modestly. This shows support for the women who choose to wear the hijab, as well as for their beliefs. Choosing to wear the hijab would also shed light on the misconception that the hijab is a form of women's oppression

I feel as though men and women should be able to practice their faith as strictly or as liberally as they please, and that all people should respect

an individual's religious beliefs.

In some Middle Eastern countries, sexual harassment is quite frequent for women who refuse to wear hijab or act immodestly. On the other hand, in the United States, women who choose to wear a hijab have frequently been discriminated against. "No one should be discriminated [against] for following their faith," said Nazma Khan, the woman who founded World Hijab Day in January of 2013.

Mehak Amer, a senior Psychology major at the University of Tampa, is originally from Pakistan where the hijab is not commonly worn. Amer discussed how the hijab is more of a “cultural thing than a religious thing,” and is seen more common in Middle Eastern countries. Pakistanis do not consider themselves Middle Eastern, unlike the United Arab Emirates, Qatar, Kuwait, and Saudi Arabia, to name a few. Amer stated that whether or not a woman wears a hijab is more of a personal preference in Pakistan, and that it is very rare.

“I think it’s more of a modesty thing, because in the Qur’an, which is our holy book, it doesn’t say a woman needs to cover her head,” said Amer. “It just says she needs to be dressed modestly... to me technically, God hasn’t asked us to cover our heads so I don’t really see why we need to, but a lot of women do it to be modest. It’s not something I could ever do, I like my hair way too much.” Amer discussed how some Middle Eastern women are forced to wear a hijab because of cultural norm. However, it is wrong to assume that all of these women wear the hijab because they are required to because most have a choice. It is not exactly fair for non-Muslim people to point the finger at Muslims and call the traditional dress for women oppressive.



beforeitsnews.com

World Hijab Day on Feb. 1 helps to spread awareness for wearing of the hijab by choice, not by force.

“Not every woman is forced to wear it. A lot of women wear it because it’s their choice,” said Amer, “and I know people who actually wear it, girls my age, and their mothers don’t, their sisters don’t, or even their grandmothers don’t. So it’s just everybody’s personal preference...not every woman who wears the hijab is oppressed.” Without knowing that wearing a hijab is related to the individual cultures located in the Middle East, as opposed to the practice of Islam as a whole, I can definitely see how requiring women to cover their heads would look oppressive. Raising awareness and educating people about other cultures is the only way discrimination can be stopped.

Khan's idea to create World Hijab Day is fundamental in order to allow people to be more tolerant because it is a day devoted to gaining knowledge and

understanding about another culture's beliefs and morals. We should promote and celebrate World Hijab Day at UT in order to get one step closer to being an environment that is not only tolerant, but supportive of diverse cultures. But is it disrespectful to followers of Islam if non-Muslim women at UT and around the world wear a hijab for a day?

"I don't think they should be, I don't see any reason why they should be. I think it's actually really nice," said Amer. "It's nice that there are other people out there who do support it and do stand up for these girls and women who wear the hijab." It's important to stand up and show our support for these women because unfortunately, taunting and harassment does happen.

Liz Rockett can be reached at elizabeth.rockett@spartans.ut.edu

“I Am Not” Poster Campaign Illuminates Stereotyping Issues at UT

CAMPUS

KATIE DRAKE
Opinion Writer



The "I am not" poster campaign is an event being planned by Diversity Fellowship that will take place in the next few weeks on campus. I heard about this campaign through an email asking for campus leaders to participate and take a stand against common stereotypes that we face on a daily basis. Each individual will make a poster listing what they are stereotyped by in the form of "I am not 'blank'" that will then be plastered around campus for everyone to see. Each poster will also have tabs on the bottom that will list different stereotypes that students can then pull off to show awareness about the amount of discrimination people face, which most of the time is an inaccurate portrayal of them.

I love the idea of any event that goes against the norm and is a little

controversial for the sake of increasing awareness. Whether you participate or not, everyone can think of something that they are stereotyped for and wish they weren't. The "I am not" campaign is a great way to promote the message to not judge someone by their appearance. Some of the typical stereotypes we often see are: women are objects, skinny people are anorexic, all blondes are unintelligent, all males play sports and men have to bring home the money.

I think at The University of Tampa especially, we judge other students too harshly, stereotyping them by the clothes they wear, the car they drive, the sorority or fraternity they might be in and even the major they are pursuing. I always hear people say that communication majors are a joke and that their major is more difficult, but until you actually experience the major, you have no right to talk about it. There is even a stigma about sororities and fraternities rumored around campus which can alter someone's decision when rushing even though it may be an inaccurate portrayal. I plan on participating in the "I am not"

I love the idea of any event that goes against the norm and is a little controversial for the sake of increasing awareness.

campaign in hopes that the stereotype I list for myself can spread awareness to other students and stop how judgmental we are.

This event reminds me of the one Diversity Fellowship did in the fall with the Wall Of Oppression where students wrote stereotypes on bricks and then knocked the wall down, symbolically breaking stereotypes. It also reminds me of the celebrity "NoH8" campaign except this deals with stereotypes and unfortunately there won't be any celebrities advocating it. But still,

this is a great cause that students should get involved with.

The fact that Diversity Fellowship is creating events that are diverse from the regular events organizations hold stands out. Our generation is too judgemental, and that hinders us from being unique individuals and really being involved with what we like. If everyone stopped worrying about stereotypes, we would be a lot better off.

Katie Drake can be reached at katie.drake@spartans.ut.edu

Alcohol Policies In Effect

Dartmouth Sets Good Example with Limitations On Alcohol

COLLEGE

CAITLIN MALONE
Opinion Writer



Each year, more than 690,000 students between the ages of 18 and 24 are sexually assaulted by fellow students under the influence of alcohol. Plus, 1,825 college students between the ages of 18 and 24 die from accidents that happen during or after the consumption of alcohol, according to the National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism (NIAAA).

Sexual assault, dangerous hazing practices, deaths and injuries have all resulted from irresponsible consumption of alcohol on college campuses. Recently, Dartmouth College decided to do a complete policy overhaul, which includes a ban on alcohol that is 30 proof or higher with the intent of preventing these accidents from happening, according to Dartmouth's website.

Dartmouth is currently going through two federal investigations because of the way they handled sexual violence cases and campus crime in the past. The social scene on campus has also been criticized for over a decade, according to *The Huffington Post*.

If you want to improve morale on a college campus, banning hard alcohol is definitely a great place to start. Alcohol has an overwhelmingly negative effect on college campuses when it is consumed

amounts.

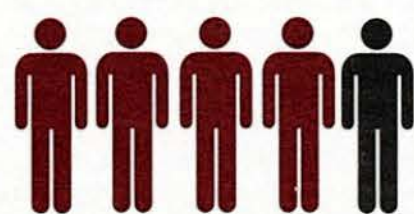
College students are definitely among a group you could call experienced and frequent drinkers. Four out of every five college students will drink alcohol while attending college, and half of these students will consume it in the form of binge drinking (drinking alcoholic beverages with the primary intention of becoming intoxicated), according to the NIAAA. Eliminating the source of these issues may very well be the answer to many problems on college campuses.

Average college students said when they are looking for something to do, they find drinking to be the cheapest, according to collegedrinkingprevention.gov. Buying beer or going to a bar that is offering a deal during happy hour like dollar beers at MacDinton's, for example, can be very cheap and still provide the student with a massive amount of alcohol.

Dartmouth is located in a pretty secluded part of Western New Hampshire, so they have fewer options when it comes to drinking off campus, whereas students at UT can walk into Ybor and have a number of bars or clubs to choose from. Dartmouth's secluded location will help them when it comes to carrying out this new policy.

UT's alcohol policy can be found on the UT website and is an extensive list of policies that students are expected to follow concerning the consumption of alcohol. A rule that everyone should already be aware of is that students are prohibited from consuming alcohol if they are under the age of 21 and selling to those that are under 21 as well.

Possessing a fake id is also against



4 out of 5

COLLEGE STUDENTS DRINK ALCOHOL

1,825

*Stats from The National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism



50%
of students who drink
BINGE
DRINK

college students between the ages of 18 and 24 die each year from alcohol-related unintentional injuries.

in specific places on campus including the Rathskeller, David A. Straz Jr. Hall, Frank P. Urso Hall, ResCom, and West Kennedy Hall along with any other place on campus providing alcohol according to The University of Tampa organizational alcohol policy.

It is also important to note that the rule also states that it doesn't matter if the alcohol is being consumed or not. No student is allowed to have a "common source container of alcohol" such as a keg in their residences whether it is empty or full, and drinking games or devices that encourage the rapid consumption of alcohol are also prohibited.

Regardless of any age, all students are prohibited from being intoxicated while on campus publicly or privately. Symptoms of intoxication would include slurred speech, nausea, loss of good judgment, and impaired motor coordination. Any disruptive

or Tampa community while a student is intoxicated is also a violation to the school's alcohol policy.

The school's policies seem pretty substantial. My only concern is that they are not being enforced very well. I know as well as any other student that underage students consume alcohol on a regular basis. That was the only thing I heard about from my fellow freshmen my first year in college. Either an older student was getting them alcohol or they were getting it with their fake ids.

In 2013, the university recorded that they gave out a total of 728 liquor law referrals which is an increase from the year 2012 when only 523 were given. I would encourage UT to look over their policies and possibly update a few of them as most colleges are in the process of doing. Not only would it improve student conduct, but student safety as well.

Along with the ban on hard alcohol, Dartmouth's students will also be required to participate in a four-year sexual violence prevention program. I am unaware of any educational programs that UT requires students to take, but they do participate in events that raise awareness for sexual assault; one being the event called Take Back the Night.

UT is one of the 10 colleges around the country that are chosen to be an official site of 10 Points of Light to Take Back the Night. The purpose of the event is to raise awareness and put an end to sexual violence. Raising awareness is important, but adding a required educational program may make more students aware and not just those that attend or participate in the events.

Other colleges like Brown University and the University of Virginia have enacted similar policies concerning the consumption of hard liquor on campus and have seen positive results, according to *Tampa Bay Times*.

Creating these bans along with enforcing them is the answer to seeing these horrible incidents occur less often on college campuses. I think UT would do well to follow in the steps of Dartmouth. Maybe not its exact footsteps, but having their strong desire to make changes to improve the safety of their students would be a great place to start.

Caitlin Malone can be reached at caitlin.malone@spartans.ut.edu

Commentary:

BY KAYTLYN SIMS

in large

school policy. Alcohol is only permitted

behavior to the residential, campus,

ALL OSCARS ARE...GOLD?

WITH ALL THE DIVERSITY
MOVING INTO THE
WHITE HOUSE



US Should Provide Military Support to Ukraine

POLITICS

KAMAKSHI DADHWAL
Opinion Writer



The international community has witnessed the Ukrainian Crisis unfold over the past two and a half decades. The Crimean Peninsula remains a bone of contention between the Russian Federation and Ukraine. Since the absconding of former Ukrainian President, Viktor Yanukovich, pro-Russian forces without insignia have annexed Crimea, after Russian President Vladimir Putin's inflammatory address in Kremlin on March 18, 2014. The speech deemed "nationalists, neo-Nazis, Russophobes and anti-Semites [behind] this coup," while referring to the new Ukrainian government.

The decision about Crimea continues to hang mid-air, as peace talks change nothing and the reported death toll has steadily risen to 5,000 people in southern Ukraine, according to reports by *The Telegraph*. In such a situation, a country like Ukraine, in all certainty, needs international reinforcement to avoid being manipulated by Russia. Hence, the U.S.'s decision, to consider providing defensive lethal weaponry to Ukraine, as reported by *Reuters*, is conjointly befitting and necessary.

The Telegraph provided live coverage of negotiations taking place between German Chancellor Angela Merkel, French President François

Hollande and Russian President Vladimir Putin on Friday Feb. 6, 2015. The exact regulations of the peace treaty under discussion are unknown but will be based on the Minsk Protocol of Sept. 5, 2014.

There has been an immediate ceasefire in conflict, which was the first clause of the Minsk Protocol. Despite this, serious violations have occurred repeatedly by armed Russians in uniforms that, as Russian officials enduringly emphasize, "are separatists who do not belong to the Russian Army and

Federation." According to BBC, the referendum that Putin mentions is one that nearly all United Nations' members considered illegitimately run under the influence of Russian troops. This disagreement has caused Russia and the U.S. to lock horns, yet again.

Consequently, if the U.S. eventually decides to provide lethal weaponry against Russia, it will severely damage the relations between the two nations, built so cautiously since the end of the Cold War. However, U.S. support would

well. A Reuters report on a NATO meeting in Brussels claims that senior diplomats of the European members believe the U.S. is using lethal weaponry as a bluff to pressurize Russia into peaceful negotiation with Ukraine. They do not, however, approve of actually sending any weaponry into the region, under the unstable conditions.

Bluff or not, the U.S. is taking a stance that is essential. As much as we love to talk about world peace and cooperation, there will always be some big bully on Planet Reality who wants that tiny piece of land- with no particularly rich resources- to add to its own landmass. One would expect a more nonviolent approach resolving border issues from the country led by a 2014 Nobel Peace Prize nominee, but clearly Russian President Vladimir Putin sees no difference between shrouding the violence his decisions are causing and ushering actual peace.

Recognizably, it is then up to the other developed countries of the globe, with both ideological and technological prowess, to take persevering action against undemocratic maneuvering of political decisions. Even as members of the European Union, such as Germany and France, press for strict implementation of the Minsk Protocol, the U.S. is absolutely right for trying to be the responsible agent in actively pressurizing Russia for implementing peace in Ukraine.

Kamakshi Dadhwal can be reached at kamakshi.dadhwal@spartans.ut.edu

The decision about Crimea continues to hang mid-air, as peace talks change nothing and the reported death toll has steadily risen to 5,000.

voluntarily went" across the fluid border, according to *Euronews*. The Russian government cannot control the actions of these separatists. Evidently, there is speculation as Russian soldiers continue to march into Crimea, while Putin swiftly denies any involvement of Russia's Army in the region, except to "[help] Crimeans hold a referendum firstly on their independence, and secondly on their desire to join the Russian

be the essential backup for Ukraine, the small country that presently feels harassed by one the size of a continent. As U.S. Vice President, Joe Biden, righteously emphasized at a press conference in Europe: "Russia cannot be allowed to redraw the map of Europe," because it contradicts everything the United Nations stands for: cooperation for coexistence.

There are many suppositions about the United States' consideration, as

AP Credits Go Missing At Registrar's Office Advisors Need to Warn Students

CAMPUS

MARISA NOBS
Opinion Writer



In general, freshman year is a daunting and overwhelming experience. While college is certainly viewed as a fresh start for many, there are some things you want to carry over from high school: specifically Advanced Placement credits. It seems like a no-brainer that the classes would be logged for each student, considering the scores were sent to the school during the application process. However, for many students, including myself, this was not the case.

Coming in as a freshman at the University of Tampa, I had three AP scores that qualified as college transfer credits. I had done my research on UT's website and added up how many credits I would have before starting classes: 22. At first, I wasn't concerned because my SpartanWeb account showed all of the

scores under my personal info tab. However, as classes started, I began hearing rumors about people not receiving the credits they had earned before entering college. Worried, I looked up my unofficial transcript and saw eight of my 22 credits missing.

Slightly panicked and unsure who to talk to, I called a number I saw on the school website and asked to speak to someone about AP credits. The woman on the other line asked for my name, looked up my transcript and explained how one of my scores was not showing up. I told her that made no sense, considering all the scores had been sent together. Her only suggestion was to resend them.

I logged back onto collegeboard.org and repaid the \$15 to send the scores again. It seemed a little ridiculous, considering that there must have been a receipt somewhere proving all the scores were sent to UT before, but I was not in the mood to argue. Now, I had to wait an additional two weeks. After some time had passed, I checked my transcript again. No new credits, and now I was getting agitated. I had earned them, and it should not take

more than one phone call to fix the problem.

By this time I had familiarized myself with UT and decided I needed to make a physical appearance to sort out the dilemma. I made the trek over to Plant Hall and walked into the Registrar's Office. I explained my situation, and then the lady behind the desk went into the back for a minute. When she returned, she said, "Sorry about that, sometimes scores fall through the cracks." I was told my credit would appear within the next week or so.

Luckily, this time the credits were added, and I finally had all my 22 credits. While relieved, I began wondering how many other people had "fallen through the cracks" and may not even know. I vented to my roommate about it, who then proceeded to check her transcript only to discover that she too had not earned her credit for an AP class. Currently, she is going through the same process as I did.

This is a problem that seems to be swept under the carpet and not given as much attention as it deserves. The credits I fought for helped fulfill some of my general

education requirements, which gives me more flexibility when choosing classes. No one is telling us to check our transcripts, because it is assumed that the school is taking care of it. Who knows how many credits are just never counted; hours of studying and hard work gone unrewarded. Just between my roommate and I, there was almost a semester's worth. That's not a crack, that's a gaping hole.

I've mentioned the problem to several people, all of whom agreed it needed to be addressed, but seemed unmotivated to actually do anything. I even spoke to someone who tried to add their credits, but had so much trouble that she gave up. This should not be a problem that freshmen or any incoming students should face. However, if the administration really cannot account for all credits, advisors should encourage everyone to check for themselves, because the only problem bigger than lost credit is that students do not even know it is happening.

Marisa Nobs can be reached at marisa.nobs@spartans.ut.edu

"50 Shades of No" and the BDSM FYI

SEX AND LOVE

SELENE SAN FELICE
Opinion Columnist



This Valentine's Day the highly anticipated and debated "50 Shades of Grey" film will be released in theaters. While the "50 Shades" film and books are meant to portray a BDSM (Bondage Domination Sadism and Masochism) relationship, numerous members of the BDSM community have spoken out saying that the franchise poorly represents them. The Washington D.C. based National Center on Sexual Exploitation has called for a boycott of the movie, saying it glamorizes domestic abuse.

The center's director, Dawn Hopkins, told WTOP, "The whole premise for the book is this powerful, rich, handsome man can do anything he wants. He uses manipulation, coercion. He degrades this young, virginal college student. While millions of women are fantasizing about the controlling and abusive Christian Grey, there are many other women dealing with the horrors of actually living with men like him."

Hopkins and the NCSE are asking those thinking of seeing the movie to instead donate funds to local women's shelters. For those still curious to see what all the talk is about, I encourage you to return your copies of "50 shades" and do your own research on BDSM. It would, of course, be my pleasure to start you off with the basics.

BDSM is an umbrella term and can also be broken down as "B&D" (bondage and dominance/discipline), "S&M" (sadism and masochism) and "D&S" (dominance and submission). While these words may seem intense, they're certainly nothing to be scared of. BDSM in all its different variations represents roleplay. Two people take on different roles which can stop and end at the bedroom or persist through the entire relationship.

For those who keep their BDSM relationship strictly sexual, there is usually a period of downtime after roleplay for the two to comfort each other and transition out of their roles. This is generally defined as "after-care" and is explained on the website ChicoMunch as "the willingness to continue being there with your play partner for a sufficient time period that they can feel safe, regain their emotional equilibrium, and no longer feel the need to cling to you." ChicoMunch defines itself as, "a social-community resource for people who share an interest in the safe practice of BDSM and a source of information about things related to BDSM." The site further explains that people involved in BDSM roleplay often experience a lot of physical, emotional and mental exertion during sessions. This can cause a rush of hormones in the brain to create a "natural high." Coming down from that high can cause a "drop," which can come with feelings of detachment, exhaustion and a drop in body temperature.

BDSM roleplay is often mistaken as fetishism, but it is important to know that the two are entirely different. Los Angeles sex therapist Christine Milrod, PhD, told Women's Health that BDSM is considered kink. "BDSM is what a lot



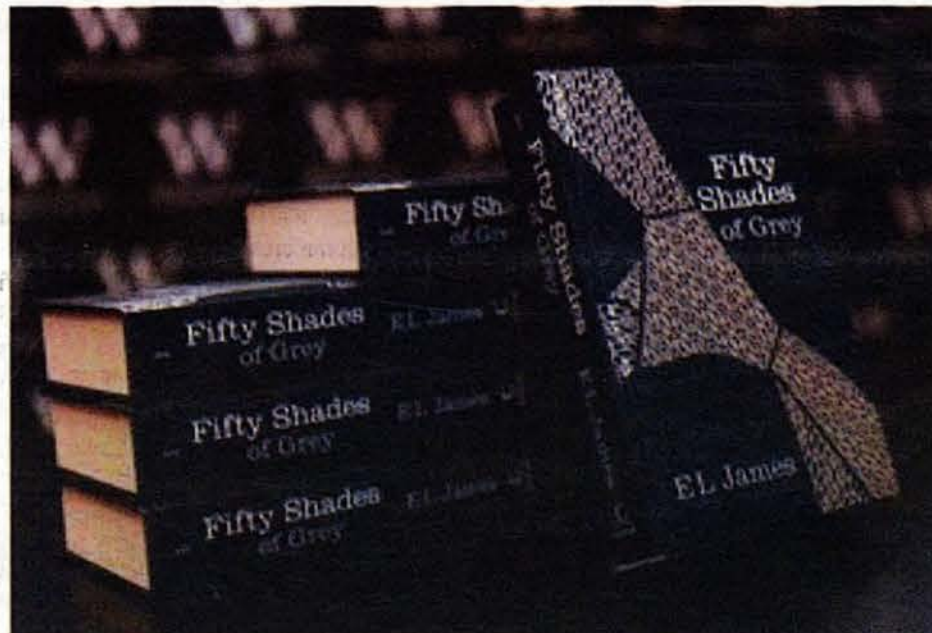
of people mistake for a fetish because items and objects that are used in BDSM can be fetishized," Milrod said. In other words, kink is considered specific roleplay, whereas a fetish involves, "sexual excitement and gratification from a specific thing in lieu of intercourse," according to Milrod. Spanking, for example, is a fetish that can be a part of BDSM roleplay, but does not define it.

Each BDSM relationship is defined by the two roles of a dominant and a submissive participant. There are several varying terms that classify these two roles within the subculture such as "top/bottom" and "master/slave," but in every BDSM relationship one person essentially dominates over the other. The more extreme side of this domination can take the form of a dominatrix. This is (generally) a woman who is hired by someone to roleplay with them and be their dominant. Dominatrices, however, are not prostitutes. They participate in role play for money, but do not have sex with their "slave" employers.

Participating in BDSM doesn't mean you have to dress up like Rubber Man from "American Horror Story" or take a beating from a dominatrix. The experience is about sensation and the connection with your partner. For some this can be purely verbal or involve light sensations, such as using feathers. It's about what two people want and are comfortable with. This brings us to one of the most important aspects of BDSM: consent.

Consent is a clear and verbal "yes" in all sexual situations. Consent is not a lack of a "no" and cannot be provided by anyone underage or under the influence of drugs or alcohol (for an easy in-depth explanation of consent see Laci Green's "Consent 101" video on youtube). In BDSM consent is the most important part of a relationship, as many kink acts can be disguised or passed off as BDSM behavior, when they are actually performed on a non-consenting person. This is considered sexual assault.

To make mutual consent louder and clearer than a verbal "yes," many members of the BDSM community



TOP TO BOTTOM: BDSMmellmag.net, www.mirror.co.uk
"50 Shades of Grey" inaccurately portrays BDSM (Bondage Domination Sadism Masochism).

use contracts and safewords. Written contracts will be signed by both parties confirming their consent to specific acts within a certain period of time (a "session") or the entire relationship. These contracts are not legally binding, and cannot act as consent for a minor. Safewords can also be included in contracts or verbally established between partners. Whichever safeword is agreed upon (usually something other than "stop" or "no") is a signal that the individual has withdrawn their consent and an act or a session must stop.

In the case of "50 Shades of Grey," consent on the part of the main character, Ana, is essentially nonexistent. Oftentimes Christian, her abuser (read "lover" by those who don't realize he is abusing her) beats Ana against her will and uses the fact that she is aroused or has orgasmed as a way of manipulating her into thinking she has consented. Neither arousal or orgasm is equal consent, and disguising it as such is a tactic often used by sexual abusers. In chapter 16 specifically, Christian holds Ana down and slaps her raw for rolling her eyes at him. He then rapes her, telling Ana afterward that she liked it because she was aroused. At one point before she is immobilized Ana asks herself "should I

run?" This is the opposite of a healthy BDSM relationship.

Aside from being an inaccurate depiction of BDSM, "50 Shades" is a notoriously bad read. Mistress Trinity, a professional dominatrix, wrote an article for The Huffington Post saying she uses the book as a torture device. "Very bad slaves have to read the book aloud and act out scenes," she wrote. "One of my slaves pleaded for me to stop the pain, offering to receive 100 strokes of the cane if he could just stop reading. Another used his safe word and willingly gave up a year's salary to me to 'end this horrific task.'"

Whether or not you're interested in putting a kinky twist on your Valentine's Day, I advise you to do anything else besides supporting a franchise like "50 Shades of Grey." This holiday is about celebrating love, not sexual abuse.

Selene San Felice can be reached at selene.sanfelice@theminaretonline.com

Need advice from our Sex and Love columnist? Want us to cover something specific? Go to <http://ask.fm/MinaretLoveAdvice> and send in your questions anonymously.

Super Bowl Commercials Disturb and Excite

ENTERTAINMENT

REBECCA TURNER
Opinion Writer



The Super Bowl 49, which aired on Feb. 1, conjured emotions of joy, anger, happiness and disappointment from those who watched it, and I'm not even talking about the football. The commercials served as miniature soap operas spliced between an incredibly exciting, back-and-forth game. Some companies like Budweiser and Doritos repeated their Super Bowl success of years past, some inspired us, but others, like Nationwide, simply horrified us. Overall, most of the Super Bowl commercials were inspirational and relatable, but others left us questioning why exactly someone was paid to produce such terrible content.

The crowd-favorite Super Bowl commercial is most assuredly Budweiser's "Lost Dog." The commercial gave viewers an expressive yellow labrador puppy who accidentally found himself in perilous situations until the Budweiser Clydesdales came to its rescue. It was well written, and had just enough drama to be entertaining without being histrionic. "Lost Dog" also rolled back out the cute puppy factor the company used last year in its commercial "Puppy Love," and it worked. In reference to the new commercial and Budweiser's fabulous marketing strategy, Budweiser's vice president, Brian Perkins, said "If it ain't broke, don't fix it," according to *USA Today*. He may just be on to something there.

Doritos also produced yet another remarkable Super Bowl commercial with its unique competition for the commercial slot in which the company outsources commercial material from fans. In the past, the company has succeeded with its humorous "Time Machine," and "Dead Cat Bribe." This year, the advertising was equally on point with the \$1 million-winning "Middle Seat," which was a commercial about a man trying to get an attractive woman to sit next to him on a plane while simultaneously attempting to ward off others only to find out that she is traveling with

an infant. While some of the man's methods could be perceived as insensitive, especially when he pretends to have irritable bowel syndrome, the commercial was humorously relatable. It felt human. The commercial addressed that worry we all have while boarding a plane, that we'll get stuck next to someone with poor hygiene or who talks too much. The commercial comically dealt with a common, albeit silly, problem that people encounter. It certainly wasn't as heartfelt as Budweiser's puppy commercial, but it definitely deserves a thumbs-up for its creativity and subtle humor.

Budweiser and Doritos are two clear front-runners for Super Bowl commercial notoriety, but several inspirational and thought-provoking commercials have earned definitive bids to the Super Bowl commercial hall of fame. Dove secured one of these coveted spots with its "#RealStrength" advertisement that brought viewers the happy memories of either being protected by their fathers or caring for their own children in the way the father-child duos interacted. The commercial heavily brought on nostalgia and left us smiling. Dove's commercial contained a simple but heartfelt message about the value of fathers and it was well-worth the company's investment as the commercial received positive reactions.

The "No More Project" wrote another important Super Bowl commercial right into viewers' hearts. The initiative is dedicated to ending domestic and sexual assault, which has been a prominent issue in the NFL since the league suspended football player Ray Rice after he hit his then-fiancee. The NFL donated this one-minute slot along with its advertising team for the commercial, which is valued around \$9 million, according to *The Chicago Tribune*. The commercial, called "No More," featured an actual call transcribed by 911 where a woman pretended to order pizza to get police assistance without alerting her attacker, as reported by ABC News. This commercial, which was based off of real events, demonstrated the terror of abusive relationships while also being respectful of those who have endured them. The "No More Project's" commercial ultimately addressed a quiet but common



Nationwide's commercial, "Make Safe Happen," made a disturbing commercial that shocked viewers. www.thewrap.com

issue in the U.S. while being both tasteful and informative.

The feminine product company Always crafted another equally impressive commercial with its "#LikeAGirl." The commercial aimed to defy the stereotypes about females by having young girls express what it meant to do various activities like a girl. The overall message was one of empowerment. It meant to show that young girls don't believe the stereotypes and society needs to stop allowing girls to believe them as they grow older. This commercial left and conveyed an intriguing convention which will likely live on in the viewer's mind much longer than it plays on screen.

While plenty of inspiration and hilarity filled the television screen, as per the Super Bowl commercial norm, Nationwide left viewers stunned into a 'What just happened?' silence. The company's "Make Safe Happen" commercial featured a young boy talking of all the things he would love to do... but can't because he died. Supposedly, Nationwide aimed to use the commercial as a jumping off point for conversation, but the commercial just

left viewers teary-eyed and shocked that something so devastating had been run as a witty little Super Bowl commercial, according to NBC News.

The commercial looked promising at first. After all, it had a cute little kid who was talking about imagined adventures like learning how to ride a bike, traveling the world with his best friend (his dog) and even getting married. As it turns out, he'd die in an accident before getting the chance to do any of the things pictures. It was a huge downer and ultimately insensitive to the viewership that is hoping for fun and inspiration. It should not have aired.

These commercials were the standouts of the 2015 Super Bowl, but not all for good reasons. Other honorable mentions worth checking out include T-Mobile's Kim Kardashian commercial, Avocados from Mexico's "First Draft," and Esurance's "Say my Name," featuring Bryan Cranston. Super Bowl Sunday was chock-full of memorable commercials, but here's to hoping that we'll soon forget a few.

Rebecca Turner can be reached at rebecca.turner@spartans.ut.edu

Craigslist Fails to Prioritize Buyer's Safety

TECHNOLOGY

By LIV REEB
Opinion Writer



There is always a risk when meeting someone from Craigslist to buy something. Everyone on the internet doesn't always have honest intentions. Craigslist should be taking precautionary measures to ensure the safety of their users, but they're not. Although the encounters made through Craigslist are usually well-intentioned, sometimes things go wrong in the process.

Bud and June Runion disappeared after taking a 180 mile road trip from Marietta, Georgia to McRay, Georgia to meet Ronnie "Jay" Towns from Craigslist. He claimed to be selling a 1966 Ford Mustang, the couple's dream car since they were married decades ago, according to ABC News. The couple was deemed missing when they didn't show up to babysit their granddaughter that evening. Towns was originally charged with giving false statements and criminal attempt to

commit theft by deception. Authorities say that Towns never owned any such car, and that Town's intention was to rob the couple from the start, according to CBS News. After the bodies were found on Jan. 27, he was charged with murder and robbery.

This is not the first or last time someone has been murdered after meeting with a stranger on Craigslist. Since the arrest of the "Craigslist Killer" Philip Markoff in 2009, there have been 58 murderers and 45 murder victims up to June 2014, according to Law Street. This may be because Craigslist is protected by Section 230 of the Communications Decency Act, according to CBS News. The act states, "No provider or user of an interactive computer service shall be treated as the publisher or speaker of any information provided by another information content provider." This means that Craigslist isn't responsible for anything that someone else posts on their website, so they have no reason to care.

All Craigslist has along the lines of personal safety for its users is a link to a few tips of how to stay safe: "Insist on meeting at a public place. Don't meet in a secluded place or invite strangers to your

home. Be especially careful when buying/selling high value items. Tell a friend or family member where you're going. Take a cell phone along if you have one. Consider having a friend accompany you. Trust your instincts." But these tips are all common-sense, and obviously after the number of murders reported, solely relying on common sense isn't enough.

Police are trying to push for people meeting on Craigslist to meet at a police station, according to CBS news. That way if anything goes wrong, the police are there to help. Peter Zollman, a classified ad consultant, referred to Craigslist as a "cesspool of crime" and believes that carrying out transactions at a police station will prevent murders, muggings, and robberies, according to CBS News.

Websites like Angie's List require an account to post on their services. Although Angie's List is a subscription-only website, the idea of using a website to look for someone to do a job is similar to Craigslist. Taking the anonymity away from a website by forcing posters to make an account makes it safer to use. If users can see that people have given the poster good ratings,

it's a lot easier to tell which posters are safe to meet and do business with. A person doesn't need an account to use Craigslist. Someone can post with nothing more than an email address. Users can respond to an ad through their own personal email or a phone call. Craigslist is no more than a spot for these people to post, so they don't take responsibility for whether or not people are lying. However, Craigslist should create a system where all users have accounts and approval ratings in order to enhance safety, much like Angie's List has.

Meeting people from the internet is risky business. If a married couple can get murdered in a small farm town, so can anyone else. There are steps that Craigslist can and should be taking to create a more safe environment, such as requiring an account and approval ratings, but they're not. Because of this lack of safety precautions, it's important to use common sense to be safe when conducting business with anyone from Craigslist.

Liv Reeb can be reached at olivia.reeb@spartans.ut.edu

SPORTS

Top Ranked Baseball Team Off To Roaring Start

By ANDREW STAMAS

Sports Writer

With such a vast history and tradition of winning teams, the Spartans baseball team will be chasing another national title this season. So far, they have shown good form in their first games of the season. The No. 1 ranked Spartans began their 2015 season with three comfortable wins over Bentley by the scores of 5-1, 13-5 and 15-2.

In the first game of the season, junior pitcher David Heintz got the win as the Spartans defeated Bentley 5-1. Senior catcher Nick Tindall and junior outfielder Casey Scoggins each had two hits and two RBIs.

Junior third baseman Nick Flair hit the first home run of the season for the Spartans as a part of their 13-5 victory over Bentley in the second game of the series. Junior second baseman Ty Cooler also contributed with two hits, three runs and three RBI in his three at bats. Senior Chase Sparkman was the winning pitcher for this game.

Senior outfielder Stephen Dezzi and junior second baseman Cody deNoyelles recorded their first home runs of the season in the Spartans' 15-2 victory over the Falcons. Cooler also added four hits and three RBIs on the day. Sophomore pitcher Jake Mielock got the win.

"It was a good opening weekend for us. We learned a lot about our strengths and some of our weaknesses that we're going to address," said head coach Joe Urso.

In the second weekend series of the



The baseball team is looking to continue its hot streak as they go deeper into the 2015 season.

Sam Simon/The Minaret

season, the Spartans continued their dominance with three wins over Georgia College. Tampa won the first game 5-3, with junior pitcher Michael Calkins getting the win. deNoyelles was the top hitter for UT this game, with three hits in four at bats, including a home run which was his second of the season.

The Spartans then edged out the Bobcats 8-7 in the second game of the series. Junior pitcher Kevin Martin got the win and senior shortstop Giovanny Alfonzo led the Spartans with three hits and two runs.

In the third and final game of the

weekend, the Spartans grabbed a comfortable 7-2 win over the Bobcats. Junior pitcher Brad Hencke earned his first win of the season and Dezzi recorded his second home run of the season while batting in a total of three runs throughout the game.

While the Spartans have had plenty to cheer about so far this season, it must be noted that this did not come easily for them. As with any winning team, hard work has been essential for this squad. Although the results have been great, they still believe that there is some work to be done to further improve.

"Not satisfied but we're happy where we're at," Dezzi said. This is the type of mentality that has helped this team win six of the last 23 national titles. "Our goals are always simple. Win that conference, win that regional and have a chance to go get a World Series title," Urso said.

Such goals and expectations may seem typical for a team with such a vast history of success, however, this season is quite different compared to others. The Spartans are set to face off against the Philadelphia Phillies on March 1, during the first game of the Phillies' spring training in Clearwater. In this game, Spartan players will get the chance of a lifetime to play against an MLB team.

"[It is] a big honor for them to invite us out, we're just appreciative for that opportunity. And our guys, their dream since they were kids was to play as a major leaguer. It's not easy to accomplish that goal, but for one day they're going to get to go out there and be treated like a big leaguer," Urso said.

"That's an awesome opportunity to be able to step on the field with some of those guys," Dezzi said. Dezzi also mentioned the possibility of seeing UT alumnus Preston Packrall out on the mound pitching for the Phillies.

Until then, the Spartans will play two home series against Southern Indiana and Stillman College and a road series against Georgia Regents.

Andrew Stamas can be reached at andrew.stamas@spartans.ut.edu

"I Can Dig It" Going For Intramural Championship

By GRIFFIN GUINTA

Sports Columnist

Confidence is riding high for "I Can Dig It" after they captured the intramural Sand Volleyball championship last fall. Loaded with a squad of veteran volleyball aficionados, the team is gearing up for another ascent to glory--this time in the CoRec Indoor Volleyball League.

When asked if this team would be wearing the coveted championship t-shirts come March, junior spanish major Josh Morrison didn't hesitate.

"Definitely," he said. "This team is loaded with talent and has extremely high chemistry. We each know our roles; some people are insane at blocks while others prefer to serve. Our balance sets us apart from newer teams."

According to Morrison, the team is a conglomeration of seasoned intramural players. After each player competed on separate teams last year, the current members of "I Can Dig It" decided to emulate the Miami Heat and join forces to make a "superteam" of their own.

Despite their high ambitions, however, the team began with a bumpy start. Rival "Block U Like a Hurricane," whom Morrison believes is their biggest threat to the title, narrowly edged them two sets to one in the opening match of the season.

A bevy of different factors including a missing player, nagging injuries, and early season rust contributed to their uncharacteristic loss. They responded with a thrashing of "Know That" this past Tuesday night, winning the match in straight sets.

"I wasn't worried about our squad," Morrison said. "We have some amazing leaders. Katie Pennewill, for instance, really holds this team together."

Pennewill, a sophomore sports management major, has lived and breathed volleyball her entire life. The child of two volleyball players, Pennewill began officially playing at the age of eleven and hasn't stopped since. She even considered playing for UT's volleyball team at the collegiate level but decided to focus on her schoolwork.

"When it came time to decide, I opted not to because I wanted to put more focus on other interests. I knew that being a student athlete was a huge

commitment, and I wanted something else from my college experience," Pennewill said.

Though it doesn't have the excitement of playing against other schools across the country, participating in intramurals has allowed her to keep kindling her passion for the game.

"Playing intramural volleyball is a great way to still be around the game," Pennewill said. "I still have a passion for volleyball, and I love competing. I missed competing and was looking for a way to get back in the game. Intramural sports [lets me] play without conflicting with my busy schedule."

Both Pennewill and Morrison agree there are two keys to winning a volleyball game: good communication and mitigation of simple errors. It's easy to be fairly competent in any intramural sport, but to play intelligently is a completely separate matter.

If all rudimentary mistakes are avoided, a loss can no longer be blamed on careless blunders or an overall lack of effort. "[It] means not missing serves, hits, etc," Pennewill said on conceding easy scores.

"It's important to not give any 'free' points to the other team."

As long as they practice what they preach, Morrison and Pennewill's team should be well on their way to a successful run in intramural volleyball this season.

Griffin Guinta can be reached at griffin.guinta@spartans.ut.edu



Sophomore Katie Pennewill led the team to their first win of the season this past Tuesday night.

Griffin Guinta/The Minaret

March Towards End of Season



(Top left and bottom right) Photos courtesy of Tom Kolbe/ (Bottom left to top right) Raeshaad Long/The Minaret

By **ED KERNER**
Sports Writer

On Jan. 24, the Spartans took on Rollins in one of their worst losses of the season.

This one was a hard fought loss for the Spartans who came up short after a strong rally to start the second half.

Junior guard Juliana Cavallaro led the comeback for the Spartans after putting up 19 points in 34 minutes of play. The Spartans tied up the game with 8:36 remaining in the second half, but would ultimately go on to lose the game 63-46.

In their next game, the Spartans looked to rebound against Barry. Junior guard/forward Ellen Nurmi had an exceptional performance tying a career high 26-point outing. The other time Nurmi scored 26 was also against Barry.

Nurmi also had five rebounds and five assists to go along with her exceptional offensive output.

The Spartans defense played a pivotal role in this game as they held Barry to 35.8 percent shooting from the field.

Tampa would win this one by a comfortable margin of 61-49.

Tampa hosted Nova Southeastern in one of the closest games of this season so far.

The Spartans overcame a nine-point deficit in the second half to tie up the game.

Rodney hit two clutch free throws down the stretch to tie the game, only to be wasted as Nova Southeastern's junior guard Monaye Merritt scored the final basket of the game to give them a 55-53 win over the Spartans.

Just like the Spartans always do, they bounced back in a dominant win against Lynn University. Cavallaro led the charge for the Spartans with an impressive stat line of 24 points, eight rebounds, and three assists. Looking to start a winning streak the Spartans hosted Florida Tech in another close matchup.

Cavallaro scored a team high 25 points, and is now only 47 career points away from 1000 point milestone. The Spartans were up by three when Rodney blocked a crucial three point shot to seal the win for the Spartans. Tampa would go on to win by a final score of 64-61.

Ed Kerner can be reached at edward.kerner@spartans.ut.edu

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Parker Provides Veteran Leadership For Young Program

By TESS SHEETS

Sports Writer

If women's lacrosse transfer and the now-junior Amanda Parker had to be described in one word, it would be "leader," according to both her peers and superiors.

Enrolling in a college as a transfer student is a feat all on its own. Enrolling into a college as a transfer collegiate athlete, expected to show guidance by default of age is an exploit for the few and the fearless.

Beginning her college lacrosse career at Stetson University, the defensive player learned the ins and outs of not only a Division I program, but an inaugural Division I program as well.

Because she was able to take place in the initiation of women's lacrosse at Stetson, her transition into the just-as-young program at UT has been all the more smooth.

"Amanda walked into a situation where she knew no one. She has come in every day like she's been here since day one," head coach Kelly Gallagher said. "She wears all the hats of being a leader on this team, and for her to come into a situation where she doesn't know anyone and be able to do that as naturally as she has, I think is amazing."

Parker's leadership qualities have come with many years of competing in a wide range of sports.

From basketball to soccer and then finally lacrosse, Parker credits her years as a dual-sport athlete into shaping her into the person she is today, supplying her with not only athletic capabilities, but also qualities that lay the foundations of her personality.

"Sports in general have had a huge impact on the woman that I am," Parker said. "Many of the qualities I have picked up on through lacrosse are those that you would find off the field in a best friend, a diligent student, and a successful businesswoman."

Although Parker is coming into this season as a junior, she plans to make her mark at UT in her final two seasons.

While winning games and setting records is a priority, Parker's primary goals this season are to set positive examples for the multitude of underclassmen on the team.

"Speaking as one of several upperclassmen on the team, we know that we are looked up to by our teammates for guidance," Parker said. "It is my mission to be a workhorse, a great teammate, and create meaningful relationships in my two years left on this team."

Having come from a DI program, Parker has been challenged to compete against some big-name schools such as University of Florida, Syracuse University and the Iroquois National Lacrosse Team. The experience she gained from this type of competition has allowed her to bring a bit of expertise to her UT teammates.

"She always has something to tell her teammates," Gallagher said. "Because she spent two years playing Division I lacrosse, she's a little bit more aggressive. And because she is very controlled in her play and she's very aggressive, I think it has helped our returners from last year to take a couple more risks. It's been a good visual example for them."

Although she was not involved with the inauguration of the lacrosse program at UT, one thing that has brought Parker

so close with her new teammates is a shared vision of mutual success.

When the skills from each individual player are accounted for, the one thing that can make or break a successful season is common and united aspirations.

When Parker joined the team, that is what bridged the gap between stranger and trustworthy companion. Each player is aware of the position they must take on and off the field in order to be a successful unit, according to Parker.

"In order for the team to be successful, it takes a huge personal commitment from everyone on the team during season play, as well as in the off-season," Parker said. "We have some extremely talented and athletic underclassmen; all who I know are on board and have joined this team in order to make a statement with such work ethic."

Tess Sheets can be reached at tess.sheets@theminaretonline.com



Photo courtesy of Tom Kolbe
Junior Amanda Parker has transitioned seamlessly into a leadership role for the women's lacrosse program.

Burke's Dual-Sport Experience Shows On Field

By CANDACE MARTINO

Sports Writer

Cutting down nets, raising banners and winning national titles are what dual-sport sensation Meagan Burke knows best.

The six-foot-two-inch Jacksonville native topped off her impressive collegiate volleyball career by capturing a national championship in addition to receiving an Academic All-American accolade.

UT's volleyball program is among one of the most successful Division II programs, and to no surprise, Burke was

a big reason why. In fact, she provided a strong mix of skills with a positive attitude on the court that she easily transitioned to the softball field.

"Meagan is the type of person that brings a ton of energy to the field," junior second baseman Alyssa Colletti said. "We can always count on her to lighten the mood and help the team relax when faced with intense situations."

While Burke can be relied on for helping to keep the team's composure together, she is counted on for more than just that. She was selected as First-Team All-Sunshine State Conference

last year starting in all 41 games, recording 41 hits, six doubles, two triples, with a team leading five home runs. The start of the 2015 season was no different.

Burke connected for two solo homers, sealing off the opening victory followed by a two game sweep over Southwest Baptist last weekend in Clearwater, FL.

"My strongest asset is definitely my hitting," Burke said who finished last years season with a batting average of .347. "I have always been a decent hitter so I try to maintain that, and try to better my team as much as possible."

In any sport, improving in a particular area takes time and the awareness of recognizing strengths and weaknesses, and Burke knows just areas to improve upon.

"I know my strengths and weaknesses in both sports and know what I need to work on. I focus on a particular area each day in practice and try to get better on it," Burke said.

Senior Jessica Wagner, the middle blocker for the volleyball team respects Burke for all the effort she puts into each sport.

"I absolutely loved playing with her. She knew how to keep everyone in check. Aside from being the glue on the team, Wagner admires Burke for so much more. I am amazed how she can flawlessly transition from one sport to another, yet still excel in both."

Despite the limited availability of Burke's daily schedule with balancing two collegiate sports, she makes her hard work ethics and positive attitude

more than noticeable. Burke is the only dual-sport athlete at UT who competes in both a regular season and post-season play. That in itself is what sets Burke apart from other athletes at UT, not just on the volleyball or softball team.

Volleyball coach Chris Catanach commented on how difficult being a dual-sport athlete is. "Meagan is an outstanding young woman and one of the best two sport athletes in the University of Tampa history. I am so impressed at the level of play she competed for us at." Burke ensures the opportunities that she has been given to play on two teams outweigh the stress that comes with it.

"It takes a lot of dedication to play two sports but I love them both so much along with my teammates that I couldn't imagine my college experience without them. It takes a lot of time management but I'd rather battle through struggling than not," Burke said.

Burke has begun to shift gears from protecting the volleyball net to making plays at first base without any hesitation.

Although the sport seasons and venues have changed, Burke believes this group of young, talented athletes has all the tools in their back pockets to make a national title run.

This season the UT softball team has gained national recognition in the National Fastpitch Coaches Association (NFCA) with a ranking at No. 17, something that Burke is used to getting.

Candace Martino can be reached at candace.martino@spartans.ut.edu



Photo courtesy of Tom Kolbe
Dual-sport athlete Meagan Burke looks to win another national title with the softball team to close her career.

Bucs' Top Overall Pick Leads NFL Off-Season Storylines

By JORDAN LLANES

Asst. Sports Editor

Now that the Patriots' victory parade is in the books, it is time to turn our attention to the NFL offseason. So many storylines are going to unfold before the Hall of Fame Game, so let's take a look at the stories that will define both the offseason and the 2015 regular season.

1. Who will the Bucs take with the number one overall pick?

The debate between Oregon quarterback Marcus Mariota and his counterpart from Florida State, Jameis Winston, will rage on for at least the week before the draft, barring any major injury to one of the signal callers.

After last season's debacle with Josh McCown and Mike Glennon under center, head coach Lovie Smith and general manager Jason Licht need to take a quarterback who has the potential to be the face of the franchise for years to come. Both candidates have their pros and cons.

Winston is the prototypical pro style quarterback in the mold of Steve McNair or Ben Roethlisberger: a big, strong-armed quarterback who can thrive in the pocket and outside of it. He's also a winner who can elevate his teammates around.

However, his off-the-field transgressions are his biggest concern. His maturity will be under some of the highest scrutiny that an NFL prospect has seen, and he has to impress the Bucs' brass in the interview process at the Combine in order to have a shot to be taken first overall.

Mariota does not have those character issues, but he will have to transition into offensive coordinator

Dirk Koetter's system from Oregon's spread attack. It will be a tough change for the Heisman Trophy winner, but with the guidance of Koetter and new quarterbacks coach Mike Bajakian, he can do it.

While Winston is more of a big-bodied signal caller, Mariota is built in the mold of 49ers quarterback Colin Kaepernick: he's lithe and speedy, so he's a home run threat running the football if he can get past the defense. Furthermore, his high football IQ, ability to make most of the throws that Koetter's offense calls for and his winning pedigree would also make him a great choice.

2. Who are the top offensive free agents?

A pair of Dallas Cowboys, running back DeMarco Murray and wide receiver Dez Bryant, lead this class of playmakers. Murray broke out in a big way this season en route to winning the Offensive Player of the Year award, while Bryant continued to evolve into one of the NFL's best receivers, catching 88 passes for 1,320 yards and 16 touchdowns. He is a threat anywhere on the field.

Other top free agent receivers include the Broncos' Demaryius Thomas and the Packers' Randall Cobb, while the Saints' Mark Ingram and the 49ers' Frank Gore are the next best options at tailback behind Murray.

Thomas's fellow pass catcher, tight end Julius Thomas, is also a free agent, while top offensive lineman include 49ers guard Mike Iupati and Cowboys offensive tackle Doug Free.

The weakest group of the offensive free agents are the quarterbacks, as former Browns starter Brian Hoyer and



Neon Tommy/Flickr
Oregon Quarterback Marcus Mariota is considered to be the best option for the Bucs on draft day.

ex-Eagles signal caller Mark Sanchez are the top choices.

3. Who are the top defensive free agents?

The conversation for the best defensive free agent, and best free agent period, should begin and end with Detroit Lions defensive tackle Ndamukong Suh.

The number two overall pick in the 2010 NFL Draft has become the best defensive tackle in the league, and plays with the one of the meanest streaks the league has ever seen.

Other defensive linemen to keep an eye on include the following: Bills defensive end Jerry Hughes, Giants defensive end Jason Pierre-Paul, Suh's teammate with the Lions, Nick Fairley, and Broncos defensive tackle Terrance Knighton.

The linebackers are led by Chiefs' outside linebacker Justin Houston, who nearly broke Michael Strahan's single season sack record and Cowboys' inside linebacker Rolando McClain, who finally has lived up to his first round pick status with a superb season in Dallas.

The defensive backs, who have become one of, if not the most important position groups on defense, is also a little low on high end talent. Antonio Cromartie of the Cardinals and Byron Maxwell of the Seahawks are the top two choices at cornerback, but the Patriots' Darrelle Revis could become a free agent if the team declines his \$20 million option. At safety, another Patriot, free safety Devin McCourty, leads a weak crop of defenders.

Jordan Llanes can be reached at jordan.llanes@theminaretonline.com

Club Hockey Pushes Toward Postseason



Photo courtesy of Matthew Fenby
The club hockey team is coming off a 4-1-1 stint against Florida State and the University of Miami.

By PHIL NOVOTNY

Sports Editor

The University of Tampa club hockey team is a force to be reckoned with in the second half of their season. Going into last weekend, the Spartans were ranked tenth in the American Collegiate Hockey Association (ACHA) South Region in their fight for the regional tournament.

UT continued their winning ways

after sweeping a two game home series against the Florida State Seminoles at the Brandon Ice Sports Forum. In the first game, the Spartans trailed early 1-0 off a deflection that went past sophomore goalie Christian Hamlett. As the game went along, the floodgates opened in the Spartans' favor as freshman left winger Matthew Antonacci scored a hat trick on the way to a 9-2 victory over the Seminoles.

To cap off the weekend, UT continued their domination of the Seminoles as they

won the series finale 8-2 after trailing early on once again. Antonacci and junior forward Evan Stawarz lead the way as they both had two-goal performances.

"Two huge wins against Florida State last weekend really pushed us forward," said sophomore defenseman Alexander Carde. "Whenever we get wins against big-name schools, we are pumped. There are a lot of intensity in those games."

This past weekend, the Spartans hit a roadblock when facing off against the University of Miami. Injuries began to pile up for the Spartans as they were missing three of the five starting defensemen and three forwards as well. After the end of the first period, the Spartans were tied against the Hurricanes after a goal by senior forward Corey Tudor.

After the first period, as the Hurricanes broke the game wide open. As the Spartans' deficit kept increasing they were unable to put in their senior goalie Craig Lemrow because he was out due to an illness. In the end, the Spartans were routed by the Hurricanes by a final score of 13-3.

However, the Spartans were able to salvage the road trip with a 5-5 tie against Miami. Antonacci posted another great performance by tallying four goals. At the end of the night, Antonacci's had 47 goals on the season. Antonacci has two more games to reach the milestone of having a 50-goal season. Carde goes in depth about Antonacci's stellar season. "Being

the leading scorer in the nation, he is able to either take a game over on his own or score a goal that sparks the rest of the team."

Antonacci provides his input on the milestone: "The scoring title is something that I really would like to get but most importantly, I want our team to make its first trip to regionals. I wouldn't of had a chance at scoring 50 goals if not for my teammates and especially my linemates."

Even though the Spartans came off of a disappointing weekend, there is a legitimate possibility for them to make the postseason. "The University of Miami series was not what we hoped for but a tie in the second game gives us life," Antonacci said. Overall, the Spartans have just two more games left in the regular season and find out if they make the ACHA South regional tournament on Friday. Regardless, UT is looking to finish on a high note as they take on the University of South Florida in a home and home series this weekend.

"Both of this week's practices will be crucial in keeping our momentum going forward," Antonacci said. "If we continue to work hard and improve then we should be able to come out strong and have a good series against USF."

Phil Novotny can be reached at philip.novotny@theminaretonline.com

Freshman "Duke" Shelton Grows Into Leading Role For Men's Basketball

By MARCUS MITCHELL
Sports Columnist

In the eyes of some, basketball is just a game. But to freshman forward Othniel "Duke" Shelton, it is an intense struggle between warriors, and the court is their battlefield.

Shelton lives with the mindset that success is earned, not given, and is the epitome of what a UT Spartan should be.

At a young age, Shelton connected with basketball and began to put in the effort to become a disciple of the game. "Basketball is all I ever wanted to do," Shelton said.

Since the first time I picked up a ball, I knew that it is what I wanted to do." Measured at 6-foot-8 and 215 lbs., Shelton was built to play the forward position and possesses the talent to make a play whenever the ball finds him.

In spite of his ability, complacency has never struck Shelton and he is well disciplined to train and practice to improve his game.

"I have spent countless hours at the gym and all of those hours were well used to keep me out of a lot of trouble and give me this opportunity that most young men don't receive," Shelton said.

Before becoming a Spartan, Shelton attended Vanguard High School (VHS) in his hometown of Ocala, Florida. While at VHS, Shelton led his team in points (11.6), rebounds (8.2) and blocks (2.2) per game.

That success has translated fluidly into Shelton's collegiate career here at UT, where he has started in the past 12 games. "At first, I came to UT because it was close to home and this was my first time moving away," Shelton said.

"My teammates' energy and positivity have influenced me and the system here is very similar to the one at my old high school so the transition was not too difficult to get comfortable with."

Shelton's game has hit its stride in the past month and he has averaged 9.8 points per game in the last five contests.

Shelton may be the only starting freshman on the court, but his experience with a basketball speaks volumes.

"Playing alongside Duke is great. He brings energy and toughness to our team," senior guard and team captain Jordan Davis said.

In a system that complements his tenacious style of play, Shelton has been firing on all cylinders lately. He led the team with 17 points last week to complete the season sweep of Lynn and is developing into a key component to the Spartan squad.

As a freshman, Shelton has three years of college ball ahead of him but he has his dreams in sight.

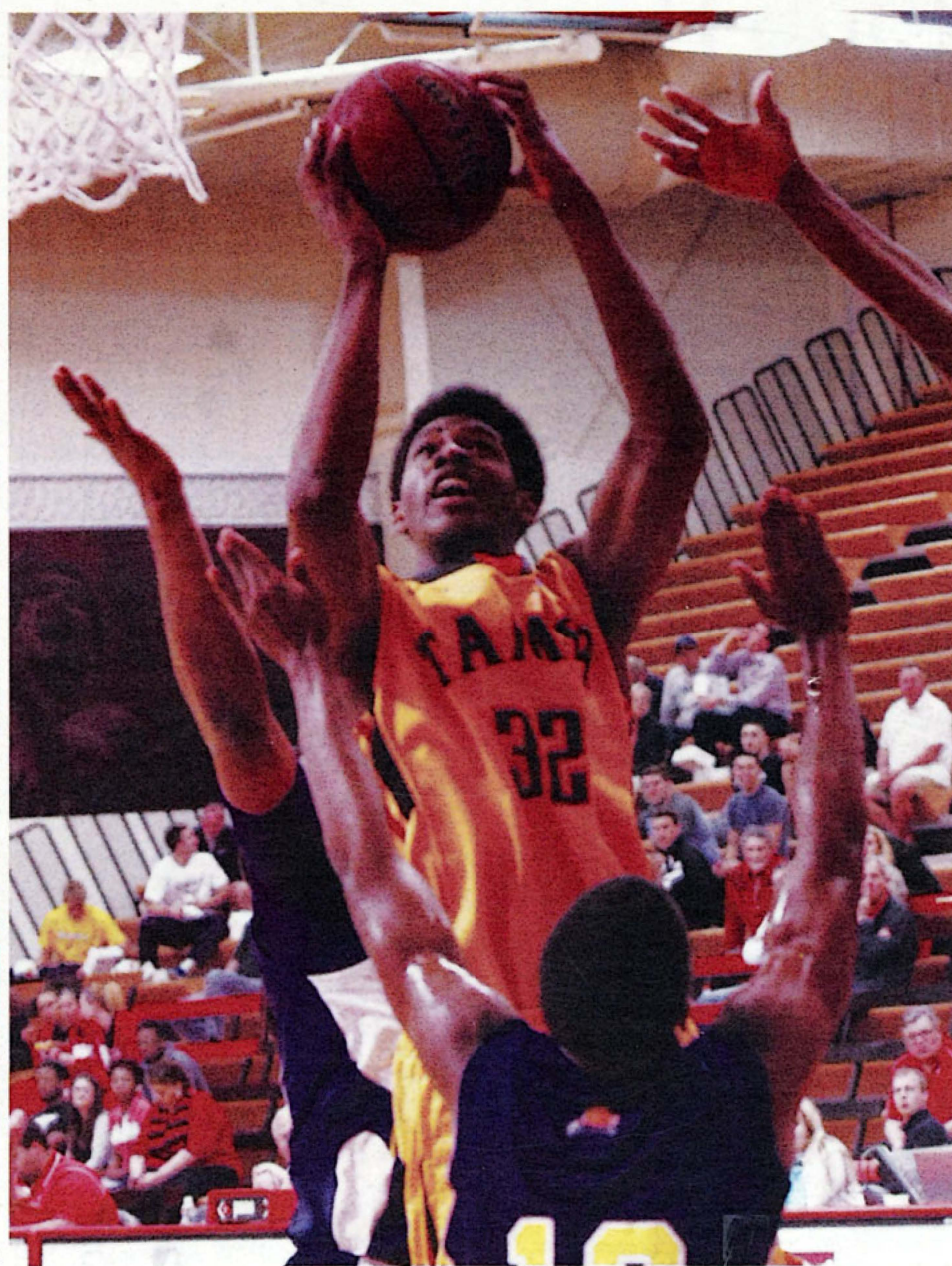
"I'd like to pursue a professional career and I'd love to play for the Orlando Magic here in my home state," Shelton said.

"I was a huge fan of Tracy McGrady when he played there and it would be an honor to spend a career of basketball in a place I love to be."

Although it may be a while before he stops wearing the Spartans jersey, Shelton has the discipline and ability to take his career as far as he's willing.

"Basketball has played a major role in my life and I am very thankful for that," Shelton said. "This is all I have ever wanted to do, just a ball and a dream."

Marcus Mitchell can be reached at marcus.mitchell@spartans.ut.edu



Photos courtesy of Tom Kolbe