

The Minaret



Gerry Adams speaks of Sinn Féin

By SUSAN W. HUDMON
Editor-in-Chief

"I'm convinced that we are going to get there," said Irish politician Gerry Adams as he spoke to a large crowd of supporters gathered in Fletcher Lounge on Sunday, March 14. "If any nation deserves peace, it is the five million people on an island far away from here."

Adams, leader of the Sinn Féin party, has been a predominant force in the peace talks concerning Northern Ireland, and has worked closely with British Prime Minister Tony Blair and President Bill Clinton. The conflict in Northern Ireland can be traced, according to Adams, "back to the British invasion of the island, depending on where you want to start, either 300 or 800 years."

Although the audience was supportive, several members of the UT community criticized the decision to bring "a terrorist" to speak. The lecture was sponsored by the Friends of Sinn Féin, an American organization that supports the Irish political party. The lecture was free to students, but non-students paid \$20 which went to the Friends of Sinn Féin.

"If he's good enough to negotiate with Prime Minister Tony Blair and President Clinton," said Director of International Programs Mark Lombardi, "then he's good enough to speak here."

Sinn Féin is the oldest political party in Ireland. They take their name from the Irish Gaelic expression for "We Ourselves." Since

being founded in 1905 they have worked for the right of Irish people

"none of those groups have any popularity at the present time."



Susan W. Hudmon - The Minaret

Gerry Adams, leader of Sinn Féin Party spoke to a supportive crowd about the peace process and the oldest political party in Ireland.

as a whole to attain national self-determination, and have elected representatives in every major Irish town and city.

When asked about problems with the IRA, Adams stated that

Adams insists that the news Americans receive about Ireland is colored by the British, coming to the States through London.

"There will always be a bias and a prejudice," said Adams. Sinn

Féin desires to heal the "cancer in Irish society and destroy the illusion of superiority." Adams insists that the division of the Irish people into classes by religion was their way of dividing the Irish people, much in the way race was used to divide the United States. Sinn Féin seeks to empower the people, to right the wrongs.

"This opportunity for peace gives us all the chance to create the first century where the people of our island can live together in peace," said Adams. "It isn't about me... it's about the young people in Ireland. They have the right to be owners of their own future, not strangers in their own country... What we want to do is to keep the deal that was agreed upon."

The Irish have a long history in the United States, one that Adams says was more often than not involuntary. Adams said that few Irish came to America of their own will. They, like most early immigrants, were fleeing hard times in their native land. Hard times were caused by the Great Potato Famine as well as discrimination against certain classes and religious affiliations. Northern Ireland Catholics continue to suffer from discrimination, ranging from a lack of job opportunities, Catholics are still two times as likely to be unemployed, to suffering acts of violence perpetuated on Catholic children, such as the murders of three brothers this past summer.

"My conviction is that we will resolve these problems," said Adams. "The presence of justice

is required for people to have some sense of being first class citizens."

Over the years Adams' family has also been targeted. His brother-in-law was killed, his brother was shot, and several family members have been imprisoned. Adams wife and son narrowly escaped injury when a bomb attack was carried out on his home in West Belfast. To the present day Adams' health continues to be adversely affected by the years of punishment inflicted during his internment by the British and from his closest call with death, when his body was riddled by automatic rifle-fire in an attack in downtown Belfast.

"The Unionists have as much right to their place on the island as we do," said Adams. "What we want is the right for a man or a woman to have any religion."

Gerry Adams has published several books including: *A Pathway to Peace*, *The Politics of Irish Freedom and Selected Writings*, which provide expositions of his political thinking; *Falls Memories*, an autobiographical memoir; *Cage Eleven*, stories relating to prison experiences, *The Street and Other Stories*, a collection of short stories and *Before the Dawn*, an autobiography. He is also the author of countless articles and book reviews and a featured columnist on Irish politics for *The Irish Voice*. An enthusiastic Gaelic sports supporter, Gerry Adams is also a fluent speaker of Gaelic and continues to support cultural growth and appreciation in Ireland.

INSIDE

Studio-F
shows
artists
at work
Page 6

Intramural
basketball
pictures
Pages 8 & 9

INDEX

News.....1&4
Opinion.....2&3
Accent.....5-7
Sports.....8&9
Ads.....10-12

Young Nechita evokes works of Art

By SYD LILLEY
Staff Writer

Every child is an artist. The problem is to remain an artist once he grows up. - Pablo Picasso.

Remaining an artist, as she grows, probably won't be a problem for Alexandra Nechita. After all, she is 13 years old and her best paintings are selling for upwards of \$100,000. Her paintings are complex and multi-layered even though she's had almost no formal art training.

On March 20 Nechita had a gallery opening here in Tampa, along with a children's event, which all took place at Hoffman Porges Gallery in Ybor City.

The children's event gave kids ages five to 17 a chance to personally meet Alexandra. She is a very community minded young lady.

"The charities are very important to me," stated Nechita. She has used her fame and popularity to support those such as, UNICEF and Special Olympics International.

Alexandra shows no signs of slowing down, despite the hesitation of the conventional art world

to take her on as one of its own. Her work is known the world over and whether or not it's officially considered good art, it certainly is popular. At this point it is regarded as more pop culture than high art, but she doesn't seem to mind.

From drawing in coloring books at age two to using oils and acrylics at age six, Alexandra has always been absorbed in art. Her first exhibit was at a community library at age eight.

It was also at that age that she first saw the works of Picasso. As the story goes, when she saw one of his paintings, she turned to her mother and said, "Look Mom, this guy paints like me." Until then she had thought she was the only one who did cubism. Nechita says that no artist outside herself has

had any big influence on her work. Despite this, her work is being compared constantly to Picasso's

and to other artists. Skeptics and believers alike have to admit that her skill is exceptional for her age.



Photo - Courtesy of Hoffman Porges Gallery

Alexandra Nechita, shown above, next to one of her many creations.

Nechita has appeared on shows such as *Oprah*, *The Rosie O'Donnell Show*, and *NBC*

Nightly News with Tom Brokaw. Her works are owned by such stars as Whoopi Goldberg and Ellen Degeneres. She has toured all over the globe and seems to be handling her fame pretty well.

"It's been great. Never in my wildest dreams did I imagine all this. It's overwhelming. More than anything else I'm grateful." She says all this as she casually twirls a half-filled Nehi water bottle in the air, surrounded by gallery workers busy installing her artwork.

Childhood fame, traditionally, tends to be more of a burden than a blessing. Nechita shows no signs of the burden of fame.

"It hasn't been a burden at all," stated Nechita. Hearing her tell it, fame actually sounds like a good thing. "It's brought my family

Nechita, see page 4

Stay focused, the end is coming

EDITORIAL

It's inevitable. We remember it from high school and we know it's coming. First, you either quit doing your homework or you start begging hopelessly for extensions from the more lenient professors. Then you either go out partying, or spend a lot of time watching reruns of *The Brady Bunch* to determine their educational messages. Next, you start skipping classes while term paper deadlines slip past you faster than three hours of TV and you don't even bother to come up with decent excuses. Instead of using old stand-bys like "My dog ate my homework," and ignoring the fact that the dorms don't allow pets you just hope they don't notice your name missing from the pile of neat papers in front of them. You feel like the world is crashing down on you and can't imagine how you're going to get through the next five weeks. You can't even fathom finals. They are as distant and looming as a meteor.

Yes, it's here, the dreaded senioritis. You may think we're joking, but it really exists. And it attacks even the best of us. We've all worked hard over the past four or five years and are about ready for it to end. It seems like it would be okay just to coast through these last few weeks, but it's not. You still have time to mess up enough for them to deny you that long-awaited walk across the verandah. You can't just let it all go. You've worked too hard to make it this far to screw up your GPA now. Or, maybe you haven't worked very hard this semester and are now racing the clock to pull yourself out of the hole before it's too late.

There are people who can help with this problem, if you're motivated enough to find them. The Student Health and Counseling Center would be happy to provide you with tips on how to stay concentrated, as would the ACE Center. ACE, along with Saunders Writing Center can help you with any educational difficulties you may have.

There are only 43 days until graduation, but that's no reason to slack. If anything, it means you better not start slacking or else. You've worked on this degree for over 500 days, so what's a few more? 43 days is really not that long of a time period. It's less than two cycles of the moon. It's less than the probation period of most jobs. Put things in perspective and you'll notice that they look a lot more manageable.

The Minaret would like to wish you a safe and fun April Fool's Day

The Minaret

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KATHY'S KORNER

Don't be someone's bitch, stay clean

COLUMN

While I spent my Spring Break in my jammies watching Nick Jr. all day, a friend of mine was trying to avoid becoming someone's prison bitch. Yes, now I can say I am friends with an ex-con. It's really less interesting than it sounds—it's



By
KATHY
PHILLIPS

not like he killed anyone or was caught bonking sheep. Here's what happened:

My friend (let's call him Bob) was in a record store, and, short on cash, he decided it would be a good idea to shoplift. However, when he was about to leave the store, a security officer stopped him. The officer escorted Bob into the bowels of the store, the dark and scary place they use to frighten bad little children who like to steal. Of course, the officer was a deaf-mute, as were all the other security personnel, and nobody in the entire freaking store would tell Bob what was going on, so Bob, in fear and confusion, ruined a perfectly good pair of Dr. Seuss boxer shorts. (The only part that didn't scare him was the handcuffing, because Bob is kinda into that sort of thing.)

Next thing Bob knew, he was in the county lock-up. He didn't tell me much about the actual "being in jail" stuff. I don't know if he got a stylish jumpsuit, or what his cellmate was like, or any of that. But he did get to make the infamous one phone call—well, he actually made two calls: one to a friend, to bail him out (for \$1,000!!), and one to his parents, to cry like a kitten.

He spent only about 22 hours in there, and then he had to go to court. Luckily, he's never been in trouble with the law

before. Even more lucky, his father is a smooth operator who sweet-talked a clerk into convincing the judge to be kind to Bob. As a result, there was no time to serve, no fine, and the whole thing got expunged from the record, so Bob was free and clear.

Well, *almost* free and clear. Even though the legal records would never show that this had happened, the record of the event can never be removed from Bob's mind. Although he didn't tell me much about being in jail, Bob did say it was the most terrible, horrifying thing he ever had to go through and that he would never do anything illegal ever again. I think it has something to do with what happened as he was being led out of his cell to go to court.

All the cells were connected to a big room with a TV and a couch and such, kind of like a huge, sterile recreation room. Several people had their court hearings around the same time as Bob, so a guard was going around and collecting those people while the people who were ready to go waited in the rec room. Bob was standing there, wishing this nightmare would end, when he heard two people talking behind him.

"Hell, no. That one can't leave."

"So go get him before they take him out."

All of a sudden, Bob felt an arm around his waist. A huge man with more gold in his mouth than teeth smiled down at him as he lead Bob away from the group. He said, "Hey, listen. What do you think about—" But then the guard came back and Bob squirmed away from the man, saying, "Sorry, I have to go with them."

You thought I was just joking when I said he was trying to avoid becoming someone's prison bitch, didn't you? Ha! You should know I never joke around. Anyway, I hope you have learned a valuable lesson from this story: if you're going to shoplift, don't get caught or your ass might regret it.

Letters...

to the editor must be typed and double-spaced.

Please submit letters to *The Minaret* office (Student Union, Room 4), by e-mail to "TheMinaret@aol.com" or to UT Box 2757 by 4 p.m. Monday to appear in Friday's issue.

Letters must be signed and include an address and telephone number where the writer may be contacted regarding editing.

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

OPINION

It's a column about nothing

LETTER

Dear Editor:

This letter is in response to Kathy Phillips' recent column on UT's improvements. If Ms. Phillips concentrated her writing efforts on more investigative articles, such as indicating why the university is conducting infrastructural improvements, rather than her opinion regarding the improvements, *The Minarets'* constituents would be much more likely to read her column. Furthermore, an informed opinion versus a whimsical one, provided by Ms. Phillips, would reflect the quality of education offered at The University of Tampa. Perhaps Ms. Phillips can benchmark from her colleague, Mr. Michael Bowen, who wrote an outstanding, thoroughly researched column detailing student ethics in a university environment. This column provided the readers with an informed opinion, including supporting facts.

I have had several experiences reading Ms. Phillips' columns. And, each time, I become more and more disappointed in *The Minaret* and its editors for allowing her to write such trash. For example, last year, she provided us with an excerpt detailing her thoughts about shaving her legs in the winter. There is a difference between freedom of speech and freedom of vulgarity. The editorial, as our forum of freedom of speech, should be used as a means to communicate

our university learning experience. In addition, the column should be a way to convey meaningful ideas and thoughts. Obviously, Ms. Phillips feels that the hair on her legs is more important to The Minaret's constituency than a worthwhile learning experience.

Those who submit columns should utilize our editorial forum in a more educational and meaningful fashion. As a result, the students, faculty, staff, and external university stakeholders would be more likely to read our paper. Had Ms. Phillips made an informed opinion in her column regarding the improved infrastructure, I would not be compelled to respond. An informed opinion would have been to say the university is remodeling the campus, e.g., fencing the university, in hopes to recapture its past look. Also, Ms. Phillips cited the Multicultural Center and the Center for Ethics as "renovations."

Actually, the University is building a multicultural center, not renovating it. And, the Center for Ethics is not being renovated with its endowed \$1 million; however, the money is being used for community outreach.

So, my informed opinion is this: If Ms. Phillips continues to write editorials using her whimsical opinion, I would suggest that she write for the tabloids. *The Minaret's* target audience deserves more than information concerning Ms. Phillips hairy legs.

David Virgilio
MBA Student

Maturity, some have it, some don't

LETTER

Dear Editor,

My name is Jenna Marotta. I am currently in the homestretch of my tenure here at the University of Tampa, and I have grown to love and care for this school as if it were my home. Well, I guess I can say in all honesty that when I am here at UT it IS my home. In fact, UT is a home to most of the people who reside here. I, for one, have always taken great pride in my home and the places that I have grown to call home.

I currently reside in University West on the North Boulevard side of the building, and am constantly awakened by the sounds of the traffic outside, and constantly reminded that this university doesn't stand alone. It is a very vital part of the community, and should be respected as such. The students of this university are the future of this country, and there have been some recent incidents that leave me feeling a bit uneasy about the future of our country.

In the last few days I have witnessed some of the largest forms of disrespect that I have ever seen. Some people who reside on the floor above me have taken it upon themselves to emulate the constant stereotypes of "rowdy college students." These people have found a common practice in throwing beer bottles out the window, allowing them to shatter in the street (N. Boulevard), which many of us use as our route onto campus.

One bottle might be considered an accident, but this has been constant and deliberate. I hear these people laughing

when they do it. Is it funny to see someone's tire go flat? I currently make \$250 per month payments on my car, and have worked very hard to do so. I also work very hard at keeping my car in good shape so that it will last me beyond my college years. I cannot afford to pay to repair a damaged tire simply because some ignorant person decided to disrespect my home.

Now, don't get me wrong, I have my fun, and do my share of partying. However, I know and understand the responsibilities of cleaning up after myself. If I empty a beer bottle, I put it in the trash can, and empty the trash in the cans

provided for us which are conveniently located right out the back door. The door I use to get to the parking lot where I keep my car, the one I don't want to see damaged by these delinquents.

In conclusion, I leave you with this: everyone on this campus comes from different parts of the world. Everyone has different styles of living. I just wonder where in the world do they find destruction of property common practice? Were these people raised to believe that they could do whatever they wanted to their homes and never be punished for destroying it?

UT is my home for the time being, and I wish others felt the same way as I do. I know that not everyone can have the same opinions as me, but at least respect mine, and respect the street that I drive on. These are the acts that reflect negatively on UT as a whole to the rest of the public, and should come to an end. Let's all be honest here, regardless of your age.

Video Games are detracting from our lives

COLUMN

When I was in grade school, I can remember seeing my brothers, both older and younger, glued to the TV. No, they weren't enraptured by some flashy cartoon or shoot em up movie. They were hooked to whatever video game was freshest out of the package. They would spend hours jumping around as Mario or toiling away as a Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtle. Even I got into the action sometimes with *Tetris* or *Paperboy*, but I usually relegated to watching, which was incredibly boring, but I had nothing else to do.

You would expect this trend to lop off as people grew older, but I have found the opposite. I find more people playing video

games in college than in high school. I think the reason for this is that now, video games are more complex and geared to an older audience. Take *Doom*, for instance. In this game, you're fighting the forces of hell that have taken over the earth. With weapons including a shotgun, chainsaw, and rocket launcher, you can do plenty of damage, and the makes of the game so nicely allow you to see the red carnage you've created. This isn't for seven-year-olds, although I'm sure that some have played this game. I myself would

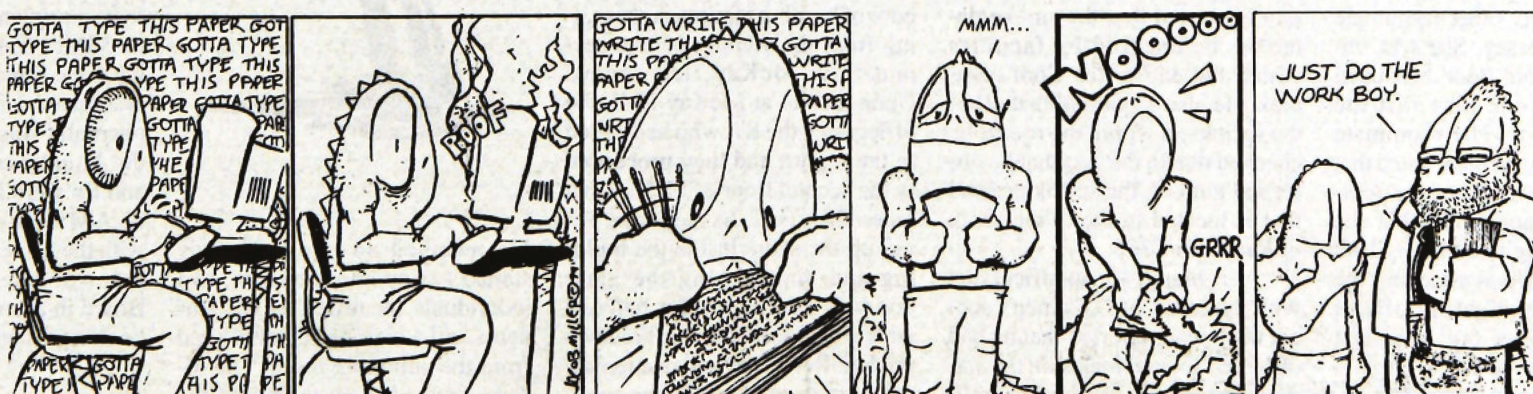
sometimes load up the game, put in some cheat codes, and kill away. I found it as a stress reliever rather than a stress maker. My brother and even my uncle, who's in his thirties, have stayed up to all hours trying to strategically move onto the next level, not realizing how much time has been eaten away.

I see this time sucking happening here at UT, too. The most popular tool is the James Bond game for Nintendo 64. One feature of the game is that you can play other players on a deathmatch, which is where you try to kill each other. I have heard of games going on

until 4:30 a.m. And there are the people who complain of having too much work to do.

Another reason that I think video games are rife on college campus is because video game makers have brought back old classics. The Super Mario brothers have always had a new game coming out, but recently, Nintendo has made new versions of *Zelda* and *Castlevania*, which I can remember playing. But as I watched other people play the games, I realized that they are nothing like their 80s counterparts. They're geared towards an older crowd.

As long as "newer, improved" video games are produced, people will buy them. I see them as a waste of time, but those who are addicted (and yes, I do say addicted) will tell you otherwise, that it's something they do for fun. I find it hard to see as fun when they're glazed-eyed and staring at a screen for five hours only to throw their paddle in frustration when they can't reach the next level. Here's a tip: this is Florida. Go outside and enjoy the real world.



By Jake Miller

Nechita, from page 1

closer together. It's given us all sorts of opportunities we never would have had otherwise." Her parents quit their jobs to help manage their daughter's work. Her four year old brother Maximillian gets his own canvasses to work on and she recently got her own printing press.

The printing press is used because she's recently begun working with etchings and dry points. Nechita's success gives her infinite supplies for her art.

The best word to describe her work is happy. It's almost manic it's so happy. She wants her work to "exude vitality," to "put a smile on their (the viewer's) faces." Her work is filled with positive energy. For instance, her piece *Forever Happy* is about "the importance of being happy all the time". Almost all of her paintings are filled with bright colors. While happiness and optimism are certainly good things, it's hard not to be suspicious of constant, unwavering happiness. There's no balance in it. Both Nechita's work and herself exude this constant, delighted content.

When not touring the world, Nechita says she enjoys a normal childhood. She reads books, goes to school, and listens to alternative music like Eve 6 and The Offspring. She confides, "It (my success) lets me miss more school than I'm supposed to." She spends most of her free time painting, simply because it is what she likes to do.

If Nechita does miss more school than she is supposed to, it does not show in any of her sophistication. She seems to

have been born into the role of artistic prodigy. During her gallery opening she made her way through the dense crowd of fans and potential buyers as if it were second nature. As if she's been skilled for at least a few decades, Nechita does all of it, from painting to doing interviews to schmoozing with potential buyers.

The notes by her explaining the paintings portrayed an unusually mature mind. Next to her painting *Silent Water Lily* was written "Water lilies and prayers are in a sense so alike they emerge from the mystery and depths of one's being." Next to another painting she talked about the distinction and separation between one's mind and one's body.

Thematically and stylistically Nechita's art does bear striking similarities to other artists, especially to Picasso. It would have been nice to see some of the cubist work she was doing before that original encounter with Picasso, in order to get a clear idea of the evolution of her art. Regardless, she is definitely an unusual talent.

So, what do you do when you are already famous and successful at age 13? You keep doing what you are good at.

"I just want to keep exploring art and learning." If she is this talented now, both popular culture and the art world will be watching for what the years will bring. After all, if she lives to be Picasso's age, she will have 80 more years to perfect her talent.

When Bad Drivers Attack - Next on FOX!

An Icelandic woman was hit twice by the same car within 24 hours, *Iceland Review* said Wednesday. The woman was driving in Akureyri in northern Iceland Saturday when a car came out of a parking lot and smashed into her vehicle.

After renting a car to use while the shop worked on hers, the woman was hit the next day by the same car as she drove through a green light at an intersection.

The offending driver said his vision had been impaired by low sunlight.

Too horny? Move to New Zealand.

According to a private research company, New Zealanders prefer sleeping, eating and sailing to sex. UMR Insight asked 400 people their idea of a perfect way to spend an evening and sex came in 12th.

Only one in 40 picked making love, long behind going out for dinner (29.5 percent), a live show or concert (12.5 percent), gambling (9.8 percent) or getting a good night's sleep (9.3 percent). Watching a movie, going out dancing, to a bar or even kayaking and sailing beat sex as the ultimate in entertainment, according to the poll.

Three percent of baby boomers rated sex as tops, against just one percent of those under 30.

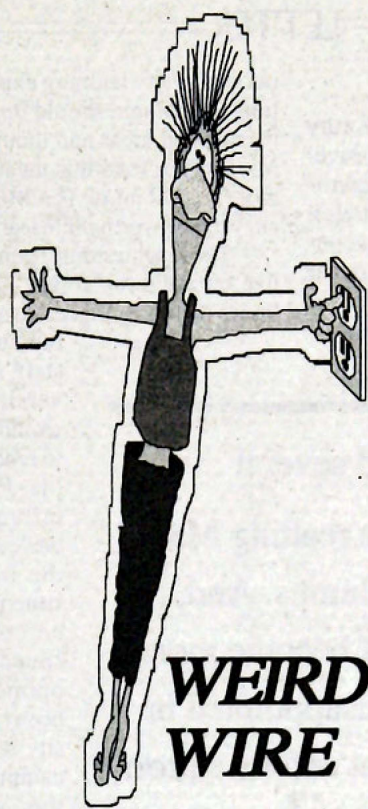
Skunk spray, the newest thing in protection.

An unusual self-defense device is going to be launched in Nordic countries. A Swedish victims' agency plans to launch a device that will be worn around the neck or attached to underwear and broken in case of attack, releasing a powerful liquid that stinks of skunk.

"I wish I had had this when I was very near being raped," Irene Holm of Stockholm's Victims'

Support Center said. "The reaction on people is that they almost go into a state of shock. The smell is so foul."

The victim would also feel ill but presumably would prefer this



to being raped, she said.

The device, originally from Canada and already launched in some countries, is a small glass ampoule containing 0.1 millilitre of so-called skunk oil. It will be sold for \$35.90 in Sweden, Holm said.

Tyson inspires youth.

A man bit off part of a teenager's ear in a fight that started with a traffic dispute, authorities say.

Sheriff's Deputy Phil Graham said he arrived to find 18-year-old Derek Crawford pressing a flannel shirt to his right ear and holding the torn piece in his hand.

"It wasn't just a little bite. It's

a good-size chunk. Mike Tyson would be impressed," Graham said.

Doctors were unable to reattach the piece.

Going postal.

When Florence Forget checked through her mail last week, she didn't expect to find a postcard from her two sisters in Florida. That's because the trip was in 1952.

"It was such a shock," said Forget, 87. "I looked at it and I burst out crying."

She said that in the old days, her sisters Alice Thibeault and Doris Taylor, both of whom are now dead, traveled together frequently. The card, which shows a painting of a public garden in St. Petersburg, Fla., tells Forget the two were "seeing all the sights."

It bears a 2-cent stamp and 1952 postmark, as well as a new 11-cent stamp and March 8, 1999, Jacksonville, Fla., postmark.

Postal Service spokeswoman Christine Dugas said it's unlikely the card was found in a post office, because it would then have been delivered in a special envelope with a letter explaining why it was late.

Those wacky New Zealanders.

Two New Zealand farm dogs have missed out on \$530,000 inheritance left to them by their eccentric owner. High Court Judge Silvia Cartwright ruled Thursday that the sum set aside for the dogs in the will was totally unjustifiable "even for the most aristocratically raised dogs."

The dogs were named in the will of a farmer who died in 1996. The rest of his \$2.5 million estate was left to his third wife and two sons of his friends. The three humans had contested the will, arguing the dogs should not receive a cent. Cartwright agreed.

March 8, an officer was dispatched to Delo Hall on a reported larceny/theft incident. A student reported that her brown wallet, which contained \$200 cash, social security card, and Sears credit card, were missing from her desk drawer. She stated that she last saw her wallet on March 7 at 9 p.m., when she had entered her room to retrieve her



By
JENNIFER
MILLER

student ID. The wallet and its contents were in the drawer at the time. Upon returning to her room the next day at 8:30 a.m., she found her wallet missing. When she spoke with the officer, one of her roommates was somewhere on campus, and her other roommate was in New Jersey. She was unsure if her room door had been locked during the time that the theft took place. The roommate that had been on campus stated that she had no knowledge of the missing wallet or money and that she had spent the night in McKay Hall with a friend. Upon checking the scene, the investigating officer found no signs of foul play that would lead him to believe that a burglary had taken place. The entrance door and exterior windows

were intact and the room itself had nothing out of place. Upon checking the entrance door, the officer noted that the interior locking button was in the out position, which keeps the door unlocked. This is done manually and leads the officer to believe that this room was left unsecured. The victim did not want to report the incident to the Tampa Police.

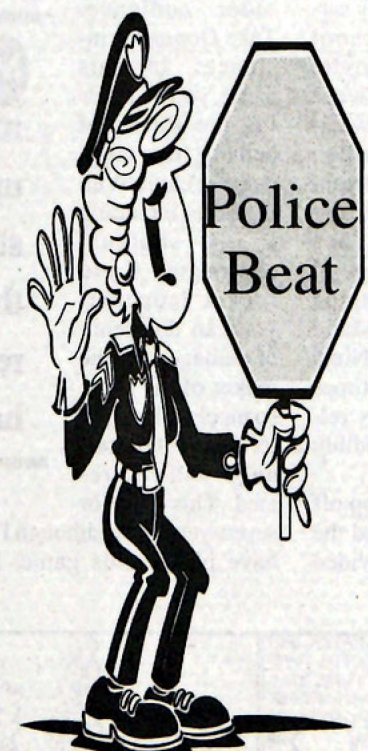
March 9 at 9:30 p.m., an officer was dispatched to Res Com on a reported active fire alarm with an origin in Res Com C305. When the officer entered the room after being keyed in by the RA on duty, the officer found that the living room smoke detector was activated. The officer smelled a trace of burning plastic, but the aroma dispersed quickly, and its source could not be located. The Tampa Fire Department responded to this alarm minutes later and checked the area. They could not find a cause for this alarm. The fire captain requested that the smoke detectors be checked by facilities within the entire Res Com complex. He also requested that all of the sprinklers within the rooms be checked due to the fact that he observed gum on the sprinkler head that is located in the living room of Res Com C305.

March 13, an officer met with the coach of UT's men's soccer team who reported that he had observed several males on the stadium soccer field playing ball. Knowing that these males had no

permission to be on the field, he asked them to leave after identifying himself as a university staff member. One of these males refused to leave and became very abusive to the coach. This male approached the coach and attempted to start a physical confrontation by bumping into him approximately five times with his chest and by being verbally abusive. The suspect was described as being a white male, 30 to 34 years of age, 6'1" in height, having a dark complexion, dark hair, and green or blue eyes. Upon being told that security was being notified, this male left the stadium and was last seen operating a light brown Lincoln that had been parked in the Martinez lot. He has been on the stadium field on several other occasions, but his identity is unknown at this time.

March 18 at approximately 11:50 p.m., security was notified via phone of the possible odor of burning marijuana emanating from the vicinity of two second floor McKay Hall rooms. Upon arrival at McKay Hall, the officer met the RA who had called in the report, and they proceeded to the second floor of McKay that faces Plant Hall. As they were going up the stairs inside the building and approaching the glass doorway leading to the balcony walkway, the officer observed two unidentified males and one female exit a room and hurry in the opposite direction down the stairs. As

they approached the rooms in question, it was apparent which room the odor was coming from. The officer knocked on the door



but received no reply. As they started to key into the room, two individuals identified as UT students and a visiting female exited from the adjoining room. The officer stopped them went into the room that they had exited from.

There was no odor in that room, and they stated that they had come by to see someone who had just left. They did not have any odor on or about them and were released upon determining that they had not been involved directly with the incident although it appeared that they had just exited the other room via the adjoining bathroom. The door to the other room was unlocked, and the officer observed a thick cloud of smoke permeating through the room with an odor consistent to that of burning marijuana. Another officer arrived, and they began a search of the room to determine if any contraband remained upon the premises. One officer discovered a glass bong approximately eighteen inches tall with water residue and a glass bowl containing screen residue of what appeared to be marijuana. Also found was an Altoids candy tin containing a gray stone pipe with residue in the bowl, believed to be marijuana. Also, a gray plastic 35MM film container containing three brass screens commonly associated with marijuana paraphernalia was discovered next to the Altoids tin. The film container and tin were found next to a box of AM South checks imprinted with the name of a UT student. An RA will refer the student to J-Board in accordance to UT handbook rights and responsibilities.

More women than men attend college in Florida

By TERRI LeBRUN
Staff Writer

Across the country there is an increasing number of females seen on college campuses as opposed to men. The type of institution does not matter—whether the college is four years or two, public or private—the numbers are the same.

Fifty-five percent of the students in the Florida university system are female, and 60 percent of the students are female in community colleges. USF, for example, is 57.8 percent female. UF has an even ratio of 50.3 percent female to 49.7 percent male. The largest gap between the sexes in a college that is state-funded exists at Florida Gulf Coast University where 70.3 percent are female.

Based on these numbers, how does UT compare?

"The University of Tampa has 2043 full-time students, 1212 are women while 831 are men. This breaks down in percentage as 59 percent being women to 41 percent being male," explained Grant Donaldson, director of Public In-

formation at the University of Tampa. "The ratio reflects the national average, which gives the men to women percentage as 60 percent to 40 percent."

UF, once an all-male school, for the first time in its school history has enrolled more women this past fall than men. The ten state universities (USF, Florida State, UF, Florida International, UCF, Florida A&M, UNF, UWF, Florida Gulf Coast, & Florida Atlantic) encompassing the Florida university system are now female in majority, also for the first time. The question becomes whether the increase in the number of women on colleges compared to men is a growing problem? UT students who were interviewed did not see a problem.

"It's hard not to notice that there are more women on this campus than men," said freshman Mieke Valk.

"Even if there are not a lot of guys on campus, it's not the end of the world," said fellow freshman Rebecca Carey. "People come to college, hopefully, to

learn. Most people are going out into the job market and grad school, if it's that important you have much more opportunity there anyway."

Nadia Campbell, a junior, said, "The gender gap is not dramatically large, so it's hard to notice."

A male sophomore, who wished to remain anonymous, said, "The difference of men to women is not that drastic. Yeah, there are more women here, and I'm happy. What guy wouldn't be?"

Whether good or bad, the curriculum and social atmospheres on college campuses are changing as a result of a growing female student body. During the mid '80s the numbers began to favor females in the Florida university system rather than males.

The Mortenson Research Seminar on Public Policy said, "that at least until the year 2007



File Photo—The Minaret

Florida schools have seen a rise in female populations in recent years. UT is no exception.

the number of men to women on college campuses will remain about the same."

Information from the St. Petersburg Times was used in this article.

Tampa Library gets funky with Broadway Play



Photo by Michael Daniel

Derick K. Grant, Christopher A. Scott, Jimmy Tate and Dominique Kelley perform "Taxi."

By VINCE SULTENFUSS
Staff Writer

Discover what it is like to be in a Broadway play by being part of the audience of a live interview of cast and crew members from *Bring in 'Da Noise, Bring in 'Da Funk* at "Discover Broadway" at the Main Library Auditorium, 900 North Ashley Drive, April 8 at noon.

Presented by the Tampa Bay Performing Arts Center and Florida Theatrical Association, *Bring in 'Da Noise, Bring in 'Da Funk* is the groundbreaking ensemble musical based on an idea by Savion Glover and George C. Wolfe. Wolfe, who won a Tony Award for his direction of *Noise/Funk*, will return to direct a new ensemble of performers for the first national tour, featuring the Tony Award-winning choreography of Savion Glover.

Conceived and directed by Mr. Wolf, *Noise/Funk* utilizes the rhythms and energies of tap to celebrate the history of the beat as the underlying drive for freedom of African-Americans from slavery to the present day. It is presented through text and songs which are comprised of Mr. Glover's tap, poetry by Reg E. Gaines, and music by Zane Mark, Daryl Waters and Ann Duquesnay. Derick K. Grant recreates Glover's choreog-

raphy for the tour.

George C. Wolfe and Savion Glover first worked together in 1992 on the Broadway musical *Jelly's Last Jam*. During the summer of 1994, Wolfe presented Glover in *Dancing Under the Stars* at the Delacorte Theatre in Central Park, with an evening of tap dancing at the Delacorte program. *Noise/Funk* grew out of Wolfe's idea of Savion as a living repository of rhythm.

Wolfe comments, "From generation to generation, tap dancers taught each other their steps. The old timers passed their information on to Savion, and it landed in his feet, his being and his soul. Re-inventing these steps, he has created a new form, and through his choreography in *Noise/Funk*, he is teaching tap to a new generation of dancers."

Wolfe talks about the inspiration for the show, "My interest in tap springs from my passion for folk art—which to me is all about creativity, about taking something that's discarded and turning it into a wondrous object that captures the inventive magic of human beings. Only a great folk art form can tell all our stories—and tap is one of the greatest folk arts we have."

"I wanted to see how tap could not just tell stories, but how it could really convey really complicated emotions. Jazz dance does

this, as do modern dance and ballet, but tap wasn't being minded for its emotional content. It was loped off as an art form that's just exuberant and fun and playful. With this show, I wanted to see how we could use tap to convey desires and drives—how it could become a source of delight, intensity, rage, or power."

'Da Facts

In the spring of 1995, George C. Wolfe asked Savion Glover if he would like to do some work at The Public Theatre. Savion's positive response was, "I want to bring in the 'da noise, I want to bring in 'da funk."

Noise/Funk was created in one room during those three weeks. What you see on stage is performers going through 40 bottles of water per performance, with an average survival rate of a pair of tap shoes being three weeks. The number of drumsticks used and destroyed per performance are 4 to 6. The number of bucket drums used and destroyed a week are 20. The floors need to be repainted once a month.

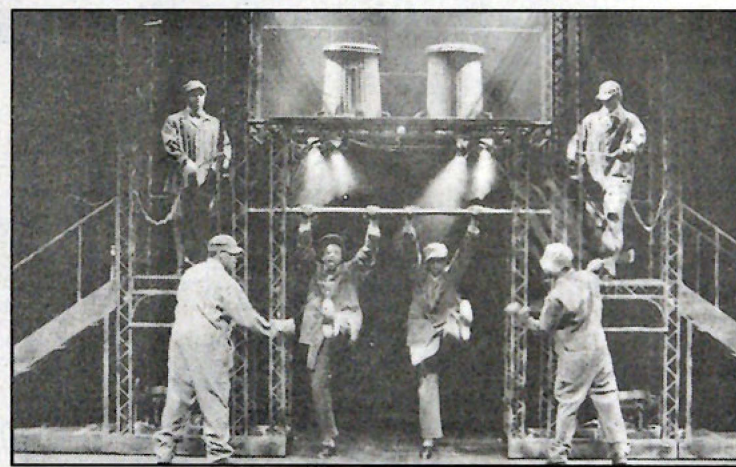


Photo by Michael Daniel

"Industrialization," a scene from the first national tour of *Bring in 'Da Noise, Bring in 'Da Funk* as performed by the cast.

The cast has endured 800 hours of physical therapy since the Broadway debut. 25 miles of electrical cable connect all of the lighting in the show.

The creators of *Noise/Funk* have made it a point to arrange a variety of community outreach programs designed to broaden the appreciation of theatre, dance and the cultural heritage of the African-

American community.

Bring in 'Da Noise, Bring in 'Da Funk will run April 6 to 11.

Information: 229-STAR (7827), for more information on Center show check the web at: www.tampacenter.com.



Vince Sultenfuss — The Minaret

The cast of *An Inspector Calls* completed a successful run last week on March 21. Gary Luter directed the cast of newcomers and veterans alike.

Studio-f gives student artists real world experience

By KAREN BAKER
Staff Writer

Studio-f, the visiting artist program at UT directed by Gil DeMeza and Dorothy Cowden, has grown to the point where its initial support from the Board of Fellows of \$1500 in 1990 has been depleted no longer meeting the current cost of keeping the successful program alive.

To continue this fine arts program, the art department needs help. Lou Harris, chair of the Art Department, is currently in negotiations with the UT administration for the funding that would keep providing this extraordinary learning opportunity to UT students.

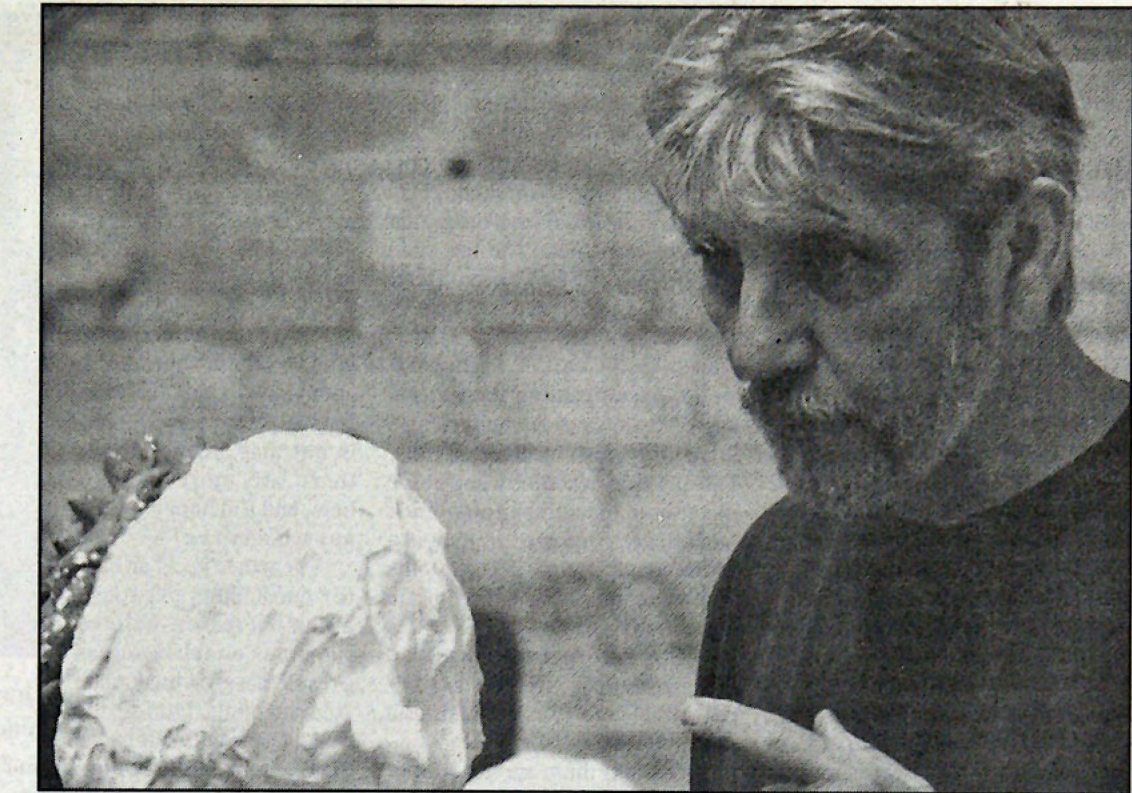
"Studio-f has been a labor of love," says DeMeza. "For the past nine years I have put an incredible amount of energy into the project because I believe it to be one of the most valuable experiences our students can receive."

The department is remaining hopeful that they can continue the innovative project first proposed by Julio Juristo, the late master printer, who after retiring from the

taken promising UT students under their wings and have opened the admission doors of well-respected art schools for them. The contact has already been influential in the careers of many students who have graduated from UT. Three have gone on to study with the visiting artists they met through Studio-f.

The artists have come to know and trust the UT art department's eye for talent. Kendra Hammilton, one such talented UT graduate, earned her MFA at Syracuse and has since been voted as one of the top 25 sculpting students in the country by Sculpture International Magazine. Visiting artists Sam Gilliam, Sam Messer and Stephen Greene wrote letters of recommendation for Dan Hesidence who, praised by the well-known artists, was accepted to Hunter College in Manhattan to do his graduate work in sculpture.

John Walker, currently on display at the Scarfone, has taken two students over the past few years to Boston University to study with him. David Giansante is finishing his MFA with Walker. Stacy



The Miniret — Karen Baker

Gil DeMeza is a strong advocate of the Studio-f program.

wonderful connection for her and will continue to be so in the future.

Other students currently enrolled at UT aspire to enjoy benefits such as this as well.

Samantha Ricca, a junior majoring in art therapy and minoring in psychology, said, "While it's great to be among other art students, there's nothing like the exposure to an artist who's 'out there.' You can gain so much from their experiences. They have had contact with the art world and other artists. They

themselves have a great deal to offer as accomplished artists. Student agendas make it difficult to get out and seek the contact. It's helpful to bring 'out there'--'in here'."

In addition to the excellent contact opportunities the program presents for students, community acknowledgment of UT's cultured face also stands to benefit the university as a whole.

"UT has progressively become a more business-oriented school," said Ricca. "To have a fine arts program such as Studio-f is essential for a harmonizing life balance. Not only will UT be known for turning out business professionals, it will also be appreciated for its commitment to and recognition of the fine arts."

She added, "Only a university that can do both equally loud is a university worth 20K a year."

Studio-f also reaches out nationally with its Traveling Exhibition run by Dorothy Cowden, di-

rector of Galleries at UT and Studio-f Coordinator. The program, until recently, retained one print for UT from each visiting artist. Two are now kept from each and then assembled in a collection that travels around the country.

Works such as *Divers into the Gap* by James McGarrell and the untitled, gorilla painting by Sam Messer are among those in the wonderfully arrayed collection.

Cowden also handles the publicity for Studio-f. Programs on the events are sent to subscribers who currently are the major source of funding for the program. Newspapers from the area have covered exhibits while they are open to the public, however, pr falls short in detailing the program and the available artwork that comes from it due to the larger spectrum of art news that large newspapers carry. To keep the cornerstone subscribers informed, Cowden explains, "We keep sending more and more [programs] until we have saturated

the market as much as possible."

With a standard budget, more subscribers could be reached whereby Studio-f could ultimately become self-sufficient. However, a dependable investment is needed to secure a good thing.

The possibilities are huge for this ingenious program. According to DeMeza, Juristo designed for UT an amazing opportunity for students who, without the program, would not imagine cutting their careers through the art world. As Rosende puts it, "If you haven't met anyone who has made it, it's intimidating."

In addition, a traveling collection of renowned art, the banner of Studio-f, is undoubtedly one of the subtlest, creative recruitment bearing fruits the prestigious UT unknowingly offers. As Juristo saw it, along with the art department and others in the community, the program and the students it will benefit are worth the investment.



The Miniret — Karen Baker

Samantha Ricca, an art therapy major, works diligently on her project.

graphic studio at USF in 1989 came to UT for a more intimate interaction with students. From his desire to benefit the students more directly, sprang the thought behind Studio-f.

The project intends to introduce nationally and internationally known artists to UT students and the Tampa Bay community on a rare personalized level with lectures and an open studio. This contact benefits aspiring artists at UT as well as giving those in the community a unique opportunity to procure a work of art at a reasonable price.

Since 1990, Studio-f has brought to campus artists Louisa Chase, Stephen Greene, Komar and Melamid, Sam Messer, Katherine Porter, John Walker, Willy Heeks, Sam Gilliam (twice), Tom Lieber, James McGarrell, Larry Poons, Hollis Sigler, Robert Rahway Zakanitch, and most recently, Ed Paschke.

Many of these artists have

Rosende finished a few years ago and has returned to the Tampa Bay Area where she now teaches as an adjunct in UT's art department.

"It's a wonderful program," says Rosende, "I personally benefited from it tremendously. Seeing [the visiting artists] go through

While it's great to be among other art students, there's nothing like the exposure to an artist who's 'out there.'

— Samantha Ricca

the process of creating is essential in the learning process for an art student. They are exposed to other processes, technologically, that they don't otherwise learn."

Rosende points out that her friendship with Walker has been a



The Miniret — Karen Baker

"The Angels XIII," a painting by Vitaly Komar and Alexander Melamid, is currently in the traveling exhibit. Komar and Melamid visited UT in 1990.

Leftovers take on new life for college students

By JENNIFER MILLER
Staff Writer

I'm a poor college student, and I always seem to be strapped for cash. I'm also someone who's always looking for something to do. Most of the time, these two facts clash and present problems for me when I want to go out. Usually, any activity that I want to do costs too much money. More often than not, I won't do something because I don't have the right clothes. Would you want to show up at an '80s party without leg warmers and spandex? I think not.

The best way I've found for alleviating this problem is second-hand clothing stores. Some people might cringe at the thought of wearing someone else's clothes, but I don't have a problem with it. How do you get authentic unless they come straight from that time period? Besides, that's what washing machines and dry cleaners are made for.

There are many different thrift and consignment stores in the Tampa Bay Area and I'm here to tell you where to go for your penny-pinching needs. From my thrifting experience, there are two great but very different stores in the area that can help you with almost anything you need to find.

The first is Second Image Thrift, which is located on 2419 W. Kennedy Blvd. There is no specific theme to this store. They sell whatever people bring in to be resold. I have found everything from hospital scrubs to Adidas shorts within these racks. The clothes are highly organized and easy to look through. Many of them may seem out of fashion, but if you search, you can find some great bargains. For example, I recently bought a pair of American Eagle jeans, normally about \$30, for only \$10. The Adidas shorts that I bought usually run for \$25. I purchased them for three.

Another great feature about

Second Image Thrift is its specialty racks. Aside from categorizing the clothes by sex, type, and size, they set aside more expensive designer clothes on their own rack. They also have a vintage rack, which I find to be the best feature of the store. I was supposed to be going

the '50s back.

You won't find any bellbottoms here. This is where my friend and I went to find dresses for swing dancing. They had a wide selection to choose from although I found it hard to pick out what was a swing dress. However, a salesperson was happy to help us in our search by pointing out that we would want something with a full skirt so that we could actually swing. I found a knee-length pink dress that let me move freely while being tossed in the air. I knew that it wasn't in good condition when I bought it, but it only cost \$7. Even though I

only was able to wear it once before my mother deemed it unsalvageable, I still think it was worth it because it was directly from the '40s. My friend had more luck, and even though she paid more for her dress, it's still hanging in her closet.

La France also has men's clothes ranging from top hats to Hawaiian shirts. They even have a vintage children's section. What I find most interesting about La France is the jewelry display that glitters under counters throughout the store. If you ever need some interesting pieces of jewelry to accentuate your dress for a formal, this is the place to go. They also sell cigar cases, tumbler set and old butane lighters that would be the envy of anyone.

to a '70s party and wanted some really cool clothes to wear.

On the vintage rack, I found retro dresses and shirts along with ugly polyester pants straight out of *The Brady Bunch*. I had a hard time deciding between what to wear and was disappointed to find '70s Gap bellbottoms just a size or two too small for me. The best thing that I did find mixed within that rack was an Astros shirt, the yellow and orange striped kind that screamed of the '80s. Even though it's ugly, I like it, and it was big hit with those who saw me wear it.

Second Image Thrift may have a decent clothing selection, but it also sells a variety of other items such as old VCRs, computers, dishes and furniture. I helped someone pick out a brown corduroy couch for only fifteen dollars that's in great shape and extremely comfortable. When you're looking to redecorate your dorm room next year, I suggest you stop by this shop.

Another second-hand store in the area is La France, which is located in downtown Ybor City. Unlike Second Image Thrift, it carries mostly clothes and jewelry and has higher prices. Instead of selling anything people bring in, it specializes in older clothes from

I'm a poor college student and I always seem to be strapped for cash. I'm also someone who's always looking for something to do. Most of the time, these two facts clash.



Jennifer Miller and Esther Will pose in their swing dresses that they bought at a local thrift store.

Living legends impress crowd

By SYD LILLEY
Staff Writer

On Wednesday, March 3, The Rolling Stones rocked the Ice Palace as only The Stones could do. No surprise, it was both a sell out and the highest grossing event ever at the Ice Palace.

Passing up the huge stadiums that they'd normally be playing, The Stones decided that on this tour they should play a more medium sized circuit. They wanted to get more up close and personal with the audience. There was even a small stage in the center of the crowd that The Rolling Stones used in the middle of the show. For fans on the ground floor Mick Jagger got close enough to spit on. Of course, no fans would ever consider spitting on Mick Jagger, but he did get that close.

After a mediocre performance by The Flies, which did little more than get the crowd extremely impatient for the main event, the Stones were ready to play.

The show started with The Stones on video monitors, approaching the stage. You could feel the pressure, as a tangible force, building up as they got nearer. Of course, the video monitor stuff was all prerecorded, but that didn't matter. What mattered was that The Stones were about to come out. The living legends themselves were about to come out and do what they were born to do. For a moment, just before they came out, it seemed almost unreal, but then, there they were. They immediately launched into "Jumping Jack Flash."

Mick Jagger is 55 years old, but it doesn't seem to faze him. He jumped and jived around the

stage showing all his characteristic moves. The whole group was in prime form and seemed to be having a great time performing.

They didn't play a lot of their most popular material. They did, however, play such classics as "Honky Tonk Women," "Respectable" and "You Got Me Rocking." One of the best parts of the show was when they all went out playing "Paint It Black."

Around the middle of the show, Jagger introduced all the members of the band, as if no one knew who they were, and then he, Richard, Wood and Watts took a stroll to the center stage where they played some more rock-n-roll classics.

The Stones passed up many of their more well known songs for some less heard B-sides. Longtime fans enjoyed getting a rare chance to hear some less mainstream vintage Stones material from the '60s. The only really disappointing thing about the show was that they didn't play "Satisfaction."

Hard-core and casual Stones fans alike couldn't make any complaints about the close of the two-hour show, "It's Only Rock and Roll," "Start Me Up" and "Brown Sugar."

The big question on everyone's mind is, will this be their last tour? Is it possible that they decided to get closer to the crowd for this tour since they know it'll be their last? It's possible that they're using this final tour as a chance to play those old tunes that they didn't get to play much before. It's possible, but if their vitality is any indication, they'll be rockin' well into the next Millennium.



The Minaret — Susan Wheeler Hudmon

Candlebox played to a standing-room-only crowd at Jannus Landing in downtown St. Pete on Friday, March 19. They continued their tour with stops in Daytona and Orlando. Fans enjoyed the open and energetic Candlebox set, but had mixed reactions to the opening band, Goodness. The fans were of all ages and types.

Lisa Beamer seeks to improve intramurals

By TERRI LeBRUN
Staff Writer

The job of Intramural Director has taken on a new face this semester and it is that of Lisa Beamer. Beamer was the UT women's basketball assistant coach for six seasons. She has been the men's assistant coach for the last two seasons and she teaches various courses in the Physical Education/Health Dept.

Beamer has been playing basketball since the age of eight, and she has a genuine love for sports. She played point guard for Virginia Commonwealth University. After graduation, she spent eight

months playing basketball abroad in Ireland. She worked for the MD Parks & Planning Commission for five years and has run a recreation center in Dunedin, Fla.

The Intramural program is running strong under Beamer's direction. Currently, there are fourteen intramural teams competing in the basketball league. The teams play every Tuesday and Thursday night. President Vaughn is on his daughter Susan's team.

"It's hard for the Intramural program to run the same sports that varsity is playing at this time in the season. Next semester the intramural sports season will be the opposite of varsity's. For example; soft-

ball will be held in the fall and soccer in the spring. It is easier to balance the facilities use between the intramural and varsity teams," Beamer explained.

The main objective is to "make the intramural program competitive and fun. The league is here for the students and I want them to benefit from it," Beamer said.

What are some future programs to look forward to in the intramural program?

"There is a strong interest in Ultimate Frisbee, so we are planning to start a league in the fall," Beamer said. Other possible leagues include 4-on-4 flag foot-

ball and 3-on-3 beach volleyball. "In addition" said Beamer, "I would like to bring back games from childhood, like the co-ed kickball league now forming and perhaps a tug-of-war and other games. Anyone interested in sports is encouraged to participate. Also, if anyone has other ideas for any other sports, please suggest them."

Besides coordinating the intramural program, Beamer has helped bring the Final Four Clinic to UT on March 27th from 8 a.m. to 11:45 a.m., in conjunction with the Final Four. The basketball clinic is for kids ages 10-18. It is open to the first 500 applicants in the area. They will learn skills

from fourteen NCAA Division I coaches. In addition to basketball skills, the athletes will learn life skills, conditioning and participate in a discussion session with the coaches.

Sign up sheets for co-ed kickball were due on March 23, men's and women's softball rosters were due on March 17. Information can be found on the Intramural Bulletin Board in the Student Union or by seeing Beamer at her office in the Martinez Sports Center. If anyone is interested in volunteering to help the Final Four Clinic see Beamer.

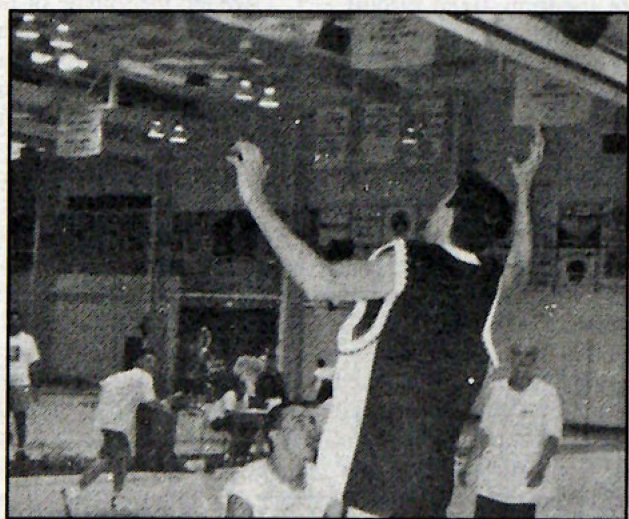
THE FOLLOWING PICTURES FEATURE PLAYERS IN THE INTRAMURAL BASKETBALL PROGRAM. ALL PICTURES TAKEN BY DAWN SMART. DO YOU SEE ANY OF YOUR FRIENDS?



Who said that women can't play against men? Look at that screen.



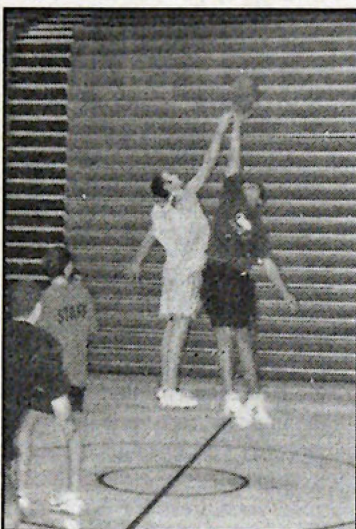
Why is the ball way over there? Someone go and get the ball!



Will this guy ever stop elevating, I believe he can fly, I believe that Rich will touch the sky.



Anybody wearing Kentucky Wildcat gear can shoot. No joke this man can flat out shoot. The "rematch" will be fun to watch.



It's my ball! Oh no it's not!



Tony Cacioppo (L) dishes the rock as well as food.



When you are the "Head Ref," (or the most animated) you have to "T" people up as Peter Howard is doing



Dennis Marnick on a slam dunk. Don't hurt 'em D!



Now that is a nice jumper. Look at the form! Look at that elevation!



Being a scorekeeper is a lonely job; just ask Truman.

More intramurals next page

CAMPUS SPORTS NEWS

BY CHRIS DILLON AND SPORTS INFORMATION

SWIMMING: The University of Tampa men's swim team matched its 1998 performance by finishing fifth at the NCAA National Championships. Junior Jen McLeod, who represented the women's team by herself, scored enough points to place the women 23rd in the Nation.

The men's team had a shot at 4th place but forfeited 32 points on the 400 medley relay because they jumped before the start.

"The key was coming back really strong after the disqualifications," said head coach Ed Brennan. "I thought that our men swam very well and wanted to beat last year's fifth place finish. Consider that South Dakota scored alot of points in diving, we were the third fastest swim team there."

Seven Spartans who finished among the top eight earned All-America status. Freshman Vesa Nurmiviita earned All-America honors as a member of three relays and for one individual event.

The 200-yard freestyle relay team of Scott McLearn, Tim Slamkowski, Bill Frye and Nurmiviita placed second behind Drury and placed third in the 400-yard freestyle relay.

The 200-yard medley team of Steve Foster, Kiner, Nurmiviita and McLearn paced second also behind Drury. Kiner was third in the 100-yard backstroke. Nurmiviita was third in the 200-yard individual medley and sixth in the 100-yard butterfly.

Jen McLeod was 11th in the 100-yard freestyle and 13th in the 200-yard freestyle.

GOLF: The University of Tampa men's golf team placed sixth out of 23 teams in the Embry-Riddle Spring Golf Classic. The tournament was reduced to 18 holes due to inclement weather.

Tampa was led by James Thompson's round of 75 and the Spartans combined to shoot 308, tying for sixth with Marquette University. Webber College was declared the champion with a team score of 303.

The Spartans finished ahead of Barry, the only other Sunshine State Conference school in the event. Radford, Stetson, Bowling Green, Tennessee State and Bethune Cookman College were some of the Div. I representatives at the tournament.

Also competing for UT were Marc Mitchell (76), Marc Dimino (77), T.J. Keech (80) and Matt Freeman (81).

BASEBALL: University of Tampa third baseman Sean Quigley is in his first year as a Spartan, however his ties to Tampa baseball go back farther than this season. A graduate of Plant High School, the UT coaching staff was interested in Sean after he hit .340 and tied for second all-time in doubles for Plant.

Instead of coming to Tampa, Quigley decided to play ball at the University of Louisville under former Tampa skipper Lelo Prado. Prado, who coached the Spartans to National Championships in 1992 and '93, talked to Sean and the chance to play Div. I baseball was very appealing to Sean. During the two seasons he spent at Louisville Quigley did

well. In his sophomore year, Sean played in 26 games, starting 24.

Sean decided to come back home to Tampa and inquired about playing for head coach Terry Rupp. The timing couldn't have been better. "After looking at him in high school, we knew what he was capable of. His maturity and consistency are qualities that we look for in our players," said Tampa Assistant Head Coach Nelson North. "He plays on an even keel and is a very solid defensive player."

Quigley has appeared in 10 games this season for Tampa and has recorded two homers and eight RBI in 30 plate appearances. His solo homerun against American International on March 5 went over 405 feet and his .968 fielding percentage ranks in the top four on the team with only one error thus far this season. With such deep roots in Tampa and more importantly, with the Spartans, Sean Quigley is in this week's baseball spotlight.

The Junior Varsity baseball team won three out of six games over the spring break. They took on the ranked Junior Colleges of Penn State-Beaver, Kankakee and Lincoln Land. The week started with a tough loss to Penn State. The Spartans would come back to tie the series with a 7-6 victory led by the pitching of Ted Stenberg and Gary Kubousek. They would go on to sweep Kankakee with scores of 10-3 and 4-2.

Chris Angus led Tampa in the first game with his first career homer, a grand slam. Kubousek led the way in game two and Jimmy Wilkinson picked up his first save. The Spartans would drop the next two games to Worcester State and Lincoln Land.

By JULIE K. TREMMEL
Contributing Writer

The University of Tampa rowing teams began their 1999 Spring season stronger than they have in years. The UT men's team joined forces with the women to share the overall points trophy at the Florida Crew Classic Regatta in Gainesville. For the first time in the regatta's long history there was a tie for first place. UT split the victory with Division I University of Florida on their own water at the Florida Crew Classic, hosted by UF.

"Winning that points trophy says a lot about our team," UT Coach Bill Dunlap said. "We show up at UF's own race in our Budget rental vans and uniforms that don't match, but in the end we win the whole thing in a tie for first with a huge school like UF. We don't just keep up with the big teams anymore, we are actually good enough to beat them."

The University of Florida wasn't the only Division I school at the regatta. Florida State, The University of Tennessee at Chattanooga and The University of South Florida competed as well. Rollins, Embry Riddle and Stetson were also among the competition at the UF regatta.

By the end of their first race of the season, UT had earned six gold, two silver, and two bronze medals. The strong showing is proof of the rapidly expanding crew program at UT. The women's team brought 28 rowers and four coxswains, making it the largest NCAA women's team on the UT campus.

The men traveled north to Gainesville with a record number of athletes as well bringing 14 rowers and two coxswains.

The teams left UT for Gainesville at 4:30 a.m. on Saturday morning in a dense fog. The events were delayed by almost two hours as officials wanted to wait until the fog lifted and conditions were safe for competition. The water was calm with only a slight south wind, making it a perfect day for rowing once the fog cleared.

Individual First place finishes :

Men's Varsity Lightweight Eight - GOLD
Coxswain: Bill Schaudt
Rowers:
Mike Roache
Chris Murrele
Sean Manning
Tom Glass
Peter Hoar
Tim Young
Ron Caffrey
Charlie Moors

Men's Lightweight Varsity Four - GOLD
Coxswain: Bill Schaudt
Rowers:
Mike Roache
Chris Murrele
Sean Manning
Tom Glass

Men's Varsity Heavyweight Pair - GOLD
Rowers:
Mike Palso
Steve Anson

Men's Novice Lightweight Four - GOLD
Coxswain: Isaac Davis
Rowers:
Brian Adams
Ed Franklin
Charlie Moores
Pete Hoar

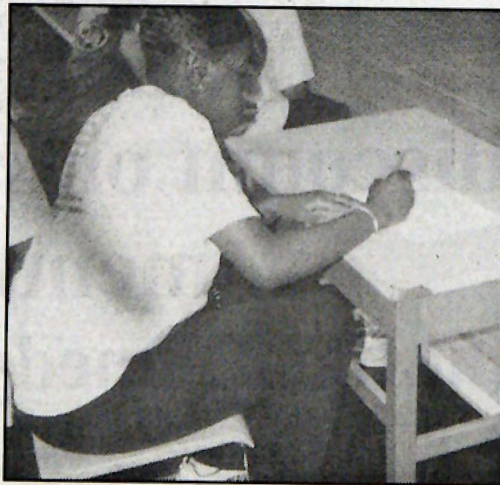
Women's Varsity Lightweight Four - GOLD
Coxswain: Bethany Marlow
Rowers:
Julie Tremmel
Jollette Henning
Janice Kerns
Odalie Ince

Women's Varsity Heavyweight Pair - GOLD
Trisha Corbin
Nikki Kauffman

Intramurals photos cont.



No! You can not come into this lane!



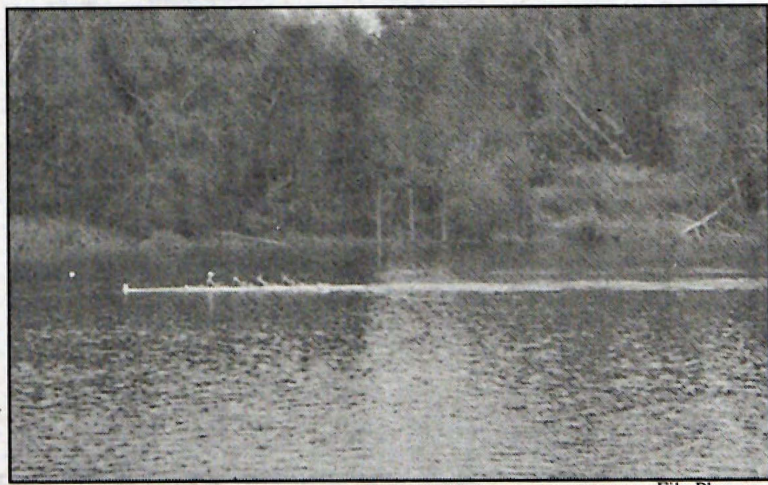
Being a scorekeeper is labor intensive!



Hey! Grab that ball!!



Im going to get this rebound! Oh you are not!



File Photo

Rowing seems like such a peaceful sport, doesn't it?

Reminders

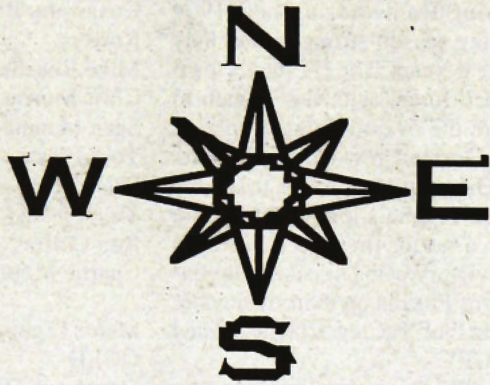
Men's and Women's softball rosters were due 3/17 play starts week of 3/22

Co-ed Kickball rosters were due 3/23 play starts 3/26

Men's and women's 3-on-3 Basketball tournament rosters due 4/12 play starts between 4/16-4/18

*Sign up for the 3-pt shooting contest and the slam dunk contest

Destination Success:
Finding Your Way!



On Friday, April 16 find out what paths lead to a successful future!

sessions being offered at the Career Conference:

- * Job Searching on the Internet
- * Researching the Company and Location
- * Graduate School Exploration
- * Resume Writing
- * Internships
- * Interview Strategies
- * Benefits
- * "What I Wish I Knew"
- * Study Abroad
- * Debt Management

The Career Leadership Retreat will be held on April 16th in the Sword and Shield Room and Seminar Center/Learning Lab (Martinez Sports Center) from 12:30 to 4:30 pm.

RSVP by April 12, to the Student Activities Office X6233

CLASSIFIEDS

TEACHING

Get experience teaching Spanish. Teacher/ student needed to teach Spanish to pre-school age children, speak with children and do art/craft activities.

At least 1x per week (1-1.5 hours) for remainder of the school year and possibly over the summer.

Background check required. Salary negotiable.

Contact Anita at 835-4591.

Student/teacher needed to teach piano/music to 5 year old boy. 1x per week for 30-45 min. Looking for low-stress, positive environment. Background check required.

Salary and location (South Tampa) negotiable. Contact Laura at 831-9940.

CLASSIFIEDS

DELIVERY

Delivery person needed for futon store. Reliable. Flexible. Own pick-up truck. Good Pay. Call Rodney at 870-2300.

DAY CARE

Caretaker needed in South Tampa area for 25-30 hours per week during business work hours.

Infant and older boys. References required. \$6 per hour. Contact Laura at 831-9940.

To place a classified call Desiree Torres at 253-3333 Ext. 3636.



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**Happy Hour
4 - 7 p.m.**

**\$.75 drafts
We check I.D.s
21 and over only,**

**Dine in or
carryout**

**Must have valid
UT ID at time of
purchase**

Election of Next Year's Student Publications Editors

will be held at a meeting of the Student Publications Committee

Thursday, April 8 at 4:20 p.m. in Plant Hall room 220

All interested applicants should submit a letter of application and a resumé to:

Andy Solomon
Chair, Student Publications Committee
Box 135F

by April 2

indicating their interest in editor or assistant editor of

The Minaret or **The Moroccan**

or editor of

Quilt


What's in it for me?

Enough to blow your mind. We are **UNIVERSAL STUDIOS ESCAPESM**, the vacation destination of the 21st century. Two incredible theme parks. Non-stop nightlife. Are you ready?SM

college
relat
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program

The College Employment Program offers terrific opportunities for every major at **UNIVERSAL STUDIOS ESCAPE**. Come see us when we visit your campus and find out how you can make **UNIVERSAL STUDIOS ESCAPE** your career destination. Visit our web site at www.uescape.com

when: 
Tuesday, March 30th

where: 
Interviews On Campus
Sign up at the Career Resource Center
(Freshmen Through Non-Graduating Seniors)



It's a big universe. Where do you fit in?

HOW TO KEEP
YOUR KIDS
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It's not a matter of learning the latest street talk. It's a matter of learning why crack is so dangerous. That marijuana can often lead to hard drugs. That every illegal drug has the potential of causing catastrophic damage to your child. To learn more about drugs and how to talk with your kids about the subject, call for a free parent's handbook.

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Daylight saving
time begins on
Sunday, April
4, not last
weekend.
April Fool!
Did we get
you?



REMINDER



HOUSING SELECTION March 31-April 8

- ◆ \$200 HOUSING DEPOSITS DUE MARCH 31 – APRIL 8
- ◆ RES COM APPLICATIONS DUE MARCH 31
- ◆ SAME ROOM SIGN-UP APRIL 5-6
- ◆ NEW ROOM SELECTION APRIL 7-8
- ◆ SEE YOUR HOUSING SELECTION BOOKLET for more details!



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Why put off college when the Florida Army National Guard can get you there right now? When you serve part-time in the Guard, you can attend school full-time while earning educational benefits like:

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FLORIDA



YOU'VE SPENT A LOT
OF MONEY TO BE
HERE DON'T SPEND A
LOT LOOKING GOOD.
ALL UT STUDENTS
GET \$5 OFF ALL
SERVICES WITH ME.



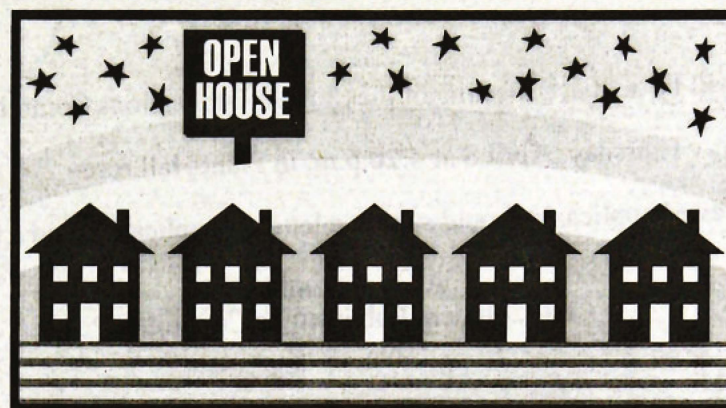
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ATTENTION!!!
BRANDON HAS MOVED
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TWO DOORS SOUTH
OF KFC ON
HENDERSON.

SUMMER HOUSING

Smiley Hall



SIGN-UP APRIL 12 - 23

MOVE-IN: 4-6pm, Tuesday, May 11

- You must be enrolled in at least one course &/or working on campus (Your office must verify Summer employment in writing to ResLife)
- You must pay a \$50 non-refundable deposit in the Bursar's Office and bring the receipt to ResLife before April 23rd to guarantee a space for you. **SPACE IS LIMITED AND AVAILABLE ON A FIRST-COME, FIRST-SERVED BASIS ONLY**
- You can compete for a single room through the lottery (drawings in class order on May 4)
- You may use the common kitchen in Smiley or pay as you go in the cafeteria when it is operating (the meal plan will not be available)
- You may have one microwave and one mini-refrigerator per room

Room Charges	Single	Double	Period
Interim Only	\$180	\$125	2 weeks
Term I Only (ck-in 5/12)	\$820	\$570	8 weeks
Term I Only (ck-in 5/21)	\$615	\$425	6 weeks
Term II	\$615	\$425	6 weeks
Full Summer (14 wks)	\$1,450	\$1,010	14 weeks

OFFICE OF CAREER SERVICES

THE FOLLOWING COMPANIES HAVE SCHEDULED ON-CAMPUS INTERVIEWS FOR THE SPRING SEMESTER:

MARCH 30
APRIL 6

UNIVERSAL STUDIOS (SUMMER JOBS)
THE SHERWIN WILLIAMS COMPANY

THE SCHEDULE IS UPDATED FREQUENTLY; PLEASE COME TO THE OFFICE OF CAREER SERVICES FOR INFORMATION.

RESUMES OF INTERESTED STUDENTS WILL BE SENT 10 DAYS PRIOR TO THE COMPANY VISIT. PLEASE CONTACT THE OFFICE OF CAREER SERVICES AT 253-6236 OR STOP BY PLANT HALL 301 FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION.

DON'T FORGET TO MARK FRIDAY, APRIL 2, ON YOUR CALENDERS FOR THE ANNUAL COLLEGES OF CENTRAL FLORIDA CAREER CONSORTIUM CAREER EXPO AT THE ORLANDO CENTROPLEX FROM 10 A.M. TO 3 P.M. FOR A LIST OF PARTICIPANTS AND DIRECTIONS, VISIT fit.edu/CampusLife/services/career-serv/careerexpo.html.

PLEASE CALL OR COME BY THE OFFICE OF CAREER SERVICES TO RESERVE A SPOT ON THE VAN THAT WE WILL SPONSOR.

Have a celebrity for dinner!

You may have seen them on Late Night or Jay Leno or at State Fairs around the country.

That's right! The cafeteria is now serving Robinson's racing pigs.

Have yourself a bite of the big time.

Brought to you by ARAWOK.

CLASSIFIEDS

PERSONALS

Hey Steve!
Sorry you didn't win, but, like Shakespeare said "I'm better than you."

Ha ha.
Love, John and Harvey

Barb!
Sorry I missed you last week. If you still want some hot chick action give me a buzz.
You know who!

SWF ISO SGM to shop with. Honesty and good taste are musts!
Let me know!
Ext. 3462

Country male in search of woman with pick-up truck. Send photo of truck to UT Box 2757.

To Alex
Ever since you left, my life has been miserable. Everything is horrible. Why did you have to leave, you bastard?
Dedicated to my girlfriend's ex-boyfriend. Hey man, do you want her back?

CLASSIFIEDS

HELP WANTED

Student desperately in need of someone who knows how to do laundry and promises not to turn all my clothes pink like the last time. I will supply a laundry card, detergent, basket, fabric softener and beverages. Have extensive movie library to entertain you during the washing and drying cycles.
Call Bob.

Looking for someone to stand in faculty parking lot until I get there. Will pay whatever is asked. I keep moving cones and getting tickets and I'm not happy about it. I refuse to pay any more tickets.
C.R.

To place a classified write a note on a post-it and stick in on your forehead. With any luck, someone will eventually see it and say "Hey man, there's something on your head."

FREE McDONALD'S FOOD!

FIND THE LUCKY STICKER ON YOUR CAFETERIA TRAY AND TAKE IT TO McDONALD'S FOR YOUR FREE VALUE MEAL.

**GAME WILL BEGIN ON APRIL 1 AT BREAKFAST.
EAT EARLY, EAT OFTEN.
IMPROVE YOUR CHANCES.**

HAPPY HUNTING, FROM ARAWOK.

PRESIDENT VAUGHN TRIES OUT FOR UT MEN'S BASKETBALL TEAM

By N. VISIBLE
Sports Editor

To the shock of many students, faculty, staff and his family, the president of the University of Tampa has decided that he would like to play on the men's basketball team. According to President Ron Vaughn, his deadly jumper and Michael Jordanesque leaping ability will propel the team to a championship next season. He also believes that he can add some desperately needed veteran leadership down the stretch.

Coach Richard Schmidt was surprised by Vaughn's request for a tryout, but after seeing the president in action, Schmidt was ready to offer Vaughn a scholarship.

Vaughn rejected the scholarship and said that he would pay his own way.

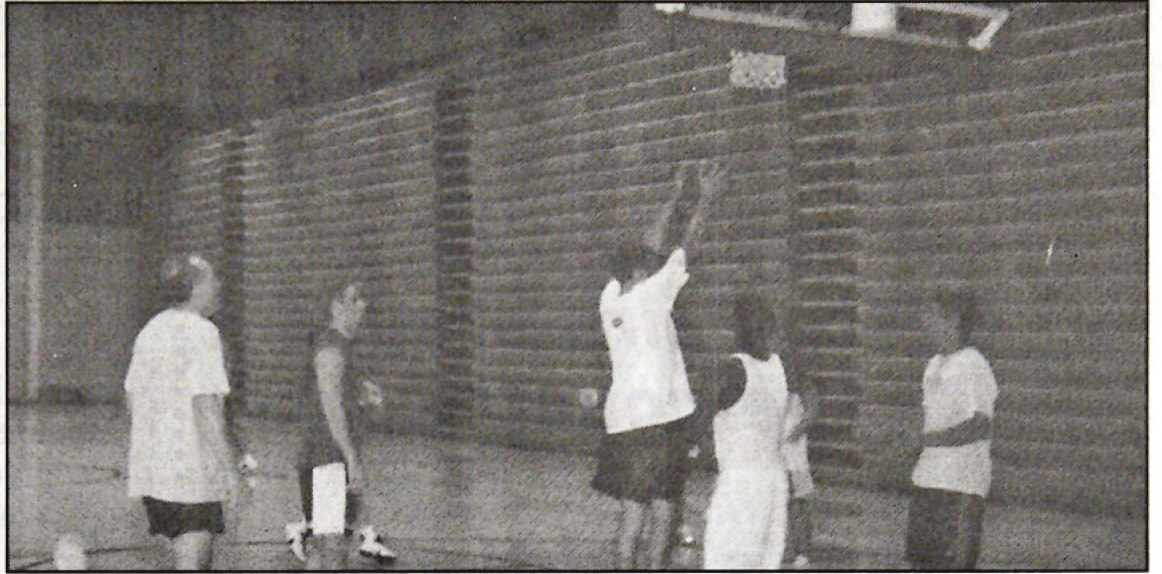
Michael Cooper said that "having the president on the team will give the team more stability on the court." The president will play the 3 guard or small forward position.

"The small forward is where I can showcase my talent the best," said Vaughn.

When asked how he would juggle his work and the hectic playing schedule, Vaughn said that he would let some of the administrative workload fall to Ann Fine, a student who is also a great poet.

Why Ms. Fine? Vaughn noted, "Could you pick a finer person? 'Nuff said. Let's play ball."

Photo By Dawn Smart



President Vaughn in his first practice. He said "I'm just chillin and letting the young cats wear themselves out before I destroy them."

Hulk Hogan gets sex-change to help GOP win Presidency

By DASH THE RIPPER & N. VISIBLE
Sports Editor

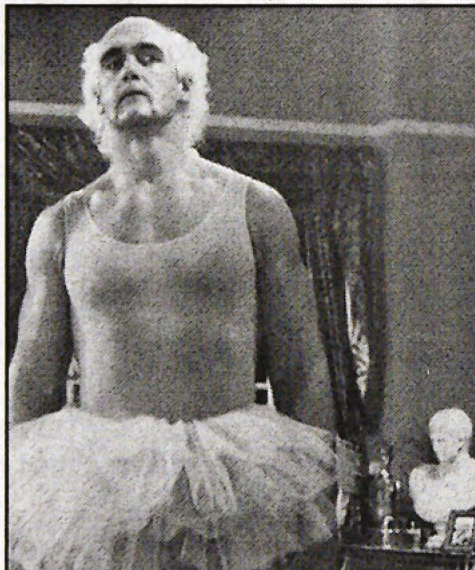
The NWO wrestler Hulk Hogan is looking to be Elizabeth Dole's running mate for the Republican nomination for the Presidency. Hogan felt that his fame would be a plus for the ticket, but decided that his gender and size would detract from the ticket's ability to draw women voters.

Hogan will wrestle as Hukemena Hogan until the campaign kicks into high gear. Dole welcomes the extra help drawing voters to her campaign. She said that she and Hogan will wrestle Al and Tipper Gore in a grudge match in Madison Square Garden. The match will be on pay-per-view for \$29.95.

Fellow wrestlers support

Hogan's drastic move, and some are considering how they can break into politics. It seems that Minnesota Governor Jesse "The Body" Ventura has inspired his wrestling peers to get into politics.

Hogan also said that the new look may help him get more roles in Hollywood. As Hulk Hogan his only roles were those of wrestler or tough guy. Hogan wants a chance to show his more sensitive side and demonstrate his superb ability to act.



Hulk Hogan displaying one of his favorite new outfits.

Space Jammers disrupt game

BY MARV ALPERT & N. VISIBLE
Sports Editor

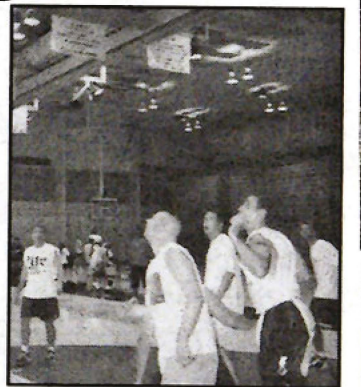
Students were stunned and visibly upset when their intramural game was suddenly disrupted last week.

Apparently the Aliens from space mountain in the movie *Space Jam* heard about the great basketball being played at intramurals and wanted to learn our secret.

Players reported that the visitors came into the gym and swooped down upon the game, stealing a basketball from the hands of Billy Mooring.

"I didn't know what to do," said Mooring. "So I just smiled."

I guess the aliens



Dawn Smart — The Minirat

Players gaze at the aliens as they leave with the basketball

thought that the talent would be trapped in the basketball, because that is all they took. The game was restarted after the visitors left and the players found another ball.

Bucs get Moon

From the OP Sports Line & N. VISIBLE
Sports Editor

In an attempt to finally get to the Super Bowl, the Tampa Bay Buccaneers addressed the need for a quality quarterback. The Bucs picked up free-agent Warren Moon and will start him immediately.

The Bucs are not dismissing Trent Dilfer, they are simply giving Trent the type of learning situation that he should have had when he first came to Tampa.

Moon said, "I am excited to get the opportunity to play for a Super Bowl contender." Moon said that he is also looking forward to handing the ball off to Mike Alstott and Warrick Dunn.

Warren Sapp, who is never short on words, was speechless when he heard about Moon's signing. He actually broke down and cried. When Sapp composed himself, he said that it was about time for the organization

to address the anemic Buccaneer offense.

In the past two seasons the Buccaneer defense has been consistently improving, but the offense has sputtered and stalled at crucial times. The Buccaneers have superstars at every skill position, but Dilfer has been an exercise in inconsistency and exasperation.

To Dilfer's credit, he was just thrown into the pro game without a quality veteran to learn from. Since the nucleus of the Bucs are young, they have the luxury of backtracking and preparing Dilfer to lead the team.

Moon will play in front of Dilfer for maybe two seasons and teach Dilfer how to read pro defenses and make critical decisions. After two seasons, Moon will retire and become the Buccaneer's quarterback coach. By then the team's median age will be 29 and they will be poised to rule the NFL.

We WISH!!!!!!!!!!!!

Wrestling to be reinstated at UT during Spring 2000

By CAESER JOE DUCRAY & PIKA BOO
Staff Writers

In an unexpected move, wrestling has been reinstated as a NCAA level sport at the University of Tampa. Wrestling had been absent from UT for more than 20 years. Administrators were reportedly inspired by the rerun of *Saved By the Bell* where A.C. Slater, a below-average student, tries to get a scholarship to go to college.

"What we need," said the sports department, "is a way to get students involved in sports. We think wrestling is the best way to do it."

To coach the new team, the university has tapped WCW wrestler, Randy "Macho Man" Savage.

"OOOOOOOOHHHHH YEAH! 'Macho Man' Randy Savage is gonna whip this school into

shape! Ain't no one gonna take down this school!" Savage added that the student body should "snap into a slim jim!"

In addition to his coaching position, Savage, who now wants to be known as "Professor or Dr. Macho," will be heading up the Women's Studies program. The UT Women's Club is reportedly excited at the thought of "fresh meat" in the department.

One student admitted that she loved wrestling and planned to try out for the team. Savage states that he will run a co-ed team and would really like for the ladies to seriously consider a move into the sports arena.

Savage will also be taking over the teaching duties, citing British Literature as his first love.

"OOOOOOOOHHHHH YEAH!" said Savage. "I can't wait to impale the fresh minds with the

beefy juicy taste of Jane Austen! Feel the excitement? Snap into some Dickens!"

"This is gonna be the event of a lifetime, OOOOOHHH YEAH!"

When asked how successful the wrestling program will be, Professor Macho stated: "When you're runnin with the UT Wolfpack, you're in it for life!"

Savage denied rumors that he is looking for a move into administration when Ron Vaughn eventually moves on to another university.

"I'm here to coach and to teach literature," says Savage. "That's all I'm interested in doing. Plus, I really want to teach a dance class."

Savage developed his love of the arts through his association with Hulk Hogan.

"OOOOHHHHH YEAH! Hulk inspires us in a lot of ways," said Savage.

ACCIDENT

Kid Rock drops one rockin' load on April 1

By **SID VICIOUS**
Staff Writer

Kid Rock, the white rapper/rocker from Romeo, Mich. is rocking his way all the way down to Tampa, Fla. on April 1. He'll be appearing at the Rubb in Ybor. While preparing for the Kid's rockin' arrival, the Minirat decided to check out his rockin' new album, *Devil Without a Cause*. It's rockin'.

At first listen, Kid Rock can be a little confusing. You might have a hard time with it. That's because he doesn't just rock, and he doesn't just rap. He does *both*! The songs on *Devil Without a Cause* present a wildly eclectic array of musical virtuosity. Kid Rock has brought rap and heavy metal together, sometimes using elements of both in the same song. Next they'll be melding Techno and Jazz together, but hopefully not for a few years because God knows we wouldn't know what to think about it. It would take years just to think up a name for it. For now we'll just have to try to catch up to Kid Rock's wild, rockin' vision.

The Kid is probably most well known for hit songs like "Balls in Your Mouth," "Fuck U Blind," and "Blow Me." Critics said it couldn't be done, but Kid Rock has surprised us all and topped even his best work here on *Devil Without a Cause*. "Welcome 2 The Party (Ode 2 The Old School)" starts off in the old, old school style of Kurtis Blow or The Treacherous Three. It jives along until the Kid takes a jab at the guru himself, Grandmaster Flash, and breaks out into his own rockin' style. "BawitUba" is one rap song that seriously rocks. The song "Fuck Off" rocks like nobody's

business. "Cowboy," an ode to the old West, is another song on the album that just won't stop rockin'.

In fact, all the songs on this album just plain rock. It's as if someone took REO Speedwagon, taught the lead singer how to rap,

controversy. Back in the day, a college radio station was sued by the FCC for \$23,750 for obscenity after playing "Balls in Your Mouth." (The Minirat would like to thank the FCC for making Kid Rock a symbol of Free Speech, along with

been attacked by critics for blatantly supporting drug use and for talking about women as mere sex objects. When asked about all this, Kid replied, "Yo, what I do is, I keep it real, you know. That's what I'm about, you know. That's the

he should be compared to Vanilla Ice. Kid Rock doesn't take too kindly to the comparison. "Fuck him! FUCK VANILLA ICE! And fuck the Backstreet boys! And fuck Marilyn Manson too! He don't rap, but he still sucks. But especially Vanilla Ice. He made it hard as shit to be a respectable white rapper. You know how many white kids that he embarrassed back in the day? Too many. So fuck him and if he don't like it, he can suck my dick."

There is one thing "Devil Without a Cause" does besides just rock. It's a sure fire cure for constipation. This is no joke, so if you've been suffering from diarrhea lately I wouldn't suggest you listen to it. If your bowels are moving along a little too fast I suggest you try a little Backstreet Boys, but for constipation there's no better cure than a few minutes of rockin' out to some Kid Rock. So throw away all those boxes of Ex-Lax chocolate bars you've been hoarding, and pick up some Kid Rock.

"There's some folks out there who would rather have constipation than listen to my music. I'm not too worried about them though. They can all go and suck my dick."

Early Mornin' Stoned Pimp, Kid Rock's last rockin' album, was pretty good, but it's *Devil Without a Cause* that will go down in history as the album where Kid Rock finally dropped his whole load. If the Kid is any authority on his load, it's a big one. "If anyone's got a problem with me droppin' my load right here, they can just suck my dick." Yes, all dick sucking aside, if the Kid is any authority at all on his own work, it'll be one big rockin' load.

life I know. Smokin' up, trippin' on 'shrooms, whatever. Fuckin' the bitches. That's what I'm about. If someone's got a problem with that, they can suck my dick." Said like true Rock.

Since Kid Rock is a white rapper, it's not much of surprise that



Minaret File Photo

Kid Rock is Top Dog on the street, and will be performing in Tampa on April 1 in Ybor. Check him out. He really really rocks.

gave them a big crack-rock to smoke, and unleashed the result out onto the world. In other words, it's the most rockin' thing since Disco.

"Devil Without a Cause" is sure to raise some controversy. Kid Rock is certainly no stranger to

all those conservative Christians who made Marilyn Manson so popular by protesting against him. What would become of the world without you guys?) Kid Rock and the radio station stuck by their balls and the case was dropped, but the controversy remains. Kid Rock has

Our reporter experiments for your safety needs

By **RICHARD HEAD**
Staff Writer

If you look closely at the label warnings on commercial products, you may truly understand why America is behind academically compared to other world powers. For instance, there is always the classic example of the Preparation H warning that reads: "Do not take product orally." Obviously, I don't want to have to eat through a straw the rest of my life because my lips shriveled up to the size of a guppy. Because I have a lot of time on my hands, now that I gave up masturbation for Lent, I thought that I might put some of these warnings to the test.

For my first demonstration, I tested out the warning on Summer's Eve douches that read: "We strongly recommend that you do not imbibe the contents within, it is for female internal use only." They never tell us why not to consume it, so I thought that I may. A lady friend of mine recommended the vinegar and water flavor, so I picked up a bottle. Well let me tell you, the Vinegar and Water Massengil Douche makes quite an exquisite vinaigrette for any salad.

The next experiment pissed my uncle off. He and my aunt have been trying to have a baby for about three years, until the old stal-

lion finally put one in the oven. This prompted me to take up Black Flag on its promise. The label on the Black Flag Ant & Roach Killer promises to kill pregnant ants. After dousing my Aunt Betty with five cans of the stuff, she finally stopped twitching. I guess the



DANGER

makers of Black Flag were telling the truth, I just hope that they can find me a good lawyer.

The next warning came from the Hillsborough County Health Office. The advisory warned men not to use Saran Wrap in place of a condom, saying that it is not an effective mode of birth control. Being the well hung stud that I am, I had plenty of opportunity to put

this challenge to the test. I bought three rolls of Saran Wrap and carefully wrapped my penis with it. The results proved to be quite interesting. A good tip for you is that if you wrap it enough times, the easy tearing of the wrap won't work its way down to the primary layer. The problem with wrap is that it is quite uncomfortable for the woman, but on the up side it can keep your penis fresh for up to three days.

Lastly, I tried out Miracle Grow. It says to sprinkle and watch it grow, so I sprinkled a whole box on my penis. At first I didn't feel anything, but soon my genitals started itching. I just assumed that it was that nasty little rash that I got from one of those girls I did the Saran Wrap experiment with, but to my surprise it was the Miracle Grow beginning to kick in. Soon, I went from average to elephant. At first I thought that this was great, but then I realized I had no use for a penis of this nature. When it came down to it, I realized that too much of a good thing can be bad.

From my experimenting, I learned that you should generally follow the warnings on most products; if not it could hurt you. So have a good day, and take care of your penis (provided that you have one)!



File Photo—The Minaret

His Holiness finds Peace with God and Pleasure with Himself.

Holy shroud to encourage religious fanaticism

By PHINBAR O'METER
Staff Writer

Turin, Italy. For the first time ever in America, the Shroud of Turin, a relic supposed to be the cloth Jesus Christ was wrapped in when he was entombed after his crucifixion, will be on public view. The Vatican has announced that the first stop on its tour will be The University of Tampa.

The reason for the journey is still unclear, but rumors abound. Some say that the Vatican is trying to combat the high abortion rate at UT, roughly one for every three students. Others contend that the high non-Catholic population is prompting the Church to begin a massive "Convert or Else" campaign here, using the Shroud as a centerpiece.

Tampa policeman Harold Trebino responded, "Wow, the shroud of the Prince of Peace is

coming. You can be sure that our officers will be armed to the teeth and ready to crack some skulls if there are any problems. And that's how we plan to deal with underage drinking."

The religious community is understandably excited. Preparations are underway to set up a viewing center in Plant Hall. Volunteers from Our Lady of Blissful Anguish will be on hand to answer questions and chastise sinners.

Father Finnian McAvoy is coordinating the activities. "We're very excited," he said yesterday. "Having the Shroud of Turin here will be a great boost to the spiritual life of the campus."

Father McAvoy said he was hoping to see students get there

early, "because it's going to fill up fast." He proceeded to ask, "all Protestants, Jews, Hindus, Bud-

because, "God hates them all and wants them to burn in hell! But he loves the rest of us."

We're very excited. Having the Shroud of Turin here will be a great boost to the spiritual life of the campus.

— Father Finnian McAvoy

dhists, Muslims, Atheists, agnostics, feminists, free thinkers, pro-choicers, those who've had sex out of wedlock, science majors, homosexuals, bisexuals, Democrats, anyone who's masturbated, and all other sinners" to please stay away

The Shroud is scheduled to arrive at UT by next week. To celebrate, the cafeteria will have "Shroud Night." Festivities will include napkins printed to look like the Shroud, Shroud-shaped chicken nuggets, Eucharist-flavored ice cream and a raffle to win your own burial shroud, "just like Jesus."

Many students are hoping to

catch a glimpse of the Shroud or possibly even touch it before the advent of finals. "I need all the help I can get," said one UT senior. "I have to pass Spanish and I'm willing to convert if that will help."

Other UT seniors are just hoping that the Shroud will help them graduate on time and pay back their student loans. "If touching Jesus' robe can heal the sick, then maybe touching his burial cloth will help me pay back my student loans. I mean, what's a couple of thousand dollars to God?"

An unidentified UT freshman stated, when asked if she planned on seeing it, "I dunno. If Melrose is a repeat and I don't have a sorority meeting I might."

Ron Vaughn is an alien

By PHINBAR O'METER
Staff Writer

In a startling announcement last Tuesday, University of Tampa President Ronald Vaughn was discovered to be a space alien from the planet Egotistia. Rumors had been flying around the university for weeks, but not until Bob Ruday made the announcement were they confirmed.

When probed, Vaughn commented: "Fuck the students... oh wait, what was the question?"

Vaughn's attorney issued this statement: "Yes, it is true that Ronald Vaughn is an alien from the planet Egotistia of the Arrogentian Galaxy. At this time he wishes to be alone, except if needed for photo opportunities, quotes, possible donations to UT, public appearances, sporting events, or other money making opportunities"

Scientists from around the bay area have convened on UT to conduct tests on Vaughn, study his living habits, and have sex with sorority girls.

Astronomer Harns Groeffning quotes, "This is a historic day for America. Not only have we discovered the first living alien since Peter Lorre, we all got laid!" What this means to the university is still in doubt.

Freshman Mordecai Brown is also enthused, "I'm excited to hear old Vaughn is an alien. I knew it all along; his accent gave him away"

Other students have already been pulled from the university by their parents. One such student is junior Buddy Lembeck. His father, Buddrick, feared for his son's safety:

"No way am I letting my son



President Ron Vaughn looking deceptively human at a UT function.

near that freak. I've dealt with aliens before, and I sure as hell don't want my son unable to sit down for the rest of his life."

Some professors are concerned about what the announcement will do to their jobs. Economics professor Philip Barbay said, "If this means we have to implement one more damn minority into our curriculum, I'm going

to shave my genitals!"

Some are contending that more of UT's administration are aliens. "Think about it," says one unidentified philosophy professor. "Would any humans admit the kinds of students to this university that they do? The reason enrollment is growing exponentially is because they need funds for a new spacecraft to return home."

Y2K is Not a Problem for UT

The paranoia and hysteria over Y2K that has gripped many persons with way too much time on their hands in recent months has finally hearkened a solution from major computer gurus.

Their solution is ultimately the simplest of plans, as all great ideas are. After searching for hours some of our greatest minds at UT have come up with a plan that will eliminate all likely problems connected to the Y2K. According to the Registrar's Office, as well as the Office of Admissions, students will likely feel the impact of this change immediately. Technical support will be minimal, thus the school will spend a lot less money constantly updating computers under this new plan.

The officers of this great university has determined that there is no longer any need for network of software applications support. We will go back to the pencil and paper method of recording grades and class rank in the Registrar's Office, making it easier for students to change them if necessary.

According to the department of Information Technology, the goal is to remove all computers from UT by July, 1999. Instead, everyone will be provided with an Etch-A-Sketch. There are many sound reasons for doing this, according to the department of Planning and Operational Effectiveness.

1. No Y2K Problems.
2. No technical glitches keeping work from being done.
3. No more wasted time reading and writing e-mails.

FAQ regarding Etch-A-Sketch Technical Support:

Q: My Etch-A-Sketch has all of these funny little lines all over the screen.

A: Pick it up and shake it.

Q: How do I turn my Etch-A-Sketch off?

A: Pick it up and shake it.

Q: What's the shortcut for Undo?

A: Pick it up and shake it.

Q: How do I create a New Window Document?

A: Pick it up and shake it.

Q: How do I set the background and foreground to the same color?

A: Pick it up and shake it.

Q: What is the proper procedure for rebooting my Etch-A-Sketch?

A: Pick it up and shake it.

Q: How do I delete a document on my Etch-A-Sketch?

A: Pick it up and shake it.

Q: How do I save my Etch-A-Sketch document?

A: Don't shake it.

**DID WE GET YA?
HAPPY APRIL FOOL'S
DAY FROM THE
MINARET.**

March 20 at 10:07 p.m. UTCS received a report of a vagrant hassling several students outside of the library about their plans to attend a Confederate Ball. He was reportedly screaming "But I teach here" and was described as having beady eyes and a wild mane of white hair. UTCS was stunned upon their arrival when they discovered that he is a professor in the history department. UTCS apologized and promised not to give him any more parking tickets.

March 21 at 9:53 a.m. UTCS was called about a disturbance in the faculty parking lot at the southwest end of Plant Hall. Irate professors refused to move from the lot, protesting the decision to block off 50 parking

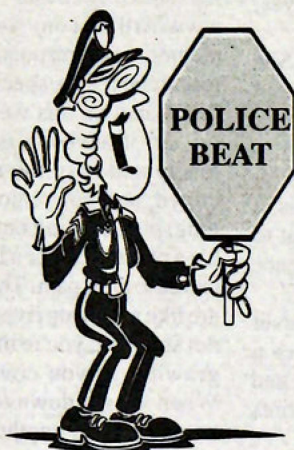
spaces for the visiting Teletubby fan club's monthly meeting, to take place in the Dome Room. "I've had enough of this," screamed one professor, and I'm holding my classes in this lot from now on." UTCS was unable to restrain the professor, who injured three officers in her escape.

March 22 at 12:43 a.m. a middle-aged gray-haired man was seen running through Plant Hall

naked screaming "We won! We won! Shakespeare finally gets some respect!" The man was later seen in Ybor wearing a trenchcoat and begging for cigarettes and mumbling about King Lear.

March 22 at 2 a.m. UTCS was surprised to find ResCom remarkably free of disturbance. They paced the courtyard waiting for something to happen, but it never did. "This is the first night I can remember when we aren't chasing down some drunken fools after a party," said one officer. Officers attributed the quiet night to The Brady Bunch marathon on Nick at Nite.

March 25 at 7 p.m. a student called to report that his car was upside down. UTCS investigated and discovered that the student's car, which was parked in the lot by the Science wing. His car had been mysteriously flipped over, with no apparent damage to the body. A note was taped to the fender stating that the student should be more careful about whose spot he steals. Physics professors are being questioned.



Changing colors

By RUSTY RUSSELL
Staff Writer

In an effort to attract more students to UT, President Ron Vaughn has decided to upgrade our school colors from Spartan red to Strawberry Pink. Pam Bracken, Student Activities coordinator, noted at the faculty meeting last Tuesday, while the colors aren't significantly different, the recent influx of female students has led us to this change.

When people think of Florida, they think pink, not red. We see this all around us. Pink stucco houses, flamingoes, South Beach, and of course, Florida Strawberries.

"We want perspective students to have the total Florida Vacation feeling, even while in class," noted Dean of Students, Bob Ruday. "We want the kids to be happy no matter what."

Most changes won't be immediate, but students will notice certain differences as they walk around campus. The first change will be to make sure all new items ordered for the decor of New Hall and the Sykes College of Business building are pink. Dark pink carpet will be installed in classrooms; along with pastel pink walls.

There is even talk of plastic pink flamingoes being ordered for the grassy lawn outside New Hall.

"We wouldn't want our campus to ever feel stuffy or

traditional. UT is about breaking the rules, shattering the paradigm, and ultimately changing the whole idea of what college is. That is what will make money for UT," said one professor who requested his name be withheld.

Jack King, associate professor of art, commented that this change is "significant with the growing interest in organizations like the UT Women's Organization and the Spartan Gay Alliance. It marks the end of the century aesthetically for UT. This is a change for the new millennium."

Recent studies reveal that nationwide, more females than males are deciding to go to college. According to statistics recently published, small, private colleges like UT have been especially impacted by this trend.

These new colors should attract a wide variety of female students, which means increased revenue, according to a release from Vaughn's budget committee. The committee is already planning several undisclosed building projects with the anticipated increase.

While class sizes might increase by five to ten students per class, Vaughn urges professors not to worry, more adjuncts will be hired, along with a plan to start MBA students teaching English composition courses with a focus on ethics.

Since the University's opening in 1931, the Spartan Red colors have become a symbol of Tampa along with the minarets.

Ruday pursues dream

By PIKA CHU
Staff Writer

Yesterday, Bob Ruday announced that he would be leaving The University of Tampa in order

to pursue other career goals. Ruday has been offered a job as a Dr. Seuss impersonator in Universal's soon to open Islands of Adventure. Dr. Seuss Land, according to a spokesperson from Universal "will be a great place for Mr. Ruday to utilize his unique talents."

"This is something that Bob has been looking forward to for a long time," said Bertha Harbinger of the Dean's office. "We knew he wanted to make a career change, but were unsure about when that change was going to happen."

"I was surprised," said Mitch Johnson of Student Activities. "Bob has always been a little different, but even with those rumors that he secretly has a teletubby collection he stayed with us. Now for him to change careers?"

Say what you will about Oh, The Places You'll Go, I think something else is motivating the move."

Although rumors persist, Ruday claims that the change has absolutely nothing to do with Ken

the move, although he does say that he will greatly miss The University of Tampa, and may come back to get his MBA. But for now, he'll enjoy the change.

"I knew I wanted to make some sort of a change," said Ruday, "but the opportunity just hadn't presented itself. When Universal called I was ecstatic. I did a little dance."

Ruday then proceeded to demonstrate this "happy dance" and nearly broke the arm of a nearby student, for which he apologized profusely.

"I was really excited," said Ruday. Dr. Seuss Land will feature a house where Ruday will be signing autographs as Dr. Seuss, much in the way Disney has Mickey's house where eager children can meet and greet with the mouse. There will also be a Green Eggs and Ham restaurant, several rides and a Cat in the Hat playland.

Ruday will leave the university shortly after graduation and will begin his work in Orlando this summer at the grand opening of Islands of Adventure on June 7. Students are reportedly upset at the loss of Ruday as Dean of Students, but look forward to visiting their fearless leader this summer.

"I can't wait to see Bob all dressed up," squealed senior Hana Roberts. "I'm graduating and moving to Orlando, so I will definitely be there. I might even apply for a job there. People have always compared me to Cindy Lou Who."



Charlie Brown - The Minaret

Bob Ruday, shown above, fully attired appropriately for his dream job.

Starr's impending arrival and the students who work in the Dean of Student's office.

Ruday is very excited about

Belly dancing is made a sport

By PHINBAR O'METER
Staff Writer

In response to the stringent rules of Title Nine and the success of the women's soccer program, the university has announced the formation of a new belly dancing team to join the Spartan athletic community next fall.

Athletic director Hindman Wall said, "I am thrilled to introduce the much-underappreciated sport of belly dancing to the Spartan athletic community. It's great fun to both play and watch." When I explained to him that it is for students only and that he would not be able to compete however, his enthusiasm surprisingly dwindled.

The first step taken after the announcement was the search for a qualified coach. President Ronald Vaughn suggested flying in Earnest Borgnine, "just for kicks." Being that Borgnine's people would not take his calls, the interviewing process began in earnest with Altair Stockman of Hawaii. He had a stellar resume, but was turned down after it discovered he was arrested in 1986 for attempting to kidnap Henry Kissinger by stowing himself in the former secretary of state's sock drawer.

Next in line was Faber Lammerhirt, a thoroughly qualified native Californian. When he was brought in to meet the UT staff however, he kept darting his eyes around the room and yelling, "the Mormons... they killed Howard

Hughes and I'm next."

When everyone thought that all hope was lost, in strode Bela Bradenburger. Looking like a thin, cross Chester A. Arthur and possessing a brass swagger, it was ob-

vious he was "the Coach." Even though his resume was written in crayon and limited to "seen every episode of Hawaii Five-O," Bela was hired on the spot.

Bela took time out of his busy schedule to explain to us how the matches will take place. They will consist of six dances by each team, and must be to the theme of *Gilligan's Island*. The teams will then proceed to build a large bonfire in the center of the gymnasium, "just like *Lord of the Flies*," says one overzealous English professor.

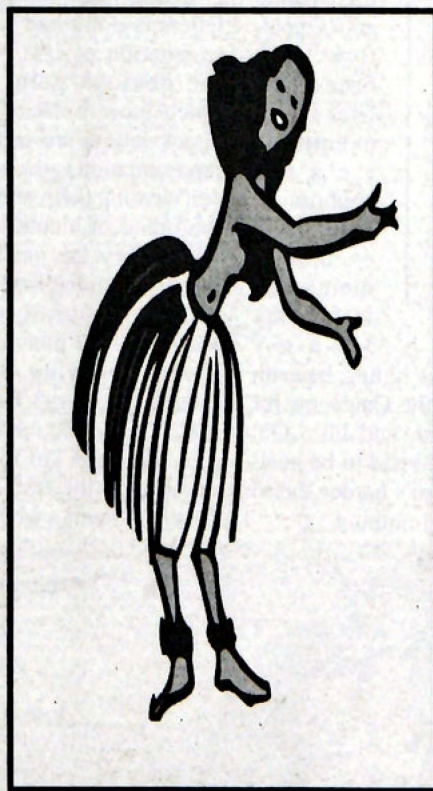
Next comes the ceremonious cooking of a pig with an apple lodged in its mouth. Whichever team has won the dance competition will have the honor of eating the apple. However, a loophole was discovered where if the winning coach failed to greet the judges with "aloha," the losing team can claim the apple.

"The whole thing is like a religious experience," claims Bela.

Margaret Fahrquar, a prospective dancer then shot back, "I see it as being very sexual."

"The dancing?" I asked.

"No church," Margaret answered, "You know, stand up, sit down, get on your knees, drink some wine. Then you know its almost over when an old guy gives you some white stuff that sticks to the roof of your mouth. Plus the whole time you'd rather be watching TV."





Letters to the Editor



Letter to the Editor:

I'm writing this letter to help any fellow students who are in a similar situation. I know I'm not the only student who has similar life experience and background. Hi, my name is Sveltana. I'm a student at the University of Tampa. My major is writing. I look at the university from a different perspective than most students. My parents are of extraterrestrial lineage. I've never seen my home of origin. I was born on my mother ship while coming to earth in the light continuum of the year 1974. My planet is out toward the earth in the western sky past Jupiter some 100 light years away. Our mother ship came through a black hole somewhere around the Andromada galaxy. I guess you could say I'm a foreign exchange student.

I have the same problems most college kids my age have, but only one thing bothers me. I look out at Jupiter from my window from Delo Hall and get this emotional pang. My heart almost twitches. If I didn't know any better I swear I was home sick for this place I don't know. I guess I'm having an identity crisis. I don't know my real mother. I've never seen my father. And growing up, I lived with an interloper couple from our planet who are waiting for their transfer papers to live in a space station somewhere near Orion's belt a couple of light years past there. We live in a trailer park near Disney World. Our benefactors wanted us to have experiences average people on this blue marble have or can identify with. I can say one thing about living in central Florida in a trailer park, is that I'm a richer person for it and my southern accent is real. I loved those southern people growing up in that trailer park in central Florida. If you asked a question, they didn't just give a plain answer. They gave you stories, about friends and relatives who have had simi-

lar a experience to what you were asking. They would give people that were a lot richer than just a verbal picture. They would paint people with a creative charm that exploded their characters into my imaginations. Their characters were real, they lived their characters, and life to it's fullest, and they weren't ashamed to admit it. These people lived in the confines of their times, and they dreamed. They didn't have anywhere else to go. Maybe that's what lent to their rich creative stories. You got to get your material from somewhere. You just don't pull material out of a vacuum. You would slowly die as a writer, or a person if you did this. They were a people of imagery and experience, and they always included me in their world. And it didn't matter what I asked, I think if I would have told them I was from space they would have said, "oh yeah I heard cousin Sofie had some of them visitor type relatives. You know the kind that just pop up out of some beam of light coming from the green cypress swamps of Florida."

I think maybe another reason we stopped in that little trailer park in the middle of Florida was that our ship needed swamp water for their reactors. It was convenient. It was some ingredient in the stagnant water that catalyze with the gravitational transporters. Anyway the transporter pulls on matter like a magnet to metal.

I think there were a lot of ships coming through there at that time.

I never talked to my posing parents much about living on some of the other planets and what it was like. I thought it was so taboo. I wasn't sure. From what I could tell from the media, space aliens wore silver suits, walking around like they didn't have any joints, and when they got close to a human they would try to shoot them with a ray gun.

But, my views changed about what I thought humans thought about aliens in the movie E.T. America fell in love with this little character who wanted to phone home. I'm not

sure if I want to phone home. I don't even know where home is exactly, but I daydream about it. I wonder if I have one of those tracking devices they put behind people's ears just embedded under the skin. Hmm, doesn't feel like it.

I have had communication with my mom in my dreams. My mom told me when I was born. I came in on a comet, and she looked up to see the passing comet, and some of the dust filtered down, and got in her eyes, and she blinked, and knew I was home.

My mom didn't speak with words. She thought with words. She said it all without speaking. She said volumes with her big dark eyes.

My purpose for coming to earth is, or you might say my mission statement is: I didn't come to disrupt anybody lives, but to share moments in time, with love, patience and perseverance, the last especially.

I think love is the same from wherever you may hail from, because love leaves a print, and a print that's left on my heart and soul, and hopefully I have left the same prints on others.

This spring break I went home to an empty trailer where my interloper parents have left for their space station in inter-Kryamalon. All I did for spring break was catch up on my sleep, play cards at my neighbors at night, and just sit on the dock behind my trailer and listen to the gators and frogs croak, eat tangerines, and spit seeds into the river, and watch the stars move across the sky at night. But I had some vivid dreams that week. I was living among the stars. I guess I was feeling closer to my ancestral home. I was dream questing to my roots of origin. I think we all do this. And for now I'm coping with the feeling of Tampa as my home.

I called S.E.T.I. when I got back from my break and asked if they would send a signal past Jupiter trying to contact home. Of course that might take years to reach its destination, but I'm hopeful that the message will

not sound on empty space. S.E.T.I. is an organization that tracks and sends radio signal out into the galaxies trying to contact intelligent life. They told me my request has been pretty common lately, being that people are getting over the stigma of having parents of extraterrestrial lineage. So if you're trying to contact lost parent or relatives, give S.E.T.I. a call. They were quite helpful with me. You can find them on the Internet. I found them through the www.Artbell.com web sight. There are a plethora of correspondence with writers and researches who specialize in life beyond this planet on this web site.

So if anybody is feeling isolated and lonely and is in the mist of a throng of a crowd, and you're not sure where you belong, just reaching out to someone: whether it's a plant, a cat, or a homeless person, you can ease their pain. This has helped me. You are like a flowing river, you're giving, you're not stagnant, you're moving on, and you are growing as you cover more terra firma. When we get down to it, we are all fellow travelers from another world just wandering on this world until our stay is over.

So, if anybody would be interested, I would be glad to meet anybody at the Ratskeller, April 1st after 8 p.m. Of course I won't be able to divulge my identity, but I'm sure you'll be able to pick up on the friendly vibes. Everybody is drawn to their own kind, or family, or future, or past friends, forgotten friends, or lost brothers and sisters of the cosmos. So when you're gravitating toward somebody you know, you have something in common. Maybe you have more in common than you know. You might have the same cosmic roots, wouldn't that be Kismet. I would be happy to talk to any fellow space travelers or university friends.

So I'll just end this letter by quoting Red Skeleton, a famous American comedian of the 60s, "If I made one person smile or laugh, this show was worth it, God bless."

Frat, sororitiy, it's all Greek to me

COLUMN

It seems to me that an awful lot of complaining has gone on lately in the opinion articles in The Minaret. Now, as fond as I am of living life in a constant state of bitterness, I am going to attempt

to take the higher road and be positive for once in my life. I will eventually reach sophomore status. I will eventually melt away into my J e n n y

McCarthy person that is hiding beneath the surface. I will win the Caldecott for my first children's story, and I'll... Oh, pardon me, I forgot that I had to be positive about UT. Well, that's harder then I thought. Well, here goes nothing.

Most of the recent opinion articles and/or letters to the editor have been focused around the problems with the Greeks here on

Greek, I say come on, let's give them a break. Drinking while wearing letters is not a bad representation of UT. No, the obvious point is much more basic. The Greek letters are a bad representation to the person wearing them and to the brand of alcohol of which they are partaking. Ever notice that alcohol isn't normally advertised by a bunch of horny, annoying, and puking frat boys? There's a good reason for that. You do the math.

Although I'm for the total annihilation of Greeks (the frats and sororities, not the people in them... well, actually... never mind,

I don't need a lawsuit), I suggest a way for the Greeks and non-Greeks to peacefully co-incide. None of the previous articles, except

one, thank you Mr. Rosa, have offered any way of repairing the horrendous situations of which the authors are inducing others to read.

What I purpose is total segregation, with a built in tagging system. Anyone who remembers the song, "Here's your sign", will get my drift. All Greeks

should be forced to wear an article of clothing or accessory which clearly states their particular affiliation. This gives the rest of us, mostly intellectually superiors, the chance to hide or to simply dumb down our vocabu-

lary if they so choose to prompt verbal interaction.

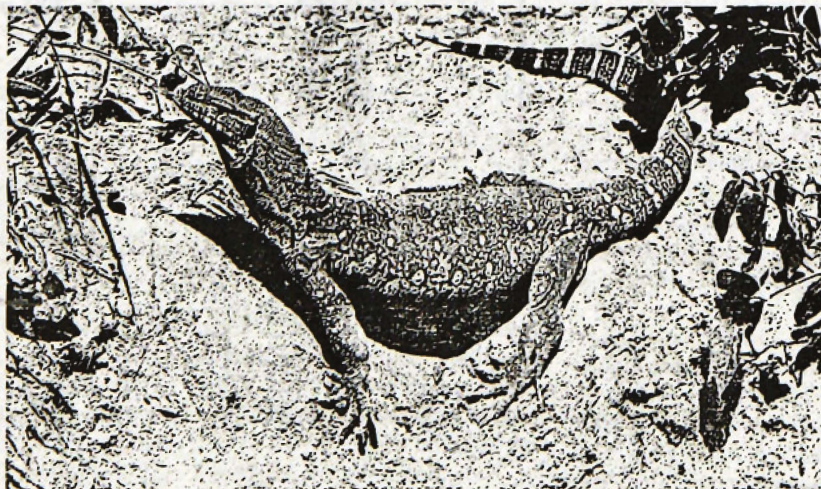
Just think of how much easier living on campus would be. With the dorms divided up, it will make planning for next semester easier for freshmen left without a roommate. The Greek half of campus can have a run down pool hall complete with a skanky bar, while the rest of us have cocktail lounges and cafes with open mic nights. Not that the intellectuals don't party. We can just do it without expensive fees to have friends, oh, excuse me, "brothers" and "sisters", I don't recall having to pay to be a member of my family. I'm sure Greeks and non-Greeks alike will have a more positive college experience if my plan were to be implemented.

There, you have it. Not just a bitter letter of frequent annoyances, but a positive narrative on how to solve a particular problem. Now back to my plan to capture Nicholas Cage's heart.



By
RAVEN
BLACK

POOTY



4/1/99
1443
Sveltana

Guess What? We don't care!

EDITORIAL

Due to recent criticism, the editorial staff of *The Minirat* has decided to discontinue our run for the rest of the year. Frankly, we're sick of you people telling us what to do and we're not going to take it anymore. We do one thing and you criticize. We make changes and you write letters saying that you liked it better the old way.

You always like everything better the old way! Well, if you don't like the way we do things, come in here and do it your damn selves. We don't want to hear how pointless our articles are and how our news isn't really news. Don't you think we know that? Nothing exciting happens around here and when it does we can't get anyone to talk to us because they're afraid of losing their jobs. No one around here has any gumption, and the powers that be are unwilling to tell us anything.

And so what if columns are pointless? They're columns not term papers. Hell, Erma Bombeck and Andy Rooney made careers out of being pointless. Kathy Phillips is probably the most prepared person on the staff to get a real job with a real newspaper. That is, if working under such communist scrutinies hasn't zapped the life right out of her. We may find her someday, staring mindlessly at the Teletubbies and drooling, unable to take care of herself.

So we search and beg for stories and writers and photographers and it's getting really old. We somehow manage to pull together enough stuff to fill 12 or 16 or 20 pages and you still criticize. And we're sick of it.

We're tired, we're failing all our classes, and to top it all off, we miss *Just Shoot Me!* every damn week because we're so busy putting the paper together so you can read it. Well, most of you don't read it and wouldn't notice if we ran a picture of Ron Vaughn on the front page. Actually, according to studies most of you would only recognize Vaughn as "that guy I always see in the hall" and a naked picture of him would probably only get you saying "Hey, isn't that a naked picture of that guy I always see in the hall?"

We work too damn hard for all of you to ignore us, so we're going to quit. We are going to reprint our more interesting issues (i.e. the Sex Issue) and see if anyone notices, that is if the papers are left alone and not hidden in the back stairwell by the powers that be. If the *St Pete Times* can run the same article on two different pages, we think that we can get away with changing the dates and a few pictures and none of you will even notice. We don't really think you will and we don't care how it makes the school look. We don't care about the school and can't wait to get out of here. So adios, and screw you.

The Incredible Hulk wishes you a safe and fun April Fool's day.

The Minirat

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Chesty Martinez

Onion Editor
Caesar Joe Ducray

Shorts Editor
N. Visible

Editor-in-Chief
Pika Chu
Assistant Editor
Wild Stiffie

Porno Editor
Buck Naked

poopy Editors
Chip Pippy
Lance Murdock
Bruce Wayne
Bruce Banner

Stuff Illuminati
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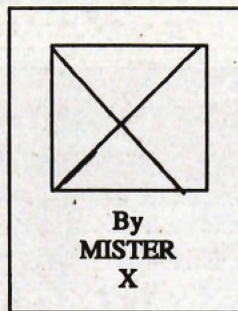
Steve McQueen, Remmy LeBeieux, Hairy Nutson, Ziggy Smells, Buck Futter, Hugh Gass, Mike "The Steve" Wilson, you're not really reading this part anyway, Sammy Sosa, You Smell, Name Withheld, Flatulent Fox, and Joe's severed nipple, the mascot.

X'S XORNER

A taste of 1984 in 1999

COLUMN

This week's conspiracy is prompted by the release of *The Truman Show* and a recent airing of the *X-Files* that dealt with a very strict living community. More and more people have been writing in to me asking me about a town called Celebration, five minutes south of Walt



Disney World and just west of Kissimmee. So here is the truth, once and for all.

Conceived in 1983 by Disney (a hotbed of conspiracy as all my regular readers know) as the ideal of small-town living, Celebration is commodified nostalgia. Eerie and Stepford-like, the town looks more like a movie set than a living community. The houses in the residential area are alarmingly similar, even by suburban standards. All of them resemble unused dollhouses, and are facades that exist merely for display. There are never any signs of life near these dwellings, except for an idle tourist or two.

Of course, many of the homes have strategically placed bicycles or toys on the yard, but the yards are suspiciously small for a so-called utopia. The color of the grass in Celebration is an odd, hyperactive green. Too, too healthy. This is because it is not real grass. It is lifelike enough from a distance, but if you try to pick a blade of grass, you will find you can't, because it's flexible plastic.

Homeowners can't paint their homes any color they want and are required to maintain their property for appearances. This is, of course, not a problem since all the residents are brainwashed. They go through their daily routines as they are programmed to do: they dress as they are told, they speak to whom they are told, etc.

Anyone who is resistant to the brainwashing procedure is killed and their bodies are processed and used in other areas of town. The playground has a sign in front of it stating it is made from "recycled materials" and you can bet those materials are people who didn't fit into the Celebration vision of perfection. This "playground" is a monument to obedience, a reminder to children of what will happen to them if they

misbehave.

In order to avert suspicion about this brainwashing, several of the town's teenagers are selected to be "alternative." However, their baggy pants are smooth and wrinkle-free and their T-shirts are crisp and new. Several T-shirts are emblazoned with the logos of bands that existed in the 70s, an inside joke amongst the programmers of Celebration, I am sure.

The business district is more troubling. A warning to tourists: it is easy to give in to the picturesque shops and seemingly friendly service, but I would not recommend buying or eating anything in this town. Anything you buy most likely doubles as a brainwashing device, and the food is laced with mind-controlling drugs. When you are done with a beverage, take your glass into the back room and analyze the microscopic bits of DNA from your saliva. If your profile checks out, you may be targeted and kidnapped to live in their community or you may be attacked, as I have been, for being an undesirable specimen.

Just as the lawns have strategically placed toys, the streets have strategically placed litter—not too much to be displeasing, but enough to make the town look lived in. It only serves to show how false the town is though; for example, cigarette butts are always around and stench free. Also, the insects are robotic. They are listening devices, to monitor the conversations of people. They may have a second purpose, one of attack: the last time I investigated this town, I stepped on several ants to see what would happen. Almost immediately, the other ants stopped what they were doing and started advancing towards me. I managed to escape, but I try not to think about where I would be right now if one of them had bitten me. Would I be the seat of a swing or the ladder of a slide?

This is not a place where you want to live. Some people are attracted to it because it is so carefully and aesthetically planned; nevertheless, the price for going against the-powers-that-be is high, and it is not worth risking your life, even if you like being a mindless suburban zombie. They would do anything to make sure everyone stays in line—anything. That is the truth about Celebration. But remember, you did not hear any of this from me. If you don't see a column from me next week, assume the worst. Until then, keep your eyes open and your doors locked—"they" are always watching.

Letters...

to the editor must be smeared in feces on rice paper
Please submit letters to *The Minirat* office (Student
Onion, Room x), by e-mail to

"TheMinirat@hotmail.com" or to UT Box 1984 by 4
p.m. Sunday to appear in Saturday's issue.

Letters must be signed in blood, and include 400 dollars and 900 number where the writer may be contacted regarding rickling.

Editors must check letters for lice and space considerations. Names will be withheld at the editor's discretion.

The Minirat



Kenneth Starr accepts new position

By EDWARD R. MURROW
Staff Writer

"I'm appalled by this breach of civilized decorum and protocol," said Pepperdine University President Dennis Rodman upon learning that newly unemployed Kenneth Starr would bypass the offer to teach at Pepperdine and instead become the University of Tampa's new vice-president for academic affairs and internal investigation.

Starr served recently as spectacularly independent counsel in a Washington case attempting to prove that staining a blue dress with semen warranted the removal from office of an Arkansas man who asked that his name be withheld.

"It was my acrophobia that clinched the deal," said a smiling Starr on his way out to dump the family garbage. "UT is merely beside the waters of the Hillsboro, while Pepperdine is perched hundreds of feet above the Pacific."

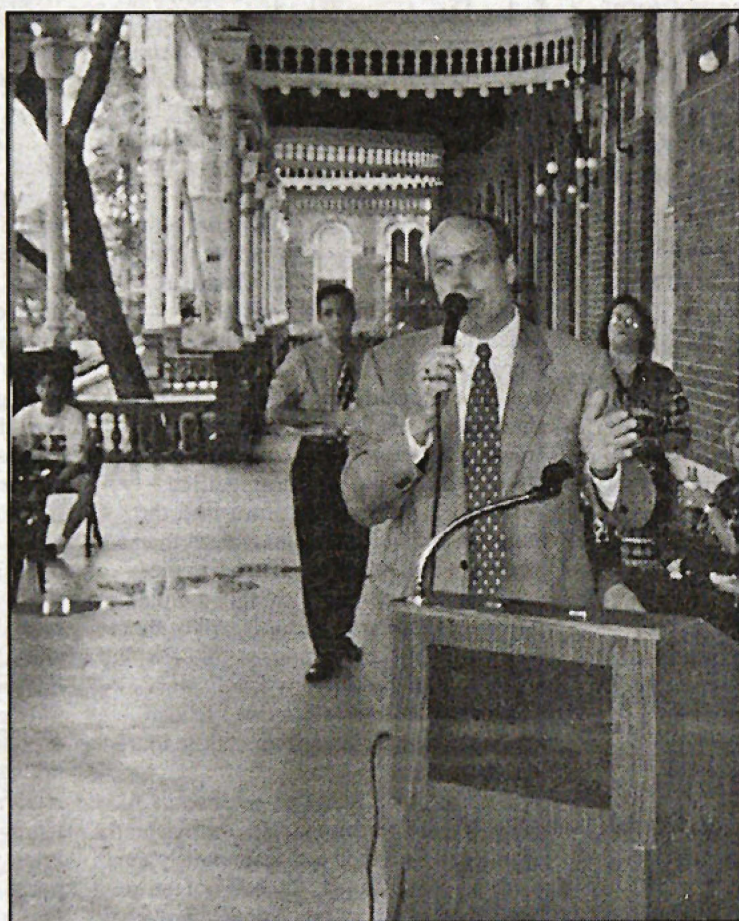
Sources close to Starr believe other factors proved more instrumental.

Paula Jones attorney Lorena Bobbitt noted, "Kenny was leaning toward Pepperdine until he was told they would slash his unlimited budget. Nobody likes to be cut off."

Pepperdine Athletic Director Latrell Sprewell witnessed the Los Angeles meeting between Starr and Rodman, who moonlights when the mood strikes him as a power forward for the Lakers. Sprewell said, "Starr came

here to interview, but, when he went over to Dennis to shake hands, Rodman fouled him."

ity in puppets, observed, "Look, why would Ken go to UT? When he stated he wanted to restore UT's



Thomas Edison The Minaret

President Vaughn, shown above, announcing Starr's appointment.

Rev. Jerry Falwell, whose ability to see past the obvious is so keen that he can spot homosexual-

philosophy major and add programs in classics and anthropology so it would look like a real univer-

sity, he was told, "Where the hell's the money in that?" I know the real reason he's headed to Florida."

Falwell, however, resisted the temptation to reveal that reason, directing media instead to electronics expert Linda Tripp, who claims to have Starr's confession on tape.

"I'm just like you," said Tripp, "except that I'll tape your confidences and reveal them to the whole world because of how much I care about your welfare, just like a mother. The real reason Ken Starr is going to Tampa is to get [UT Dean of Students Bob] Ruday."

Tripp's comment was supported by not only her vast collection of audiotape, but by a Ken Starr journal entry Falwell was given by his close friend, House Judiciary member Rep. Barney Frank.

That entry, shown to the Minirat on the condition that we not reveal it, which was printed in crayon rather than penned in cursive, shows that, even before his investigation of Whitewater Starr suspected and was determined to prove Ruday guilty of the assassination of President William McKinley.

"To the naïve, Ruday's seemingly airtight alibi that he was born more than four decades after the Sept. 6, 1901 murder looks persuasive," wrote Starr. "But I have irrefutable DNA evidence proving the assassin was Ruday."

Starr did not disclose the nature of this biochemical proof, but Tripp, who doubles as Starr's wardrobe consultant, mentioned

that it involved a cocktail dress belonging to Mrs. McKinley which she inadvertently left at a Georgetown dry cleaner.

"I concede," Starr told the Minirat, "that Ruday, in his current form, was born too late to have fired that fatal shot, just as he was born too late to have caused the 1929 stock market crash, in which I suspect he also had a hand. However, this just might not be Ruday's first go-round, if you know what I mean."

Former Nancy Reagan metaphysical consultant Dionne Warwick admitted she was the one who tipped Starr off to Ruday's previous lives, easily enough lives to have been guilty of the McKinley murder.

"In fact," stated Warwick, "Ruday not only fired that shot, but is very likely the man who advised Julius Caesar to snap at his wife, 'Will you put a damn lid on it, Cal. Ides of March, Shmides of March, I feel like getting the hell out of the house.'"

An unnamed Minirat adviser confirmed the likelihood that Starr might have offered that advice to the abundantly perforated Roman dictator. "I do believe that really was Caesar's original wording," said the scrawny, balding pedant. "Shakespeare just dressed it up later to make Caesar look a lot brighter than he was."

Starr is scheduled to assume his UT duties in August 1999. In his spare time, he will serve as independent counsel to the Minirat, with an unlimited budget, world enough, and time.

Campus Security goes on strike

By CAESAR JOE DUCRAY
Staff Writer

The strike by UT's campus security continued unabated this week, with no end in sight. Campus crime was up a whopping 400 percent, while golf cart related traffic accidents fell sharply.

"We are prepared to continue to do nothing as UT burns," said Campus Security Spokesman Qubert Hoppy, while standing in front of the burning Falk Theatre. "No one will be safe until the administration meets our demands."

"As far as the school is concerned, security can do nothing forever," said Ziegg McPooten, a spokesman for the administration. In place of security, the school has opted for Mad Max style hellions, roaming the campus in makeshift dune buggies, enforcing their own special brand of justice.

"No one wants law and order more than my men do," said the new Gestapo forces' leader, Ivan Mankiller, "but let's face it, this is a college campus, and that ain't going to happen." After kicking a nearby henchman/toady, Mankiller continued:

"Sure, my men may cost as many lives as they save, but so do airbags. Besides, if my men aren't allowed to rape and pillage, what will be their motivation?"

"At first, I thought they were kind of cool," said freshman Hairy Balzak. "They'd show up at parties, drink some beer, smash some faces, it was a cool night all around. But then they gave me a ticket for parking in front of the New Hall. Man, what was up with that?"

"Let's face it, Campus Security wants money to continue do-



Martha Graham - The Minaret

Campus security : nonchalant of criminal incidences because of strike.

ing their job," said McPooten, "the school just doesn't have those kinds of resources, if we give them money, then the professors will start expecting it. The new team is doing fine, and as long as we toss

them a keg of beer and one or two female sacrifices a week, they're happy. It's the same system they're using at USF."

INSIDE

President Vaughn tries out for basketball team
Page 7

Extra-terrestrials revealed at UT
Page 5

INDEX

Newts.....1&4
Onion.....2&3
Accident.....5&6
Sborts.....7
Abs.....8