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McCall Trial Concludes, Track Coach Discusses Student's Legacy

By MIA GLATTER
Editor-in-Chief

"It's something you never really forget." UT's head cross country coach, Jarrett Slaven, remembers clearly the moment five years ago when he heard one of his runners, Ryan McCall, had died. He was standing on the track when his phone rang.

"I couldn't believe it," Slaven said. "And then I looked down and saw all the lights going, and I knew it was true."

McCall, a University of Tampa senior, was fatally shot while walking home from a birthday party with a friend in 2009. David Earl Williams Jr. was found guilty Friday of first-degree felony murder and was sentenced to life in prison without parole.

McCall, an exercise science major, had been a member of the UT track and cross country teams for three years.

Slaven remains close with McCall's family and supports them by attending Ryan's Run, an annual race

at UT every year to honor the slain runner's memory. While the trial was happening, Slaven kept up with the details and talked with McCall's father several times.

"His father made a lot of good comments in the paper. You just have to sit back and let the prosecution and the case do their job," he said. "They're very supportive of the detective working the case and the whole system. They just realize what has to be done."

McCall had been an athlete since high school. UT track was a family affair; his brother had graduated from UT three years earlier and running track. Slaven remembers how distraught the team was and what the team lost when they lost McCall. The team and the coaches have stayed close to cope with the traumatic loss they suffered together.

"He interacted with everyone; he was very sociable and very funny," Slaven said of McCall. "He kept a lot of us going because he had a



McCall was killed in 2009 walking home from a party. Friends and family held a memorial for him after the incident. *The Minaret*

good sense of humor and he was very motivated to be a runner, and he talked about maybe becoming a coach later on at a high school or a day care school at some point. He had plans, so it was really devastating news."

Some trial-watchers believed Williams' conviction seemed out of reach for prosecutors due to a dearth of evidence. Williams left behind

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Cusson Channels Reagan Ideologies

By KHADIJAH KHAN
Head Copy Editor



Liz MacLean/The Minaret
Evan Cusson, Director of Communications in student government enjoys fishing and boating.

Evan Cusson, senior government and world affairs major, has spent his time at UT leaving a legacy that would inspire future student leaders. But Cusson is active in much more than leadership politics. Cusson is an avid boat enthusiast, fisherman and fan of Ronald Reagan. He hates nothing more than paying excessive taxation and Mondays, according to his friends.

Cusson transferred from the University of Connecticut to UT. While Cusson enjoyed UConn, the university made him miss similarities to his high school.

"I really missed the small classroom sizes, similar to my high school," Cusson said. "It's a little warmer in Tampa than in Connecticut. I looked at UT before I made my decision to go to UConn so I was

familiar with it. It's also a great time to attend UT. Our school is growing at an impressive rate and it will be fun to watch it continue to grow in the coming years."

Cusson is known for his active role in politics. Currently, he is the Director of Communications in Student Government, where he helps optimize efficiency within the Student Government office and assists in development of transparency between SG and the student body. Cusson also serves as the Vice President of College Republicans.

He has a passion for UT, the United States and the opportunities that have been given to him, according to other student leaders like junior and criminology major Matthew Hartford.

"Evan lives by the saying of 'America, Jesus, Freedom,'" Hartford said. "He loves UT, America, and all the opportunities that living and learning here has provided him. Evan is a motivated leader who wants to make UT provide more opportunities to its students. He is a hard-worker, but many know him for his ability to accomplish much and still have time for his friends and family which are a priority to him."

Cusson admires former republican president, Ronald Reagan's leadership style and tries to embody it to be a better leader.

"Reagan restored America's self-confidence," Cusson said. "Reagan always said America's best days were ahead of her. Reagan's leadership style is definitely something I strive [for]. Reagan was an undying optimist that always believed in America and our values. But Reagan's confidence that came with conviction, optimism, humility and integrity are all what have shaped me into the leader I am today."

Torrie Winsett, senior and Vice President of Student Government, agrees that Cusson has been a large asset to SG.

"Without Evan many of the things that Student Government does wouldn't happen," Winsett said. "Student Government impacts the entire campus and the commitment and hard work he has given our organization is something we will be forever grateful for."

Student Government puts on several events throughout the year and Cusson is the one who handles the logistics of each event.

"Whether it is making sure people come, ordering the right materials, and making sure everything is done that needs

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Honors Students Venture To Oxford

By MADISON IRWIN

News Writer

Honors Program to send students to Oxford, England to research individual tutorials.



Ellis Cantalan/ The Minaret
Lauren Candemeres pictured above

When it comes to studying abroad next fall, Lauren Candemeres, a senior government and world affairs major, has never been more ready for it in her life. Born and raised in Long Island, NY, Candemeres has been dying to get into this particular program for quite some time. In her case, the third time really was the charm.

"I applied two times beforehand, including last spring," Candemeres said. "Although I didn't get in twice, I'm glad that I applied again. Everyone, especially my professors, really encouraged me, and now here I am; and I'm super excited."

In the meantime, Candemeres studied abroad in Rome last fall semester, which really gave her a head start on experiencing what it's like to live out of the country for six months. While studying abroad (for her GWA major), she also had an internship and stayed with a host family.

"I know it's cliché to say this, but it was seriously life changing," Candemeres said. "I learned some of the language from living with the family and still keep in touch with a lot of people that I've met along the way."

During her time in the honors program at Oxford, Candemeres will be focusing on international relations and politics and the media. Her main study will be conflict diplomacy and how different countries react to it. She will also be researching how politics affects the internet.

Candemeres is most excited about interacting with other Oxford students and exploring the area in general. Apart from her studies, she hopes to visit Rome again, as well as Spain and Greece. She also plans on going out to the pubs and attending various beer festivals in London in her spare time.

Candemeres' only concern regarding the Oxford program is the studying itself. "My biggest worry is not being able to keep up," Candemeres said. "I think the professors there expect more

from you because they are used to working with incredibly intelligent students. I think I can do it though."

Candemeres is a part of the Model United Nations organization, as well as a sister of Kappa Alpha Theta. In her free time, she enjoys drawing and yoga. After graduation, she plans on getting her PhD at a graduate school and becoming a professor.

She also wants to travel and do more research on conflict resolution and development. However, Candemeres' biggest goal is to help bring the internet to places that still don't have it.

Christina Nestor, a junior history major and one of Candemeres' closest friends at UT, admires her confidence and determination to accomplish any dream that she has. "Lauren is an intelligent free spirit who will travel the world and make a difference," Nestor said. "I commend her on not giving up on this dream; she's applied a few times before but never let rejection stop her."

Although Nestor is sad to see her friend go, she is extremely happy for her. "She's getting an opportunity of a lifetime. I wish her the best of luck and can't wait to hear all the stories she'll have to share."

"I've had Lauren for four classes now, and she is a smart and hard-working student, as well as a good writer," said Liv Coleman, one of Candemeres' professors at UT. "One of her particular strengths is 'big picture' thinking about developments in world politics."

Coleman teaches various classes, such as introduction to government & world affairs. Last spring, Candemeres told her that she had applied to the Oxford program, but had not been accepted. Coleman encouraged her to apply again.

"I was very confident in her abilities to do independent study and research," Coleman said. "I think this will be a great opportunity for Lauren to pursue her specialized studies in depth at Oxford," Coleman said.



Ellis Cantalan/ The Minaret
Victoria Suslovich pictured above

To Victoria Suslovich, there is nothing more thrilling in the world than traveling. Suslovich is a junior biology major from Boston and has been on an alternative break to Costa Rica for two weeks, but has never studied abroad before. This will be her first time going to Europe, as well.

"I was so happy after finding out I got accepted into the Oxford program," said Suslovich. "I looked at a lot of other programs, as well, but what's cool about the honors program is that it's financially better. Everything just sort of fell into place."

Suslovich is the president of Beta Beta Beta (the national biological honor society) and a sister of Delta Zeta. She is also a part of PLF (President's Leadership Fellows) and works as a lab assistant for the biology labs at UT. On her spare time, she likes to run, paint, cook and do yoga.

While abroad, Suslovich will be focusing on agriculture, more specifically, sustainability and public health. She, as well as the other two UT students who got accepted into the program, will be meeting one on one with a professor for their tutorials, rather than sitting in a classroom lecture.

Suslovich is most excited to experience the culture overall. She plans on learning as much as she can and attending various seminars, as well as joining a student club. "I was looking at a women's science and engineering club, which I might be interested in joining," she said.

Besides her studies, she hopes to do a lot of traveling and is excited to show her mom around when she visits. Suslovich is especially looking forward to visiting Bath in England. "It might sound weird, but I took Latin in high school, so I really want to go there," she said.

Although Suslovich is more anxious than nervous, her only concern is sticking out like a sore thumb. "I think the first few weeks will be hard, like figuring out how to use the transit system," said Suslovich. "I just don't want to be seen as this goofy, stereotypical American girl."

Annie Dickey, a freshman biology (premed) major and Suslovich's little (in her sorority), describes her big as the girl who can light up any situation and admires her for her love for science.

"Having biology as a major will knock you down, stand you up, and knock you down again," said Dickey. "The fact that Tori has gotten almost straight A's in this major is amazing. Her persistence and consistency drives me to want to be as good of a student as she is."

Dickey says she can't think of anyone else who deserves this more. "I am so proud of her," she said. "It makes me so happy to see all of her hard work finally paying off. All of the late nights in the library, missed social outings with friends, and confusing long biology words later and she now finally gets to live her dreams."

Although Suslovich is still searching for her soul and dream job, she is most interested in working with the environment. She would also like to teach abroad someday.

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TalentedHuman Offers Artists New Platform

Matthew Colletti and Jasem Meqar launch TalentedHuman to offer a space for artistic expression online.

By KHADIJAH KHAN
Head Copy Editor

Students attend college to chase their dreams, create new innovations and further their careers. For Matthew Colletti and Jasem Meqar, seniors and young entrepreneurs, they made an idea that started as scribbles in a notebook come to life. Colletti and Meqar created TalentedHuman, a website dedicated to supporting all forms of content and self-expression, which went live March 31.

"TalentedHuman is a free social media platform for the artistic, creative, unique, and talented individuals of the globe to regain their voice in social media," Colletti said.

TalentedHuman shares similarities to sites like WordPress and other blog platforms. Users are allowed to post anything they would like such as blogs, photos and videos. Users are also able to provide feedback to one another.

"A picture of a cup of to-go coffee with a post saying, 'Yay I got my coffee this morning!' should not be on the same feed as a cup of coffee in a ceramic mug, with an artistic design in the foam, denoting the skills of a talented barista," Colletti said.

Colletti and Meqar created TalentedHuman in about seven months after dealing with obstacles such as funding and finding a software development team.

"This is only possible because of the heavy expense to employ a full, professional software development team," Colletti said. "They worked Monday through Friday for three to six hours a day, nonstop. This is at a cost of less than \$150 an hour, and this is the only reason we were able to accomplish this large scale project on a relatively small time scale."

Colletti and Meqar don't want people to solely use their platform instead of others, but for them to become another form of social media that people utilize in their everyday life.

"This is only for the reason that nobody else has done this and given these amazing people from around the world a sophisticated platform to express and self-promote, for free," Colletti said.

Colletti and Meqar dream of expanding TalentedHuman into a multi-

billion dollar social media network.

"We also wish to show the big companies that this market will not be monopolized, and may not demand money for talented people to self-promote," Colletti said.

With this large goal, Colletti also sees TalentedHuman being able to capture talents and events that occur around the world.

Colletti even sees "our logo dominating every athletic, artistic, musical, and creative event around the world."

Feedback from fellow students has been enthusiastic.

Vijay Sharma, a junior psychology major, said, "UT is filled with talented individuals, and I believe that the efforts of the two men on this project should encourage more UT students to go out there and do

something special."

UT students who major in the arts, such as senior music major Danielle Sopchak, believe TalentedHuman will benefit them.

"Now that I've been on the site, I'm interested to see how this can help me in my career," Sopchak said. "I'm a musician and believe that this could be a useful outlet to showcase my music. I think TalentedHuman is different from any other popular site out there currently because the intent of this site is for users to inspire and create for each other; that's what makes this unique."

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



*Photos courtesy of Matthew Colletti
Colletti and Meqar have worked hard to create the blog-style, artistic platform of TalentedHuman.*

INFORMATION



POLICE BEAT

Reports compiled by Zoe Fowler

Snitch Alert Snitch Alert

On April 2, Associate Professor of Music walked into the Campus Safety Office to complete a delayed property damage report.

You Done Goofed

On April 2, A non-student was arrested on campus by the TPD for an active arrest. The subject was also issued a written trespass warning.

Don't Mess Wit the Ganja

On April 2, dispatched to call of possible marijuana use at Vaughn Center Resident area.

Desperate Times Call for Stupidity

On April 3, a university student reported that his roof rack was taken from his vehicle while it was parked in the Thomas Parking Garage.

DANGER ZONE!!!

On April 3, a university student was arrested by the TPD at an off campus establishment for Trespass and Obstruction.

Isn't That Legal or Nah

On April 4, a university student was found to be in possession of an open alcoholic beverage container in a public area on campus.



STUDENT GOVERNMENT

Cabinet Applications

The applications can be found on OrgSync. It ends on Monday at 5 p.m.

Financial Literacy Week

The event ends on Friday.

SEAC To Host Earth Day Celebration

By JENNIFER UMANZOR
News Writer

SEAC, the Student Environmental Action Coalition, will host an Earth Day Celebration on April 22, students can expect to craft, compete in trivia and load up on free club gear.

The club's main mission is to complete a recycling master plan, the most recent step was approved last semester and will put recycling bins in every trash room of Vaughn.

"There will be a total of 12 recycling bins in the building. The way students can respond is to recycle, recycle, recycle. If the students living Vaughn use the Recycling on a daily basis and we see and increase in the amount of recycling that the school is producing, then we will start to implement the same program in the other dorms," said Cristina Muyschondt, president of SEAC.

Muyschondt expressed recycling hasn't been a part of our campus in the previous year. Since the issue was not addressed before, SEAC decided to create a proposal that would include not only the student body, but the university as well.

"Many freshmen [have been] recycling since high school, it comes as an instinct," Muyschondt said. "They were shocked to come here and have no easy access to recycle."

Last year, recycling bins were incorporated in each laundry room. Nevertheless, one bin isn't enough for over 500 students living in the dorm. Three industrial size recycling bins can be found around campus, yet it's hard for students won't to go to

these out-of-the-way locations.

Junior Maria Jose Cristiansen expressed her concern about how our community isn't as green as it should be.

"It is unbelievable to see how over the past three years that I've studied here, there hasn't been any changes or upgrades with the recycling system on campus," said Cristiansen.

SEAC is dedicated its time in getting the recycling pilot program off the ground and over administrative hurdles. The group is currently in meetings working on the educational aspect of the project. The art department, facilities, advisors and area coordinators of Vaughn are all responsible for the success and development of the recycling pilot program.

Admissions worker Katherine Di Geronimo was enthusiastic on the future of recycling on campus.

"I think that not many people are aware on the proper way to recycle," Di Geronimo said. "At my job we are very much open to the idea of having to recycle every time we have leftover boxes or papers."

SEAC is hopeful for the future changes that are in process for the University of Tampa and expect the support that is needed from the student body for doing so. If students would like to celebrate Earth Day and learn more about the program attend the event in Vaughn Courtyard next Wednesday from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Jennifer Umanzor can be reached at jennifer.umanzor@spartans.ut.edu



Come join us and celebrate!

P.E.A.C.E. Healing Arts
Be the Match (Bone Marrow Donations)
RX Factor F.O.O.D.S. S.E.A.C
Roots and Shoots Breathe Easy
Sustany Foundation
Pagan Student Org. E.P.C.
Tri Beta Better Together
Sustainable Living Project



April 22nd
Vaughn Courtyard
11 AM - 3 PM

For more information, contact the P.E.A.C.E office in person or at peace@ut.edu

SG communications director, boating expert

From CUSSON Page 1

to be," Winsett said. "He is both mine and Kristin's right hand man. He always does things that we ask."

In addition to leadership being one of his many passions, Cusson is also enthusiastic about boating. He is a part of a boat business called Atlantic Outboard back home in Connecticut with his parents. Atlantic Outboard is the largest Evinrude E-TEC dealer in North America, according to their website.

"I was born into the boat business," Cusson said. "My parents own a boat dealership and marinas in Connecticut so I've been working in the industry for as long as I can remember. I'm passionate about boating because nothing is better than a day on the water."

Cusson is also well-known for his pranks that he pulls on his friends and occasionally in the SG office.

"The first night I met Evan and actually hung out with him," Winsett said, "a group of us went to dinner and our friend Michael decided to ditch us for other

people so since Evan is the master at pranks we decided to get Michael back and prank him. I'm sure he wished he never ditched us."

But what Cusson loves the most is spending his free time fishing, especially when he is home. He has won several tournaments. He recently won a tournament in Montauk, N.Y.

"We won a tuna tournament out in Connecticut with a 257-pound big eye tuna a few years ago. It's a great experience to win a tournament," Cusson said. "[With] fishing tournaments, you're competing against some of the greatest fishermen in your region. So it's a awesome feeling you get when you get to weigh the fish and then take the lead."

After college, Cusson will return home and get back to the family business.

"I love selling boats and working in the boating industry and I'm excited for what the future holds," he said.

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

'Reagan was an undying optimist that always believed in America and our values. But Reagan's confidence that came with conviction'

- Evan Cusson

Race in student's honor to be held this weekend

From RYAN'S RUN Page 1

no fingerprints, DNA or evidence connecting him to the murder. The only witness was McCall's friend, who had been intoxicated but managed to record the robber's voice on his brother's voicemail, according to The Tampa Tribune. Police said they were able to record Williams revealing details about the crime scene that nobody else could have known, and that was enough to receive a guilty verdict from the jury.

Slaven and others close to McCall remember his sense of humor and his unique fashion choices.

"Believe it or not, he used to wear clothing that you would look at and think that only Ryan could get away with," Slaven said. "He was quite the fashion statement that way. I think that he always added a real good sense of humor, even during hard practices -- a crack of some sort that would make everybody laugh, including me

and the coaches.

McCall's legacy continues at UT through Ryan's Run and scholarships funded by his family. Members of McCall's team travel each year to run in his honor, which Slaven feels is a testimony to his character. This year's Ryan's Run will take place this Saturday in Centennial Park in Ybor City.

"People and team members come from all over the country and the state to race in his honor, so I'd say that's a pretty good sign that he was loved," Slaven said.

Mia Glatter can be reached at mia.glatter@theminaretonline.com

Ryan's Run

When: Sat. April 18
First race starts at 8:00 a.m.
Where: Throughout Ybor City
Registration Booth will be at Centennial Park and award ceremony will be held at Gaspar's Grotto
For more information about the race and to register visit, ryanpmccall.com/registration



Spaulding Street Renamed in Honor of UT President

Frederic H. Spaulding was Tampa's first president and created the university in 1931

By **ARIEL HERNANDEZ**
News Writer

The University of Tampa renamed North B Street after the founder and first president of UT, Frederic H. Spaulding. The change was made official as of April 2. The street begins at the intersection of West Kennedy Boulevard and University Drive and runs east to west.

The Tampa City Council approved the name change unanimously. A historical landmark sign may also be placed to provide information on Spaulding's significance.

Spaulding created Tampa Junior College, which became UT, in 1931 during the Great Depression. Before then, Tampa students who wanted to attend college had to go to Gainesville or Tallahassee. Tampa Junior College's first classes were held at Hillsborough High School, where Spaulding had previously served as principal. In 1933, classes moved to the Tampa Bay Hotel, now Plant Hall. In 1941, the school became the University of Tampa.

The university offered the street to the Spaulding family to recognize Frederic H. Spaulding for what he did for

the university and the city of Tampa.

"We think it's an appropriate honor," said Eric Cardenas, UT's Director of Public Information. "It's a way of recognizing him. This is a street that goes through the heart of campus."

In a statement in a UT newsletter, UT President Ronald Vaughn said, "Spaulding started this institution from nothing, during one of the worst economic periods of this country's history. I believe he'd be impressed at what The University of Tampa has become."

UT honors former presidents of the university who have made a significant difference over the years, as well as friends of the university who have donated or been great ambassadors for UT by renaming facilities on the campus.

The street renaming was in the works for a year and a half, said Schezy Barbas, Director of the Office of Development and University Relations. Spaulding's son, Frederick W. Spaulding, had presented a map of a street that was originally named after Spaulding before UT was even 100 square feet. The street renaming may help some students understand more of UT's history.

"I don't know if there is a large impact in this renaming, but there is a lasting one," said Frederick W. Spaulding. "Students are living in the midst of history."

Spaulding said his father was passionate about serving young men and women interested in learning

and becoming valuable assets to their communities. Spaulding felt that was one of the functions of a university.

"I hope this impacts students," said Ashleigh Stockinger, a sophomore sports management major. "You want them to be curious who he was, what he did, and how he helped us."

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



The Minaret
Spaulding Street will run East to West and cut through the center of campus, dividing it into North and South.

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Have an opinion
that you want to
share but no writing
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can help turn your
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DIVERSIONS

ON CAMPUS

APRIL 16

Privilege Monopoly

Play a life-size game of Monopoly to raise awareness about the advantages and disadvantages we have from 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. in the Vaughn courtyard.

APRIL 17

Bringing Down the Wall

Celebrate Diversity Week by tearing down the Wall of Oppression and promote equality on the UT campus. The ceremony takes place in the Vaughn courtyard from 12:00 p.m. to 1:00 p.m.

APRIL 17

Spartans Hoedown

Spartans After Dark is hosting a hoedown complete with a country cover band, food, a mechanical bull and corn hole. The event takes place in the Vaughn courtyard.

APRIL 18

Fragile Waters Film Showing

"Fragile Waters," a documentary on the relationship between people, whales and waters, will play in Reeves Theater at 1:00 p.m., followed by a Q&A with the producers of the film. The event is free.

OFF CAMPUS

APRIL 16

Flicks and Food Trucks

Enjoy 15 to 17 food trucks, brews and micro-brews, independent short films and live music at the Grand Central at Kennedy. The festivities begin at 6:00 p.m.

APRIL 18

Record Store Day

Hear ye, hipsters, gather your special edition store-only deals from local record stores like Mojo, Planet Retro and Microgroove. Live music included!

APRIL 19

Sugar Sand Festival

Clearwater Beach hosts its annual festival complete with a walk-through display of sand sculptures, fireworks and beachfront concerts. The event takes place at Pier 60 and tickets are \$10.

APRIL 22

Bob Dylan

The legendary singer-songwriter will play his first show at Ruth Eckerd Hall since 1992 (complete with plenty of Sinatra covers). Ticket prices start at \$72.75.

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3	8					6		
	9	7	2	6			4	5

websudoku.com

PICTURE *of the* WEEK



Photo by Alex Martin

The Wall of Oppression is being built in Vaughn Courtyard and will be knocked down on April 17. Students designed bricks with phrases that make them feel oppressed.

ARTS + ENTERTAINMENT

Senior Theater Majors Give One Last Bow

By **KARA DELEMEESTER**
Arts + Entertainment Writer

If you've been wondering why there are flyers plastered across campus of John Millsap and Mitchell Spencer looking lovingly toward each other, then you've encountered one of the many advertisements for UT's senior showcases.

One of the graduation requirements for UT's B.A. in musical theater and theater majors is that every student plans and performs their own senior showcase. The showcases can include duets, giving opportunities for seniors to collaborate with their friends within the department. However, two-thirds of the show must consist of solo performances by the senior. The seniors plan their showcases entirely on their own, which can be an overwhelming process.



Emily Peduto

"You have to pick a date that works for you and the music department," senior Emily Peduto said. "You then have to find an accompanist to play for the showcase. You have to then pick the songs and learn them. You also have to do a program and poster to advertise the event."

The students also have to book their own venue for the show, as well as coordinate the costumes, set-up, and lighting. These seniors essentially create and plan a complete stage performance, and everything that goes with that, all on their own.

The students get to choose all of the solos, duets, and group numbers that they perform. Whether it's a musical theater or a theater major, the seniors focus on choosing songs or scenes that showcase their range and ability.

Senior Elisha Sayed said, "For me, personally, I not only choose a song because I love it but I also ask myself how well it shows off my range and my style of singing. I want people to see me in my best light and how much I've developed through my four years of training so I always say to myself, 'Does this song do just that?'"

Some students even choose to



Kristin Walker

dedicate songs or scenes to family or friends. Senior Kristin Walker is dedicating a song to her fiancé, and Peduto dedicated most of her showcase to her family.

"The whole second half of my showcase were songs for my family so I loved singing them and seeing their faces while I was singing them was priceless," Peduto said.

Another way students choose to plan their showcase is by choosing a theme that they base their selections around.

"Each song has to do with either a new chapter in life, a journey to find love or accepting yourself," Walker said. "The name of my showcase is 'There will be Light.' I named it that to depict my journey through the tough challenges in my life toward graduating college, showing that there is always a light at the end of the tunnel."

This year, the senior showcases are particularly special because it's the last year that everyone in the department gets to perform their own showcase.

Next year the seniors will perform collective showcases that consist mostly of group numbers where each senior will get to perform one solo that showcases their individual ability.

Regardless of the format, the season of senior showcases is a sentimental time for UT's Theater Department.

"I viewed this as my final bow here at UT and hoped that through my involvements and my work, I made an impact on someone's life in one way or another," Sayed said.

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

Upcoming Showcases:

Mitch Spencer: Saturday April 18 at 8:30 p.m. in Reeves Theater

Kristen Walker: Friday April 17 at 9 p.m. in the Grand Salon

Twenty One Pilots Announces New Album, Releases Two New Tracks

By **GRIFFIN GUINTA**
Arts + Entertainment Writer

The indie-pop group has carved a niche following among college students and is primed to make another big splash with "Blurryface."



Twenty one pilots is on the run and go. After completing their Quiet is Violent world tour, which spanned 25 different North American cities and three other countries, the 'schizoid pop' duo wasted no time hitting the studio upon their return.

Just two years after their breakout album Vessel, the Columbus, Ohio natives are set to release their fourth overall album Blurryface on May 19 of this year, and will embark on yet another world tour after making stops at summer music festivals like Lollapalooza and Bonnaroo.

Though they are not a household name quite yet, the band's popularity has skyrocketed since "Vessel's" debut in early 2013. You may have seen them on TV during the MTV Movie Awards last year, or their most recent tour stop at House of Blues Orlando in September 2014. In many ways, they're hard to miss. During performances, lead singer Tyler Joseph often dons a skeleton-printed jumpsuit and a ski mask to evoke the band's mysterious vibe, and drummer Josh Dun is often seen pounding the kit with his shirt off.

Despite their external eccentricities, however, the band's overall message is what resonates the most with their primarily high school to college age demographic. Overcoming depression, suicide, hopelessness and fear is often a common narrative in their music.

Their official website states the following:

"Don't let the fear of unhappiness cripple your pursuit of finding what it is you believe. Since joy is found in belief, we all have to push through unhappiness to find joy."

In general, twenty one pilots is reshaping what it means to be a band. Neither member promotes drinking, smoking, or drugs, and their songs are devoid of any kind of profane, demeaning language.

Instead, everything revolves around the contemplation of life and overcoming the pitfalls of the world around us. For instance, "Car Radio," the song played at the aforementioned MTV Movie Awards, is a five minute soliloquy about Joseph's car radio being stolen, and how the newfound silence forces him to overthink. "Oh my, too deep, please stop thinking, I liked it better when my car had sound," he says in the second verse.

As far as their overall sound, it's a bit indescribable. Some tracks feature the spunky melodies of ukulele and piano, while others infuse synth, rap and booming bass lines. Stylistically, the songs often end completely differently than they start, often beginning with dark, foreboding undertones that transform into catchy pop ballads midway through.

Christmas came early for loyal followers of the band, as two new songs off of "Blurryface," "Fairly Local," and "Tear In My Heart," were recently released on iTunes and Spotify. In typical twenty one pilots fashion, the two songs sound nothing like each other.

During the eerie sounding "Fairly Local," Joseph hints at the fact that his music will likely be understood only by a specific audience in the song's bridge, stating: "Yo, this song will never be on the radio. Even if my clique were to pick and the people were to vote, it's the few, the proud, and the emotional." The song will likely make more sense when lined up against the other tracks on "Blurryface," but it appears that the band is trying to retain its "local" roots while taking on a new identity of sound.

In the official music video for the song, a shadowy Tyler Joseph stands in a dark, icy hallway, while red-eyeliner-clad Josh Dun pounds away on a set of snow-covered drums. The video takes place almost entirely in the dark until the last verse is sung and a glowing

microphone appears. "I know who I truly am, I truly do have chance. Tomorrow I'll switch the beat, to avoid yesterday's dance."

The second "Blurryface" staple, "Tear In My Heart," dabbles in the region of romance; which is quite the anomaly for twenty one pilots. The song is a tribute to Joseph's wife, Jenna and emphasizes the significance of letting a special someone "tear in" to your heavily guarded heart.

Unlike "Fairly Local," the song features an upbeat, ragtime-sounding piano riff that gains momentum until the very end. Like always, the lyrics convey an underlying message of hope and resilience, stating that "Sometimes you've got to bleed to know-oh-oh, that you're alive and have a soul."

Only time will tell what "Blurryface" has in store, but based on what's been released thus far, it looks destined for another successful reception among loyal fans and first-time listeners.

Griffin Guinta can be reached at



Twenty One Pilots/ Flickr.com

New album 'Blurryface' is slated to be released on May 19 and is now available for pre-order.

Courtney Barnett Releases Anthemic Punk Album

By JORDAN WALSH
Arts + Entertainment Writer

If only existential crises were as fun as Courtney Barnett makes them seem. On her debut full length record, "Sometimes I Sit and Think, and Sometimes I Just Sit," Barnett delivers a snapshot of the life of a twenty-something: an aimless confusing existence composed of equal parts punk, rock and roll, and '80s shambling indie pop. The result is hauntingly accurate and strangely anthemic for those living in a transitional liminal space—troubled enough to get sad to, upbeat enough to yell along to. An excellent combination.

No song nails this combination like opener "Elevator Operator," a loosely rocked-out number about a depressed office worker. The lyrics to this song, as with the rest of the record, are utterly dense—an unfiltered ramble streaming among brightly strummed electric guitars. Barnett's voice is slightly bored as she recounts this strange dual crisis: "Don't jump little boy, don't jump off that bridge...he said 'I think you're projecting the way that you're feeling.'"

"Pedestrian At Best" is a little bit harder, a more pronounced punk or grunge edge pervades this anthem of false perception. Here, Barnett lets some grit into her voice to overpower the wall of sound behind her: "Put me on a pedestal and I'll only disappoint you/tell me I'm exceptional and I promise to exploit you." As close to catharsis as "Sometimes I Sit and Think, and Sometimes I Just Sit" will get, "Pedestrian At Best" is

somehow an empowering way of saying "I'm really not that great."

The K Records influence pervades a good portion of the record, taking its best form with "Nobody Really Cares If You Don't Go To The Party," a perfect sonic representation of the introvert's desire for social interaction, but without having to get out of bed. "I wanna go out but I wanna stay home," Barnett flatly delivers over a beachy melody.

Some of the record's best moments aren't well-suited for a sunny drive, however. "Small Poppies" is a long, bluesy cut that comes across like a daytime fever dream: "I dreamed I stabbed you with a coat hanger

wire." "Depreston" broods over the story of a couple buying their first home together, building up to a delicate delivery of the record's most heartbreaking lines: "If you've got a spare half a million/ you could knock it down and start rebuilding." This may seem mundane, but in reality it's a prescient reminder that it's okay to start over if the resources are available—but that means giving up on what's been built so far. This is the crux of what makes "Sometimes I Sit and Think, and Sometimes I Just Sit" such a good record. The pervading feeling of steam being lost in an effort to make more of one's life, but a willingness to go on trying

anyway. More than anything, "Sometimes" is about control over identity, self and destiny. Courtney Barnett is startlingly wise in this department, and this debut record is essential listening because of it.



★★★★★
4 out of 5 stars

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



Twenty One Pilots/ Flickr.com

New album 'Blurryface' is slated to be released on May 19 and is now available for pre-

Stone Soup Company Transports Patrons to Vintage Paradise

By CLAIRE FARROW
Arts + Entertainment Writer

"...Here is The Stone Soup Company,
We like to share we have plenty,
Whatever it is we can't sell,
Given free soup bid farewell,
We want society to excel,
Please eat our soup and share our story."

~ Ilya Ben Goldberg "Soupman"

Located just a few doors down from The Honey Pot on Seventh Ave., The Stone Soup Company Diner is another one of Ybor's unique restaurants. The Company has been open since 2010, and serves everything from soups to salads, Cuban sandwiches to pasta and flatbreads to kabobs.

This diner immediately transports customers to a vintage paradise. The front of this diner is unassuming, evoking a "hole-in-the-wall" aesthetic. Once inside, brick walls covered with modern and vintage artwork welcome customers along with especially personable servers. Think "Cheers," except in restaurant form; one of the waitresses calls a few patrons "love" and "love bug."

Once you're seated, via a quaint booth or table, the servers are quick to greet, get you a drink and take your order, all with a smile. Despite the seemingly simple name, The Stone Soup Company's menu is overflowing with mouthwatering dishes. Assorted hearty soups, salads, appetizers, entrees, sandwiches, flatbreads and desserts make up The Stone Soup Company's stock.

Portions are healthy yet hearty. Although the fish and chips platter is listed under the appetizers, this dish comes with plenty of lightly battered fish nuggets and steak fries to count as a meal. In fact, most items on the menu are around the same price. Entrees are slightly more expensive, but only by a few dollars. The flatbreads are crisp, soft and cheesy, and though they

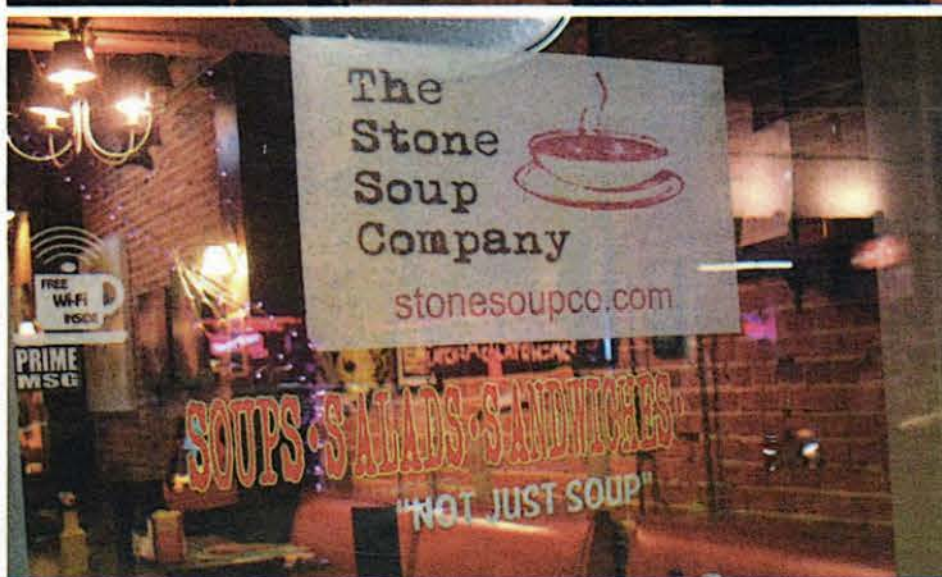
Stone Soup Company

Hours: Monday through Thursday
10a.m. - 9p.m., Friday and Saturday
10a.m. - 11p.m., and Sunday 11a.m. -
8p.m..
Carry-out is available.
Meal prices range from \$6 to \$12.

aren't very big, they're filling is nicely paired with a salad to create a delicious, healthy meal.

"The Ex-Wife" is one of The Stone Soup Company's signature entrees. This isn't your typical pasta—it comes with your choice of gyro meat or chicken, tossed with tomatoes, onions and mushrooms, drizzled with white Greek sauce over a bed of linguine. Each bite is a blend of warm, zesty flavor. It is also highly recommended that customers stay for at least one of The Stone Soup Company's desserts. Among the many options are ice cream cones, floats, milkshakes, chocolate truffles, mini pies, brownies, chocolate chip cookies and a brownie or cookie al a mode (or get brownie al a mode and a separate warm chocolate chip cookie and combine the two). Desserts range from \$2.50 to \$8, though most are around \$4.50. The menu also comes with several non-dairy, gluten-free, vegetarian and vegan options for their dishes.

Everything inside The Stone Soup Company is relaxed, retro, vintage and inviting. Tin cut-outs of vintage cars hold condiments on each table along with checkerboards, that help hungry customers pass the time. This ornamentation and attention to detail spreads to their dinnerware, quite literally. Many of the dishes are served in wooden bowls, such as the pasta, fish and chips and the salads. Even the flatbreads are served on wooden boards, which evoke a homey, rustic quality. Glass bottled soft drinks will have customers flashing back to the days of poodle skirts and leather jackets. Every



Photos by Claire Farrow

The Stone Soup Company is located along 7th Ave. in Ybor City and panders to every taste.

seemingly minute detail has been taken into account.

The Stone Soup Company is reminiscent of big restaurant chains such as Cracker Barrel, Steak and Shake and Zaxby's, and is somehow able to combine the quaintest elements from each chain and bottle it up into a small, independent one-of-a-kind restaurant. This hodge-podge vintage aesthetic never feels forced, but rather completely natural. From the

moment diners walk in to the moment they satisfactorily stroll out, a throwback mix of classic rock and pop hits of the '70s and '80s coalesce the vintage atmosphere. A unique dining experience that will have you wanting a repeat experience.

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

'It Follows' is an Unexpected Horror Hit

By **SAMMI BRENNAN**
Asst. Sports Editor

"It Follows" is the ideal film to screen for a high school sex-ed class. "It" is a sexually transmitted disease like none other. After a bizarre sexual encounter, Jay Height (Maika Monroe) begins to see apparitions. "It" can appear in any shape or form, including even that of a loved one, and "It" does exactly what the film title says "It" does. The only way to eliminate "It" is to transfer "It" to another person via sexual intercourse, and that strategy alone is erroneous, considering everyone in the film who does transfer "It" is still plagued by the apparition. Jay hesitates before considering that route, and with a few friends, the battle begins to get rid of "It" once and for all.

★★★★★
3.5 out of 5 stars

In contrast to the description on Rotten Tomatoes, the film is not necessarily "terrifying," but it definitely leaves a mark. There are a few jump-scares, but what actually appears induces open mouths and bulging eyes. This isn't because the apparitions are "terrifying," but rather shocking to look at in the sense that the majority of these apparitions are baring all for the world to see. In other words, the primary symptom of the STD "It" will cause a bunch of naked strangers to appear stepping slowly towards you. But this



'It Follows,' was released on March 27 and directed by David Robert Mitchell. The film made \$160,089 in its limited opening weekend. It Follows/Twitter.com

is where the film's genius lies. Viewers will have themselves jumping at everything—even the theater attendant's routine doorway check could induce a heart attack. That's one of the many ways "It Follows" stays with you. The aspect of paranoia is key to the film's success.

The film's stylistic approach to the horror genre is impressive. Using soft tones and careful attention to camera shots, it maintains a chilling hold without sacrificing the art of film. The opening scene holds quite a long shot length for a horror film and saves its unnerving score for later. The source of the girl's fear is unknown, but her panicked expression as she

runs aimlessly in high heels in the street along with the simplicity of the shot is still engaging. It's an indie film and at times it is rather easy to forget a horror film is on the screen. It's also nearly impossible to know what decade the story takes place. Characters are seen drinking "Cola" and reading "PlayPen," but Yara (Olivia Luccardi) is shown constantly reading off her Kindle in the shape of a seashell.

"It Follows" thankfully isn't churned out of a Hollywood machine. The most recognizable actor is Keir Gilchrist, who plays the love stricken Paul with his signature timidity seen in the series "United States of Tara" and the

film "It's Kind of a Funny Story."

"It Follows" wasn't planning on being as successful as it was. Originally, the film was going to show in a few theaters and then directly release to video. But the raving reviews and heavy demand pushed back its video release date to allow the film to spread across the nation. However, it is spreading with ease. Slowly, "It" is creeping into more and more theaters. You've been warned.

Sammi Brennan can be reached at Samantha.Brennan@spartans.ut.edu.



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Netflix Guru: Standup Comedy Specials

By **SAMMI BRENNAN**
Arts + Entertainment Writer

There has never been a better time to get hooked on stand-up comedy. Currently available to stream on Netflix are several stand-up specials sure to bring tears to your eyes and stitches to your sides. Featured comedians include Bill Burr, John Mulaney, Jim Gaffigan, Bo Burnham, Iliza Shlesinger, among many others. Each comedian gives his or her take on a series of topics ranging from single life to the economy. Below are the standouts who provide a comedy routine that's cringe-worthy, sarcastic, self-deprecating and overall hilarious.

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



KEVIN HART: "Laugh at My Pain"

BACKGROUND: Born in Philadelphia, Kevin Hart started his comedic journey entering competitions at comedy clubs. He had small parts in films such as "Scary Movie 3," "The 40-Year-Old Virgin" and "Superhero Movie" until his small roles became leading ones. Last year, Hart was the lead in three movies including "Ride Along," "About Last Night" and "Think Like a Man Too." He had the leading roles in two films already this year and is casted for three more in 2016. Along with "Laugh at My Pain," other Kevin Hart specials featured on Netflix are "I'm a Grown Man," "Seriously Funny" and "Let Me Explain." In "Laugh at My Pain," Hart partly explores his roots in Philadelphia and then performs his stand-up routine.

TOPICS COVERED: Financial situations, his dysfunctional family, childhood. **Type of Humor:** self-deprecating

SFP?: Mostly. His material about having a drug addict dad might be a bit squeamish for parents. Other than that, it's a pretty clean routine.

BEST LINE: "Look, my grandmom is the king of fake pass-outs. She'll pass out for three seconds, wait, and then peek to see if anybody looking."



LOUIS C.K.: "Hilarious"

BACKGROUND: Louis C.K. has quite the writing portfolio. Among the shows he has written for are "Late Night with Conan O'Brien," "Late Night with David Letterman," "The Chris Rock Show" and "Saturday Night Live." He also writes and stars in his own show "Louie" on FX, which is heading into its fifth season.

TOPICS COVERED: Single life, clubs, the economy, parenting, depression, divorce, misogyny.

TYPE OF HUMOR: deadpan, dark, self-deprecating.

SFP?: No. Louis includes cringe-worthy material for any age.

BEST LINE: "Technical high school—that's where dreams are narrowed down."



CHELSEA PERETTI: "One of the Greats"

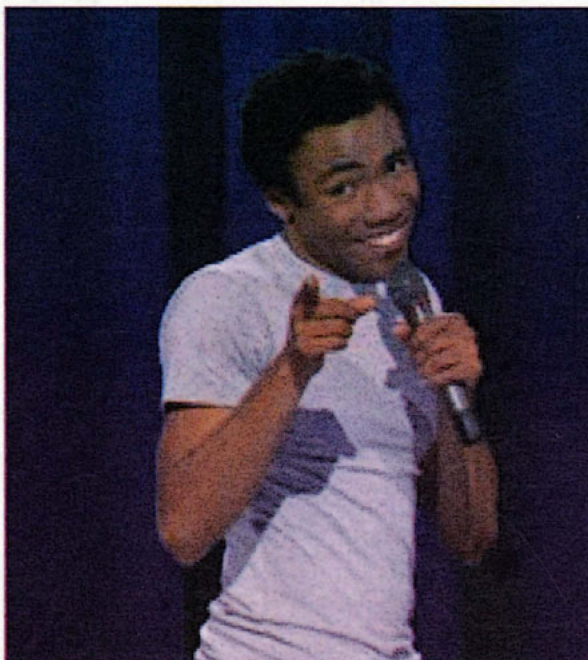
BACKGROUND: Peretti is typically known for her role on Fox's "Brooklyn Nine-Nine" as Gina Linetti. She attended elementary school with her "Brooklyn Nine-Nine" co-star Andy Samberg and graduated from Barnard College in 2000. She wrote, starred and produced Comedy Central's "Kroll Show." Peretti's character Gina in "Brooklyn Nine-Nine" is as sarcastic and one-toned as her stand-up. In "One of the Greats," the camera cuts to random people Peretti has placed into the audience... including dogs.

TOPICS COVERED: The male sex, small talk, parties, dogs, confidence, air travel, sexting, being in a relationship, engagement, using the restroom

TYPE OF HUMOR: sarcastic, ironic.

SFP?: Yes. Her routine is rather clean and straightforward.

BEST LINE: "Do you guys think it's worse to wear a Fedora or kill 15 people?"



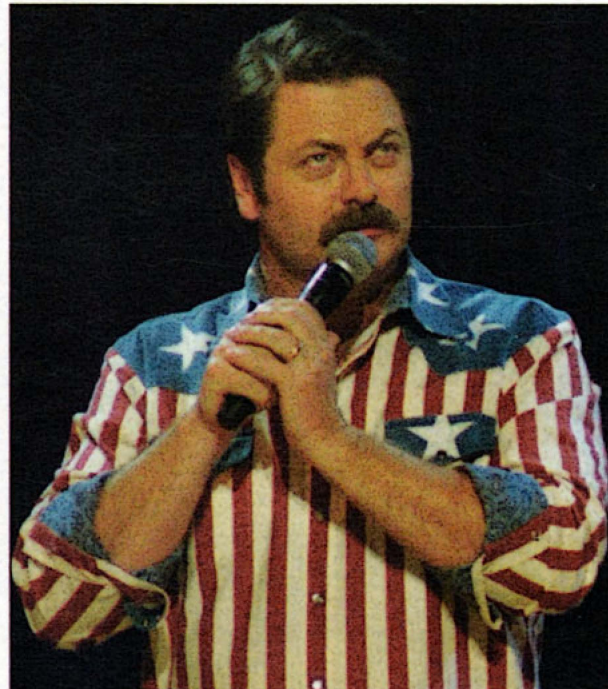
DONALD GLOVER: "Weirdo"

BACKGROUND: In 2006, Donald Glover graduated from New York University with a degree in Dramatic Writing. Soon after he became the executive story editor for NBC's "30 Rock." Since then he's starred in 89 episodes as Troy Barnes in NBC's "Community." Glover was also part of the comedic trio Derrick Comedy, which produced skits for Youtube and eventually made a movie. His movie credits include roles in "The To-Do List," "Alexander and the Terrible, Horrible, No Good, Very Bad Day" and "The Lazarus Effect." He is also commonly known as the Grammy-nominated rapper Childish Gambino with hits such as "3005" and "Heartbeat."

TOPICS COVERED: Childhood, running for Spiderman, acting, weird music, homeless people, the n-word, evil children, babies vs. AIDS, Coco Puffs. **Type of Humor:** self-deprecating, situational, quirky cultural references, dirty.

SFP?: Definitely not. Glover gives his audience a fair warning in the beginning by saying, "I feel bad for a lot of people who come to the show because they bring their kids and stuff and I'm just like D*CKS D*CKS D*CKS."

BEST LINE: "And the bear isn't eating Kanye because he has so much respect for him."



NICK OFFERMAN: "American Ham"

BACKGROUND: Nick Offerman is most recognized for his role as Ron Swanson on NBC's "Parks and Recreation." Other television shows Offerman has appeared include "Children's Hospital," "Fargo," "Drunk History," "Gilmore Girls," and "George Lopez." He's starred in popular movies such as "We're the Millers" and "21 Jump Street" along with the sequel, "22 Jump Street." In "American Ham," Offerman is just as Ron Swanson as ever.

TOPICS COVERED: romanticism, manners, hobbies, red meat, the outdoors, drugs and alcohol.

TYPE OF HUMOR: deadpan.

SFP?: For the most part. Offerman focuses more on being manly than he does on being dirty.

BEST LINE: "If you're a dude, never yell 'Take it off.' Unless a woman has placed 'But when Jesus said something like 'love thy neighbor as thyself'—I heard that in Sunday school and I said, 'f***ing nailed it, Jesus.'"



AZIZ ANSARI: "Live at Madison Square Garden"

BACKGROUND: Aziz is a first generation American-born child in his family. His parents emigrated from India to South Carolina. At the time, his father was a doctor and his mother was a medical office worker. Aziz Ansari is commonly known for his character Tom Haverford on NBC's "Parks and Recreation." That being said, his resumé includes roles in plenty of movies such as "Observe and Report," "I Love You, Man," "Funny People," "Get Him to the Greek" and "30 Minutes or Less." Several other of his stand-up comedy specials are featured on Netflix including "Dangerously Delicious," "Buried Alive," and "Intimate Moments for a Sensual Evening."

TOPICS COVERED: Emigrating to America, the food industry, Ja Rule, creepy men, honesty, making plans and single people versus people in relationships.

TYPE OF HUMOR: situational, laugh-at-life, quirky cultural references.

SFP? (SAFE FOR PARENTS): Yes. Aziz keeps it mostly clean and focuses

his act on big issues, rather than dirty jokes and anecdotes.

BEST LINE: "If you're a dude, never yell 'Take it off.' Unless a woman has placed a tarantula or a scorpion on one of your shoulders, there is no reason for you to yell, 'Take it off!'"

OPINION

StrengthsFinder Program Extremely Helpful: Would be Most Beneficial for Upperclassmen

CAMPUS
KATIE DRAKE
Opinion Writer



If you are not a freshman, you probably don't remember any of the tests students are required to take upon entering the University of Tampa, specifically the StrengthsFinder Assessment.

This assessment is a simple way for students to find their top strengths so they can apply them in academics, picking a major or their future job search. If you don't feel like analyzing the results, you can set up a one-on-one coaching session through the Academic Success Center.

"By finding out what people do best, we can help them find the environments that allow them to excel, and they will be more engaged, less stressed, more motivated, more optimistic and more confident," said Dr. Lorie Kittendorf, Director of Student Transition and Persistence in the Academic Success Center.

"Since Fall 2012, the StrengthsFinder assessment has been offered to all incoming freshmen, both Fall and Spring admittance. At this point, more than 5,000 students have completed the assessment," Kittendorf said.

The "Strengths@UT" page on the university's website describes this assessment as a way to "help you obtain and understand your Top Five Talent Themes and how you can positively develop them to maximize your potential." The assessment has 34 different talent themes that are measured by patterns found in your answers that help discover your hidden talents and strengths as an individual that you might not have noticed before.

I remember taking this assessment, but I never took advantage of the results and how they could help guide my college career and beyond. I don't even remember my results. I didn't really care about it then, but now I see how it could be of use.

I believe that the assessment would be more beneficial for upperclassmen, or even sophomores after they have had a year to settle into college. By knowing what your top five strengths are, you use these to see where your strong suits are and match them with your future goals. When you are an upperclassmen, it is useful to know your strengths and be able to apply them, especially when interviewing for jobs. This is the perfect way to answer the "what are your top strengths" question that I know I struggled with at first. It is difficult to pick out your

top strengths on your own but this assessment does it for you and I found it to be completely accurate when I recently took it myself.

The potential of the survey is huge, but students have to be interested in it first before it can be a success. Unless you are forced to take it as an incoming freshman or go in to

counselors discuss it with students before they clear them for registration once a semester. Since this is a requirement for all students to do, it seems like a better way to have more students take it. Making it a mandatory item for freshmen to take through Gateways doesn't seem like the best idea. When you first enter

By knowing what your top five strengths are, you use these to see where your strong suits are and match them with your future goals.

the Academic Success Center and ask about it, chances are you probably don't know about this assessment or even how to access it.

"We are in the process of revamping the program for the future ... rather than engaging the entire freshman class, we will focus on smaller populations so we can more effectively assess the impact," Kittendorf said.

I think the more effective way to promote the StrengthsFinder assessment would be to have

college, an assessment like this might not seem as important, although it should be. Upperclassmen may recognize the importance and be able to see why it is helpful. Aiming for smaller populations of students will give them time to understand the assessment and hopefully improve the odds that students will continue to use the results throughout their college careers.

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

McNiff Fitness Center Needs Drastic Expansion

CAMPUS
RYAN CLABAUGH
Opinion Writer



There it sits across from the track, a tan, inconspicuous looking old building that doesn't garner a second look from unknowing passersby. With just one story, it is one of the most unimpressive looking buildings remaining on the University of Tampa's campus. The grounds of the basketball and sand volleyball courts next to it dwarf it in square footage. I speak, of course, the McNiff Fitness Center.

For many of the 5,000 plus students that live on campus at the university, McNiff is the only source of weight training and cardio machines available to them. You probably wouldn't have to talk to many to discover the overwhelming consensus and truth about the fitness center: it is long overdue for an upgrade.

Limited amounts of old equipment, cramped space, and overcrowding plague the building throughout the year. Many people complain of interrupted workouts

and will often look for alternatives. "None of the machines are ever open," says senior ROTC student Tyler Botset, "It's much more convenient to make the 20 minute drive to MacDill Air Force Base." Unfortunately this isn't an option for the average student as a military Identification card is required to gain entrance to the installation. Similarly, Botset added, "luckily, ROTC Cadets are also very fortunate to have their own small, but secluded and well stocked gym that we are able to use."

Other students turn to different avenues by signing up to participate in studies at the Human Performance Center. "I do not use the McNiff Fitness Center," said Kevin Shields, a UT graduate assistant who works at the state-of-the-art lab to study human performance, exercise metabolism, and cardiovascular and muscle physiology. "The only time I am in there is when I am recruiting kids to do the study, and I always get a handful of students who complain about the size of McNiff."

Along with free servings of protein, these students receive access to a significantly less crowded gym. "When I heard about the study, I immediately signed up," said senior finance major Dalton Sears, a participant in one study, "They



*Photo courtesy of Liz MacLean
McNiff fitness center is too small for the rapidly growing UT students population.*

put you through grueling workout regimens and there are never more than a few people in the gym at a time."

The university makes it a point to celebrate its state of the art athletic gyms, for athletes, but leaves the rest of the student population battling for a set on the bench press.

This is truly unacceptable and an absolute disservice to the student body. A healthy body correlates directly into having a better functioning brain. The argument can easily be made that a physically in-shape student body would be

better suited for academic success, something the university seems to be adamant about ignoring.

With multi-million dollar high rise dorms popping up all around campus, why can't money be raised to create a facility that can sufficiently keep all of our students in shape? We have our housing and, soon, our parking. It's high time for the school to invest in bringing our gym into the twenty-first century.

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Victim Never Deserving of Revenge Pornography

TECHNOLOGY

SAM ALLEN
Opinion Writer



People need to stop blaming women for “allowing” awful things to happen to them. When a girl says she has been raped, a person’s first thought should not be “How drunk were you?” or “what were you wearing?” And when a girl’s nude pictures are leaked, calling her a “whore” is not a proper response. The invasion of women’s privacy happens way too often and as technology rapidly advances, it becomes easier to access all sorts of information, some of which is not too flattering.

The number of recent examples of malicious disrespect towards women’s privacy is staggering. There was the iCloud hack of Aug. 2014 that leaked hundreds of photos of nude celebrities. Then there was the Penn State Kappa Delta Rho scandal in which the fraternity posted and shared nude pictures of girls to a private server without their permission. Most recently, a “Revenge Porn” website was created that charges women up to \$300 to get their private nude photographs removed. The worst part of these scandals are the public’s reactions to them.

During the iCloud hack, people created subreddits and websites dedicated to the circulation of these pictures. Average people shared these photos and ridiculed the women in them by labeling them “sluts” and “whores.” Leaking the photos became the victim’s fault because they took the pictures in the first place. People were jumping at the chance to see the explicit photographs of celebrities like

Jennifer Lawrence and Kate Upton. When something like this happens, people should respect the privacy of others by deleting the pictures, not circulating them.

In the Penn State Kappa Delta Rho scandal, however, these photographs were taken without the victim’s knowledge. Many of the photographed young women were half-dressed or nude, passed out and unable to object to the photographs being taken. “Police have said anyone who posted such pictures might be subject to criminal charges including invasion of privacy,” The Guardian reported. “Might be” should not be the phrase used in that statement. These young men went out of their way to invade the privacy of these women. They need to know that there are consequences for their actions. Having the KDR house put under suspension is not an adequate punishment.

The scariest part of the whole ordeal is the complete lack of remorse from an anonymous KDR member in his interview with Philadelphia Magazine. “It is shameful to see the self-righteousness that has sprung from the woodworks in response to the alleged Penn State fraternity ‘scandal.’ Here’s a quick reality check: everyone — from Bill Clinton to your grandfather to every Greek organization in the nation does the same old stuff, just as they have been for the entirety of human history,” the member said. The KDR member spent the entire interview defending the actions of his fraternity. Though he was laughably unconvincing, it’s terrifying to think that a young man thinks this way. He thinks the actions of KDR are acceptable conduct and that they shouldn’t be punished for it on the grounds that they were all just “fooling around.”

Recently, a man was sentenced to 18 years in prison for six counts of extortion

and 21 counts of identity theft when it was discovered that he was running a “revenge porn” website, according to National Public Radio. The man, Kevin Bollaert, encouraged men to post nude photographs of their ex-girlfriends to his website without their consent and then charged the women up to \$300 to have

With laws like this in place, fewer women will find themselves victims of this malicious practice. At Bollaert’s trial, many women testified with their stories of how his website impacted their lives. “Women testified that they had been disowned, become homeless, and lost their religious

Many of the photographed young women were half-dressed or nude, passed out and unable to object to the photographs being taken.

them removed. What is significant here is that Bollaert was not sent to prison for the revenge porn website, he was sent to prison for extortion.

Fortunately, this case has encouraged lawmakers to create laws that will criminalize revenge porn. California criminalized the distribution of nude photos taken by another person, if it can be proven that the distribution was malicious. They are also amending their law to include the distribution of “selfies.” In California the charges are similar to orderly misconduct, according to Criminaldefenselawyer.com. The U.K. also just created a law that will send anyone who shares revenge porn to prison for two years, *Time* reported.

faith on account of Bollaert’s actions,” *Vice* reported.

It is way too easy to say “well maybe they shouldn’t have taken those nude pictures in the first place.” Men who circulate nude photographs without the subject’s consent are vindictive and their behavior needs to be punished. When a victim is blamed for something like this, it makes the guilty believe that their actions are acceptable. This mentality needs to be changed. If a person ever shares a private photograph with you, regardless of your relationship with them in the future, it is your responsibility to keep it private.

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Lane Bryant Campaign Resembles Skinny-Shaming

ADVERTISING

BECCA TURNER
Opinion Writer



Plus-sized clothing retailer Lane Bryant recently began an advertising campaign to combat negative body image. The campaign is inspirational and brings up the issue of body shaming that is imperative for people to discuss. That said, the beauty of the campaign is almost overshadowed by Lane Bryant’s unnecessary dig at fellow lingerie retailer Victoria’s Secret by the use of the hashtag #ImNoAngel.

The campaign that Lane Bryant focuses on, called #ImNoAngel, has received an immense amount of positive feedback and support on social media sites. It makes sense. The company’s advertisements are inviting and often humorous. In one YouTube advertisement, a model even says, “I mean, honey, have you seen all of this?”

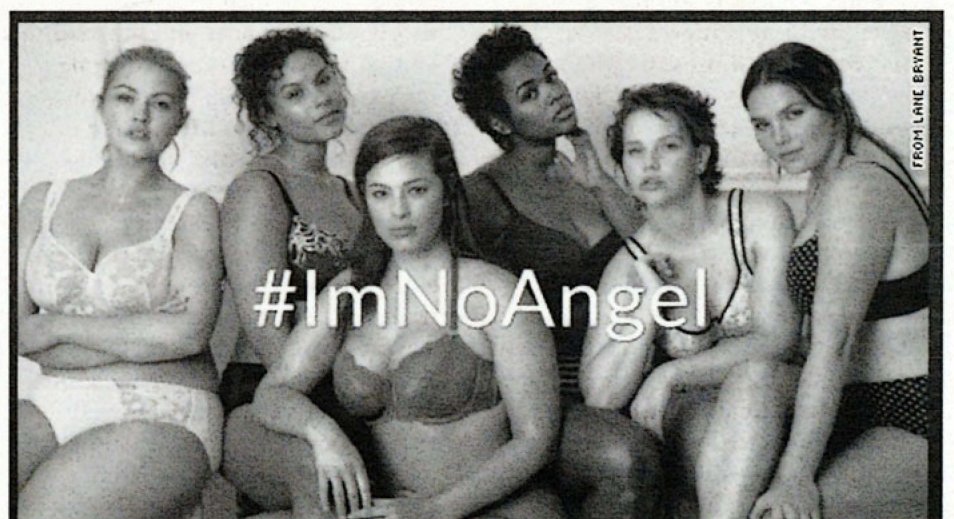
However, the campaign is not just about making people laugh. Rather, Lane Bryant’s advertisements are designed to make average and plus-sized women, two categories that often overlap, feel more comfortable with who they are and what they look like.

Lane Bryant with its #ImNoAngel campaign and other companies like Dove and its #ChooseBeautiful campaign are aiming to fix the distorted self-image many women have of their bodies. Lane Bryant wants women to recognize that no one body type is necessarily the right body type.

It is incredibly important that women, both young and old, learn that their body type is no better or worse just because it is larger or smaller. It should be about how a woman feels. If a woman is happy with her body then size should not be an issue, but society often tells us otherwise. That is exactly why Lane Bryant decided to tackle this issue head on.

Lane Bryant intends to improve body image for all women with this campaign, but its tie to Victoria’s Secret does remind us that Lane Bryant does not cater to smaller women. In fact, Lane Bryant’s main market is women sizes 14 to 28, according to The Washington Post. Customers of Lane Bryant could not shop at Victoria’s Secret, but Victoria’s Secret customers could not shop at Lane Bryant either.

This made me hesitate for a moment and wonder if what Lane Bryant is really doing is just trying to end fat-shaming by skinny-shaming instead. After all, the hashtag used in the advertising campaign refers not only to Victoria’s Secret, but to the failed Victoria’s Secret ‘Perfect Body’



Lane Bryant’s new #ImNoAngel campaign directly targets Victoria’s Secret and body-shaming issues. twitter.com/lanebryant

advertising campaign that debuted late last year and seemed to say that skinny is the perfect body.

Lane Bryant’s press release never referenced body size in promoting the campaign except for its mentioning the sizes the company offers. It would seem on second glance that Lane Bryant is genuinely trying to help every woman love her body. However, it is unlikely that any company can be free of this potential for body shaming a group until a company caters to all body types. Companies like Lane Bryant, and even Victoria’s Secret, try to make their customers feel attractive, but in doing

so they can prevent other women who cannot buy from their store from feeling that way.

Ultimately, what Lane Bryant is trying to do with its campaign is admirable. The company wants to empower women and make them proud of their uniquely beautiful bodies. More companies should move away from characterizing one body type as ideal, but more companies should also stop selling clothing for just one body type.

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Prisons Need to Respect Transgender Health Needs

POLITICS

MARISA NOBS
Opinion Writer



Ashley Diamond's life was put at risk when Georgia State Prison treated her as a man

US prisons are never completely safe, but for black transgender individuals, they are particularly dangerous environments. Reports of abuse are usually filed and ignored, but Ashley Diamond finally took a stand in February and filed a lawsuit against Georgia corrections officials for the mistreatment she received as a black transgender woman. Incarcerated for burglary and violating probation back in 2012, Diamond was sent to Georgia State Prison, a maximum-security facility for men, which was an unjust decision. Despite repeatedly stating she was transgender, she was denied

proper hormone treatment that she had taken for the last 17 years.

This past week, the United States Justice Department took a stand and sided with Diamond, stating that hormones are a necessary part of an individual's health by recognizing gender dysphoria as a legitimate medical condition. However, in the three years of denied care, Diamond has already undergone extreme change and withdrawal symptoms. The fact that it took a lawsuit to provide her the medical care she deserves shows a very large problem in the American correctional system.

A diabetic would never be denied insulin because it is a threat to their health, and this logic should be applied to transgender people as well. For many, hormone treatment is a part of who they are: mentally and physically. Withholding treatment is not only unethical but a form of torture. For a time, Diamond was placed in a facility for non-violent offenders, but after reiterating her right to take hormones, she was punished by being placed in solitary confinement and then sent back to maximum security. This attempt

to silence her is despicable and highlights how many problems are probably swept under the rug. People in prison are still human and deserve to be treated as such. Maximum security should not even have been considered for Diamond, considering her crime was nonviolent and she is at high risk of being assaulted because she is a woman.

As if this was not enough, Diamond also reports being raped on seven different occasions. Reporting them has never helped her or prevented future assaults. Prison guards have mocked her and locked her in solitary for "acting like a woman," according to The New York Times. It does not help that Georgia State Prisons are among the most dangerous in the country. In 2012, a final ruling was announced for the 2003 Prison Rape Elimination Act which specified that facilities, "incorporate unique vulnerabilities of lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, intersex and gender nonconforming inmates into training and screening protocols," according to the Justice Department. The act also states that special mental and medical care be

given to victims. In Diamond's case and probably many others, none of these standards were even close to being met. The abuse pushed her to attempt suicide and castration.

Laws are nothing more than words if they are not carried out or enforced. The correctional system needs a complete investigation and overhaul in order to become safer for minority groups. Incarcerated transgenders face much more than time in prison; every day is a fight to survive. Diamond's story has drawn significant attention, even from celebrities. Elton John and Michael Stipe released a statement calling for the safety and needs of transgender women to be recognized and met. Prison is not an excuse to dehumanize people, especially by stripping their identity. There needs to be many more regulations in place to ensure all inmates receive the same treatment. Transgender individuals should not be subjected to further harassment and discrimination just because of who they are.

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Breast Cancer Survivors Deserve Respect: Don't Need Reconstructive Surgery to Feel "Normal"

HEALTH

KAMAKSHI DADHWAL
Opinion Writer



Mary Anne Mohanraj is a writer and English professor at the University of Illinois, Chicago. She was recently diagnosed with breast cancer and upon meeting with her female oncologist to discuss options, Mohanraj told her that she was not going to have her breasts reconstructed after the lumpectomy or mastectomy. "Don't you want to be normal?" Mohanraj's doctor asked her in response, according to MSN News. Is this what our world has come to? Providing patients with all possible options is one thing, but actively trying to convince patients to get fake breasts in order to look "normal" is an entirely different matter.

As a society, we hold doctors on a very high moral pedestal. We expect them to be empathic, honest and encouraging. Therefore, one can only imagine the incredible shock a patient might experience when, instead of being supportive toward her decisions, a doctor becomes the first person to judge her. Accepting oneself regardless of body shape, especially after recovering from a prolonged disease should not be something socially frowned upon.

Anyone with enough general knowledge would agree that victims of breast cancer have enough suffering to deal with. Any of the six available treatments for breast cancer

involve some kind of surgery or radiation based therapy, according to the National Cancer Institute (NCI). For the people who are diagnosed in the primary stages, procedures of getting cured are physically exhausting, mentally draining and can be quite expensive. Although breast cancer can happen to anyone, the extent of the cancer and the resulting bodily strain observed in females is much higher than those in males, NCI reports show. Many women have to remove one entire breast through surgery, a procedure called a mastectomy, if the cancer has spread to that effect.

Consequently for some, losing a side of their breasts becomes physically displeasing, in which case medical technology today offers reconstructive silicon implants. It is, therefore, any doctor's duty to inform breast cancer patients of such treatments. However, after suffering cancer's misery, there are some patients who might not want reconstructive surgery since it would only add on to the post-surgical recovery time. In such a situation, it is every patient's right to make an informed decision. If it means that she does not wish to have her breast reconstructed, her decision should not be marred by any doctor's opinion on what a socially interactive female ought to look like.

Mohanraj's doctor claims that she tried to convince Mohanraj of plastic surgery because she wanted to let her know of the social and professional implications the absence of one breast might hold for a professor. Her intention was to make Mohanraj

understand that she would be teaching a class full of students every day, which might make her uncomfortable with her body. While it is true that a teacher without one breast might startle some students and distract some others for a while, one can assume that university level students are mature enough to understand the

by breastcancer.org. It should not be abnormal if these 12 percent of women opt not to reconstruct their breasts post surgery.

It must be their personal choice without the burden of social consequences. Moreover, facing judgment is a resilient fear among patients of diseases that change the

Facing judgement is a resilient fear among patients of diseases that change the body, which could last for years without comfort.

impact of breast cancer. Therefore, Mohanraj's doctor should have been careful and appreciative instead of tossing her idea of "normal" while explaining the available post-surgical solutions.

As people of the twenty-first century, we are far ahead of our ancestors in understanding and curing frightening diseases and embracing those who have been affected by them. Every year, there are so many breast cancer awareness campaigns, seminars and marathons that are spearheaded by doctors sensitizing people towards a disease that impacts the life of one in every eight women in America, according to the statistics provided

body, which could last for years without comfort. Therefore, doctors need to be the credible sources who help eradicate such fears. After all, the Hippocratic Oath of Medicine that all doctors take openly states, "...remember that there is art to medicine as well as science, and that warmth, sympathy and understanding may outweigh the surgeon's knife or the chemist's drug." A woman fighting breast cancer should not have to battle conventional ideologies of female aesthetics and there is nobody better than a doctor to reiterate it.

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Androgyny & Celebrity: The Perfect Pair

SEX AND LOVE

SELENE SAN FELICE
Opinion Columnist



While many celebrities use their star status to support causes like gender equality and LGBT rights, some are even taking it upon themselves to set an example for the public. Recently, Jaden Smith has started instagramming pictures of himself wearing dresses and tweeting things like "That Moment When Your Wearing A Dress With No Pants And You Swerve Way To Hard" and "Went To TopShop To Buy Some Girl Clothes, I Mean Clothes." His 2013 clothing line MSFTSrep also includes gender-neutral skirts and tunics.

Smith isn't the first rapper to say yes to the dress either. In March of 2014, Atlanta rapper Young Thug set the trend by wearing a toddler's dress over skinny jeans to a photoshoot. Since then A\$AP Rocky has performed in a dress and Kanye West and Diddy have both performed in kilts.

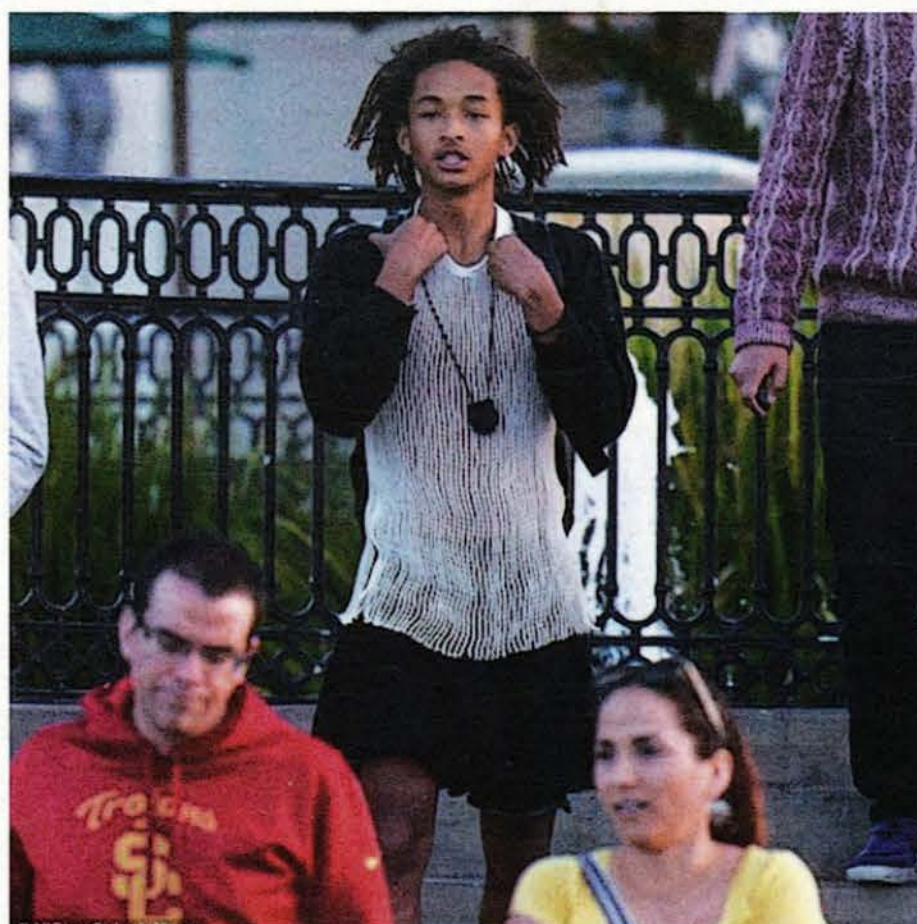
Rappers running around in dresses may not seem like pressing news, but the movement is a huge step ahead for the genre and society as a whole. With Smith joining in, the androgyny movement is at its strongest. Smith is essentially reaching out to an audience of young people and telling them it's okay to break gender norms. No one should have to feel like they can't wear what they want because of what the tag says.

Progress is being made in the world of LGBT celebrities as well. On April 24, Bruce Jenner is expected to officially come out as transgender

in a tell-all interview with Diane Sawyer. Jenner has had a particularly rough time transitioning in the public eye. Originally esteemed as a 1976 decathlon Olympic gold medalist, Jenner has been divorced three times and is a father of six (eight if you count Kylie Jenner's lips). In January of 2015, In Touch photoshopped Jenner's head onto a woman's body and added makeup for their cover story "My Life as a Woman." While In Touch may be regarded as a trash tabloid this move is still a violation of journalism ethics and is horrifically transphobic. For the love of journalism: LEAVE BRUCE ALONE. The media and the public may be having a hard time grasping the concept of a man who has been known as "straight" for 65 years, but Jenner proves that it's never too late to come out.

In other transgender news, Brad Pitt and Angelina Jolie have proved the point that it's never too early to come out either. While promoting Jolie's movie "Unbroken," the Jolie-Pitt family walked the red carpet with their oldest biological child, Shiloh, wearing a short haircut with a suit and tie. Although the 8-year-old was born a female, Jolie and Pitt have shown full support in letting Shiloh explore masculinity, and are now letting the child self-identify as male and go by the name John. The Telegraph reported on the family's statement, using the opportunity to educate parents on how to react to the possibility of their child being trans.

In the article, clinical psychologist Linda Blair advises parents that experimenting with gender can be a common phase for young children, especially those with older siblings. Most importantly, Blair notes that gender experimentation should be



Jaden Smith was seen wearing a dress at Coachella festival, and it wasn't his first time.

embraced, not suppressed. This statement is incredibly relevant to American society today. Young girls experimenting with masculinity are almost always shrugged off as "tom-girls," and boys who embrace femininity are often shamed into "growing out of it." If children were allowed to grow up knowing that experimentation is okay, the world would be a far more accepting place.

If Jaden Smith can make male-dresses a trend, Bruce Jenner can transition after 65 years, and the Pitt-Jolie's can accept their 8-year-old experimenting, you can be whoever

and whatever you want. No one should have to live in fear of who they really are and what others think of them. Celebrities may really be just like us after all.

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

On-Campus Living Costs Rising to Ridiculous Rates

CAMPUS

KATHERINE WOLF
Opinion Writer

Students moving off campus to avoid unjust prices for dorm and meal plan prices

The continuously rising dorm rates and limited housing availability at the University of Tampa has led many students to leave the convenience of living on campus. While living on campus is clearly the most ideal situation as a student, it is becoming less and less feasible for many students to do so, including myself.

Campus room rates range from \$1,750 to \$4,954 with the words "per semester" small print, on the University of Tampa's website. In

addition to this the required cost of the meal plan varies from \$1,256 to \$2,330 and is a requirement for full-time dorm dwellers. A triple room in Austin cost \$2,096 per semester in 2011, compared to the \$2,278 per semester for the same room in 2014.

These rates continue to increase as more students are being accepted to the university, limiting the space available in residence halls. Overflow housing at the Barrymore Hotel and triple resident rooms in five of the main campus dorms are evidence of this.

Freshman nursing major Shannon Walsh said she has "Already had enough of dorm life." While she mentions lack of space and difficulty having guests over as some of her concerns, the main problem is cost. Don't get me wrong, having a tight-knit community around you and knowing you can roll out of bed five minutes before class in the morning is definitely nice. But paying an arm and a leg for obligatory fees and meal plans just isn't worth it.

"Paying for the dorms is so much more expensive than just getting an apartment, plus you have to pay for a meal plan on campus which I hardly ever use and there are so many extra fees." Walsh is currently looking for an affordable apartment off campus for the upcoming school year.

With more competition for upperclassmen to get into the more desired dorms, many are opting to move off campus. Students with more credits get the better dorms which leaves underclassmen to pick from the scraps. While living on campus is more convenient for getting to class and having more access to school events, some simply cannot afford it, especially since you won't get as much bang for your buck.

There are currently 12 residence halls on campus, and the addition of the Palm Apartments will be completely open for the Fall 2015 semester. However, this new option is the most expensive living space.

Of the available 13, only four have kitchens, which is a problem for many

students. Junior accounting major Camila Rodriguez said that she would have liked a kitchen in her dorm for next year. She would prefer to cook since she often doesn't use all of her meal swipes, which wastes money.

Of the four options with kitchens, Rodriguez said, "Urso and Straz are too far away from my class buildings, and the Palm Apartments are way too expensive." Rodriguez will be living in Jenkins Hall next year, a compromise she made with the group she wanted to live with.

Sophomore journalism major Nicole Pieklo has lived on campus for all two of her years at UT, but said that, "On campus housing has gotten to be ridiculously expensive. Living on campus was convenient when I was an underclassman, but I feel like now an apartment would be so much easier, and that's what I'm working towards for my senior year."

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Hillary Debuts Promising Campaign for 2016

CAMPAIGN TRAIL

AVERY TWIBLE
Opinion Editor



The White House is ready for Hillary Clinton. With her experience as First Lady, Senator of New York, Secretary of State and one presidential campaign already under her belt, I'd say she's ready for it too.

Her name is known nearly worldwide. Clinton is a baby boomer and has lived life in the limelight since before today's average college undergrad was even born. She has built a lengthy resume in politics, earning her Bachelor's in political science in 1969 from Wellesley College and becoming the first student in the college's history to deliver a commencement address. The speech unexpectedly ended up being her emblazoned debut when she scrapped her planned speech and gave an impromptu rebuttal to the pro-Vietnam war speaker Senator Brooks that spoke before her. This earned her a feature in Life Magazine, and hence, became a force to be reckoned with.

Clinton was a Republican until her college years when then the American Civil Rights Movement and Vietnam War were prevalent and forced American's to face certain moral issues. She became a Democrat and since the start of her political career she has proved to be an outspoken advocate for social injustice, especially women's rights.

If you've noticed there has been more media attention on women's rights issues lately, you haven't been imagining it. April 14 was National Equal Pay Day, raising awareness on the fact that women are paid less than men for the same work. In fact, for every dollar a man makes, a woman makes only 78 cents on average in the U.S., according to Pew Research Center. It won't come as a surprise when many opponents of having a woman as president will be the same people continually fighting against closing the wage gap.

Clinton has been dedicated to the advancement of women's rights for a long time. On Sept. 5, 1995 she made her iconic speech on women's rights at the Fourth World Conference on Women in Beijing, China. It was there that she notably said, "If there is one message that echoes forth from this conference, let it be that human rights are women's rights and women's rights are human rights, once and for all," according to ABC News. With the relatively recent explosion of media attention on the fight for equality, getting Clinton in the White House could be the last push this country needs to solidify substantial change. President Obama has proven to be a feminist and advocate for women's rights, but some factors of the oppression of women can only be understood by women. Clinton's power to veto bills diminishing women's rights could cause significant and more permanent change on equality.

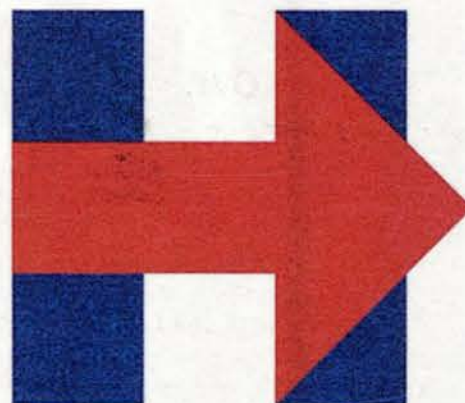
Women's rights is certainly not

the only significant issue Clinton should, or will focus on if elected president. However, the oppression of women extends throughout social classes and ethnicities alike. Increasing opportunities and reducing oppression on women will improve success rates in all industries and families. Expanding the participation of women in all aspects thus includes fifty percent of the nation's population in the race for prosperity. With that many more minds vying for change, beneficial discoveries are bound to occur.

Clinton will build upon the foundation that President Obama has set up. She attempted a national healthcare plan during her time as First Lady, but "Hillarycare," as it was called, failed to gain enough support to succeed, according to ABC News. Now with the Affordable Care Act in place, she would have the perfect opportunity to expand upon the groundwork set by Obama and continue to improve upon national healthcare.

In Clinton's inaugural campaign video, she set out to prove that she is capable of connecting to the average voter. Released on April 12, the video featured a melting-pot of Americans, including a gay couple excited to get married, a single mom moving her daughter to a better school district, two brothers starting their own business, and a couple expecting their first baby, to name a few.

The season of campaign videos is starting, so taking one at face value can be risky. However, Clinton appears not only willing to support human rights such as marriage



*twitter.com/HillaryClinton
Clinton announced her campaign on April 12.*

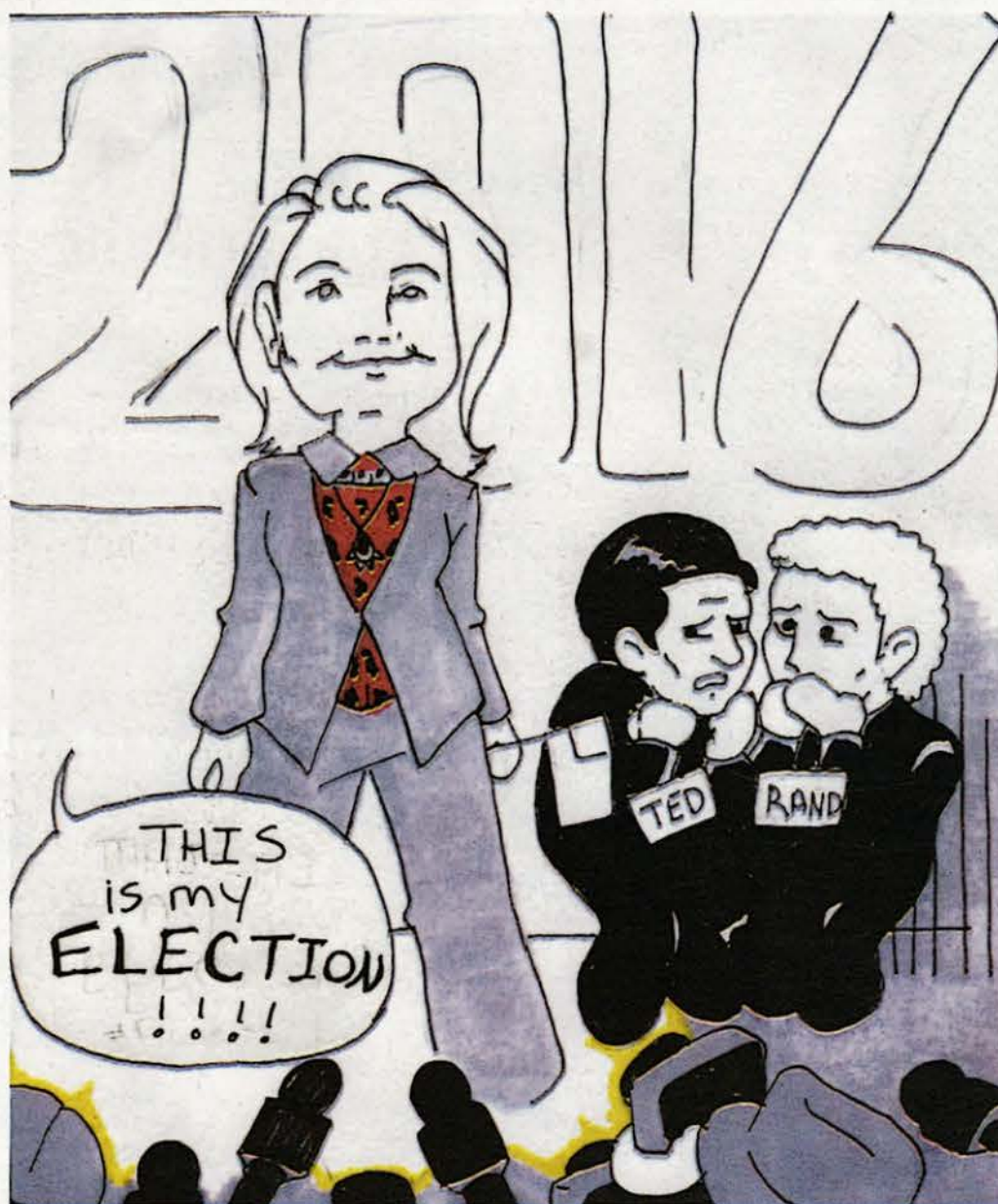
equality, but determined to make her dedication to such issues known. And her sincerity shines through.

The potential benefits that are coming if (and hopefully when) we elect Clinton as president will far exceed just the historical significance of a woman becoming the leader of the free world. The change that she is capable of making in this country is desperately needed. With men in the White House we have built a nation I am proud to call home, but there are certain issues we have not been able to overcome, such as race and gender inequality. Having just any woman in charge will not necessarily be the solution, but Hillary Clinton might just be make the difference we've been searching for.

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Commentary:

By Kaytlyn Sims



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SPORTS

Women's Lacrosse Falls to Florida Tech in Chase for SSC Playoffs



A loss against Florida Tech on April 11 puts the lacrosse team at a conference record of 0-3. Their final match against Florida Southern will determine their qualification for the SSC tournament.

Rashaad Long/The Minaret

By TESS SHEETS
Sports Writer

All season, the women's lacrosse team has been determined to secure themselves a spot in the Sunshine State Conference (SSC) tournament that is set to take place April 24 and 26. Because of this, they have been especially diligent in working on improving day in and day out in order to corral enough wins to qualify for the postseason.

While a loss against conference opponent Florida Institute of Technology on April 11 has put the Spartans behind in their conference record, their chances to get ahold of a spot may not be completely out of reach. Should they sweep Florida Southern College on April 15, they still have a chance to seal the deal.

The upset against Florida Tech brought the Spartans to an overall record of 5-10 and a conference record of 0-3. Although the team prides themselves on offensive

control during this game, winning over half of the draws, inconsistency on the defensive end remained a formidable snag that hampered the team's success. This is something that the team has struggled with all season, according to the players.

When the players connect, they produce exceptional ball movement and offensive progress. However, once their opponents gain momentum, they lose their tenacity.

Despite a quick goal scored by sophomore Amanda Voges within the first 30 seconds of the game, the Spartans fell into hole as the Panthers followed with a nine-point run.

"We went out in spurts. We weren't consistent with our play," junior attacker Jackie Martin said. "There was great ball movement at points and then at other points there wasn't. We struggled with our defensive play. I think we are consistently inconsistent."

Despite the loss, the team is sure that the first step to overcoming this

obstacle is maintaining the right mindset. Frequently, it is a lack of confidence that breaks them down so routinely during games and makes a victory too elusive to secure.

"I think it's just a mental thing and we will overcome it with time," freshman Natalie Carraway said. "We are a great team that works so hard, and I think we forget that sometimes. Once we start showing everyone how good we are at our full potential and believing in ourselves that we can do this, I think we will overcome it all."

Moving into next week, the team will face their final game of the season, which also happens to be their final conference game.

A great deal is resting on their success in this match as all of their hard work throughout the season comes to a head. This match it will be the determining factor to whether or not the team will qualify to compete in the SSC tournament.

Although the upset against Florida Tech dismissed an area of leeway they

could have had going into this final game, the team is hopeful that they will triumph over Florida Southern.

To do this, the players plan to use what they have learned in their recent loss, along with previous others, to mend the areas that have caused them the most difficulty.

By ultimately keeping their eyes on the prize, they will come away with a win and the spot they have been striving for.

"We have nothing to lose going into this game and that's the mentality that we need to have - we need to be hungry for the ball and remember that were doing what we love," Martin said. "We literally have nothing to lose. We know we need to come out ready to play a full 60 minutes rather than ten minutes here and there. We have all the skills to compete with these teams we just need to mentally want to win."

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Coach's Corner: Coach Jarrett Slaven

Veteran track coach leads team to prominence

By ERIN TOWNSEND
Sports Writer

Jarrett Slaven, who turned a track team that did not offer scholarships and only had walk-on runners into an NCAA team with multiple national championships, is looking forward to coaching another successful nationals.

Slaven has been coaching for over 40 years, including here at UT for the last 16 seasons. Aside from coaching, he was also a United States Probation Officer for nearly 25 years.

He attended Youngstown State University for his undergrad, majoring in education before going to the University of Florida for a master's degree in physical education. He competed at the high school and collegiate level. During his time at UF, the Florida Track Club won two Amateur Athletic Union (AAU) titles.

He got interested in the idea of coaching very early on. "I really enjoyed my high school coach and the positive impact he had on my life," Slaven said.

Slaven then coached high school at nearby Chamberlain High School for 12 years. While he was at Chamberlain, the team won four conference championships, a girl's state championship and one year Slaven was nominated as the Hillsborough County Coach of the Year.

Slaven then moved to coaching college and post collegiate. He assumed the position of head coach for University of South Florida from 1978-1984. While he was at USF, the team won the Sun Belt Conference Championship four out of five times.

After 1984, Slaven started working

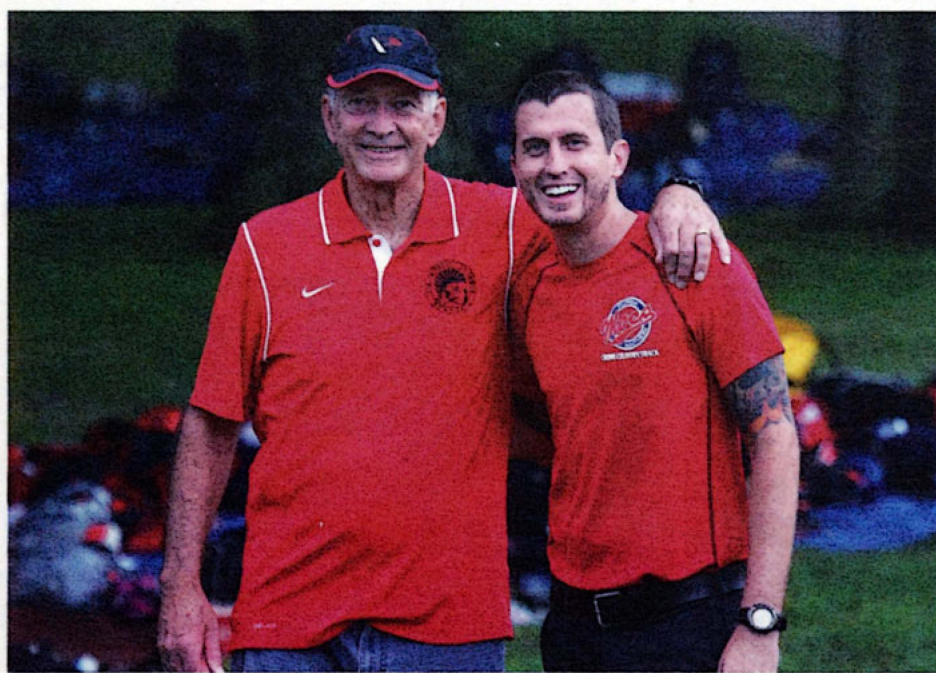


Photo courtesy of Tom Kolbe
Coach Jarrett Slaven had been the head coach of the UT Track team since 1999, spanning 16 seasons.

coaching runners on an individual level, working with numerous Olympians.

In 1999, Slaven became the UT head coach. At the time it was a walk-on track team, but over the past decade Slaven has turned it into the heavily recruited team we know today, dominating the conference and regional championships.

When asked about what made Slaven decide to join the Spartans, "I heard there was an opportunity to coach at UT and I was about to retire and thought it would be fun to coach again," Slaven said.

Slaven built the Spartans into the nationally ranked team they are today. Assistant Coach Dror Vaknin explained how Slaven was able to build this successful team.

"He did so with his positive attitude and extreme dedication to the sport of running," Vaknin said. He gets the most out of his athletes by making them believe they can run through anything. He loves to coach and loves to laugh. The women's program would not have been to this level without him, at least not that fast."

With his years of coaching and success, Slaven has many favorite aspects and memories. His most memorable time at UT was the moment the team qualified for the NCAA Nationals for the first time. Slaven said his favorite aspects of coaching for the Spartans are "spending time with the young athletes, working hard but having fun, in addition to working with all the other coaches."

Slaven took many crucial steps to turn the

track team into the force it is today. "We began to recruit some good athletes and this helped start a tradition. In addition, we had many excellent captains and leaders who motivated the team on a daily basis," Slaven said.

Slaven has become one of the reasons why potential recruits will decide to join the Spartans. "A lot of people choose to run for Tampa because of a strong bond with Coach Slaven. He really tries to help every person on the team achieve their goals and he knows how to produce some fast and tough runners," junior runner Chantalle Blundell said.

His love of the sport and the team is seen and appreciated by all. "Coach Slaven works individually with every single person on the team to ensure we're all happy and healthy and doing what we need to do. He's a great coach and it shows with all of the team's success throughout the years," said freshman Kayla Sullivan.

This season for the Spartans has proven to be successful thus far. There have been many personal records (PRS) and a few school records. With the much anticipated home meet, The Tampa Invitational, freshly under their belt, UT is looking forward to continuing their successful season.

After the Tampa Invitational, UT has two more meets before setting their eyes on the NCAA Championships, yet again, in May.

The Spartans will certainly depend on Coach Slaven to guide them to another victory at the NCAA's. "The team definitely owes a lot of our success to Coach Slaven. He's so dedicated to both the sport and to us, and I know I'm personally becoming the best runner I can be thanks to him," Sullivan said.

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Track Team Sprints Towards Light at End of Tunnel



Photos courtesy of Tom Kolbe
The track team has two regular season meets left in Gainesville and Jacksonville before the NCAA Championship meets at the end of May. The women and men both excelled at the UT Invite last weekend.

Men's, Women's teams impress at home meets as season winds down

By MELISSA TORRE
Sports Writer

The track team had a strenuous meet last weekend competing at Embry-Riddle. The team was faced with four hours of traffic before arriving. Despite this minor setback, the team rallied together to have one of their best meets of the season.

The women's team had an outstanding weekend, with a number of runners setting personal records in the 1500 and in the 4x800 meter relay they broke a school record. The team had a number of women who

ran the 1500 meter, including junior Chantalle Blundell who finished seventh overall for the 1500 meter with a time of 4:44. Sophomore Elaina Cancellio who ran a 4:56 in the event, and freshman Carly Bunting who finished with a time of 4:58. "Having other people on your team running in front of you really helps push and motivate you," said freshman Mary-Alice Smoot, who set a new personal record with a time of 5:05 in the race.

Other events in which the Spartan women shined included the 500 meter, in which many Spartans set new personal records. Freshman Aislinn Scrocynski, senior Aimee Epps, and sophomore Ariana Sotoropolis all set new personal bests. The women's 4x800 relay team also set a new school record. The

relay consisted of freshmen Smoot, Aleiy Langley, Kayla Sullivan, and sophomore Rachel Higgins.

The men's track team also had an impressive meet last weekend with a number of personal records set, including a new school record in the 4x800 relay, and the 800 meter. Freshman Jake Poore set a new personal record in the steeplechase despite not having much of a warm up. The men's team also did a great job in the 5,000 meter; sophomore Matthew Hoffman set a new personal record for the event with a time of 15:29.12. The 4x800 meter relay set a new school record. Runners included senior captain Steven Denning, freshman Eddie Keenan, sophomore Jessie Boria and junior Scott Billings. Lastly, Denning broke his own school record in the 800 meter with a time of

1:54 even.

The team has had an outstanding season so far, but are looking to continue to improve for the final upcoming meets, the Tom Jones meet in Gainesville and the University of North Florida meet in Jacksonville for the runners who qualify.

"What we are doing seems to be working," said head coach Jarrett Slaven. So hopefully we'll have the chance to compete at the highest level, nationals at the end of May, this season if one of our runners qualify. The team faced many challenges last weekend, but dug deep to pull out everything they had. "We had an excellent meet, it was a long day but worth it," Slaven said.

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Softball Team Ready After Bye Week

Strong pitching carries Spartans to seven game win streak

By **MARCUS MITCHELL**
Sports Columnist

In the world of softball, teams are given a "bye week" once a season where they do not have to play any games. While this is traditionally a beneficial time for teams to get rest and practice, it can sometimes be a break in momentum for teams on a hot streak. The Spartans are hoping that their week off does not lead to this as they ride their seven game win streak into the last stages of the season.

"I usually look forward to our bye week because it is a nice break for all of our players," said head coach Leslie Kanter. "But we are on such a roll right now that I wish we could be playing some games and stay hot."

The team swept both Florida Southern College (FSC) and Eckerd College in their past two series and is boasting a 24-9 overall record. In the Sunshine State Conference (SSC), the Spartans are placed second in the standings and have a record of 12-6.

The only team ahead of them is Barry University, who the Spartans won their series against earlier in the season. After a relatively slow start to their conference season, the team is finding their form and becoming a true contender in the SSC.

This is due in part to senior starting pitcher Julia Morrow who has served as the Spartans' ace this year. Morrow has put up a 1.46 earned run average (ERA) this season and has excelled on the mound during the

past few series. In the Easter weekend series with Eckerd, Morrow struck out 41 and only allowed one earned run. For her remarkable outing, Morrow was selected National Fastpitch Coaches Association (NFCA) Softball Pitcher of the Week, the first in the program's 27 year history.

"This is a phenomenal achievement and we are thrilled that Julia was named as the program's first National Pitcher of the Week," Kanter said. "She is working really hard and playing very well and has earned this past week of rest."

In her 26 started games this season,

Morrow has completed all but two and has 21 wins. She has shutout 10 opponents this year and is striking out over 10 batters per outing. Not only has Morrow established herself as one of the elite players in the conference by becoming SSC Pitcher of the Week four times this year alone, but she has proven herself to be one of the greatest pitchers in Division II Softball.

However, it is not just from the mound where the Spartans are finding wins. The Spartan hitting has stepped up in a huge way and has complemented the shutdown aspect that Morrow brings to games. Unlike

traditional lineups that rely strongly on the top of the batting order, every part of the Spartan lineup has the potential to break an inning wide open. While they may not be the hardest hitting or flashiest batters in the SSC, the Spartan lineup has been gritty in their at-bats and delivered hits when the opportunity calls.

In the series against Eckerd, the Spartans were able to score 11 runs and did so without any home runs but with solid base running and rallying hit streaks instead. The Spartans tend to wear down opposing pitchers inning by inning before erupting for runs late in games.

"During our week off we were really trying to focus on our hitting and preparing ourselves for our next series," said senior outfielder Jenna Halper. "We have been pretty clutch with our work at the plate lately and we want to translate our hard work last week into runs this week."

This weekend the Spartans will be taking on SSC rival Nova Southeastern University in a conference clash where the Spartans will showcase their hard work and preparation. Nova Southeastern sit at the bottom of the SSC standings with a conference record of 4-14, but the Spartans are still focused solely on the task at hand and taking no wins for granted.

"There is no such thing as an easy win in this conference," Kanter said. "We will be looking to winning these games and are looking forward to being on our home turf this weekend."



Photo courtesy of Tom Kolbe

The softball team uses week of rest to prepare for weekend matchup with Nova Southeastern.

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Catcher Nick Tindall Makes Most of Second Chance

Spartans Senior a key leader for No.8 ranked Spartans

By **CANDACE MARTINO**
Sports Writer

For some, a second chance means an opportunity to learn from past mistakes. In the case of University of Tampa's catcher Nick Tindall, a second chance means getting to play collegiate baseball.

In 2009, Tindall turned down college offers to sign with the Minnesota Twins in the fall, neglecting to further his education.

If he could do it all over again he wouldn't do it any differently. Tindall followed his heart to pursue professional baseball and what followed was a career path he never envisioned. It all began when the Twins organization made the decision to draft Tindall in the 17th round at the 2009 Major League Baseball (MLB) draft.

The 6-foot-4 catcher made 29 appearances in two seasons of rookie league play before getting cut from the team.

He had a rocky start, hitting only .172 in his first two seasons and suffering a hamstring injury in 2010. This injury sidelined Tindall for more than two months, ultimately resulting in the Twins decision to release him.

Eventually Tindall got the chance to take the college route. Due to

an allowance in the NCAA rules of playing only at the rookie league level for no more than two years, he was allowed to pursue college baseball, ending up here at UT.

Now in the final stretch of his senior year at UT, Tindall's focus isn't on professional ball, but rather leading his team to yet another regional birth.

"I need to stay positive and continue to be a leader for my teammates. My focus needs to remain on getting better offensively and continuing to lead our pitching staff," Tindall said.

UT is currently nationally ranked No. 8 with an overall record of 27-11 and 9-6 in the Sunshine State Conference (SSC). The Spartans dropped a 5-3 contest last Friday night at home to Lynn, putting their post-season spot in jeopardy.

"We had some very tough losses against Nova, but we still have a chance to get to our ultimate goal. We have an opportunity to make regionals and get to the World Series, but our focus right now is on Lynn University and taking care of business," he said.

Tindall single handedly took care of business in Saturday's doubleheader sweep over the Knights. After holding Lynn scoreless in the top of the tenth, Tindall stepped up to the plate as the first batter in the inning and blasted a walk-off home run directly over the left-centerfield fence. His teammate, senior shortstop Giovanni Alfonzo said, "It

was awesome. That was a must win game and he stepped up big time with the walk-off."

UT had to secure both wins on Saturday in order to get an automatic bid for regionals, and they got the job done. As a seasoned team leader, Tindall is able to provide direction when his team needs it.

"He's a great teammate. He goes about his business like a professional so he's one of the guys everyone looks up to. He's a captain and works extremely hard for us each and every game," Alfonzo said.

In the second game of the day, Lynn came out swinging, taking an early 4-0 lead. The fifth inning was quiet for the Knights offensively, allowing the Spartans to spark a rally that would result in three runs on two hits and a walk. Tindall homered in the inning to tie that game at five, giving UT the momentum to seal the win at home and in the process sweeping Saturday play.

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Photo courtesy of Tom Kolbe

Catcher Nick Tindall steps up even more for the baseball team in the past few days.

Paintball Team Preps For Nationals

Sophomore president Outeiral leads team to first Nationals berth

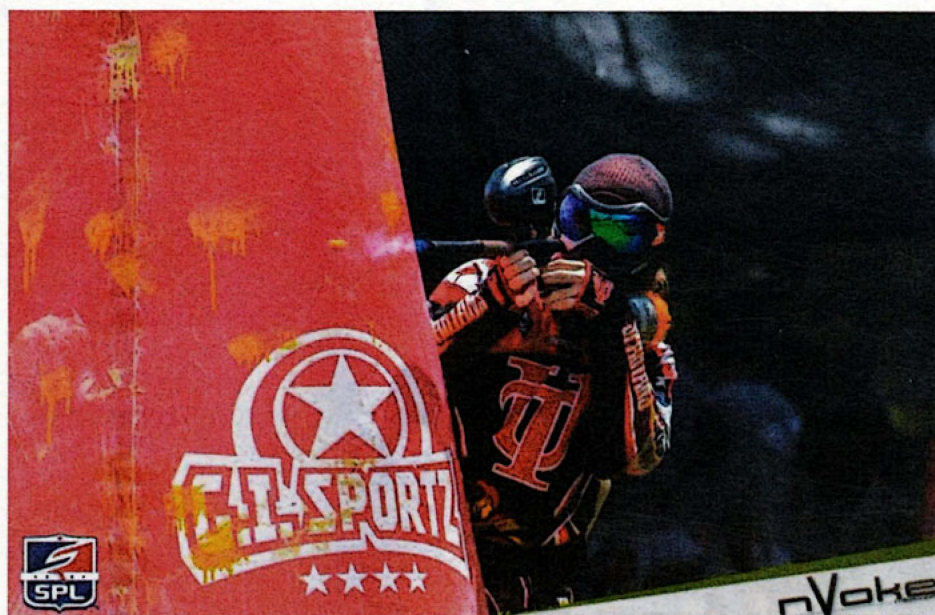
By **GRIFFIN GUINTA**
Sports Columnist

Last year, the UT Paintball Club lacked a sense of direction. Practices were sparse, cohesion was lacking and, more importantly, the team was devoid of any chemistry. It's often said that "a year makes a world of difference," and for the paintball squad, that aphorism rings true.

This year, new president Alan Outeiral, a sophomore criminology major, vowed to drastically reshape the club and make it something worth noticing. The first step? Establishing a new culture that emphasized consistency and camaraderie.

"If you're going to play on a sports team you have to be friends. There's mandatory practice every Sunday, we hang out with each other outside of practice, and all new players go through a proper introduction to the team so you don't feel like the new guy," Outeiral said. "In addition to that, we have multiple sponsors that help support the team."

The paintball club currently plays in the collegiate AA division, a space typically reserved for up-and-coming teams looking to elevate their game, which is the perfect situation for the relatively inexperienced UT Squad. Aside from Outeiral, the team is comprised almost entirely of newcomers, meaning the team began the year with little foundation. In fact, the sophomore captain has taught each



The club paintball team works through ups and downs to make it to Nationals.

individual on the team how to play.

Paintball is a very demanding sport, both physically and monetarily. Exorbitant costs are often the biggest eyebrow raiser for those just starting out, as the cost for safety gear, paintballs and markers (guns) can break into the thousand dollar threshold. Once the cost is out of the way, players must go through rigorous training to keep up with the fast-paced, high octane sport.

Despite the outlying challenges, Outeiral has assembled a formidable young squad that will be heading to the 2015 National Paintball Championship, which runs April 17-19 in nearby Lakeland. Over forty colleges from across the nation will be present, including reputable Division I schools such

as Penn State, Northwestern and top-ranked University of Central Florida (UCF).

At the tournament, which serves as the grand culmination to the season, the team will participate in a version of the game called "Race-to-2," a game in which the first team to achieve two consecutive captures of the flag in the center wins the round. Each team is allowed five players on the field at a time, and must immediately exit the field if shot. According to Outeiral, though, it is essentially a contest of who can withstand elimination.

"Because there are five people with five different guns shooting at you, you typically eliminate that team, then you get the flag, and then you hang it," he said. "It's not a 'grab the

flag, and try to hang it with enemy players still standing. You wipe the field, and then you hang the flag. First to two wins. If you tie there's a third overtime point."

On the whole, paintball still retains a respectable presence in the United States, despite research showing a dropoff in overall participation level. A data collection website that tracks popular statistics, only 3.5 million Americans participated in the sport in 2015, as opposed to 5.5 million in 2006, according to Statista.

Regardless of the waning popularity, colleges still take the game seriously. According to Forbes, foundations exist to support the furtherment of paintball participation at the collegiate level.

"In The Paintball Scholarship Fund," the article reads, "Students must have a minimum 3.0 GPA, proof of acceptance in a two or four year accredited college, letters of recommendation – including, crucially, one from their local paintball field owner – as well as confirmation of involvement in promoting paintball in the applicant's community."

In terms of innovation, UT's club is ahead of the curve. Just two years after its inception, the team has quietly pieced together a cohesive, tournament-bound squad, proving that paintball deserves to be taken seriously. But make no mistake—they have a little fun too. "I want them to win and do well," Outeiral said. "But really, the key is to have a good time, and maybe later down the road stay friends because of it."

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Baseball Team Rebounds After SSC Setback

By **REGINA GONZALEZ**
Sports Writer

The eighth-ranked baseball team bounced back from last weekend's stressful loss to the top-ranked Nova Southeastern Sharks. The Spartans defeated Southeastern University Fire in a weekday game on April 7 and the Lynn University Fighting Knights in a three game weekend series on April 10.

Tampa endured a game-long battle on their home field as the Southeastern Fire retaliated each time the Spartans took the lead. A number of helpful at-bats in the ninth inning allowed the Spartans to take the win. The Spartans started off strong in the first inning when junior third baseman Nick Flair hit a two-run homer that brought in senior captain Giovanni Alfonzo after his single. Southeastern responded quickly, scoring three runs in the second to take the lead over Tampa, and added one in the third to extend its lead to 4-2.

The Spartans tied the game in the fourth to

make it 4-4, as junior second baseman Cody DeNoyelles blasted a leadoff home run and freshman designated hitter Michael Kleinmen drove in junior catcher Nick Tindall with a RBI single.

A constant battle for the lead ended with Tampa's final at-bats when junior outfielder Casey Scoggins was hit by a pitch to lead off, followed by a sacrifice bunt from Alfonzo. Scoggins would steal third and tie the game on a single by Flair. Following a walk by senior captain Stephen Dezzi, senior outfielder Chris Pagliarulo walked to load the bases with one out. DeNoyelles then hit the game-winner on a dropped fly by Southeastern's right fielder.

"Tuesday's game was a good start to the week," Alfonzo said. "It showed us that even in the last inning we are capable of coming back and winning a game."

With another win under their belts, the Spartans then faced game one against a series against the Lynn University Fighting Knights where they lost 5-3 to the No. 10 ranked team.

After three scoreless innings, the Knights jumped on the board with two runs on four hits to take a 2-0 lead. Lynn also added on three more runs in the top of the eighth. Trailing with a score of 5-0, the Spartans got things going in the bottom of the eighth inning to score three runs. Despite an attempt to catch up in the bottom of the ninth, it was the Lynn Fighting Knights who took home the 5-3 victory.

Senior lefty Chase Sparkman was the starting pitcher for the Spartans in the loss, tossing seven complete innings in which he allowed two runs on nine hits, striking out five. The loss brought Sparkman's record to 7-2 for the year.

"Sparkman did a great job of getting us seven quality innings Friday," said senior first baseman Andrew Amaro. "Even though we lost it allowed us to save pitching for the next two games."

The Spartans came back ready the next day for a doubleheader that would end the series, taking the first game with a 10-inning 8-7 walk off in game one and rallying for an 11-7 defeat for game two.

Junior lefty pitcher Michael Calkins started from the mound for the first time this season in game two, tossing 4.2 innings and allowing just one run on three hits. Tampa jumped on the scoreboard first in the third inning with a run thanks to senior outfielder Brett Jones, whose sacrifice fly out allowed DeNoyelles to score. Lynn responded with one run in the top of the fourth inning, but the Spartans took back a one-run lead in the bottom of the fifth with another sacrifice fly out from Jones.

The Fighting Knights again picked up one run in the top of the seventh and eighth innings, but RBIs from Flair, Alfonzo, freshman designated hitter Paxton Sims and Jones put the Spartans ahead 6-3. Heading into the ninth trailing by three runs, Lynn scored four runs on four hits to take their first lead of the game, 7-6. Tampa quickly retaliated to defend their lead, scoring a run in the bottom of the inning off one

run and a Lynn error, tying the game.

Going into extra innings and holding Lynn scoreless in the top of the tenth, Tindall stepped up to the plate and blasted a walk-off home run over the left-centerfield fence that earned Tampa the win. In the second game of the day, however, Lynn came out ready, forcing one-run rallies in the first and second innings to take a 2-0 lead. The Fighting Knights picked up another two runs in the third as well, going ahead 4-0.

Jones picked up another RBI in the bottom of the third for Tampa, bringing the score to 4-1. After both teams scored in the fourth, the fifth inning was quiet for Lynn offensively, allowing the Spartans to jump start their offense to result in three runs on two hits and a walk. Both Tindall and Dezzi had home runs in the inning, tying the game at 5-5.

Lynn scored another run in the top of the sixth, regaining the lead, but the Spartans took their first lead of the game in the bottom of the inning on a solo home run from Alfonzo and a sacrifice flyout from Amaro. With a constant rally for runs going on for two innings, The Spartans put six runs on the board to take a game clinching 11-6 lead against Lynn. The Fighting Knights picked up a run in the top of the ninth to bring the score to 11-7, but it was the Spartans who took home the win.

The sweeping of the series was a good thing for the team's future goal to make regionals, and the team will continue to work hard this week and prepare to hit the road for a three game weekend series against Florida Tech in Melbourne.

"This was a huge step in the right direction. The wins we had weren't pretty but they were well earned. I'm proud of these guys for bouncing back from a tough weekend," Dezzi said. "We still need to get better defensively and execute pitches. We're going to be preparing all week to do that."

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Samantha Simon/ The Minaret

The baseball team wins a doubleheader against Lynn University on Saturday April 11.