



# THE MINARET

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## Welcome Back to UT, You Are Under Arrest

Law enforcement arrests 11 students for underage drinking at two Howard Avenue bars

By CHANNING HAILEY  
Asst. News Editor

Eleven University of Tampa students under the legal drinking age were arrested early last Friday morning at two clubs on Howard Avenue.

Three females, two 19 and one 18, were arrested at Mangroves by officers in the Tampa Police Department and the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms (ATF) and booked at approximately 2:30 a.m. Eight students aged 18 to 20 were arrested less than two hours later at The Drynk bar in SoHo.

The students' charges include

first week back, we've been extra busy."

The general manager at The Drynk declined to answer questions when approached in person about the situation. The manager at Mangroves was unavailable for comment.

Stephanie Russell Holz, dean of students, said she was initially unaware of the arrests. "The Office of Student Conduct investigates actions of our students that occur off-campus to make sure we can safeguard our community," she confirmed in an email.

"A representative in the Office of Student Conduct will meet with students charged with violations

**"We don't tolerate any underage drinking," He said the biggest problems always surface on Thursday nights since that is the only time guests under 21 are permitted into the club."**

-VIP Host at Drynk

possession of alcoholic beverages by persons under legal age and unauthorized use or possession of fraudulent identification.

"We don't tolerate any underage drinking," said a VIP host at The Drynk. He said the biggest problems always surface on Thursday nights since that is the only time guests under 21 are permitted into the club.

Brittany Perednia, 18, was one of the students arrested at Mangroves. Her charges include obstructing or opposing a police officer without the use of physical force.

Jessica Ann Harris, 20, was charged with selling alcohol to minors at The Drynk.

All students were released by 8 a.m. on Friday.

"You always have people try you at the door," said the host. "And since school just started and it's the

of the student code of conduct to determine if action will be taken.

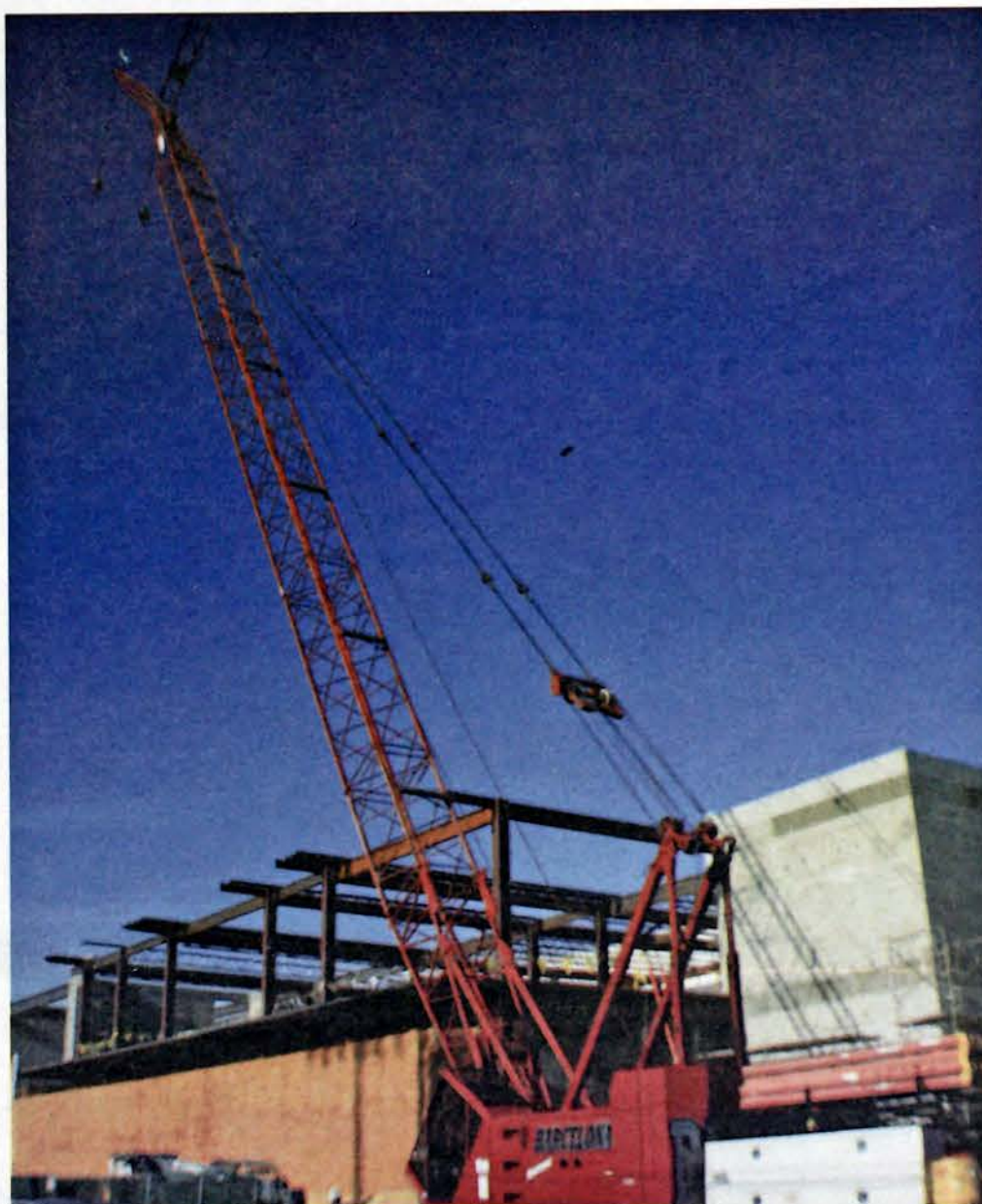
Our goal is to help educate students so in the future they will make better decisions regarding off-campus behavior."

Michael Gilmer, director of student conduct and orientation, was also unaware of the arrests as of Tuesday morning. However, he said "the Office of Student Conduct looks at each situation to determine what the best solution for the institution is."

The 11 students did not respond to multiple requests for comment concerning their arrests.

Channing Hailey can be reached at channingh11@gmail.com.

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Samantha Battersby/The Minaret

Building expansions include adding a second floor to the Martinez Sports Center.

## Campus Experiences Drastic Growth

By JEFFREY PALMER  
News Reporter

Students returning to the University of Tampa this semester may have noticed a number of new building projects being undertaken across campus. To further investigate these exciting and wide-spread expansions to school facilities, The Minaret turned to Richard Ogorek, Vice President for Administration and Finance, and Charles Jackson, project manager of renovations and construction of Sodexo Facilities Management.

They revealed that some of the most notable renovations to existing structures now in

progress are centered around the Martinez Sports Center. Extensive interior remodeling of the Health Science and Human Performance corner will be accompanied by the structural addition of an entire second level.

This undertaking is on schedule to be completed during the winter break. It will be closely followed by the construction of a second facility located in the opposite corner of the building intended to better accommodate the needs of UT's athletes.

To support the expanded Martinez Center as well as provide heightened comfort to students living on campus, the construction of a regional

chiller plant will also soon be underway. Once completed it will help supply much needed air conditioning to the southern portion of campus.

Also helping to facilitate these sizable construction projects is the extensive restructuring of the electrical system supplying the university.

While UT is unwilling to reveal the exact cost of these renovations, Ogorek acknowledged that monetary support from benefactors both named and anonymous as well as donations collected through various fundraisers has been

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# MINARET M

## EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

Mike Trobiano  
mike.trobiano@gmail.com

## ASSISTANT EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

Josh Napier  
josh.napier90@gmail.com

## ASSOCIATE EDITOR

Daniel Feingold  
dfeingold91@gmail.com

## NEWS + FEATURES

Shivani Kanji, Senior Editor  
Channing Hailey, Asst. Editor  
minaret.news@gmail.com

## ARTS + ENTERTAINMENT

Amanda Sieradzki, Senior Editor  
Natalie Hicks, Asst. Editor  
minaret.arts@gmail.com

## OPINIONS

Richard Solomon, Senior Editor  
Hannah Webster, Asst. Editor  
minaret.commentary@gmail.com

## SPORTS

Miles Parks, Senior Editor

## ONLINE

Ryan Williams, The Crescent Editor  
thecrescent.minaret@gmail.com  
Rebecca Ruffer, Webcaster  
Kyle Bennett, Social Media Director  
kbennett.ut@gmail.com

## PHOTOGRAPHY

Samantha Battersby, Head  
Photographer  
minaret.photog@gmail.com

## ADVERTISING

Katelyn Goodwin, Ad & PR  
Coordinator  
Jill Rosenblum, Asst. Ad & PR  
Coordinator  
minaret.ads@gmail.com

## ADVISER

Daniel Reimold, Ph.D.  
dreimold@ut.edu

## COPY EDITORS

Jennifer Bedell, Head Copy Editor  
jennifer.bedell@spartans.ut.edu

## REPORTERS

Jeffrey Palmer  
Yasaman Sherbaf  
Laurel Sanchez  
Brittany Moulden  
Kadee Jo Carpenter  
Kelly St. Onge

## STAFF WRITERS

Sophie Erber  
Mike Paonessa  
John Hilsenroth  
Joe Beaudoin  
April Weiner

## MORE INFORMATION

THE MINARET is a weekly student-run  
publication at the University of Tampa.

Letters to the Editor may be sent to  
editor@theminaretonline.com.

To reach THE MINARET call 813.257.3636.

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# SG Head Launches BetterBoo Gift

By CHANNING HAILEY  
Asst. News Editor

During the first week of classes, students took the role of walking advertisements by wearing T-shirts promoting BetterBoo.com, a social network-driven marketplace created by senior and Student Government President Nick Chmura.

Chmura, who always had trouble choosing the right gifts for friends and family members, came up with the idea last November to create an app on Facebook that allows users to share their wish lists with friends.

The app makes buying gifts a social experience that takes the guesswork out of choosing a present.

A BetterBoo user fills his personal gift directory, known as his "Box", with items from Amazon.com that can be published on his profile. Gifts can be bought directly through the app, and as an Amazon affiliate, BetterBoo.com as a company gets four to 15 percent of each sale, depending on the number of sales made that month, what the product is, its vendor and how much each item costs.

Chmura presented his idea for BetterBoo.com at a Collegiate Entrepreneurs Organization conference in November 2010 where he placed within the top 12 in the pitch competition. BetterBoo received an investment in March, and when the app launched on Aug. 1, it had over 600 users in its first 20 days.

"I'm definitely the biggest critic of BetterBoo," Chmura said. As he continues to improve the site, he plans to market it more so it can grow beyond his networks at UT and in his home state of Ohio.

"I've had to learn a lot of things on my



Samantha Battersby/The Minaret

Students endorse Chmura's new business by wearing t-shirts advertising BetterBoo.com

own while creating BetterBoo," Chmura said.

The finance major is taking his first entrepreneurship course this semester, but he said that up until now, a lot of what he has learned has been by trial and error.

"I'd really encourage anyone interested in starting their own business to pursue it now," he said.

"College is an amazing time to start a business. You've got a lot of free time, and there are people all around you that you can go to for help and advice."

Chmura explained, "There are a lot of investors looking at start-up tech companies."

At this point, BetterBoo.com's biggest competitor is the Amazon Wish List, but Chmura explained even that does not provide the sharing capabilities that BetterBoo does.

With the simple plan of "making the wish list social," Chmura hopes to enhance the convenience of online gift giving.

Channing Hailey can be reached at channingh11@gmail.com.

# Arrest Reports From Friday Morning

[From FRONT, Student Arrests]

Elizabeth Catherine Alt, 19, was charged with possession of alcoholic beverage by person under legal age. Bond was set at \$250.

Lauren R. Giammarino, 19, was charged with possession of alcoholic beverage by person under legal age and of unauthorized use or possession of drivers license. Bond was set at \$2,250.

Taylor Emily Lawrence, 18, was charged with possession of alcoholic beverage by person under legal age and unauthorized use or possession of drivers license. Bond was \$2,250.

Jessica Ann Harris, 20, was charged with selling alcohol to minors. Bond was set at \$250.

Robert P. Mitchell, 20, unauthorized use or possession of a fraud identification and possession of alcoholic beverage by person under legal age. Bond was set at \$2,250.

Giovanni Emestica, 19, was charged with possession of alcoholic beverage by person under legal age and unlawful display of license. Bond was set at \$500.

Callie Hunter Welch, 19, was charged with unauthorized use or possession of drivers license and possession of alcoholic beverage by person under legal age. Bond was set at \$2,250.

Brittany Lee Perednia, 18, was charged with obstructing or opposing a police officer without the use of physical force and unlawful display of license. Bond was set at \$750.

Gregory J. Beehler, 19, was charged with possession of alcoholic beverage by person under legal age and obstruction by disguised person. Bond was set at \$750.

Tyler Lewis, 19, was charged with possession of alcoholic beverage by person under legal age. Bond was set at \$250.

Melissa Anne Murphy, 18, was charged with unauthorized use or possession of drivers license. Bond was set at \$2,000.



# Two Incidents Occur on Campus Late Friday Night

By DANIEL FINEGOLD AND KYLE  
Associate Editor & Social Media Direc-

## Collision on Kennedy Blvd.

A 20-year-old non-University of Tampa student was involved in a motorcycle accident on Kennedy Blvd. late Friday night while on his way home from work at Tampa General Hospital.

Henry Hernandez was heading eastbound on Kennedy when a driver of a silver four-door Chevy Impala pulled out in front of him, and he collided with the front driver's side fender.

Four UT students heard the crash as they stood outside of Austin Hall and came to see what happened.

According to the four UT witnesses, the driver of the motorcycle got into the car with the driver of the silver Impala to go to a bank and get money.

"He was like 'watch my bike, I'm fine,'" said UT junior Alex Luce.

Hernandez and the driver of the car, a middle-aged woman who wished to not reveal her name, agreed to not involve the police. Hernandez got in the car and the two drove to a nearby bank.

According to Hernandez, the driver of the Impala was not able to take out more than \$200 from the ATM, so they agreed on a payment plan.

"She is going to pay me \$2,500 on Tuesday, and \$3,000 the next month," Hernandez said.

Neither party was seriously injured, but Hernandez did say that his shoulder hurt him a little bit.



Kyle Bennett/The Minaret

Damage done to the front driver's side of the Chevy Impala following the accident.



Kyle Bennett/The Minaret

The motorcycle involved in the accident outside of Vaughn Center after it had been moved from the road onto the sidewalk to avoid blocking traffic.

## Two Non-UT Students Trespassed from Campus

Two male non-University of Tampa students, ages 25 and 21, were detained and trespassed from campus after a UT officer observed them riding their bikes outside of Straz Hall. As the officer obtained identification of the males, the 25-year-old handed a concealed weapons permit and said that he had a handgun in his right pocket.

For his own safety, the UT officer handcuffed and detained the two males, and the Tampa Police Department was contacted. Although the detained male had a concealed weapons permit, it is still a second-degree misdemeanor to carry a firearm onto any campus.

According to the campus officer, the men had no criminal background, but the one carrying the gun will face a court date.

The non-UT students are not allowed back on any part of school premises, and if they are seen, it is grounds for immediate arrest.

The campus officer believes that the two males were looking to pickup UT female students, as he spotted one of them peering through a Straz side window.

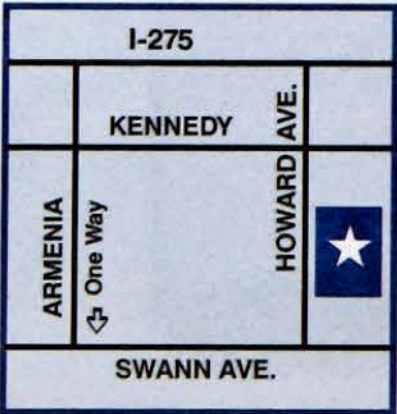
Daniel Finegold can be reached at dfeingold91@gmail.com.

Kyle Bennett can be reached at kbennett.ut@gmail.com.



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# Where Do Students Go When the HoJo

## Freshmen booked for an extended stay at the Sheraton Suites



Residents of the Sheraton Suites feel at home at the hotel.

Joshua Napier/The Minaret

By **SHIVANI KANJI**  
News Editor

This semester, students were placed in the Sheraton Suites in addition to those already being housed off campus at the Howard Johnson Plaza Hotel. Students were assigned to the Sheraton Suites once capacity in the Howard Johnson was exceeded.

There is one floor of 45 residents, two resident assistants, a head resident and an assistant director at the Sheraton Suites. At the Howard Johnson, they originally planned to have seven floors with 14 resident assistants, but now there are 530 residents living on 10 floors, 20 resident assistants, a head resident and an area coordinator.

Although it may seem that the reason

capacity was exceeded is because more students were admitted into the university, that doesn't seem to be the case, according to Associate Dean of Students, Krystal R. Schofield.

"Admissions actually admitted six percent less this year," said Schofield. "Overall, our freshman class will only be between two to three percent larger than last year after drop/add [week]."

She believes that offering new student housing accommodations and not asking them to be on a wait-list for housing is beneficial.

"Residents in all of our halls are provided with the tools and resources to have a positive residential experience. We held two of the four Week of Welcome events in our overflow hotels," she said. "Like all residence halls, some students

are experiencing adjustment issues, and we have assisted those students in getting connected to their RA or the Health and Wellness Center when necessary."

UT freshman Ashley Conley agrees with Schofield.

"They've done a good job of integrating people here," she said. "There's been a pool party and Zumba class and we go to campus and hang out like we live there."

Although living at the hotel may seem to be quite comfortable for some, riding the shuttle and having to take all of their supplies with them while commuting seems to be frustrating for others.

"The rooms are good and you get queen sized beds and a couch," said UT freshman Chris Hanson. "It just sucks relying on the shuttle because it's usually late."

Hanson went on to say that 50 percent of the time the shuttle is not on time. "If you forget something, you can't come back and you can't switch out your books."

As housing is assigned in order to application, the overflow was assigned to the Sheraton Suites after all on-campus housing and Howard Johnson housing was filled.

The hotel is four miles away from campus and according to the UT

website, it's only temporary.

More information about the housing at the Sheraton Suites housing can be found at [http://www.ut.edu/uploadedFiles/Campus\\_Life/Residence\\_Life/Residence\\_Hall\\_Room\\_Tours/SheratonHotel.pdf](http://www.ut.edu/uploadedFiles/Campus_Life/Residence_Life/Residence_Hall_Room_Tours/SheratonHotel.pdf).

Shivani Kanji can be reached at shivani.kanji@spartans.ut.edu.



Joshua Napier/The Minaret

One of the biggest inconveniences for the students staying at the Sheraton Suites is taking the shuttle.

# Sociology Department

## Receives Accreditation

By **KELLY ST.ONGE**  
News Reporter

Last week, The University of Tampa's Sociology department received accreditation for its Applied Sociology Program from the Commission on the Accreditation of Programs Applied and Clinical Sociology (CAPACS).

Dr. Norma Winston, the Chair of the Government and World Affairs department, said that sociology departments around the country know that students use sociology degrees for real-world careers instead of research.

"Accreditation is the tool these departments use to assure they provide high quality programs to meet the needs of their students," she said.

Dr. Winston worked closely with the Sociology department for 18 months to receive this honor. For accreditation, CAPACS requires universities to engage in a self-study, which is then reviewed with a visit to the university.

CAPACS accreditation standards require that sociological theory, knowledge, methods, skills, professional orientation and ethics be an integral part of the program.

Students must have meaningful practice experience, such as an internship.

Caitlin McGrath, a senior in the sociology program, wasn't surprised to hear that the program had earned this accreditation. She has been studying sociology for the last three years.

Currently, she is working on a study and will be presenting an article for a publication.

She feels as though she wouldn't be where she is today if not for the close attention of all her professors. It's not very common for an undergraduate sociology student to be looking at possible publications for their research, McGrath said.

Programs, such as CAPACS, are designed to provide career opportunities and improve career preparation for students.

"I am very thrilled that the sociology program has achieved this recognition," Winston said.

"The concentration in applied sociology is accredited until September 1, 2016. In 2016 the program will apply for re-accreditation."

Kelly St. Onge can be reached at kst.onge@spartans.ut.edu.

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# Students' Opinions on Campus Building Project

## [From Front, Building Expansions]

"The management committee considers program growth and space requirements to address shortfalls before they become problems," Ogorek said.

"Examples of the process include the recently opened Dickey Health and Wellness Center, the new Nursing Skills Center in Walker Hall, the Science Annex at the Cass Building and the Health Science Human Performance project that remains underway."

Despite the obvious care taken by the administration to expand according to the needs of the university, actual student reception of the new building projects this

semester, particularly of the additions to the Martinez Center, remains mixed.

"Any campus expansion is for the best," voiced UT sophomore Joe Ruco, "regardless of how many people make use of the Martinez Center, the renovation is a good sign that the university is continuing to flourish and grow."

Matthew Weinburg, a junior and Psychology major, echoed others in expressing his ambivalence toward the expansion of the sports facility.

"It's not a misuse of money if enough students are involved in athletics," Weinburg asserted, "I just wonder if the creation of new residence halls or dining options wouldn't be more beneficial to life on campus."

Although UT students hold no seats in UT buildings committees, Ogorek explained that they are allowed a more indirect form of participation in decisions affecting university expansion.

"When a facility is uniquely designed for the support of UT student life, the Dean of Students is engaged in the facility programming prior to the design and appropriate representatives from the student body may be selected for participation in focus groups or other forms of input."

Jeffrey Palmer can be reached at [jeffrey.palmer@spartans.ut.edu](mailto:jeffrey.palmer@spartans.ut.edu)

# Teaching Guild Brings 'Dumbest Generation' Author to UT

By KADEE JO CARPENTER  
News Reporter

The University of Tampa Teaching Guild is proud to welcome Dr. Mark Bauerlein to campus Friday, Sept. 16 at 3 p.m. in the Reeves Theatre.

Bauerlein is the author of *The Dumbest Generation: How the Digital Age Stupifies Young Minds and Jeopardizes Our Future*.

Bauerlein argues that because of the wide usage of online gaming sites and social media outlets, today's youth has no background in history or critical thinking. This loss of valuable life skills makes them vulnerable to repeating past mis-

takes. The internet provides an exorbitant amount of information, and anyone under 20 has grown up with a screen of some sort in front of them.

Instead of sitting down and reading the content of a book or paper, the current generation simply skims the basics. Critics argue that this makes the younger generation adept at filtering the information and easily weeding out the unnecessary bits they don't need.

When UT student Marianne Galaris was asked about Bauerlein's hypothesis, she was concerned.

"Are younger generations adapting to all that?...Technology is introduced to them as a learning tool from so young. I'd

say this could really depend heavily on how much time the parents allow the kids to spend playing video games instead of getting their sleep before school or doing homework."

Many students might recognize that games such as *Doom* or *World of Warcraft* require a certain amount of analysis to pass onto the next level.

Many popular multi-player games have problem-solving at their very core.

Being engaged in the community used to be part of everyday life, but even today we see television commercials where playing with your friends involves sitting in front of the TV.

Bauerlein's research suggests that this

generation has more schooling, money, leisure and access to news than any other generation.

Two-thirds aren't proficient readers, can't operate a voting ballot, and spend two to four hours per day playing video games.

He calls people under thirty, "the nation of know-nothings."

Faculty, staff and students are invited to come listen to Dr. Bauerlein speak and take part in the conversation Friday, Sept. 16. Bauerlein received his Ph.D from UCLA in 1988 and has taught at Emory University since 1989.

Kadee Jo Carpenter can be reached at [carpentek@me.com](mailto:carpentek@me.com).

# Concert Scheduled to Commemorate 9/11

By BRITTANY MOULDEN  
News Reporter

On Sept. 11, 2001, the world looked on in horror as terrorists flew hijacked passenger planes into the twin towers in New York City and the Pentagon building in the largest terrorist attack on US soil.

To mark the tenth anniversary, Haig Mardirosian, the dean of the University of Tampa's College of Arts and Letters, will perform an organ concert "In Memoriam 9/11" at the UT Sykes Chapel and Center for Faith and Values.

The concert is free and open to the public and will take place on Sunday, Sept. 11, at 2 p.m. The concert is a part of this academic year's Concert Artist Series in the Sykes Chapel.

It will include performances from the works of Leo Sowerby, César Franck, Dan Locklair, J.S. Bach, Samuel Barber and Joseph Jongen by a famous Romanian string quartet, a well-renowned pianist from South Africa, and the organist of the Cathedral of Notre Dame in Paris, France.

Coincidentally, while looking at the calendar to decide on when to schedule the performance, Mardirosian noticed the tenth anniversary of Sept. 11.

That day had personal meaning for Mardirosian. Having lived previously in Washington, DC, his own home was directly under the flight path of the incoming insurgent airplanes, in which he lost two of his high school classmates.

It was clear to him that, "performing on this sad anniversary would be an opportunity to program great music on the themes of loss, the memory of those

"Performing on the sad anniversary will be an opportunity to program great music on the themes of loss, the memory of those departed, heroism, optimism, peace, reconciliation, and transcendence."

-Haig Mardirosian

departed, heroism, optimism, peace, reconciliation and transcendence."

Continuing with that theme, Mardirosian decided to choose works that encompassed the "stark depictions of terror, death, fire, and twisted steel, to an ardent plea for peace and consolation, to a jubilant finale suggest the triumph of good over evil."

Mardirosian explained, "I am asking the audience for no applause, but simply to let this music speak for the complex and profound feelings on this particular day."

Brittany Moulden can be reached at [brittanymoulden@yahoo.com](mailto:brittanymoulden@yahoo.com).



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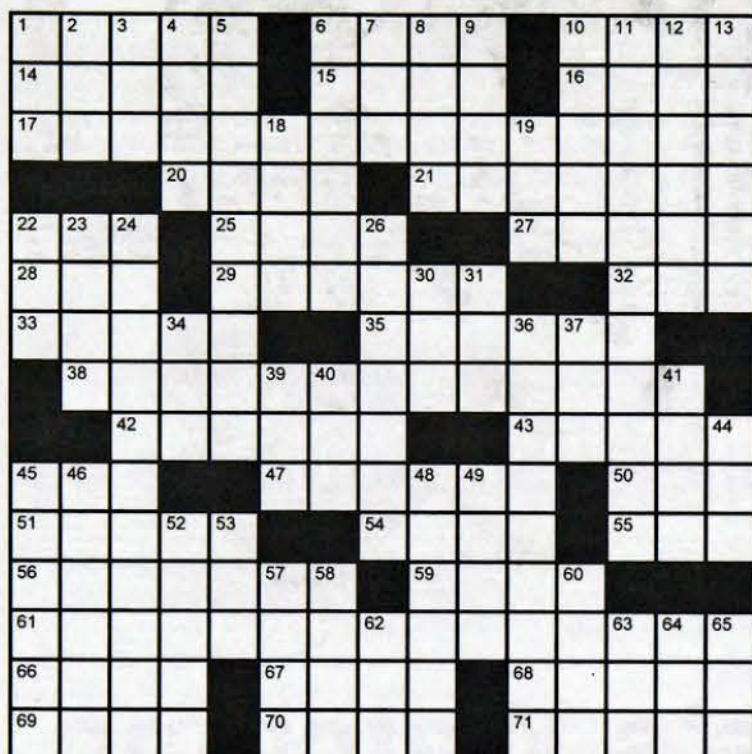
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# Diversions

## CROSSWORD PUZZLE



### ACROSS

1. Wheelchair-accessible routes
6. Either end of a gate
10. Is in the red
14. Love, in Roma
15. Subject of fission
16. Crooked
17. Homer
20. Become lively, with "up"
21. Poor movie rating
22. Calligrapher's need
25. Frost's "The \_\_\_\_ Not Taken"
27. Ecu
28. Become extinct, with "out"
29. St. Francis of \_\_\_\_
32. Prefix with natal
33. Birthplace of a hurricane
35. Ford popular in the 1970's
38. Homer
42. Bowl sites
43. Easy out
45. Beer buyers' needs, for short
47. Gas, to a Brit
50. Explosive initials
51. Yale students since 1969
54. Needing some kneading?
55. "For \_\_\_\_ a jolly good fellow"
56. Got free
59. Gamma preceder
61. Homer
66. "A Death in the Family" author James
67. Biblical sibling
68. University of \_\_\_\_ Island
69. Understands
70. Ogles
71. Iron Mike

### DOWN

1. "Let's go, team!"
2. Friend of Pierre
3. Bon \_\_\_\_
4. Skull in "Hamlet," e.g.
5. Pay after a layoff
6. Warm jackets
7. Hall-of-Famer Mel
8. Manhattan district
9. Some feds
10. Corpulent plus
11. Explained thoroughly
12. Pen
13. Less than quadruphonic
18. Son of Aphrodite
19. Presidents' Day mo.
22. Words Pres. Buchanan never said
23. Pleasing
24. What a blabbermouth can't do
26. Quick reads
30. Witness
31. Drive up the wall
34. Subject of E.P.A. monitoring
36. Fruit pastry
37. Head of England?
39. Econ. statistic
40. Norma \_\_\_\_
41. Adjust, as a radio
44. Goals, e.g.: Abbr.
45. Swelling reducer
46. Amount to be taken
48. Signs of spring
49. Subjects of essays
52. July 4, 1776, and others
53. Restful place
57. Suffix with persist
58. W.W. II turning point
60. Like fireplaces
62. Whopper
63. Pair of Mexicans
64. Hubbub
65. Hangout

## Picture of the Week

Victoria DeLone/The Minaret

Dance Happening Auditions have students bending over backwards to be chosen.



## Horoscopes

By Linda C Black / Tribune Media Services

### Aries (March 21-April 19)

The planets are favorable for your professional life; it's the perfect time to envisage some important changes in this area. You know you're capable of great things, but your lack of confidence in yourself is holding you back.

### Taurus (April 20-May 20)

The planets are less auspicious for you today. This bolsters your sense of duty, and some of your personal and family obligations will suddenly turn into your highest priority, to everyone's surprise.

### Gemini (May 21-June 21)

You have the chance to make serious progress in your love life as your energy is on a constant rise. Solutions are emerging before you. Don't make hasty personal commitments. Delicate situations will reach a happy conclusion.

### Cancer (June 22-July 22)

Changes will be swift throughout the day. Remember, this is a period of transition for you, so don't let any changes impact your friends or family. Make a display of your energy and reconsider the company you keep.

### Leo (July 23-Aug. 22)

Make better plans for your friendly get-togethers. Organize them carefully. Advise your friends to bring new people along – you will make interesting acquaintances that may transform your love life.

### Virgo (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)

A minor disagreement with someone close to you or some distant acquaintance will find a solution if you accept a few concessions. Don't be stubborn, clutching obstinately to your point won't help anything. A favorable prospect takes shape.

### Libra (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)

Chances are great to move ahead with your love life as your energy reaches a stable maximum. Take precise, well-pointed steps during the day. A troublesome affair will come to a fortunate conclusion.

### Scorpio (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)

Communication with people around you is improving. You gladly note that your ideas are well received and given proper credit. You are surrounded by a pleasant and rewarding atmosphere; use it to your advantage.

### Sagittarius (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)

Significant changes lie ahead. This delicate period of transition will have an impact on your behavior with the people around you. Be energetic, otherwise the pack will outrun you. Reorganize yourself and your agenda.

### Capricorn (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)

The planets shine on your personal life. It's time to consider significant changes in every aspect of your life. You know you are capable of great accomplishments, but your lack of self-assurance bridle your energy.

### Aquarius (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)

Genuine changes are shaping up at the horizon. You finally escape a difficult and delicate period. Your attitude towards people around you is filled with energy and boldness. Take the time to reorganize your agenda.

### Pisces (Feb. 19-March 20)

Some of your friends try to nose into your private life. You resent the prying and your anger is justified. You won't lose any friends; in fact, your reputation will improve. A calm and reassuring period follows.

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Michael Doran / Will Shortz ©New York Times



# Arts + Entertainment



Melissa Guarino/The Minaret



Melissa Guarino/The Minaret

## Dance Like Everyone's Watching Behind the Scenes of the Fall Happening Auditions

By LAUREL SANCHEZ  
Arts + Entertainment Columnist

This past weekend, 85 students filled the rooms of the Edison Building. Each with a number pinned to their clothing, they began stretching and warming up for auditions. Some wore sweats and t-shirts, while others in leotards and tights. Auditions for the University of Tampa's Dance Happening were about to start.

"The wonderful thing about the student Dance Happening is that anyone is welcome and eligible to audition," said Susannah LeMarquand, an adjunct dance professor at UT who is in charge of Dance Happening this semester. She also stated that people from various dance backgrounds tryout. They could have years of experience or none at all; any student is invited to participate. "We want anyone who loves to dance to be involved and be able to experience their love of dance through a performance outlet," said LeMarquand.

Dance Happening is a UT event that began in the 1990's and happens twice a year; in the

themselves and explained the pieces they will choreograph.

Mikey Hupp and Jana Huebner both auditioned for the Fall Dance Happening. Hupp, a junior Biology/Education major, said that she wasn't nervous. She has 17 years of a dancing background and this is her fifth show. Huebner, a junior Marine Biology major, described her nerves as minimal. "I decided to try out for Dance Happening after I saw it and it looked like fun," she said.

While these two students have previously performed in Dance Happening, some were at the auditions trying out for the first time. Approximately a quarter of the dancers there were first-timers. One of these hopefuls was Gabrielle Randazzo, a freshman Allied Health major with a potential dance minor. Having danced since she was three-years-old, she was not nervous. She had heard about auditions in her dance class and decided to give it a try.

The audition itself consisted of several parts. The first was a simple "across the floor" routine. This is where the dancers got to show the choreographers exactly what they were made of. This consisted of simple tasks such



Victoria DeLone &amp; Melissa Guarino/The Minaret

Dancers showcased their different talents at the Fall Dance Happening Auditions in order to impress student choreographers into casting them in their pieces.

**"The wonderful thing about the student Dance Happening is that anyone is welcome and eligible to audition."**  
-Susannah LeMarquand, adjunct dance professor

fall and spring. This event is sponsored by the Department of Speech, Theater, and Dance. The first half of the performance will take place in Falk Theatre. There will then be a brief intermission for the audience to walk over to the Plant Hall Verandah for the remainder of the show.

The whole program is choreographed by students and alumni who have danced in past Dance Happenings. There are 15 student choreographers this year with only two returning. Jazz, hip hop, modern, lyrical, and tap routines are rehearsed twice a week until the performance.

Sarah deOliveira, one of the student choreographers was helping sign-in the dancers along with Rhiannon Crawford, a first-time choreographer. When asked how many students are picked after auditions are over, Crawford said that almost all dancers either make it or are understudies.

"I'm helping train the new choreographers," said Meagan Nagy, an alumna choreographer. All of the student choreographers introduced

as a "sassy walk" along with more advanced moves for the seasoned dancers. They formed lines and danced across the floor. After this was accomplished, each choreographer gave a combo pertaining to their specific dance. There were modern, jazz, tap, and hip-hop combos, since all of these genres will be represented in the show.

Each combo had specific moves and emotions relating to that particular medium. For example, the jazz combo had crisp and sexy moves to it, while the modern was more about emotion and flow.

The cast lists were posted on the Edison Building's door on Sept. 4, and excited the casted dancers who will have the opportunity to perform this semester.

Fall Dance Happening will take place this year from Wednesday Oct. 26 through Saturday Oct. 29 and will start at 8 p.m. in Falk Theatre.

Laurel Sanchez can be reached at lsanchez@spartans.ut.edu.



# Keeping Cool During Humid Floridian Fall

By KATELYN EDWARDS

Special to the Minaret

To Northerners, a Floridian winter is a good joke. Autumn is unheard of. And yet, the seasonal styles of the year are often dictated by the fashion world, rather than the natural.

Come Labor Day, the fashion conscious don their jewel-tones and riding boots in exchange with the whites and straw hats of summer.

Unfortunately, as inhabitants of the Sunshine State, seasonal climate change from August to October is minimal, forcing the fashion elite to reinterpret the prevailing styles of our Northern compatriots in a more practical, but no less classy, approach.

Drawing inspiration from the likes of Sarah Burton's primordial Ice Queens to the apocalyptic ensembles of Chanel, fall 2011 ready to wear is agog with cultural references spanning the generations.

Smart A-line skirts reminiscent of the 20's are just as relevant as the 70's maxi skirt.

Neon skinny jeans a la the 80's find their compliment in the demure neutrals of the 50's. Rather



coco+kelly/flickr.com

than mimicking a generation completely, which would look stuffy and outdated, one is encouraged to playfully pick and chose from each era to suit one's own sense of style in the present.

But one must observe the fall fashions of New York goers with a Floridian's eye. A maxi skirt accompanied with a chunky knit sounds romantic—until a torrential down pour of sweat starts raining from your forehead.

Skinny jeans are great for chilly classrooms and offices, not scorching sidewalks and bus-stops. To avoid sweating (a cardinal fashion sin), pair neon skinnies with a lacy tank and a fedora for that Parisian Je Nais Se Quoi that we Americans envy so much.

Crop tops are also a hipster option to upper-body ventilation this fall. Perhaps, we will find that the secret to beating the heat this fall is to dress a little cooler.

Katelyn Edwards can be reached at [katelyn.edwards@spartans.ut.edu](mailto:katelyn.edwards@spartans.ut.edu).

# Best Note Taking Apps for Students

By LAURA SCHLUCKEBIER

Hack College

Last week, Lifehacker rounded up the five best note taking apps. As students, we are constantly taking notes, both in and out of the classroom. When did that emperor die again and who succeeded him? What's that equation?

When am I supposed to be at that meeting? There is not an hour in the day when I'm not constantly taking down notes on all of the stuff I have to remember.

That's why Lifehacker is super awesome in providing this roundup of the best note taking apps. Some of them you will have clearly heard of before, and some of them might be new to you. For their full review, check out their article here.

## Evernote

Duh. Come on. HackCollege freaking loves Evernote. Perhaps one of the most awesome things about Evernote is that you can get to it on just about any piece of technology you have. It has a webapp, desktop app for both Windows and iOS, mobile apps for iOS, Android, Blackberry, Windows Phone 7.

I mean, there is no escaping Evernote. It's a great organizing tool to tag and collect notes, whether it's lecture notes or just a quick jot to remind you to do something. It also lets you capture pictures and save them too, which is really helpful for when you get an assignment sheet.

Take a picture of it, save it with Evernote, and now you don't have to carry the sheet around with you wherever you go. Shep would probably marry Evernote if he could. Here's his great review of the service for students. that was featured on Evernote's blog.

## Springpad

According to Lifehacker, Springpad is the best at automatically guessing what you've just uploaded. After you've uploaded something from online, a picture, or a note, it organizes it into your folders without needing prompting from you. Now that is organizing. Just like Evernote, Springpad also has a webapp plus mobile apps for iOS and Android.

## Microsoft OneNote

Functioning like a word processor, OneNote takes Word to the next level. It saves automatically, gives you much more freedom on the type of information

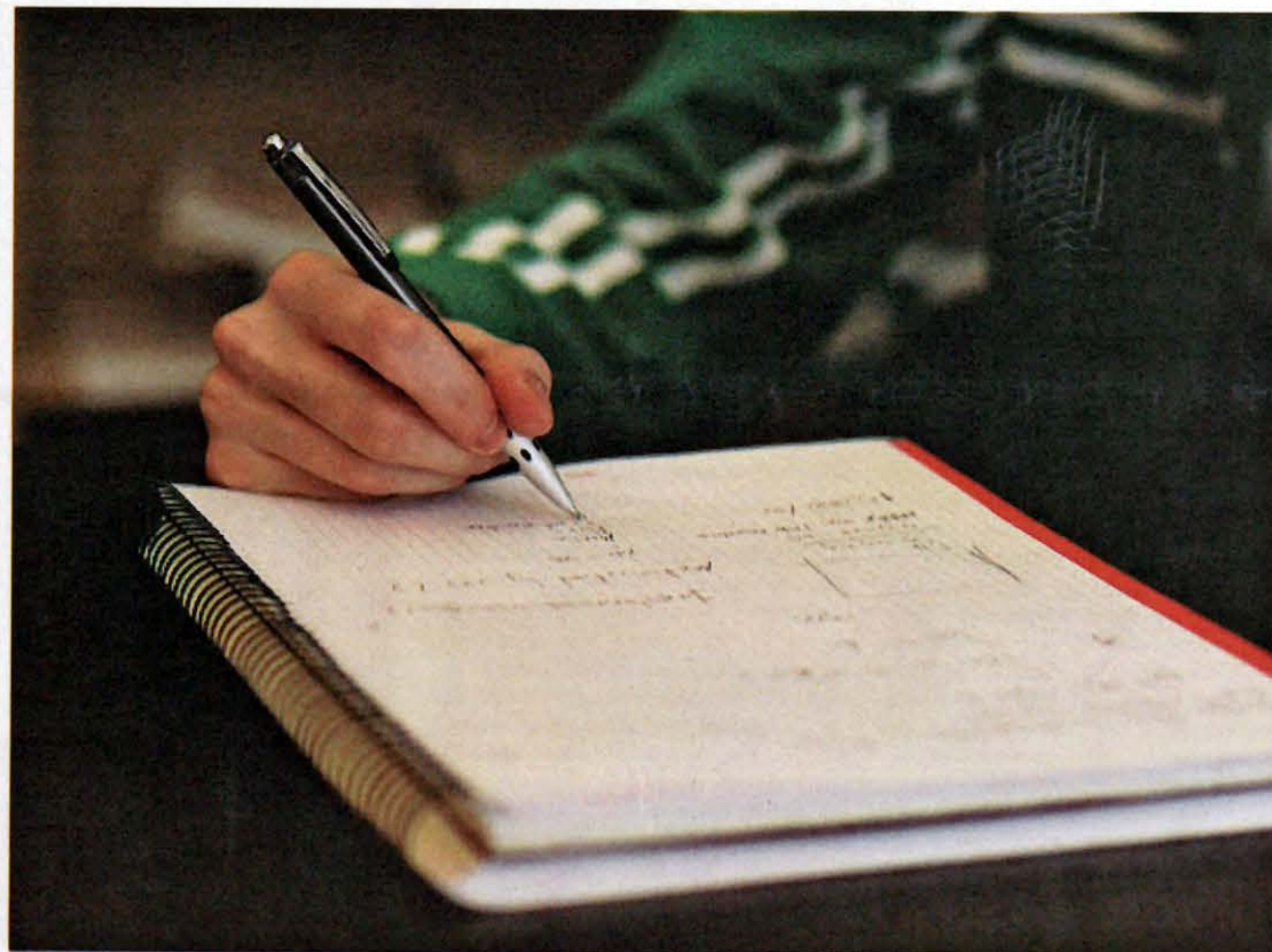


Photo courtesy of Marco Arment /Hackcollege.com

you enter and where you put it, and also lets you create specific notebooks for different projects or classes for greater organization.

You can download OneNote with MS Office for both your computer and with your phone. This option is definitely more expensive than free services like Evernote, but if you are gung-ho on MS applications, OneNote may work better for you.

## Simplenote

Another free application (yay free!), Simplenote is an up and coming note taking service. It has a great developer community that keeps coming up with new add-ins to make the service more functional and easy to use.

One of the most interesting features of this service is that it allows you to search through revision history for your notes. If you're looking for a fresh new way to take your notes, you should check out Simplenote.

## Google Docs

Although this didn't make it onto Lifehacker's list, Shep and I have proved that Google Docs is a really awesome note taking tool. Google Docs is especially useful when you're in class with someone you know. Check out how to use Google Docs for collaborative note taking.

## Paper

This revolutionary way of taking notes has been around since, well, okay it's been around for basically forever. As Lifehacker did their roundup, they found that a lot of people actually prefer to take notes with your basic pen and paper.

In fact, in a follow up survey, 35% of people said that they use pen and paper, following just behind Evernote with 36% of people. I actually find this really interesting and wonder if this percentage stays true when the demographic is younger and in college. Personally I am actually a big fan of handwriting notes, of certain

kinds. My to do list is invariably in a little fat notebook that fits perfectly in my pencil pouch. I don't have to take out my phone or computer to just jot down something quick

I need to remember to do or buy that day. For class notes, I take faster (and actually legible) notes on a computer, but for day to day notes, I prefer handwritten notes.

## Best Note Taking Apps

Evernote  
Springpad  
Microsoft OneNote  
Simplenote  
GoogleDocs  
Paper



# Shocks, Surprises Abound at MTV VMAs

Beyonce' announces her pregnancy at award show



By LAUREN KLEIN  
Special to the Minaret

Last week's broadcast of The 27th Annual MTV Video Music Awards was a spectacle of high energy performances, soulful tributes, record breaking baby bumps, and, as always, awkward moments.

The latter was mostly defined by the presence of Lady Gaga's alter-ego, Jo Calderone. Jo was in attendance all night and attempted to entice Britney Spears into a kiss after Britney accepted the Michael Jackson Vanguard Award for her contributions and achievements in the industry.

The pop-princess reacted with a 'been there done that' attitude and quickly segued into her scripted lines. There were more antics throughout the night, but overall it seemed that fans were less than gaga about Jo Calderone.

Dynamic performances by Chris Brown, Adele and Kanye West wowed the crowd, but nothing compared to the jaw dropping end of Beyonce's performance.

After throwing her microphone to the ground, Mrs. Jay-Z opened her purple sequined blazer and carefully posed to reveal a growing baby bump. As the crowd, and everyone at home, went wild, the cameras panned to the very proud dad-to-be in the audience, who was clearly reveling in the moment. This "announcement" broke the Twitter record with 8,868 tweets per second.

What would an awards show be without teen heartthrob Justin Bieber taking home a statue? Bieber took home the 'Moonman' for "Best Male Video".

As he stood up to accept his award, he gave girlfriend Selena Gomez a kiss, a subtle act that surely sent millions of tween girls into a frenzy. Other notable awards from the evening went to Tyler, The Creator for "Best New Artist", the Foo Fighters for "Best Rock Video", Britney Spears for "Best Pop Video" and Nicki Minaj for "Best Hip-Hop Video".

Minaj, dressed in what can best be described as a part futuristic, part baby doll get-up, later noted that her inspiration for the outfit was Tokyo and her fondness of Harajuku style.

Late in the show Russell Brand and Tony Bennett led a soulful tribute to the late Amy Winehouse and Bruno Mars succeeded in giving us a spirited celebration of her music and talent.

The night ended with the most anticipated and prestigious award for "Video of the Year" going to Katy Perry for her "Firework" video.

Perry was the big winner receiving three Moonmans, the most honors for the



mp3waxx.com/flickr.com

evening. Her other awards were "Best Collaboration" and "Best Special Effects" for her song "E.T." with Kanye West.

Lil Wayne wrapped up the show with an energizing performance of two of his songs, "How To Love" and "John". Fan-favorite winners and great live acts will make the 2011 VMA's one for the highlight reels.

Lauren Klein can be reached at lauren.klein@spartans.ut.edu.

## Lady Gaga, Don't be a Drag, Just be Obscene

By MIKEY ANGELO RUMORE  
Arts + Entertainment Columnist

A lot has been made of Lady Gaga's, let's say, androgynous appearance at the MTV Video Music Awards, where she performed "Yoü and I" looking like Jerry Lee Lewis, if Jerry Lee Lewis had a Roman nose.

(Side note: Gaga calls her alter ego "Jo Calderone," but I shall hereafter refer to Gaga's boyish alter-ego as "Man O'Gaga," for no reason other than it amuses me.) Interviews from image consultants (who are apparently starving for attention) began showing up all over the Internet, making the case that Man O'Gaga had irreparably damaged her (his?) image and only succeeded in alienating portions of her (his?) audience. That gender-bending is still considered taboo surprised me somewhat, since I reacted with a yawn that almost broke my TMJ-ridden jaw.

But, I get it. Lady Gaga is trying to challenge the idea that sexual expressiveness is unbecoming. And she's doing it by trying to become downright filthy. She's not there yet.

The idea that sexuality is filthy reflects centuries-old societal oppression toward the act of sex itself, running the gamut from heterosexuals to gays, lesbians and transgendered alike. "Filth" reflects this. I'm of the firm belief that liberating the "most filthy" among us (which, again, the kind of filth I'm talking about is a reflection of societal injustice) ultimately liberates everyone. Therefore, Gaga, why won't you be filthy?

I'm going to be honest. I like filth. Filth excites me. It's the same thrill I got as a pre-teen sneaking Playboys under my bed. It's why I listen to the Sex Pistols nearly every day. So, naturally, one like me must be on a constant pilgrimage toward filth.

I've been following Lady Gaga since stumbling upon her first album, *The Fame*, three years ago. And, though I despise most pop stars, Gaga attracted me because I heard in her the potential to be the most stimulating, filthiest pop star ever unleashed on an unsuspecting public.

I heard this despite the fairly bubblegum sound of *The Fame*. A few snippets of lyrics made Gaga's desire to be dirty obvious. Lines like "I wanna take a ride on your disco stick" and "I'm bluffin' with my muffin" made my hunch blatantly obvious.

Ask my girlfriend; back then I told her, "Lady Gaga needs to become really dark. She should start hanging out with Marilyn Manson." Manson since appeared on a remix of "Lovegame," but I hoped that Gaga would marry Manson and turn him



Beacon Radio/flickr.com

into some perverse echo of Yoko Ono, dictating filth to Gaga in-studio to the annoyance of everyone. Perhaps I am too demanding.

To be clear, this is not about selling sex. It's about selling filth. There's a difference. Man O'Gagas of the world unite!

Now, with Gaga's second studio album, *Born This Way*, firmly imprinted on my psyche, I'd like to report that Gaga is getting closer to her gutter potential, but she's not quite there. We'll start with *Born This Way*'s dirtiest lyric, "I want your whiskey mouth all over my blonde south" from the song "Heavy Metal Lover."

Gaga, if I had any say, your next album would be called *Blonde South*. My vision: It will be borderline pornography and won't be sold at Walmart or Target, or any respectable record store for that matter. Trust me, Gaga, you don't need them.

Gaga, I hear exactly where your sound needs to go. Like taking the Spanish-tinged romp "Americano" to its logical sonic conclusion: Imagine Nine Inch Nails meets an Enrique Iglesias stuck in the depths of a cocaine binge and existential crisis. That's what I want to hear.

And, Gaga, I think you want to hear it too. Someone needs to drag you in this direction.

Why not me? Gaga, if you happen to read this (you must have someone employed to find things written about you, yes?), I have a proposition.

Allow me to be your manager. Or at least an advisor. Together, we'll dive further into the depths of depravity than any dirty-minded pop star ever has, or ever will. You won't regret it.

Michael Rumore can be reached at mrumore@spartans.ut.edu.



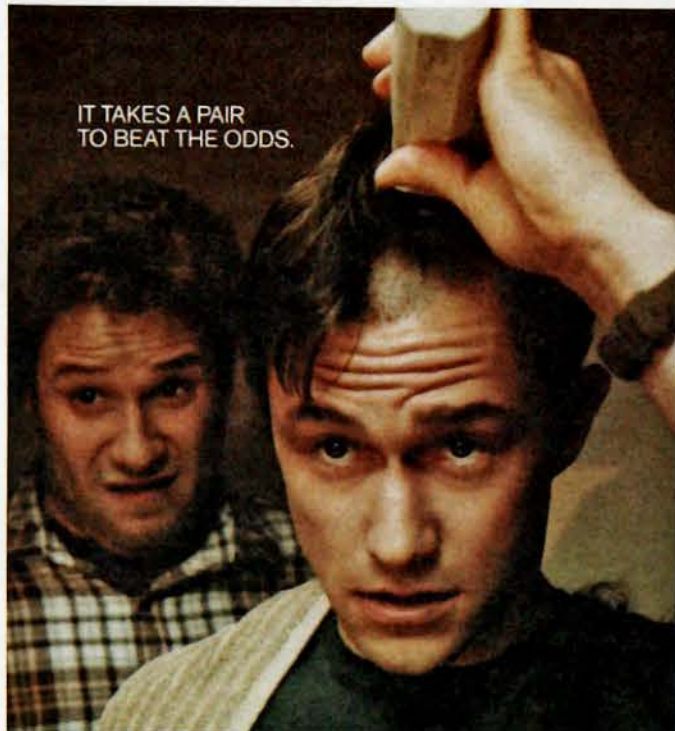
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# 50/50: Half Comedy, Half Drama, Must-See

By RICHARD SOLOMON  
Opinion Editor

I rarely like to rave about movies; most movies nowadays don't wow me to the point that I'm telling everyone "this is a must see."



JOSEPH GORDON-LEVITT SETH ROGEN ANNA KENDRICK DALLAS HOWARD ANJELICA HUSTON  
**50/50**  
SEPTEMBER 30

But if any movie in the last few years deserves that, it's *50/50*.

Directed by Jonathon Levine (All the Boys Love Mandy Lane), *50/50* is the story of 27-year-old Adam (Joseph Gordon-Levitt) and his diagnosis with spinal cancer. Adam begins the movie as an overly cautious young man who thinks driving a car is too risky, but his fight against cancer shoves him outside of his comfort zone in terms of drugs, women and even talking to his family.

Adam's struggle to cope is exasperated by his overbearing mother (played perfectly by Anjelica Huston of *Royal Tenenbaum* fame), his best friend (Seth Rogen) exploiting Adam's cancer to get laid and his therapy sessions with a freshly-graduated 24-year-old counselor (*Up in the Air*'s Anna Kendrick).

Going into the theater, I was a bit skeptical that *50/50* would just be a young person's *Funny People* (both are comedies about cancer, with Seth Rogen as the lovable

sidekick, but that is where the similarities end).

What makes *50/50* so successful is the simultaneously upbeat yet realistic path the movie takes. Adam's journey alternates between hilarious scenes, such as him getting high for the first time (on medicinal marijuana), and then emotionally overwhelming moments like him seeing a family grieving while a body is wheeled from the cancer ward.

At no point, though, do these transitions feel forced. Even when the movie is at its

**What makes *50/50* so successful is the simultaneously upbeat yet realistic path the movie takes.**

most somber, incredible performances by Gordon-Levitt, Rogen and Huston keep things hopeful.

If you were hoping to see Rogen play something outside of his standard "shallow friend" part, you'll be disappointed. But while Rogen and Gordon-Levitt might seem like an odd duo, they play off each other wonderfully, and Rogen does a great job as someone watching his best friend fall apart and desperate to keep things the same way they've always have been.

Anna Kendrick is the only member of the cast to be hesitant about. At times, she really nailed her role; other times she seemed incredibly awkward next to Gordon-Levitt's confidence in his. Perhaps that was the intent, but it took me a long time to decide she really did belong in the movie.

And for her small amount of screen-time, Huston absolutely stole the show. She has the task of portraying a woman whose husband has Alzheimer's, and now her only child has spinal cancer. She is absolutely terrified, but stays as strong as she can be to support her son and husband, all while acting like a typical mother. "Excuse me, it's cold in here. Could you turn the temperature down? My son has cancer."

And that's ultimately where *50/50*'s strength lies: the humor prevalent

everywhere. In a sense, Will Reiser's script is autobiographical, as he and Jonathon Levine's directing makes the dialogue seem real and current.

Will *50/50* be one of the top films of the decade? Hard to say if the demographics who enjoy it will be large enough, but it certainly deserves to be. See *50/50* if you're looking for a movie that will make you laugh while you feel like crying.

Richard Solomon can be reached at richard.solomon@spartans.ut.edu.

CRITIC'S RATING: 4/5



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at Busch Gardens

f t

Howlo-Scream is a separately ticketed night event. Savings based on advance purchase. General admission \$27.99 per person plus tax. Some restrictions apply. Event dates and times are subject to change or cancellation without notice. Parking is not included. No costumes allowed. ©2011 SeaWorld Parks & Entertainment, Inc. All rights reserved. Warning: This year's event contains intense adult content such as violence, gore and blood.



# Opinion

## 9/11 Children's Coloring Book Upsets Both Muslims and Americans

By DAVID ADAMS

Opinion Writer

At 8:45 am on September 11th, 2001, a hijacked airline slammed into the first of the World Trade Center towers. 18 minutes later, a second airline crashed into the second tower, and changed the course of American history forever. Now, 10 years later, Wayne Bell and his publishing company, Really Big Coloring Books are releasing a coloring book that Bell claims is an "educational tool" for children depicting the events of that tragic day.

The book, entitled "We Shall Never Forget 9/11: The Kids' Book of Freedom," gives young people the opportunity to relive the event through *cartoonish* drawings of the towers burning. Among other scenes are family members mourning their deceased loved ones and, most disturbing of all, the final picture in which a Navy SEAL is firing a bullet at Osama bin Laden as he attempts to shield himself behind a niqab-clad woman.

Accompanying the disturbing pictures, a narrative explains the events and why they happened. On the final page, next to bin Laden being shot in the face, text reads, "Children, the truth is, these terrorist acts were done by freedom-hating radical Islamic Muslim extremists. These crazy people hate the American way of life because we are FREE and our society is FREE."

The book has sparked outrage in the Muslim American community and with many parents, who find the drawings and narrative offensive and graphic. Bell has stuck by his creation stating that "This is about 19 terrorist hijackers that came over here under the leadership of a devil worshipper, Osama bin Laden, to murder our people."

I am a veteran of the Iraq war. I joined the Army as an infantryman fresh out of high school in 2004 and was deployed to Iraq two times, totaling 27 months.

Not many people feel as strongly as I do about the need for our future generations to remember what happened on 9/11. But what Wayne Bell has created is both perverse and disgusting, and is nothing more than another attempt to exploit a terrible moment in our country's history.

Our children need to learn about what happened in September 2001, but not like this. A book with caricature-like

scenes of 9/11 places the tragedy on the same level as zoo animals and dinosaurs. Depicting scenes that children can doodle whatever way they choose is not how they should learn about an event that killed more Americans than the attack on Pearl Harbor.

The events of 9/11 should be taught in a serious setting to children who are old enough to fully grasp how horrible that day was. Kids aged four to nine are not mentally developed enough to appreciate the reality of what happened to nearly 3,000 people on that day, and a coloring book is not a medium that will convey the significance of 9/11 to its readers.

Try to remember yourself at that age. I remember playing soldier with my friends, having toy gun battles during which I died and reincarnated hundreds of times. The reality of death, warfare, terrorism and tragedy is a terrible facet of humanity that a young child cannot fully comprehend. This book will not educate children on anything more than coloring between the lines.

While the entire book is inappropriate, the final drawing of a Navy SEAL preparing to fire a controlled pair of rounds into bin Laden is the most unsettling. Playing army with friends is much different than showing pictures of a real military operation that ended in bloodshed.

As a veteran with multiple combat deployments, President Obama's decision to not release the photographs of bin Laden's corpse was upsetting to me. No one wanted to see bin Laden after a four-star SEAL makeover more than I. While I was not happy with the decision to keep the photos classified, I can understand why the President chose to do so.

The United States is the most advanced country in the world and we are above showing our enemies as trophy kills, on display for all to see. With that being said, why Wayne Bell would find it appropriate for children aged 10 and under to see bin Laden moments before bullets penetrated his flesh is lost to me.

This picture is not something that I would want my children to look at no matter who was on the receiving end of the bullets. It is completely unsuitable for young eyes to observe, and the ambiguity of the picture makes it worse.

Osama bin Laden is hiding behind a woman while a SEAL takes aim, but neither bin Laden or his wife are shown dead,

leaving much up to the imagination. For all Bell knows, the children could see this and think bin Laden was killed, his wife, or both. The outcome of the final picture is left up to individual interpretation, which leaves much room for error.

I completely advocate the idea that 9/11 needs to be remembered by all of the United States as the worst attack on non-combatants in our history.

However, I cannot support Wayne Bell and his publishing company's idea that the WTC attacks should be made into a fun-time activity that children can scribble on and color like a rainbow if they so choose.

I am challenging you, Mr. Bell; if you want children to really learn about 9/11 and the subsequent raid on bin Laden's villa in Pakistan, write a REAL book about those events.

A book that can be used in schools to teach children of an appropriate age about what really happened on that day ten years ago, not some cheap cartoon coloring book that uses language offensive to Muslim-Americans and depicts one of our country's largest tragedies as nothing more than an aid to fine-tune children's motor skills.

David Adams can be reached at dadams@spartans.ut.edu.



Nathaniel St. Amour/The Minaret

According to Wayne Bell, this image of Osama bin Laden being fired at by a Navy SEAL is an appropriate image for a children's coloring book.

## Taxes for Citizens Rise While Corporations Pay Less

By ALEX CARABALLO

Opinion Writer

There is an increasing nature to the discrepancy between CEO pay and what the average American makes. Every few months or so an article or study comes out that highlights the absurdity of corporate excess and then everyone proceeds to bury their head in the collective sand again.

A published study by the Institute for Policy Studies recently highlighted the fact that a significant number of U.S. companies paid their CEO's more in compensation than they paid in federal income taxes. What this is suggesting is that corporations are taxed at such a low level that they are essentially not paying federal taxes, or as in the case of Exxon and General Electric, getting negative tax rates.

While overall tax policy is very technical and the actual accounting gimmicks used by corporations to dodge

taxes are extremely complex, this belies the point. As a society should we allow the wealthiest and biggest companies to pay little to no taxes while average Americans and small businesses pay almost a third of their income in taxes?

Poorer Americans are getting hit with a barrage of spending cuts just as they need them the most. Exploding deficits are causing states and the federal government to resort to painful austerity measures. Unemployment benefits are being slashed in various states including Florida while simultaneously being made extremely difficult to file a claim for.

Schools are being forced to cut an already meager teacher pay as well as after school activities, some even resorting to 4 day school weeks. State Medicaid benefits for impoverished and uninsured are being slashed as much as possible to the point where Medicaid patients in Arizona died due to a cut in transplant funding.

Meanwhile, 2010 was a record year for corporate profits in a time when 14 million unemployed Americans struggled to find a decent job. Corporations aren't doing anything constructive or beneficial with the record profit; they are just sitting on all that money with corporate cash reserves reaching almost \$2 trillion in 2011.

Corporations are also giving lavish raises and bonuses to their CEO's while at conducting massive layoffs at the same time. The average CEO in 2010 made \$10,762,304, up 27.8% from the year before while the average worker made \$33,121 with just a 3.3% rise from the previous year.

The average CEO now makes more than 325 times the average worker. For a comparison, in 1980 the average CEO pay compared to average worker pay was 40:1. The current political consensus has America convinced that companies need to be coddled and babied or else they won't

create jobs. Closing tax loopholes that allow them to outsource jobs to China and move profits to low tax countries is now considered "job killing tax hikes". It is as if they are spoiled siblings that get everything they want or they'll whine and cry till they do.

It is not just that CEO's are getting paid too much but also that corporations are taxed too little. This is a time when people are struggling to put food on the table and poorer Americans are dying from Medicaid cuts yet at the same time record profit and pay abound.

America is not broke as some say, we are the wealthiest nation and we can afford to make sure that our government can adequately provide for the general welfare. It's time for companies to start paying their fair share back to the country that allows them to be so prosperous in the first place.

Alex Caraballo can be reached at acaraballo21@gmail.com.



## Editorial: Just a Typical 29-Hour Work Day

I got up from my desk at 1:30 p.m. with bloodshot eyes, a watered down iced coffee I purchased from Einstein's six hours earlier and a grin larger than the Cheshire cat from *Alice In Wonderland*.

The final file for the September Orientation magazine was sent to the printer which meant two things: I had the pleasure of closing with my new staff the largest issue in The Minaret's 78 year history and I was certain I had been awake since the very first meeting back in 1933.

There were equal parts of excitement and terror running through my veins as I locked the office door; I was more anxious than ever. There was no question, we were all exhausted but recognized our long hours working would be worth seeing the issue in print. And now with our first two issues out, you may be wondering why this week's edition has reverted back to the typical newspaper format.

After a full year of issues, there was a consensus among the staff last May that our standard newspaper felt stale and was

in need of a more dynamic approach.

Discussing the concept of updating layouts and improving photography, we concluded there was much more we could do with a new creative outlet.

We were all in agreement, a magazine would create an opportunity for more compelling feature writing, intriguing photography, and enhanced visual and digital design, showcasing stronger stories from our regular weekly newspaper platform.

Thus, in between our weekly deadlines, we have added eight magazine issues into the mix, and plan to distribute them at the end of each month. Crazy idea? Perhaps. But I think our reasoning is rather simple; it's all about moderation.

- Mike Trobiano  
Editor-in-chief

The Editorial Board can be reached at [editor@theminaretonline.com](mailto:editor@theminaretonline.com) or you may submit a Letter to the Editor form online at [www.theminaretonline.com](http://www.theminaretonline.com).

## Youth Robs Man of Seven Cents

By JESSICA KEESEE  
Opinion Writer

When I think of a convicted felon, I imagine a beefy, tattooed, six-foot man with a grimace that would make a baby cry and a record with a slew of robbery and assault charges.

What I do not picture is a 15-year-old boy with too much time on his hands being charged with first-degree robbery for punching a 73-year-old man, and all for a whopping seven cents. It looks like convicted felons are getting a new face, and that face belongs to Anthony Stewart.

Last December, Stewart, a 15-year-old from Syracuse, New York, along with his friend, 16-year-old Skyler Ninham, mugged 73-year-old Eugene Degroat. Both teenagers punched and kicked Degroat in the face while threatening him with handguns, though Stewart later revealed that they were actually BB guns. This yielded the boys a mere seven cents.

Stewart was arrested Christmas morning for the mugging where he proceeded to confess the crime to police. It was not until his trial though that Stewart took back his confession and lied, saying that he and Ninham were at a friend's house when the crime took place, despite the fact that both Degroat and Ninham identified Stewart as one of the attackers.

While Ninham was sentenced to four years in state prison as a youthful offender, Stewart was sentenced much more harshly. Onondaga County Judge William Walsh was not too pleased that Stewart lied and rather than charging the teenager as a youthful offender, he charged him as an adult. Now, Stewart is being sentenced two to six years in state prison with a felony

permanently on his record.

What cracks me up about this case the most is the seven cents. It seems silly that a teenager will forever be a convicted felon all because he stole seven cents. Despite the apparent absurdity though, Stewart did commit a crime. What if Degroat had a thousand dollars when Stewart was mugging him?

What if he had some priceless artifact or a bag of rubies? He could have had nothing in his pockets. What Degroat had in his pockets really doesn't matter. What does matter is that Stewart and Ninham mugged this poor man, who was simply trying to deliver cold medicine to his girlfriend's mom, and yes, this 73-year-old man has a girlfriend. It isn't like murderers get off easier if they murder someone more humanely than if they butcher someone.

The one problem I have with this whole case though is the difference in punishment between Stewart and Ninham. Now I personally believe that lying about the mugging to Judge Walsh was one of the dumbest things that Stewart could have done, besides the mugging of course, but is it fair that he is being charged as an adult while his friend is only being charged as a youthful offender?

They committed the same crime but the difference is that one is a convicted felon for the rest of his life. I understand that Stewart's punishment should be a little harsher considering he lied but why not charge him for perjury instead?

I guess the moral of the story is that no money is worth a felony charge; especially seven cents.

Jessica Keesee can be reached at [jessica.keesee@spartans.ut.edu](mailto:jessica.keesee@spartans.ut.edu).

## Choose Your Own Apocalypse: Welcome to 2012

By JOHN JACOBS  
Opinion Writer

With the future of the NBA still unsure, Justin Bieber winning "best male video" at the VMA's and "Keeping up with the Kardashians" well into its 6th season, everyone's been thinking the same thing. The Mayan's were totally right.

Just in case you've been in a coma the last few years, the Mayan calendar predicts the world will come to an end on December 12th of 2012. And while they didn't predict exactly how it's going to happen, I'm assuming it'll be a lot like the John Cusack movie 2012 ... terrible.

But what exactly would be considered "the end of the world"? That could mean a lot of different things. Like what if I lost my cell phone, had my Facebook deleted, lost my ID at the club, AND got dumped all on the same day? I know like 48 girls who would consider that to be the end of the world, so who's to say what it means?

Personally, when I think of my world ending, I imagine losing everything I know and love and being forced to work for the rest of my life.

Bieber and Rebecca Black will get together for a charity concert hosted by that really pale kid from *Twilight* and that cat from YouTube that can play the piano.

Then when hundreds of millions of people show up the world will collapse in on itself from all that weight in one place causing the world to end. Seems totally possible to me, who wouldn't be all up in that dope concert?

Maybe the world will end from something classic, like a zombie takeover. We've all seen enough zombie movies and video games to be familiar with the situation. Some research team trying to cure erectile dysfunction in monkeys will accidentally create a virus that turns people into zombies.

Once one of the infected escapes, best case scenario you get to live in a mall for a couple weeks until the world is taken over. Just remember when it comes to zombies (and freshman girls) always go for the head.

Instead of a zombie virus spreading, a more likely scenario would be a super-STD virus brewing from the cast of "Jersey Shore." After having sex with everyone in



Cplbasilisk/flickr.com

You may be a zombie if you have listened to Justin Bieber, know what a "Snooki" is, believe *Twilight* is literature or do not know which seat of the car to sit in: front or back.

**The only thing that could protect you from the virus would be condoms.**

In other words "graduating college," a fate I'm sure many students in my position fear as well. However I'm not too worried about that happening to me, so let's consider some other potential world-ending scenarios.

Maybe next December, Miley Cyrus, Taylor Swift, Lady Gaga, Lil Wayne, Justin

New Jersey, Miami, and Italy, everyone on the show would be a carrier of the most destructive STD in the world.

The symptoms would include an uncontrollable urge to fist pump any time house music is on, losing all common sense and reasoning skills, and "smushing" everything that moved. It'd be a lot like

turning into a zombie except more stupid. And the only thing that could protect you from the virus would be condoms ... so basically the world would be screwed. That would truly be a terrible "situation."

But, honestly, I'm not too worried about the world coming to an end. Just because the Mayan calendar ends on Dec. 12, 2012 doesn't mean the world is going to end. The Mayan calendar-maker probably just got tired of making calendars thousands of years into the future.

I think if the world was actually going to end any time soon, there would be obvious signs like earthquakes, floods, tsunamis, tornadoes, droughts, wild fires, hurricanes, congressmen texting pictures of their "weiner" and white women getting away with murdering their children. But, luckily, none of those things have been happening. We should be fine.

John Jacobs can be reached at [jjacobs@spartans.ut.edu](mailto:jjacobs@spartans.ut.edu).



# Political Figures Discover the Thin Line Between Public and Private

By DOMINIQUE BARCHUS  
Opinion Writer

"A picture's worth a thousand words". Apparently that's not the phrase that came to mind for NY Rep. Anthony Weiner involving his "slip" tweeting a picture exposing himself to a female Seattle college student.

When the media first caught wind of

this incident, Weiner denied all allegations saying that his Twitter account was hacked and that he had nothing to do with the situation.

Interestingly enough, after many days of denial, he finally came clean and took full responsibility for his actions and admitted to his mistake, but not without adding that he did not mean for the picture to go public.

As expected, he did apologize for lying and hurting the people he cared about the most, but it didn't stop there. As a result of his frivolous actions, he resigned from office. It was not initially his intention to resign, but many pushed him to do so. Some wonder if it was the best decision he could have made and others strongly believe it was. Should one's private actions take a toll on their professional life when the two have nothing to do with each other?

Political figures are put on a higher pedestal and are expected to act with self-control and integrity; it is impossible to forget President Bill Clinton's highly publicized sex scandal with White House intern, Monica Lewinsky.

Multiple allegations of sexual contact surfaced between Clinton and Lewinsky, but, when questioned about them, Clinton denied all

accusations.

Thus, the infamous phrase "I did not have sexual relations with that woman" was born. He and Weiner alike, lied to the public and tried to spin their stories (and they wonder why politicians are stereotyped as liars).

Clinton explained that when he stated he never had sexual relations with Ms. Lewinsky, that he never did anything to sexually arouse her and that he was only the receiving party. In the end, an attempt at his impeachment was put into effect. Although, Clinton's impeachment failed and he was acquitted, his image was forever tainted.

I find it interesting and a bit unfair that Clinton was able to continue his career, yet Weiner was not. Clinton's incident seemed to be far more scandalous than Weiner's and he was of a higher political position. Would things be different for Weiner if never got caught? No one would ever know of his secret life.

The problem that I have with both of these incidents is that, both officials had a great political standing and relationship with the public.

However, both Clinton and Weiner had been up to questionable activities long before the public was made aware and absolutely certain that the accusations were true. Before their secrets were brought to light, no one was doubting their ability to succeed in their profession, but once their private life was unveiled, there is suddenly a rapid increase in people who would rather see them out of office.

Even for political figures, I think that people should be able to do as they please in private as long as it does not take a toll on their professional life. Their private life should be private, but because of the

position these individuals hold within society, it is unfortunate when things intended just for them are made known to everyone else.

Others believe that when the private activity of public officials become known, then it is a matter of concern and it will directly affect their work because everyone will be talking about it. Also, it will easily put doubts into the minds of the public as to whether or not they are fit to make important decisions for society, if they are unable to keep control of what is going on in their own lives.

Public officials, celebrities and other socialites are people too and people make mistakes. On the other hand, with the pedestal that others put them on I also think that they need to be more careful than the average person when making decisions.

These leaders have the same sexual urges that any regular person would have. It is understood that they need to act in a more dignified manner, but the fact that they are human needs to be taken into account as well.

Would things be any different if no one ever found out about what these political figures did in the dark? Think about it, if incidents of their private life were never reported, although

Weiner put all of his business out on one today's biggest social networks, would there be a problem? Is it more acceptable to have a mediocre official with a squeaky clean reputation or have a great official with a reputation that's a bit more tainted?

At the end of the day, our country's best interest should be the first priority and not necessarily the private affairs of our leaders.

Dominique Barchus can be reached at Dominique.Barchus@Spartans.ut.edu



Center for American Progress Action Fund/flickr.com  
Representative Weiner quickly found himself removed from politics after he tweeted an inappropriate picture of himself.



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# Looks Matter When It Comes to Online Dating

By ANNABELLA PALOPOLI  
Opinion Writer

Girls, I have two words for you: looks matter. It may not be what you want or expect to hear, as you've been told your whole life that "It's what's on the inside that counts."

Don't get me wrong, that's the way it should be. And under most circumstances it's true. However, your appearance may determine whether or not a guy decides to talk to you, at least on dating websites.

One might assume that a stellar personality would make up for any deficiencies in appearance. Or at least a weird, relatively unattractive personality would lessen the appeal of a beautiful girl, so I wanted to test that assumption.

I set up a little experiment. I created two dating profiles on the website plentyoffish.com, a dating website with "over 30 million registered singles!"

One profile represents an attractive girl who seems to be just one crayon short

of a full box while the other represents an average-looking girl with a great personality.

My first character's name is Alexandra. On her profile is a photo of a girl with a stunning smile, gorgeous eyes, a perfectly symmetrical face and long, wavy hair. In short, someone who seems to reflect the modern ideal of female beauty as shown in magazines and on television. She is 20-years-old and from Tampa, Fla. At first glance, everything seems normal ... until you actually read her profile information.

Alexandra is Wiccan, Wicca is a religion also known as Pagan Witchcraft. This probably doesn't match most religious preferences of people on the site. Her match preferences indicate that she is incredibly particular about the men she chooses, with one of them being "I only date single parents."

Furthermore, she lives alone with her six cats named Demetri, Zach, Bilbo Baggins, Satan, Muffin and Sir Meowington. To top it all off, the only hobby she has listed

is collecting marbles. Her personality is shown as high-maintenance, ditzy and a bit arrogant. Now, I'm not a guy, but I'm pretty sure this type of girl would turn off most, if not all sane men.

My next dating contestant, however, is a little less than "model-material." Michelle is a 20-year-old girl, also from Tampa, but her appearance greatly differs. Michelle has a rather large nose that is slightly disproportional to her face, small eyes and an awkward smile.

Her appearance would probably be considered average by today's society when compared to Alexandra's model-like features, but personality-wise,

Michelle is much more impressive than Alexandra. Michelle is shown as intelligent, outgoing and compassionate. Her interests include running, reading, spending time with family and listening to music. She is very open to all types of people and is willing to talk to anyone. Michelle, as it is strongly implied, is a friendly, lovable girl with whom many would probably enjoy

interacting.

Within five hours of putting these two profiles online, Michelle received seven messages and six "likes" on her page while Alexandra received 20 messages and 21 "likes." After two days, Michelle's grand total was 17 messages and 14 "likes" while Alexandra's was 42 messages and 45 "likes." The results of my small experiment show that, clearly, looks are more important than personality according to the men on dating websites.

On the other hand, you never know how much of this is just men trolling the site looking for pretty girls to hook up with. So girls, don't put too much stock in dating websites where clicks are cheap.

There's no investment or commitment; everything is as impulsive as a single click. Go out into the real world and meet someone the old-fashioned way where the richness of human companionship is more reliable.

Annabella Palopoli can be reached at Annabellapalopoli@gmail.com

## At Elmhurst College, Sexual Orientation is "Do Ask, Do Tell"

By TAYLOR WHITCOMB  
Opinion Writer

It's your senior year and you are beginning the process of applying to colleges to attend once you graduate. Throughout the stressful process, you are faced with deadlines, paperwork, essays, and... questions on your sexuality? Well, maybe not all of us were faced with the last one, but students applying to Elmhurst College in Illinois certainly were.

The first institution to do such, Elmhurst asks its applicants, among many other questions, "Would you consider yourself to be a member of the LGBT (lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgendered) community?" The new question has certainly raised quite a response, both in and out of the Elmhurst community.

Dean of Students at Elmhurst, Gary Rold, argues that the question is nothing more than an attempt to get to know the students better.

He aims to uphold the school's mission statement; "Elmhurst College inspires its students to form themselves intellectually and personally and to prepare for meaningful and ethical work in a multicultural, global society."

The optional question aspires to collect students that all aim to foster a community that is both diverse and tolerant.

But not all students may be comfortable answering such a question and when acceptance to a school is hanging in the balance, some students may feel pressured to answer a certain way, to cater to what they think the school wants to hear- thus not being honest with the school or themselves.

Also, those students who are not yet comfortable with their sexual orientation, may omit the truth, while inversely others may lie, answering "yes" to unfairly gain access to scholarships offered.

It would then fall upon the school to ensure the integrity of those students applying for the scholarship.

While the question, and more importantly the answer received, does not affect the admissions status of Elmhurst's applicant pool, I have to wonder whether or not an institution should be able to inquire about a person's sexual orientation.

As a member of the LGBT community, I personally feel that it is acceptable for an institution of higher education to inquire about a student's demographic, as long as

Lauren Aciri/The Minaret

that inquiry is non-obligatory; however, not all students are comfortable being open about their sexual orientation. The problem arises when the question is no longer optional, or when the answers determine the admissions status of the student.

In Elmhurst however, the answer is as straight-forward as "yes," "no," or "prefer not to answer." CEO of Chicago's Center on Halsted, Modesto Tico Valle points out that, "As our society continues to become more open and welcoming to Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender people, it makes sense that institutions are giving individuals more opportunities to express their diversity." But not all people are as optimistic as Valle.

At the University of Tampa, we are given plenty of ways to express ourselves as individuals, Director of Enrollment, Brent Benner says "We at the University of Tampa do not discriminate on the basis of sexual orientation, so in that sense, it really doesn't matter as far as admissions or life on campus as a UT student.

Since it has no academic or student life relevance, I personally see no value in asking such a question." Unlike Valle, Mr. Benner does believe such a question is necessary, or relevant.

While searching the web to find out a little bit more about this issue, I stumbled upon an article telling the story of Elmhurst, underneath the article was a public forum for

readers to post their opinions on the issue.

Many people seemed not to have a problem with the question being asked, but rather the focus became that LGBT students would qualify for scholarship money.

David E. Smith, executive director of Illinois Family Institute emulated this attitude by saying in a statement, "In defending their decision to include a question about 'sexual orientation,' by asserting an offensive and absurd comparison of race to a condition constituted by subjective desire and volitional sexual acts, Elmhurst College administrators reveal their own ignorance."

Cutting through the fancy wording, if I am not mistaken, Smith is calling sexual orientation a choice, one that the members of the LGBT community make willingly, and he deems that 'choice' unworthy of the same financial assistance that men and women of difference races might receive.

But I bet he would be hard pressed to find anyone who identifies themselves as LGBT, to agree that their sexual orientation is a choice.

Since when did anyone "choose" to be treated differently? Sexual orientation is not something that can be cured, ebbed or fixed as he suggests (though some people, such as Presidential Candidate Senator Michelle Bachmann may disagree).

Some members on the forum had an issue with scholarships being granted because of sexual orientation and criticized the idea,

going as far as saying that sooner or later students will no longer need to work towards a degree. I want to remind everyone that scholarships are there to provide students (because that is what we all are) the means to a higher education. It is during our time at an institution that we "earn a degree."

Ask any college student around; the work is still there, the bills at the end of the road are just a bit easier to bear. Also, consider this: it is acceptable for students of different ethnicities to receive financial aid/ awards based on their color. Correct?

Then why is it unacceptable for students of a different sexual orientation, who are a minority mind you, to receive aid? Is that not a hypocritical view?

Did you know that there are scholarships for such things as being left handed. So, those students in universities seeking aid, taking advantage of such scholarships, will (to quote one poster) "not earn a scholarship through grades, activities and hard work," but rather are being lazy and seeking "stars and smiles" as mentioned above? This just seems ignorant.

Smith, and many others on the forum believe that Elmhurst's comparison of students who identify themselves as LGBT to ethnic minorities is wrong. They do not believe that the LGBT community, to quote one poster, "deserves special treatment" because of their sexual orientation.

My challenge is this, what is, if not a minority, the LGBT community? Isn't a minority a group that makes up the lesser part of a whole? So then, where does this community not make the cut? And what about Elmhurst's actions qualifies as ignorant, Mr. Valle?

Obviously, this issue can become very sticky, very quickly, but I believe that the efforts of Elmhurst College to reach out to the LGBT community are a commendable attempt to recognize the increasingly accepted group.

I am not so sure when this issue became solely about scholarships, it is neither the point nor the most important piece of this article. It's about allowing those who are LGBT to feel comfortable at an institution that fosters diversity. This isn't politics; It's a step forward for a growing community of people.

Taylor Whitcomb can be reached at taylor.whitcomb@spartans.ut.edu.



# The Pharmaceutically Corrected Congress: A Practical Proposal

By MIKEY ANGELO RUMORE  
Opinion Writer

Remember Governor Rick Scott's policy of drug-testing welfare applicants? Remember that those opposed said that the tests would play on prejudice and stereotypes, and amount to a colossal waste of money? Well, since the policy has been enacted, only 2% of welfare applicants have tested positive for drugs. This is an extremely low statistic considering that the false-positive rate of drug testing is 5-10%.

Denying this 2% welfare amounts to \$40,800-\$98,400 in savings per year out of a \$178 million total cost (according to the Tampa Tribune), and these numbers don't reflect the costs of law enforcement and emergency room care that may arise as a result of turning these people away. Apologists for the policy say that welfare applications have gone down since the testing came into effect, but whether or not this happened because of the drug testing is up in the air—many could have simply found jobs. And applicants are required to front the drug test's cost, and they're applying for welfare.

A friend of mine proposed a retributory policy, that members of Congress should have to endure the same annoying drug tests. See how they like it, was the

rationale. I thought it a great idea, though for somewhat unrelated reasons. Drug testing government officials fits right in with my own plan for fixing partisan gridlock in Washington, and it's a practical one. Ready? Mandatory drug use.

Hear me out. Take just one drug—let's say pot—and apply it to every congressman and congresswoman. Does anyone really think Congress would be worse off under this scenario? For instance, a staffer could be hired to blow bong hits toward House Speaker John Boehner's face at any hint of righteous indignation. We can watch the THC lull him to sleep. It'll go something like this; Boehner: "What the 'Merican people want . . . people want . . . 'Merican people . . . 'Merica . . ." Boom. He's Out. Moderate congresspeople of all political stripes will peek out from their hiding places on Capitol Hill and sing, "Ding! Dong! We can legislate now!"

And, a la Bill Clinton, they don't even have to inhale. There's always brownies! Congressman Barney Frank may prefer this mode of ingestion.

Why stop with one drug? Different politicians have different deficiencies. Imagine, a pharmaceutically corrected government!

Harder stuff will have to be procured for Tea Party Republicans, probably LSD. Their political philosophy would make

much more sense as the result of an acid trip. There's something hippie about their anti-social safety net, bring back the gold standard, don't raise the debt ceiling brand of rhetoric. It seems to come naturally out of an acid head's mouth: "Hey, man, don't you know money's just like a fuckin' piece of paper, man? And the government, man, they're like big brother, man, always looking over your shoulder. They own you, man. So let's smash the system, stick it to 'em, bring the whole motherfucker down." Fits easily, doesn't it? So let's transform the Tea Partiers from mean-spirited economic troublemakers to benign, smelly, hippie-types. Who knows? Maybe they'll turn on, tune in, and drop out.

Generally, Democratic lawmakers should be prescribed uppers rather than downers. President Obama's lack of backbone could be corrected with simple amphetamines. Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid, who is more radically droopy, may require anything up to methamphetamine. I don't know. I'm not a doctor.

Let's say ecstasy all around for House Minority Leader Nancy Pelosi and the Democratic caucus. They sure could shed some of their "woe is me"-type attitude in time for election season. If any drug ensures bipartisanship, it's E. It's the kind of drug that could inspire a Max Cleland/Karl

Rove bro-hug. When properly medicated, we're all the same after all. It's the great untapped equalizer.

Okay, maybe this is a slightly Brave New World-ian proposal. But, medicated government officials isn't a new thing. President Kennedy treated his Addison's Disease-induced back pain with daily injections of speed. And people like him, don't they? Who knows how many other great American heroes were totally stoned. I'm not about to make any Ed Muskie on Ibogaine-type accusations, but the number's probably bigger than you'd think.

Hey, all I'm saying is that with Congressional approval rating at its lowest point ever, and President Obama not faring well either, it's time to consider unorthodox fixes. Mandatory drugging of government officials will require a new infrastructure for creating and administering the amount of drugs needed to pacify Washington (and trust me, we'll need a lot of drugs). Sounds like job creation to me. That on top of the jobs bills that could result through Washington getting along for a change. Ah, yes, change, that often abused political catchphrase. I, for one, mean it this time.

Mikey Angelo Rumore can be reached at [Michealangelorumore@gmail.com](mailto:Michealangelorumore@gmail.com)

# Representative King Mixes Muslims With Terrorists

## Statements by Peter King Exhibit Racist Undertones Against American Muslims

By KELSEY ALLAGOOD  
Opinion Writer

Representative Peter King has a problem with mainstream Muslims.

"It's not just people who are involved with the terrorists" that we have to worry about, said King (R-NY) in an October 2010 interview with radio personality Don Imus, "it is people who are in mainstream Islam, leaders of mosques... who do not come forward and denounce, officially denounce, officially cooperate with the police against those extremists."

As a result of this perceived lack of cooperation from Muslim leaders, King held a hearing in March 2011 on the subject of the radicalization of American Muslims, which drew criticism from civil rights organizations as well as members of King's own party. Another hearing is scheduled for Jun. 15.

Riding the tide of anti-Islamic sentiment that has gripped the United States since the attacks of Sept. 11, 2001, Peter King and others are ushering in a new version of McCarthyism (referencing Illinois senator Joseph McCarthy, who held anti-Communist hearings targeting many top politicians and celebrities during the Cold War).

Xenophobia—the hatred or fear of foreigners—is not a uniquely American phenomenon, nor is the United States one of the more oppressive states in the modern world.

Europe is currently having issues dealing with its own anti-Muslim sentiment, leading to a sweeping victory for xenophobic, far-right parties in elections in Finland, Sweden, Austria and other countries.

The record of the U.S. on xenophobia is cleaner than many nations, but not spotless: in the 1880s, during a period of high Chinese immigration to the U.S., the Chinese Exclusion Act was a law passed by Congress that aimed to bar Chinese immigrants from entering the country, and prevented Chinese immigrants already in the U.S. from being eligible for citizenship. This act was only repealed

in 1943, during another dark period in America's relationship with its immigrants.

Xenophobia continued for America during World War II, when following the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor, Hawaii in 1941, President Franklin D. Roosevelt implemented "War Relocation Camps" for Japanese-Americans. Over 110,000 Japanese-Americans were forcefully relocated into camps along the West Coast and in Hawaii for the duration of the Second World War. Many second or third generation American citizens were still treated like outsiders. American Muslims too are being regarded as foreigners rather than citizens.

In a 2004 interview with Fox News, King claimed, "80-85 percent of mosques in this country are controlled by Islamic

fundamentalists." He still has not provided proof. One of King's major points in the first round of hearings was that there was not enough cooperation from Muslim-Americans in the search for extremists in the U.S. In February 2011 a study was released by the Triangle Center on Terrorism and Homeland Security stated that of the 120 Muslims arrested in the U.S. on terrorism charges since 9/11, 40 percent were arrested due to information provided by other Muslim-Americans.

This is a staggeringly high statistic for a relatively low number of perpetrators (that same study found that there had been approximately 150,000 murders in the U.S. since 9/11).

Furthermore, a 2009 Gallup report

discovered that 70% of Muslim-Americans have jobs, as opposed to 64% of the U.S. population. This same report found that Muslims are the second-most educated religious community in the U.S. (after Jews).

Journalist John Esposito of the Washington Post notes that it is important remember that many Muslims immigrated to the U.S. to escape persecution and violence of their homelands, and "their families and friends in 'the old country' have been the primary victims of terrorist attacks" (compare the average of 3 American deaths due to terrorism per year, as cited in the Triangle report, to 150 per year in Iraq, or 70 in Russia). Not only did Muslims see friends and loved ones die alongside others on 9/11, but, Esposito argues, "they have seen their religion...vilified" by politicians and citizens around the world.

But these facts are not important to Peter King, who told Fox News that the idea that Muslims were also victims of the 9/11 attacks is a "myth." In his hearings of March 2011, King did not call as witnesses any Muslim community leaders or experts; the only law-enforcement official at the hearings testified that Muslims had been very cooperative in anti-terrorism efforts.

King's type of misinformation is toxic to the fabric of American society, especially when it is spread by political leaders. Inflammatory rhetoric like that perpetuated by King's hearings reverberates among many Americans, such as a California grandmother who declared to the New York Times' Laurie Goodstein: "Islam is not about a religion. It's a political government, and it's 100 percent against our Constitution."

In addition to enabling unfair and unfounded views on Islam, misleading statements can harm U.S. relations with the Middle East. If politicians like Peter King become more militant in order to appease uninformed constituents, the entire political system of the United States will be undermined — and that is precisely the goal of the extremists we are so worried about.

Kelsey Allagood can be reached at [kallagood@spartans.ut.edu](mailto:kallagood@spartans.ut.edu)

**"Islam is not about a religion. It's a political government, and it's 100 percent against our Constitution."**

- Laurie Goodstein, California grandmother



Philip Scott Andrews/The New York Times)

Rep. Peter King (R-N.Y.), chairman of the House Homeland Security Committee, at a hearing on Islamic radicalization inside U.S. prisons in Washington, on June 15, 2011. Witnesses called before the hearing said there is only a small risk from prison radicalization and only a dozen cases where it was a factor.



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# Sports

## A New Spartan Sport Brings a Potential New Star

Wayne Magee makes his way to UT with an already impressive resume

By MICHAEL PAONESSA  
Sports Writer

Lacrosse has arrived at the University of Tampa, and so has Wayne Magee. The two-time Junior College All-American might look normal walking around campus, but once he garnishes his skin in war paint, it's a different story.

Magee, who stands at 6 feet, 175 pounds will begin his junior year of college this fall as the school's number one recruit for the 2011-2012 lacrosse class.

He grew up in Mastic Beach, NY., which is located on the South Shore of Long Island about 70 miles from New York City.

Being an avid sports fan due to his father's passion for sports, he began to participate in soccer and football at a young age.

Growing up in a big family helped Magee develop a close bond to his brother, who also shared a passion for sports. The game that really grabbed Magee's attention was lacrosse. He picked up his first stick when he was in sixth grade and fell in love with the sport. He started to play offense in his early years, but as he continued to develop in the sport, the defensive side of the game really attracted his attention.

Since sixth grade, Magee has played lacrosse every year while also playing football in the fall. He attended William Floyd High School in southern Brookhaven, N.Y., and continued to excel at both sports.

His special moment came in his first high school lacrosse season as he entered his first varsity game.

"On-and-off in ninth grade I saw my first time in varsity," Magee said. "The coaches wanted me to get a few runs under my belt and from that point on I started to cover our opponent's best guy."

He started to stick out as one of the better players on the team. As attention from players and coaches came his way, Magee did his part to stay humble.

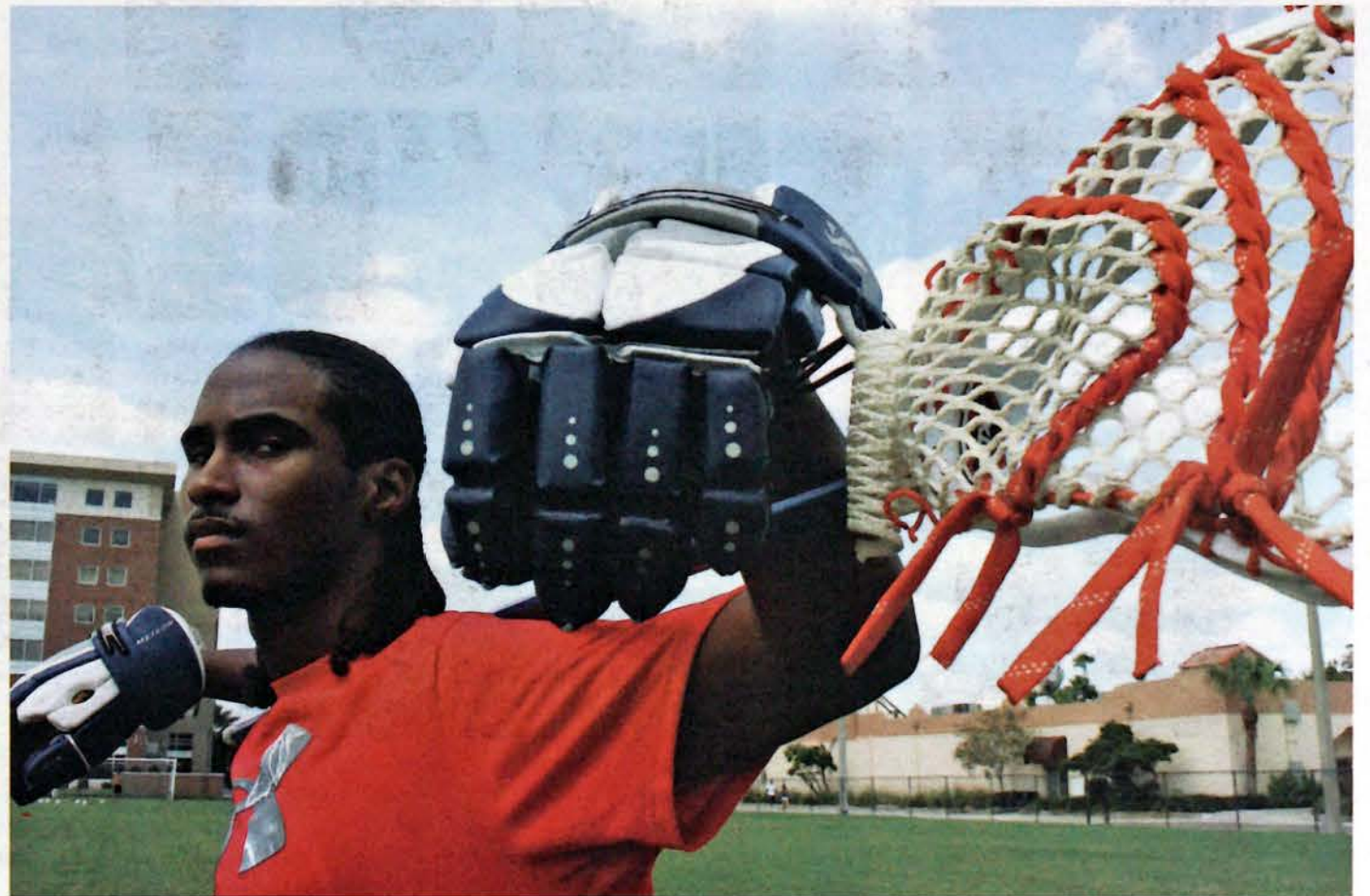
"I tried to never say that I was better than someone," said Magee. "People would tell me I'm better than the rest, but I never let it get to my head."

At the end of his high school tenure, he was voted the 179th best high school lacrosse player in the country by MaxPreps.com, which led him to begin thinking about his athletic and academic future.

Magee began to get scouted by Nassau Community College in Garden City, N.Y. NCC coaches started attending Magee's high school games and eventually invited Magee to come watch one of NCC's lacrosse games.

He liked what he saw and enrolled in the junior college in the fall of 2009. Magee packed his bags and moved to Hicksville, N.Y.

As the 2010 lacrosse season began play, Magee again put his name on the map. He helped lead his team to a staggering 14-2



Two-time Junior College All-American Wayne Magee is one of the top defenders in the country, according to UT Head Coach Rory Whipple. Magee began playing lacrosse when he was in sixth grade and made the varsity squad at William Floyd High School during his freshman year.

season and garnered first-team Junior College All-American honors.

"It was a big achievement," Magee said. "I didn't expect it. I was thinking there were too many defenders out there better than me, but I guess people saw otherwise."

His sophomore year brought the same heights and achievements as he again earned first-team All-American honors. This time, the award wasn't so much of a shock.

"The second year, I thought I performed even better than my freshman year and was happy of course to find out I was named All-American again," Magee said.

What makes Magee a special player is his willingness to sacrifice for the good of the team.

The personal awards are great in his mind, but if the team is winning and he is making his team better, then that's what makes Magee truly proud.

NCC lacrosse head coach, George Powers, saw the young man grow in his time with NCC.

"[Wayne] just has a great work ethic and focus on the game," Powers said. "He was the captain of the team his sophomore season and a two-time All-American. He's a very strong on-ball defender."

"He was really great at understanding the concept of team defense and he did that very well the two years he was with us. [Wayne] also has learned to play great off the ball."

Magee and the 2011 NCC lacrosse squad earned the right to play in the Junior College National Championships

in Herkimer, N.Y., after posting a 13-4 regular season record.

Although they lost in the opening round, Magee met his future head coach, Rory Whipple. Whipple, UT's lacrosse coach, met with Magee and talked to him about the possibility of enrolling in UT in the fall of 2011.

Although freshman recruits are fine, Whipple knew he had to assemble a talented group of polished junior college players to make his new lacrosse program at UT an instant success.

Coach Whipple, the winningest Division II lacrosse head coach in the country, liked what he saw out of Magee and believed that he was the best Junior College defenseman in the nation.

After a few more talks, Whipple found himself a new defenseman, and Magee had a new place to call his home; Tampa, Fla.

"I thought about heading south and didn't want to spend my next two years on Long Island again, I wanted to get out," Magee said.

"Coach Whipple came and talked to me and discussed how beautiful the campus was and everything great about UT so I said yes and took a shot on it, and I think I'm going to love it down [here]."

Whipple could not be happier to have the junior on his team and gives credit to the very valuable abilities that Magee's game and attitude to the sport possesses.

"Wayne is very fast, quick and has great speed to close down on opposing attack men," Coach Whipple said. "He also has fast feet and he will be very hard to run by and score."

"I look at him to be a hopeful Division-II All-American while he is here and he will be playing our opponents' number one attack men and hopefully shutting them down."

With a first-year program, it is safe to say that Magee will be one of the most talented players on the team.

For any sports team, a leader is needed and both coach Powers and coach Whipple believe that he will become that needed element.

"He leads by example," Powers said. "For a young program he will be a great role model for the young kids down in Tampa."

Whipple sees Magee as being a very vocal player on the field this spring and a player whose teammates will look at and want to follow because of his great work ethic and performance on the field.

"I'm really excited to meet the team and see what type of chemistry we can build and how far it will take us to succeed in games and tournaments," said Magee.

As the number one lacrosse recruit enters UT, there is no doubt that Magee has the right attitude stepping onto the field every single practice and every single game.

According to Magee, once he steps on the field, he turns into what he likes to call, a warrior.

"It may sound funny, but my mentality is of a warrior when I play lacrosse," Magee said. "I feel like I'm in battle, I put on face paint and get into my zone, it's as simple as that."

Michael Paonessa can be reached at [mpaonessa@spartans.ut.edu](mailto:mpaonessa@spartans.ut.edu).



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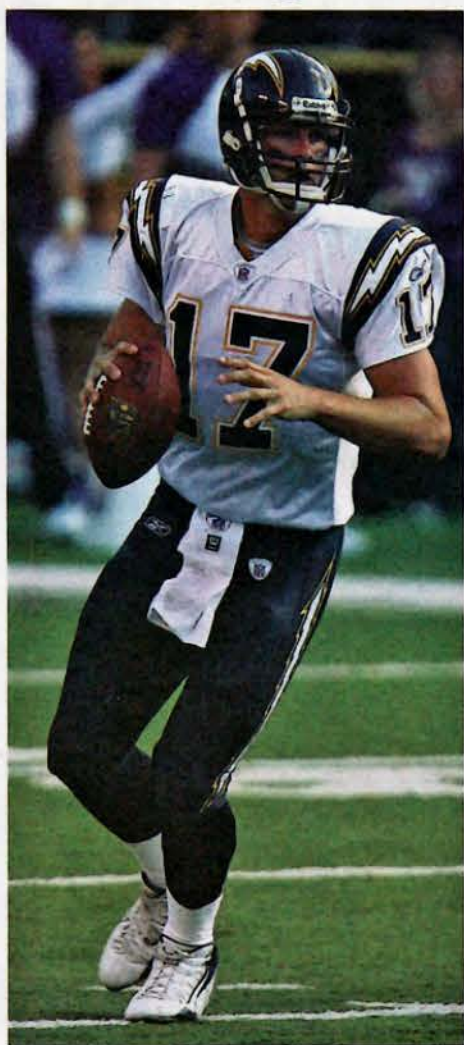


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# Pro Sports

## 'The Eagles Won't Win' and Other Bold NFL Predictions



Keith Allison/flickr.com

Quarterback Phillip Rivers guides a Chargers offense that led the NFL in total yards in 2010.

By **JOE BEAUDOIN**  
Sports Writer

Summer has come to an end but on the bright side, football season is upon us. With the unusual offseason there is a ton of suspense and questions surrounding this coming NFL season.

One of the biggest unknowns is if the Philadelphia Eagles are going to the Superbowl. The front office has put together a good team on paper and many Eagle fans have already booked their trip to Disney World. The organization has also made Michael Vick the "top dog" and with the additions of Nnamdi Asomugha and Cullen Jenkins their defense will be hard to pierce.

The Eagles might have made the best offseason moves in the NFL but they still have to play in one of the hardest divisions in football. This will be their toughest obstacle this season and the NFC East might drain the Eagles players leaving them with nothing left in the tank come playoff time.

A team that will surprise many is the Tampa Bay Buccaneers. Josh Freeman has another season under his belt while Mike Williams and LaGarrette Blount have turned into two extremely valuable weapons. Their defense also got much stronger from the draft.

You can look to see Tampa Bay making the hurdle into the playoffs winning the wild card. One can only hope that at least

one of the Buccaneers home games will be televised this season.

Since the Eagles are not going to the Superbowl from the NFC, that leaves the Green Bay Packers. The defending Super Bowl Champions will take the NFC crown for the second year in a row.

Aaron Rodgers has turned into one of the best quarterback's in the NFL and do not forget that the Packers are getting their running game back with Ryan Grant. This is just one more weapon at Rodgers' disposal.

A.J. Hawk is another year older and look for an increase in the 13.5 sacks that he had in 2010. Do not be surprised when Hawk wins the NFL Defensive Player of the Year award after helping Green Bay run away with the NFC North title.

The AFC also has many mysteries. One can only wonder if the New York Jets have it in them to make it to the AFC Championship for the third year in a row.

All signs are pointing to them not being able to and it would not be surprising if they miss the playoffs all together. They took a major down grade at wide receiver this offseason. Mark Sanchez's favorite target, Braylon Edwards was replaced with inmate 09-R-3260: Plaxico Burress.

It is a joke that people are labeling Burress as the Jets redzone savior. They would be better off throwing the ball to Rex Ryan. Imagine trying to tackle him especially with that "not even a little bit trashy" tattoo on his leg.

Even with all the questions, the one certain thing in the AFC is that the Denver Broncos will be awful. The main reason is that Kyle Orton is their starting quarterback and there's not much help behind him with Tim Tebow. I know I am in Florida and people in this state think that Tebow is God's gift to earth but he was probably the worst quarterback drafted in the first round since JaMarcus Russell. Josh McDaniels put this franchise behind at least five years or however long it takes them to give Brady Quinn the starting job.

The Superbowl champion will come out of the AFC and it will be the San Diego Chargers. With Philip Rivers at the helm and weapons such as Antonio Gates and Vincent Jackson, the Chargers will be unstoppable. Look for Ryan Mathews to have a breakout year and emerge as a top running back. The defense also added Bob Sanders and if he can stay healthy, San Diego will have one of the most punishing defenses in the League.

Rivers will throw for over 4000 yards for the fourth year in a row and win the NFL Most Valuable Player award. It'll go great next to his Superbowl MVP award on the mantle.

This season will be packed with thrills and many surprises. Come November, no one will be thinking of the offseason that could have ruined football forever.

Joe Beaudoin can be reached at [jbeaudoin@spartans.ut.edu](mailto:jbeaudoin@spartans.ut.edu).

## Fantasy Football Sleepers, Busts: Your Draft Day Handbook

By **SHAWN FERRIS**  
Sports Writer

It's the most wonderful time of the year. The time of year where everyone buries their heads in magazines and reads countless articles on the Internet, looking for any edge because they want this year to be *their* year.

It's about being prepared. It's about having a plan. It's fantasy football season.

Here are some guys that are being undervalued in drafts and should be on your radar going into your prospective drafts because of upside and increased opportunity:

**Quarterback - Matthew Stafford, Detroit Lions:** After starting off strong in the first three games of the 2010 season (6 TD, 1 INT) Stafford's season was once again cut short when he injured his throwing shoulder during the latter stages of the Lions' Week 3 matchup vs. the Bears.

Now coming into his third year as an NFL quarterback, and equipped with an improving Lions' offensive line and a few dynamic weapons in WR Calvin Johnson, RB Jahvid Best out of the backfield and TE Brandon Pettigrew, this could be the year Stafford makes the leap. He's also had a very impressive preseason.

**Running Back - Tim Hightower, Washington Redskins:** After the Cardinals drafted Virginia Tech running back Ryan Williams in this year's draft, Hightower became expendable in a backfield that already included Beanie Wells. After being traded to the Redskins for a 6th round pick, Hightower joined a backfield that already included Ryan Torain, rookie Roy Helu, and pass catching specialist Keiland Williams.

Now three games into the preseason, Hightower has been nothing short of impressive thus far (170 YDS, 6.8 YPC) and seems to have run away with the starting RB job in Mike Shanahan's run-first offense.

**Wide Receiver - Antonio Brown, Pittsburgh Steelers:** Who's been the most explosive player this preseason at the WR position? Antonio Brown, of course! All right, who are we kidding, you probably don't know who that is.

That's what I'm here for. Brown has lit it up so far this preseason, blowing by corners and even safeties with his 4.35 speed and making big plays on the regular, including touchdown catches of 29, 44, and 77 yards. Big Ben likes to throw it deep, and Brown can go get it. So

the only question you have to ask yourself is, what can Brown do for your fantasy football season?

Look, everyone would love to pick the next Arian Foster late in one of their drafts and ride him to a championship, but if that doesn't happen, the key to your fantasy football championship may come down to avoiding reaching for players that lack upside.



Here are some of the players being overvalued in drafts that you should be aware of:

**Quarterback - Michael Vick, Philadelphia Eagles:** Look, there's no denying the guy's talented and that when he plays he has the chance to single-handedly

beat your opponent on any given week. But as a first-round pick? I want a guy with a little less risk. The offensive line is atrocious, and unfortunately it seems like it's not if Vick gets hurt this year, it's *when*.

If he manages to make it to the end of the 2nd round, go ahead and take him, if not, let someone else deal with the 4 to 6 games Vick will probably miss this season.

**Running Back - Peyton Hillis, Cleveland Browns:** The cover-boy of

this year's Madden 12 video game, Hillis exploded onto the scene and shocked the fantasy world by finishing as the No. 4 RB in all of fantasy football at year's end.

Unfortunately, although he can catch the ball out of the backfield and has some unbelievable athleticism at his disposal, I think you'll see more of the Hillis from the final five games of last year (60 total YPG, 0TD's), than the Hillis from the first 11 games of 2010 (over 100 total YPG, 10 TD's). He'll have his moments, but he won't come close to reaching his draft day value.

**Wide Receiver - Dez Bryant, Dallas Cowboys:** A guy who comes directly from the mold of boom-or-bust receivers, Bryant is much too inconsistent in an offense that already has fantasy studs Miles Austin and Jason Witten.

He has the tools to blow up at any moment (he's 6' 4", 225 with 4.4 speed), but he lacks the route running ability of a number one receiver.

If he falls out of the top 50, I'll take a shot at him, but as my number one fantasy WR (which is what he's being drafted as), not a chance.

To read Shawn Ferris' picks in their entirety, visit [www.theminaretonline.com](http://www.theminaretonline.com).

Shawn Ferris can be reached at [sferris@spartans.ut.edu](mailto:sferris@spartans.ut.edu).

## Talk of the Town

Professional Sporting  
Events in the Region



@



@



The Rays remain on the cusp of contention with a winning percentage over .600 since July 28. They open a series at home with the 2nd place Red Sox on Friday, Sept. 9 at 7:10 p.m.

The Bucs open the season at home against the Lions on Sunday, Sept. 11. Their offseason was highlighted by the arrest of cornerback Aqib Talib and the signing of punter Michael Koenen.

FC Tampa Bay clinched a spot in the North American Soccer League Playoffs Sunday, after defeating the Minnesota Stars by a score of 2-1. The playoff birth is the first in franchise history.



# UT Ice Hockey Team Nets ACHA Schedule

Players express excitement for a more meaningful campaign

By APRIL WEINER  
Sports Writer

The University of Tampa club ice hockey team is getting ready to kick-off their 2011-12 season this weekend with a faceoff at Embry Riddle. They're facing a tough schedule. With 14 games this semester, it's a big difference from last year, when the team only had a couple of games.

"I think [the schedule] is going to be good for our team because we'll get into a rhythm, whereas we're not going to have two months in between games or a long semester break," said Mark Baccoli, one of the team's goaltenders.

The full schedule has other advantages too, according to Baccoli. "[If] some don't go well, we'll be able to bounce right back when we'll play our next games the next week."

Playing 14 games in one semester means that most weekends will be taken up with one or two hockey games, which can be difficult to manage around a full schedule of classes.

"We come here for school first and then hockey. That's something that coach stresses, but naturally everyone on the team is a hockey player first, so we're prepared to take down a full schedule," said assistant captain Cody Kopf.

The full season can be difficult to prepare for, especially since the team is already beginning with preseason matchups this weekend. However, its coaches, led by head coach Dr. Steve Kucera, are working

to make sure they're physically and mentally prepared to begin their season, as the team has had many on-ice practices and off-ice conditioning as well, since arriving in town for school.

"It's really going to come down to the guys and how quickly they can gel together," Kucera said.

"And hopefully I'm helping create an environment that helps them do that and put them in a position where they're really competitive."

This season, the team will face mostly new opponents; they've only faced Florida Institute of Technology and University of North Florida before. One of the team's games, which is set for next weekend, pits the teams against last season's division runner-up, Florida Gulf Coast University.

"Whoever is in goal is going to have to be ready and plan on facing 40 or 50 shots," Baccoli said, "but that's something we've done in the past and come through." Baccoli and the team's goaltending squad is up to the challenge; last season, Baccoli made a career-best 41 saves in one game.

Goaltending is just one aspect of winning a hockey game though. "It's not just a single goaltender effort; it's a whole team effort. We need to score three or four goals in those games. We want to win. We've done it in the past and I think we've got some chances here," Baccoli said.

"Gulf Coast is definitely a challenge for us, but we're down for big challenges head on. We're not afraid of anyone," Kopf said.

"Coming at them prepared is important

for us. As far as experience goes, they definitely have that on us, so it should be an interesting matchup. But that's just one team out of eight that we'll be playing against [this season]."

Another new aspect this year is that the team will finally be facing American Collegiate Hockey Association opponents and playing official ACHA games. FIT and UNF are not ACHA teams and the team only played USF in a scrimmage, so the team will playing its first official ACHA games this season. One might think some of the novelty might have worn off, that isn't true in this team's case.

"I don't think [the excitement] has waned. I think it's actually built because we have a real schedule," Kucera said. "The bookstore is selling University of Tampa hockey shirts this year and I heard that the first day they were selling them, they sold out, so I'm hopeful that there's a lot of excitement."

Freshman Joe Smith is looking forward to his first season with the team. "[I'm looking forward to] surprising people because we're new, no one really thinks we're going to be that good [yet]. [But] I think we got a lot of talent here."

"I'm very happy to have a great bunch of guys and looking forward to a great season," Kucera said. "Whatever's going to happen, we're going to play really hard, tough, respectable hockey and if we do and we're disciplined, hopefully good things will fall into place."

April Weiner can be reached at april.weiner@spartans.ut.edu.

## SEPTEMBER SPORTS SCHEDULE

### Friday, Sept. 9

#### Volleyball

vs. Pittsburg State, at Warrensburg, Mo., noon

vs. Azusa Pacific, at Warrensburg, Mo., 5 p.m.

#### Cross Country

USF Open, 6 p.m.

#### W. Soccer

vs. Webber International, 7 p.m.

### Saturday, Sept. 10

#### Volleyball

vs. #17 Emporia State, in Warrensburg, Mo. 11 a.m.

at #8 Central Missouri, 5 p.m.

### Sunday, Sept. 11

#### W. Soccer

vs. Mercy, 11 a.m.

#### M. Soccer

vs. Florida Memorial, 1:30 p.m.



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Magee Arrives [17]



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## SPORTS



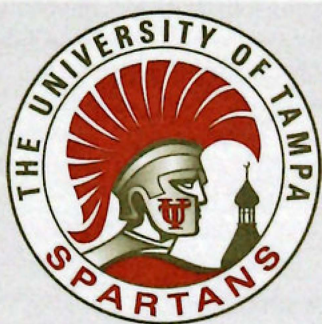
NFL Opening Week [18]

# Game Cancellation Sends Men's Soccer Scrambling

Jacksonville University backs out of UT season opener

*UT Season Opener*

*September 1*



vs ?



By KYLE BENNETT  
Social Media Director

The 2011 men's soccer team prepared all summer for its season opener against Division I opponent Jacksonville University on Sept. 1 at the Dolphins' home field. Two weeks prior to kickoff, however, Dolphins' head coach Mike Johnson canceled the game. According to Spartans' head coach Adrian Bush, Johnson gave no explanation to accompany the decision.

"It's unfortunate because I don't think any consideration was given to the type of situation this puts us in as a university," Bush said. "I think it's wrong. I think it's unprofessional."

The game cancellation put UT in a difficult spot. The Spartans only had 14 regular season games on their schedule. Per NCAA regulations, a team must play 16 games to be eligible to play in the NCAA tournament.

The Spartans opened their season on the road against No. 5 Clayton State on Sept. 6. In an attempt to fulfill the team's NCAA game requirements, the Spartans were able to schedule a game against Piedmont College. The difficult part for Tampa was that both games were scheduled at the same time, approximately 90 miles away from each other. This

forced UT to play a virtual split squad during the regular season for the first time in program history.

The split squad would prove to be a feat that Tampa was not able to overcome as they lost both contests in overtime, falling 2-1 to No. 5 Clayton State (OT) and 3-2 (2OT) to Piedmont College.

Jacksonville's coach described the situation as a major miscommunication. "There was a lot of communication that dated as far back as December," Johnson said. "There is definitely two sides to the story, and Adrian never called me to talk about anything."

Johnson mentioned that an agreement was never made between the two coaches.

According to emails obtained by The Minaret, coach Bush emailed coach Johnson asking for host hotel information, but never even mentioned that they had a game scheduled. Coach Johnson replied to the email stating scheduling conflicts had occurred.

"Due to scheduling conflicts that happened in the past week, we will not be able to play this season. I am sorry for the inconvenience that this causes for you guys" the email read. "I hope you guys have a great year and wish you the best of luck."

The email was both upsetting and

confusing to coach Bush. "If we never had a game scheduled, why did he cancel it?" Bush rhetorically asked.

Coach Bush responded to this email asking for any sort of reasoning and explained the dire situation this put the UT program in. According to Bush, a response has yet to be returned.

Since he has yet to hear from coach Johnson or the Jacksonville Athletic Department, coach Bush came to the conclusion that the game was canceled because if the Dolphins lost the game, it would drastically affect their RPI (ratings percentage index).

The Dolphins only have 17 games on their schedule and have a break from Aug. 26 to Sept. 4, which is what frustrated Bush further. "If they would have had 18 games or a game the next day and they had to move it, I could understand," Bush said. "There was absolutely no reason for them to cancel this game. The only thing that is there is that it would affect their RPI."

According to additional emails obtained by The Minaret, this is not a new occurrence for the Jacksonville soccer program. At least five head coaches indicated the same type of inconvenience was dropped on their respective programs with very little notice and no reasons given.

One email confirmed coach Bush's suspicions about the program's concern of a loss affecting their RPI. "I know the AD doesn't want his school playing (and getting beat) by Division II teams," the email read.

Bush went on to say that he contacted every Division II school in the country and heard from at least 10 coaches that the same thing has happened to them in the past four to five years.

"That's the problem when you're at the University of Tampa," Bush said. "Most of your teams are solid, and people act like they want to play good competition, but when it comes down to it, no one wants to lose."

Tampa athletic director Larry Marfise tempered the situation a bit, saying that the fault lies on both coaches. "We messed up. We should have made sure we had an ironclad contract of some kind, but we didn't," he said. "It's just unfortunate for us because it puts us in a real bind."

The Jacksonville Athletic Department did not return numerous messages left with the media relations department. The Minaret tried to talk with the athletic director, as well as other personnel within the department, but calls were not returned.

Kyle Bennett can be reached at kbennett.ut@gmail.com.

# Volleyball Returns in Search of National Title Revenge



Samantha Battersby/The Minaret  
Junior Danielle Selkridge (left) is one of two returning starters for the SSC favorite Spartans.

By JOHN HILSENROTH  
Sports Writer

The University of Tampa volleyball team began its season last Thursday, September 1. After a 2010 season of exhilarating finishes, and a loss in the national championship game, returning players and coaches had a long offseason to settle their emotions.

"At times I wish I would have done things differently," said coach Chris Catanach. "Yes, second place is for losers, but how many teams in the country played for that? I'm so proud of our girls."

The Spartans are preseason favorites for the SSC title, even with only two starters returning.

"I think other teams would have definitely qualified to be atop the preseason poll, but it is a great honor for us to be here for the last eight or nine years," said Catanach. "It's a great tribute to our program. We have the most pressure every year, and a target on our back."

Danielle Selkridge is one of the two returning starters. The 6-foot-2-inch junior was second-team All-American last year, and ranked third on the team in kills. "Last year was a painful disappointment," said

Selkridge. "It was disheartening. We were so close to our goal, but we came up just short. The taste in my mouth is definitely still there, but we're looking forward to this season."

Freshman Meagan Burke knows the feeling of coming up just short.

"I lost in two championship games while in high school, and it's the worst feeling in the world," said Burke.

The recruit visited the university last year and felt at home. "I wanted to stay close to home," said Burke, a Jacksonville, Fla., native. "I met the girls, and they were all so welcoming and nice. And when I watched them play, I knew I wanted to be a part of this team."

It won't be easy to return to the national championship with four new starters, but the Spartans are off to a good start. They handled their first two opponents easily, shutting out both Tiffin College and No. 15 Lewis College in three sets.

"The first game jitters are definitely out," said Selkridge. "Once we keep playing together and practicing and working, the chemistry will come."

Conference play begins September 16.

John Hilsenroth can be reached at jhilsenroth@spartans.ut.edu.