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#MentalHealthCantWait: Julia Boorse Leads Campaign for Mental Health Awareness

By BRIANNA KWASNIK
News Writer

College is a stressful time for many students. Forced to juggle work, school, and a social life, while being far away from home is an exhausting task for some. While many are affected by the same challenges, few do anything to raise awareness regarding the issues, and instead struggle in silence. One UT freshman decided she wanted to open the lines of communication to discuss the issues we all face at one point or another in our lives.

Julia Boorse, UT freshman and YouTuber decided to utilize her platform to open the lines of communication regarding mental illness. With over 40,000 subscribers, Boorse moved away from her typical lighthearted prank and challenge videos to address mental health. She announced her project to sell bracelets with the words, "Mental Health Can't Wait... Start Talking."

Approximately 26.2 percent of Americans over the age of 18 will suffer from a diagnosable mental illness in a given year, according to a 2014 report conducted by the National Institute of Mental Health.

"Since I do have a lot of followers, I was in a good position to offer advice,

and offer help. A lot of the followers are younger, who look up to people they watch online," Boorse said.

Although Boorse revealed she has not personally been affected much by mental health, she admits to have felt low during high school. She noticed people around her were struggling with good mental health, and wanted to do what she could to help. Boorse further commented there is still a large social stigma against the issue, and wanted to do what she could to help to put an end to it, or, at the very least, change people's perception of how they view those who struggle.

"The campaign is something that is very noble, as mental health issues affect a great number of people, and stress is a part of a good amount of college students everyday lives," said junior film and media arts major and pledge education chair of Delta Kappa Alpha fraternity (DKA), David Rinere.

Boorse's first goal in establishing the campaign "Mental Health Can't Wait" was to raise awareness, the second goal was to raise money. The proceeds she receives from the sale of the bracelets will go to the American Foundation for Suicide Prevention.

She started with the goal of selling 200 bracelets, sending some home to her friends and family in Pennsylvania



Mental Health Can't Wait
JULHIPPO - THU, FEB 05 2015 15:32:03

Julhippo/YouTube

to help with her efforts.

"The Mental Health Can't Wait campaign is something that everyone needs to pay attention to," said freshman communications major Sam Chubbuck, and member of DKA with Boorse.

Chubbuck said that if people are having trouble, help should always be welcome.

It is so important to have a backbone, and now this campaign is providing the support that people

need," Chubbuck said.

Junior film and media arts major and president of DKA, Alex Woodward describes feeling many emotions after seeing Julia's campaign. She was disheartened to learn that the statistics were so high, and mad that the number did not shock her.

"I'm glad that Julia is speaking up on this matter because when you're depressed, you feel like you have no

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Women's Lacrosse Team Sets New Scoring Record Scoring

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Student DJ Debuts at Party in Park



Photo courtesy of Spencer Haberman
Kyle Fitzgibbons was given the opportunity to open at Party in the Park and fired up the crowd.

By MADISON IRWIN
News Writer

Thousands of students crammed into Plant Park on March 21 for UT's annual Party in the Park, hosted by Student Productions. With 3,000 tickets sold, it's no surprise so many students were ecstatic to see this year's performer, Big Sean. But most didn't realize his opening act, Madnap, is a UT student.

Kyle Fitzgibbons, a sophomore communications major, DJs and produces his own electronic music. Fitzgibbons knows a few people in Student Productions and had been asking them to let him open for Party in the Park since the Fall semester, even before he knew Big Sean was performing.

"I was incredibly excited when they told me I could open the show, especially after finding out that Big Sean was playing," Fitzgibbons said. He wasn't nervous until right before going on stage, but was 100 percent in the zone once he started playing his music.

"I thought it went really well; the energy of the crowd was awesome," Fitzgibbons said. "I played some of my electronic music, as well as other stuff that anyone could appreciate. The goal was to get everyone hyped up before the main event."

Born and raised in Chicago, Fitzgibbons

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MINARET

EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

Mia Glatter
mia.glatter@theminaretonline.com

MANAGING EDITOR

Lauren Richey
lauren.richey@theminaretonline.com

ART DIRECTOR

Justine Parks
justine.parks@theminaretonline.com

NEWS + FEATURES

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

ARTS + ENTERTAINMENT

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

OPINION

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

SPORTS

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

MULTIMEDIA

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

PHOTOGRAPHY

Casey Budd, Editor
casey.budd@theminaretonline.com

ADVISER

Tiffini Theisen
ttheisen@ut.edu

COPY EDITORS

Khadijah Khan, Head Copy Editor
khadijah.khan@theminaretonline.com
Tess Sheets, Copy Editor
tess.sheets@theminaretonline.com
Jordan Walsh, Copy Editor
jordan.walsh@theminaretonline.com
Daina Stanley, Copy Editor
daina.stanley@spartans.ut.edu

STAFF WRITERS

Ann Marie Distasi
Erin Townsend
Andrew Stames
Melissa Torre

COLUMNISTS

Marcus Mitchell
Griffin Guinta

MORE INFORMATION

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

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Student Government Senior Week Exciting Installments

By KATIE DRAKE

Opinion Writer

With May graduation in less than six weeks, many seniors are trying to make every second count. Thanks to Student Government, seniors now have a whole week dedicated to doing just that.

Senior Week, April 6-10, is available to all seniors who graduate this May, August or December. Last year, Student Government planned a trip to Disney World for seniors, but because it was only for one day, many students had prior engagements and were not able to attend.

"I think that this Senior Week is a great improvement already," senior communications major Brienne MacNeil said. "For people who couldn't make it to that one specific day couldn't do it, so I think doing it for a whole week with different events this year, it's already allowing so many more people an opportunity to go to at least one event."

Due to the lack on interest and attendance last year, SG created a five-day schedule in which students can choose which ones they would like to attend.

"We wanted to expand to Senior Week with a bucket list theme centered to the UT experience with different days so more people can go," said SG's director of programming, Veronica Mercier.

Monday starts off with a Minaret climb, something everyone should do at least once in their time at UT, and is followed by a bagel bar. Tuesday is the Rays vs. Orioles baseball game, and free tickets are available to all students, not just seniors. Wednesday is a campus-wide Spartan putt-putt. On Thursday,

students can attend a free Tampa Bay Lightning game with special access to the party deck where they can purchase \$2 beers for students of legal age. The final event on Friday is paddle boarding and kayaking on the Hillsborough River.

Many students are excited about the Minaret climb, which normally isn't available for students except on special occasions such as Family Weekend.

"I've always wanted to climb the minarets ever since I was a freshman," senior psychology major Christine Albury said. "It's awesome now that I get a chance to."

The minaret climb and the paddle boarding events both closed within the first week of ticket sales. A limited number of tickets was available due to safety reasons. Each opening for the minaret climb allows four people at a time, and each climb is 20 minutes long. For Friday's paddleboarding event, 18 people can participate per hour.

"As far as the limitations, most of it stems from lack of staff and safety," SG President Kristin Anderson said. "The minarets for example can only fit four students at once, and we have to staff the event as well as work with facilities. The paddle boarding was a similar situation, because there is a lot of liability associated with the activity, and we are outsourcing the event through a company. We must follow the restrictions provided to us."

Student Government was given approximately 500 tickets for both the Rays and Lightning game, almost enough to fill a section. The only event with no cap is the putt-putt or mini golf event Wednesday.

"I only signed up for the Lightning game. I wanted to do the

minaret climb, but it was full once I went to get my ticket," senior marketing major Jordan Sypek said.

There has been a great response to the "bucket list" theme implemented this year. There are activities for everyone from sports to outdoor activities and sightseeing.

"All of the events they picked were fun and definitely things all seniors would want to do before they graduate," Sypek said.

"Our budget for Senior Week is also very minimal in comparison to other events we fund on campus," Anderson said. "We have worked hard this year with the campus and our off-campus affiliates to get the most bang for our buck and to allow every UT senior graduating in either May 2015, August 2015 or December 2015 to be able to attend an event."

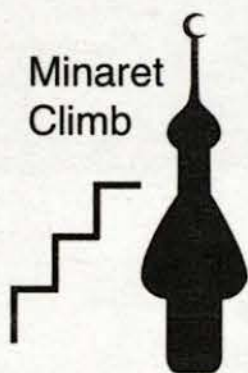
If any remaining seniors are interesting in signing up, they can bring their Spartan ID to the second floor of Vaughn, room 220, to claim their spots. Ticket pickup will end this Friday at 5 p.m.

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

SG Senior Week April 6-10

Monday

Minaret Climb



Tuesday

Rays v. Orioles



Free tickets for all students

Wednesday

Campus-wide Putt-Putt



Thursday

Free Lightning Game



Park Deck \$2 Beers

Friday

Paddle Boating & Kayaking on Hillsborough River



Wendy French/The Minaret

Advluence Founder Rooted in UT Community

By **BIANCA LOPEZ**

News Writer

When many students think of the near future, it is accompanied by cringes and ugly cries. It's hard enough to figure out what you want to eat for lunch tomorrow, much less what you want to do with the rest of your life.

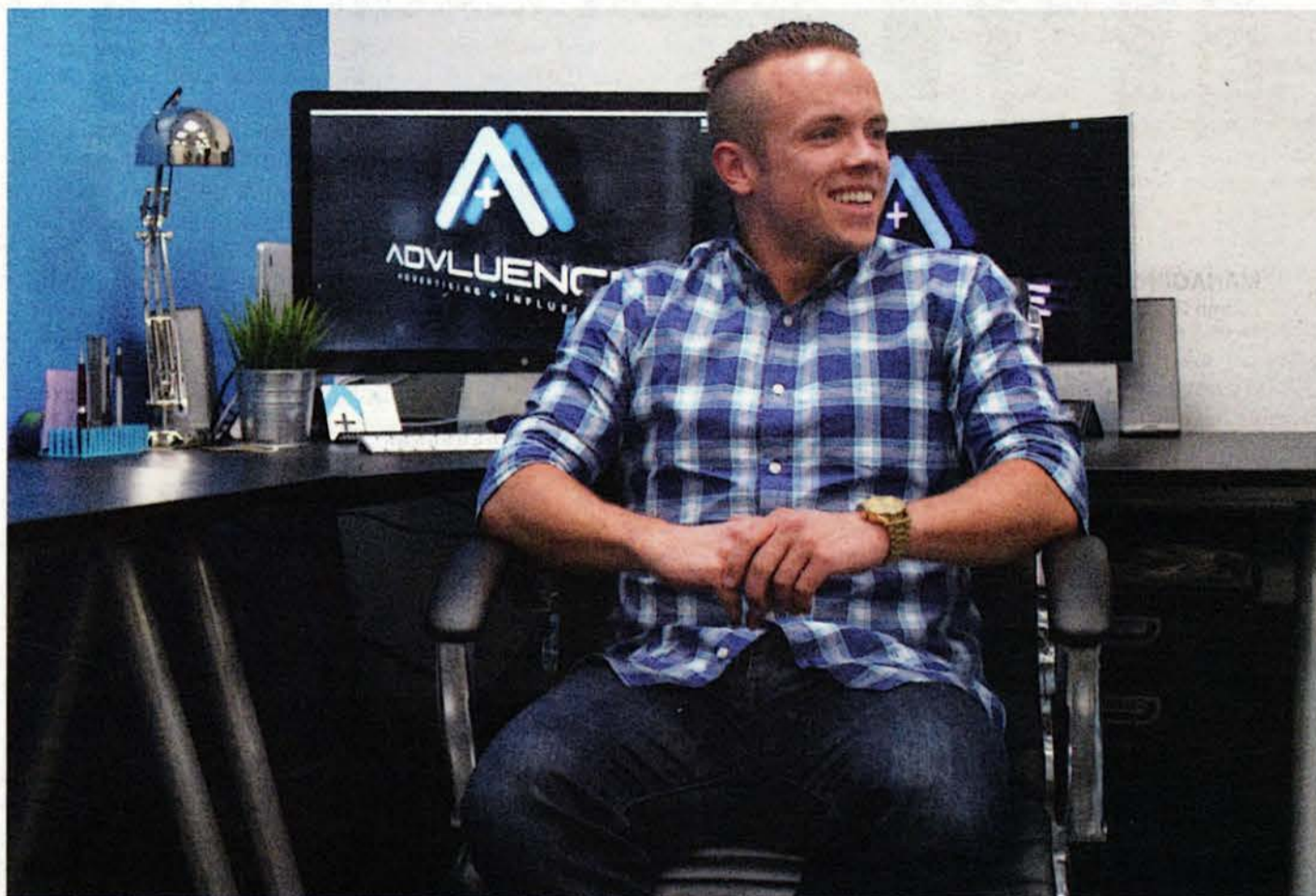
However, not every student has this issue. Some people are able to use their skills early on, like UT alumnus and Advluence founder Ryan Littler.

In high school, Littler did freelance graphic and web design, while working with a local rapper from his hometown of Pittsburgh, who is now known far and wide as Wiz Khalifa. By the time Littler graduated from UT with his Advertising/PR degree in 2011, he had already made his mark in the Tampa area by helping build Legacy Production Group, LLC, which boasts online as "Tampa's premier nightlife and event marketing company."

"It almost seems as though advertising decided I was the right fit for it. I was simply doing something I enjoyed and people started liking it," Littler said. "People started turning into clients and a hobby turned into my business, and ultimately my career. Every day is fun for me, always something new and never stagnant."

The freelance design that Littler worked on during college developed into Advluence, his very own full-fledged advertising agency. Advluence's impressive client list ranges from local businesses like The Outpost, to big names like Showtime Networks.

"I initially didn't start my company with any intentions other than doing what I love," Littler said. "I have always been a very visual and creative person, which lead me to find that I was an exceptional



Ryan Littler founded Advluence after he graduated from the University of Tampa and has been successfully developing graphic and web design for local businesses. *Daniel Diasgranados/The Minaret*

graphic designer. It started out by designing for fun, and through Legacy, I was able to work with restaurants, nightclubs and bars all the time. When they needed help with menus, business cards, flyers, etc., I was able to offer my skills. From there, my business was able to grow through referrals and people who trusted me."

Littler explained that the best thing about advertising is the diversity of the projects his team works on for different clients. Advluence offers a wide variety of advertising services including design, video production, web design, ad campaigns and product launches.

"[In school], Ryan had an intense

work ethic and that is often a sign of entrepreneurship. He was positive, enthusiastic and confident," said Lisa Brock, a public relations adjunct professor. "But more than anything, he was willing to work. That effort makes a difference and is a compelling ingredient in achieving success."

Not only does Littler keep in touch with his past professor, but he also works with UT alumni Miles Cable, Dylan Sellberg and Tyler LoPilato. Cable leads the video production team, Sellberg leads new business growth and LoPilato leads the web development team.

Littler advises fellow Spartans who might be looking into starting their own businesses.

"Be passionate about what you do," Littler said. "After you know you're focused on your goals, be willing to make every sacrifice for your business. If you don't ruin at least a relationship or two because of work, you're doing it wrong. It is important to learn everything you can about your business, and when you think you know enough about it, learn about other companies in that field and how they operate. Be prepared to learn something new every day."

Bianca Lopez can be reached at bianca.lopez@spartans.ut.edu

INFORMATION



POLICE BEAT

Reports compiled by Zoe Fowler

Boundaries, Learn Them

On March 23, a Resident Assistant reported a possible suspect of harassment.

That's Not How You Pimp Ya Car

On March 23, a student was observed by a faculty member to drive into a F/S lot by forcing his car under a gate arm.

The Freakin' Audacity...

On March 23, a student was referred to the office of student conduct for threatening a university official, refusing to identify himself to a university official, and refusing to comply with university official's directives.

The Perks of an Open Campus

On March 26, a non-student was trespassed from campus.

It Was an Emergency?

On March 29, two non-students were found on campus in possession of a fire extinguisher stolen from an off-campus construction site. The TPD was notified and handled the incident.

But They Were FB Official!!

On March 29, a student reported she was in a physical altercation with another student due to unwanted comments posted on social media.



STUDENT GOVERNMENT

General Assembly Canceled

GA is canceled next Tuesday because of Senior Week.

General Assembly Replaced

GA will be replaced by the Equality Florid Screening on April 21.

Sustainability Committee

The committee won Relay Team Sign-ups.

Student sparks conversation about good mental health

From MENTAL HEALTH Page 1

one to talk to so you just don't talk to anyone," Woodward said. "You let it build inside of you, and it can end terribly."

To date, Julia has sold about 130 of the 200 bracelets she initially ordered. She recently made a \$252 donation to the American Foundation for Suicide Prevention with the proceeds.

"I'd love to see more mental health awareness events on campus," Boorse said. "Not just on this campus, but in high schools, and other universities as well."

Many groups on campus exist to promote healthy lifestyle choices on

campus. Throughout the year, LiveWell UT hosts events to promote healthy behaviors. Active Minds works to change the conversation regarding mental health. The Health and Wellness Center, and Health Spartans 2020 are always working to find new ways to raise awareness on the importance of mental health, and what resources are available to students on campus. A quick search through the calendar of events, and you can find multiple events such as yoga, meditation, or journaling held in Sykes Chapel, that allow students a break in their day, and time to free their mind of any and all worries they may be carrying.

In an email from Gina Firth,

Associate Dean of Wellness, she revealed, "On May 18, 2015, Healthy Spartans 2020 and the Dean of Student's office are bringing in training from the Campus Connect program to present a six hour training for interested faculty and staff on suicide prevention, intervention and postvention." This program, she says, would allow for these trained individuals to then better educate and assist students.

Boorse suggested that orientation would be a good time to inform students about the services that are available to them on campus.

If you feel like you have been experiencing symptoms of depression,

there are therapists available on campus. The wellness center offers students six 45 minute individual therapy sessions per semester at no charge.

If you're interested in supporting the cause and purchasing a bracelet, Boorse is asking for donations of \$3. You can order by emailing her at: julia.boorse@spartans.ut.edu

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

Campus disc jockey opened for Big Sean

From STUDENT DJ Page 1

wasn't always into electronic music. Despite the fact that music has always been a part of his life, the 19-year-old used to be a die-hard rock fan and played guitar. It wasn't until he heard the song "Weekends!!!" by Skrillex that he fell in love with electronic music.

Fitzgibbons became interested in producing when he was in high school, which is why he started DJing. "I just got some turntables and taught myself," he said. "I messed around with the software and learned off of YouTube, as well."

Ethan Hallerman, a freshman music major who is good friends with Fitzgibbons, is also an electronic music producer. "It's kind of funny how we met," Hallerman said. "My friend was looking for a DJ and I told her that I could do it and she asked if I made music as

well, and I said yes. She said that one of her friends makes music too and that I should link up with him, and that's what I did."

Hallerman admires Fitzgibbons' passion for music and idealistic approach to it. "Kyle strives to get things done when they are due and necessary. He is also easy to work with and very energetic," Hallerman said.

He and his friends came up with the name Madnap one day when they were eating at a Mexican restaurant and one of them said the name out loud. They thought it had a cool ring to it, so the name stuck. The first three years of Madnap were uneventful. Fitzgibbons DJed at a couple of events and recorded some songs, such as a remix of Ariana Grande's "Break Free" on Soundcloud for fun.

This past winter break, he decided to take it seriously and pursue his dream. That's when he and his record label, Shifty Rhythms,

started working on his EP, "Dreamscape," released onto Soundcloud last week.

Fitzgibbons describes his music as happy, future-based electronic music. "It's kind of like a cute and happy video game," he said.

His favorite song on his EP album is "Hollow." "I'm really proud of how it turned out," he said. "It's special to me because I wrote the lyrics. It's the only song with vocals in it, and the singer's voice was awesome."

Fitzgibbons is a part of WUTT, UT's radio station, where he helps put on events. Last semester, he hosted his own radio station and performed at events on campus, such as KingsFest and WUTT-A-Palooza. Fitzgibbons also works at PacSun and enjoys playing video games on his spare time.

Darla Saycocie, a sophomore communications major, has been friends with Fitzgibbons since their freshmen year and

describes him as talented and fashionable. "I really like Kyle's music," Saycocie said. "It's the type of happy music that you listen to when you're running, cooking, cleaning, whatever."

She describes Fitzgibbons as a very dedicated, but humble, which she admires most about him. "He's never failed to be an amazing best friend, and I'm not just saying that to make him look good," Saycocie said.

Fitzgibbons' biggest dream is to tour with someone, preferably Porter Robinson. His short-term goal is to reach 2,000 Soundcloud followers before his birthday. His songs are available at soundcloud.com/madnap.

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




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6-Week Terms
May 26 – July 2
July 6 – Aug. 15

12-Week Term
May 26 – Aug. 15

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THE UNIVERSITY OF TAMPA




Catch Up

Get Ahead

DIVERSIONS

ON CAMPUS

APRIL 2
SP Casino Night
Dress to impress for a casino night raving with mocktails, table games and prizes. The festivities, hosted by Student Productions, take place on the 9th floor of Vaughn at 8:00 p.m.

APRIL 3
Passover
Celebrate the Jewish holiday with fellow Hillel and UT students at the Vaughn Center Board of Trustees from 6:30 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.

APRIL 7
Life After UT
UT alum Kristin Mathe will talk about creating your professional self and creative ways of going through your job search. Head over to Riverside room 102 at 5:00 p.m. for your chance to win a prize.

APRIL 8
Kids Against Hunger
\$500 allows for 2,000 meals to be packaged and for families all over the world to be fed. Tabling for the fundraiser will take place in the Vaughn Center Lobby.

OFF CAMPUS

APRIL 4
Ybor Aficionado Days
Stroll along the Tapas Trail through Ybor for food tastings at Bernini, Gaspar's Grotto, Carne Chophouse and more. Tickets are \$25 in advance or \$30 the day of.

APRIL 5
Food and Wine Festival
Busch Gardens' annual festival presents platinum-selling alt-pop group Echosmith, wine and Florida-inspired food.

APRIL 6
Rays Opening Day Rally
Celebrate the first home game of the season with live music, a DJ and a baseball-themed ice sculpture. The event is free and takes place all day starting at 10:00 a.m.

APRIL 7
Bill Nye
Bill Nye the Science Guy will be the final speaker for the USF lecture series. Listen to his comedic, scientific wisdom at the Marshall Center at 7:30 p.m.

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websudoku.com

PICTURE of the WEEK



The fourth annual Miss Phi Beta Sigma Scholarship Pageant, hosted on March 29 in Fletcher Lounge, allowed the chapter to award a scholarship prize to one lucky winner. Photo by Alexandra Martin

ARTS + ENTERTAINMENT

An Interview with Shaun of Taking Back Sunday

The Minaret chatted with Taking Back Sunday's Shaun Cooper about touring, B-sides and Fleetwood Mac.

By JACKIE BRAJE
Arts + Entertainment Editor

M: I remember my friends and I listening to "Louder Now" back in 2006, and with this newer album released just last year it seems like you're starting to win over a new generation of listeners. Can you tell me a bit about the "Happiness Is" album and how you think fans have received it so far?

SC: You just have to take those things with a grain of salt, because you don't really know exactly what the response is. Everyone has an opinion, a lot of people try to talk shit on the internet, and they may not even be fans of the band. So what we try to do is play as many songs from the new record live and see how people respond, and with our self-titled record we didn't really get the reaction we had hoped for, but with "Happiness Is," the response has been staggering. Even if people don't know the new songs, they're still feeling it and bouncing around by the time we reach the last chord. So it's been really, really rewarding and surprising for us.

M: Right, and it's definitely also rewarding for your fans to see you evolve over the years, because the last album is way different from your earlier stuff.

SC: Well we had over two years to write the album and work with producers, and we made a potent effort on working everything out. We were also very fortunate to have John [Nolan] come back to the band for over five years now. We've had a lot of time to work together.

M: The "Happiness Is: Complete Recordings" was released last month with three B-sides and acoustic songs. Have you been playing any of the acoustic tracks on tour?

SC: We actually haven't. We do a meet and greet everyday, and John and Adam play a few acoustic songs and in there they'll work in a few acoustic renditions from the "Happiness Is: Complete Recordings." We've been playing "How I Met Your Mother" every night, which is one of the heavier B-sides that, for some reason, we all really love. It's so much fun to play.

M: What was the inspiration behind putting together the complete recordings? Was it because the extra tracks weren't cohesive enough for the original album?

SC: Well we had a lot of tracks that we wanted to see the light of day and we didn't know exactly how we were going to do it, but John and Adam did a few of those acoustic renditions, which we thought showcased our music in a different light, so we thought making them available on vinyl would be an interesting way of getting them out there. And every one of those 1,000 copies sold out, which is awesome.

M: Those copies were sold out pretty swiftly.

SC: I know, we're still shocked!

M: Where's your favorite stop on this

tour been so far? Why?

SC: You know, my memory gets a little short with the shows. But last night (March 10) we were in Cleveland having a good time with the Gaslight Anthem guys and their guitar tech, who was our old guitar tech, came out and played with us. Those little special spur-of-the-moments are always the most memorable.

M: I heard there's much more work put into production on this tour (light shows). Could you tell me the inspiration behind that?

SC: We've done a lot of touring where we've just played for about an hour, and on this tour we're covering all our bases and playing for about 90 minutes, which is a lot of songs, so we wanted to put it over the edge and do something we've never done before. I think we're evolving as a band and focusing more on the visual aspects in addition to trying to perform well. It's really something else! I've never been part of a big king-of-a-production before.

M: Where do you draw musical inspiration? Favorite musicians?

SC: We're all into a lot of very different stuff, but I'd say The Beatles and Nirvana are both big influences. For me, I grew up with The Beach Boys, The Beatles, Guns n' Roses... and I think we can all get behind Radiohead.

M: What's one album that you just couldn't live without? Why?

SC: It changes a lot depending on my musical taste at the time, but all on this tour and maybe even the month before we left, I can't stop listening to Fleetwood Mac's Rumors. I can't turn the damn thing off.

M: That's actually a perfect album. I'm convinced.

SC: Yes, I mean, just the way everything comes together... I think I'm addicted to the sound. My wife got me the vinyl for Valentine's Day and I definitely wore a few grooves in it before I left.

M: Other critics have coined your music as alt-rock, punk, etc., but I was wondering how you as the artist would describe your own music?

SC: It's hard for me to pin down like that, so I just call it rock. There are so many genres out there so I don't even think about it. We're a rock band, and that's all.

M: So I know the "Complete Recordings" were released just last month, but I was wondering if there was already anything else new on the forefront?

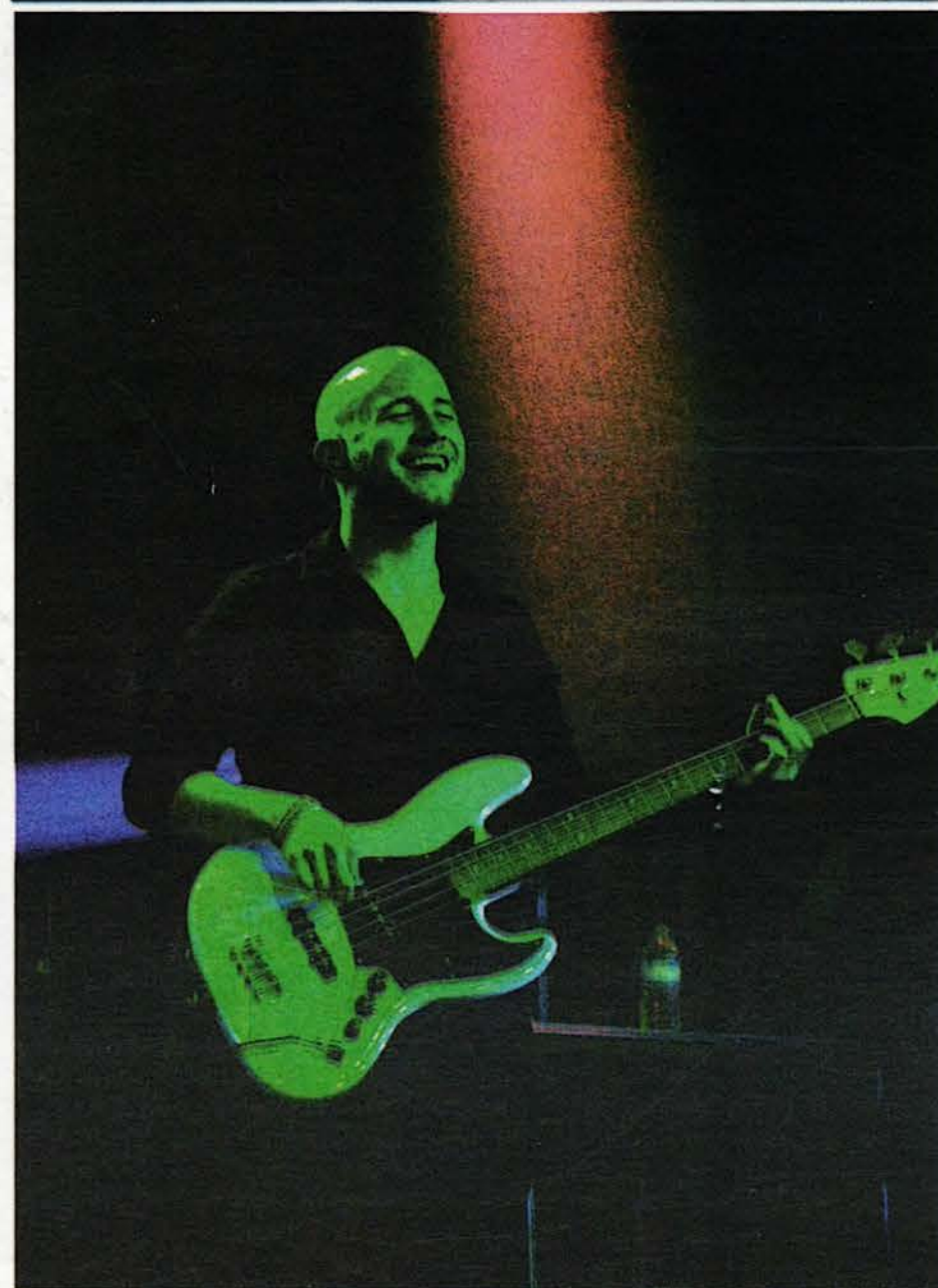
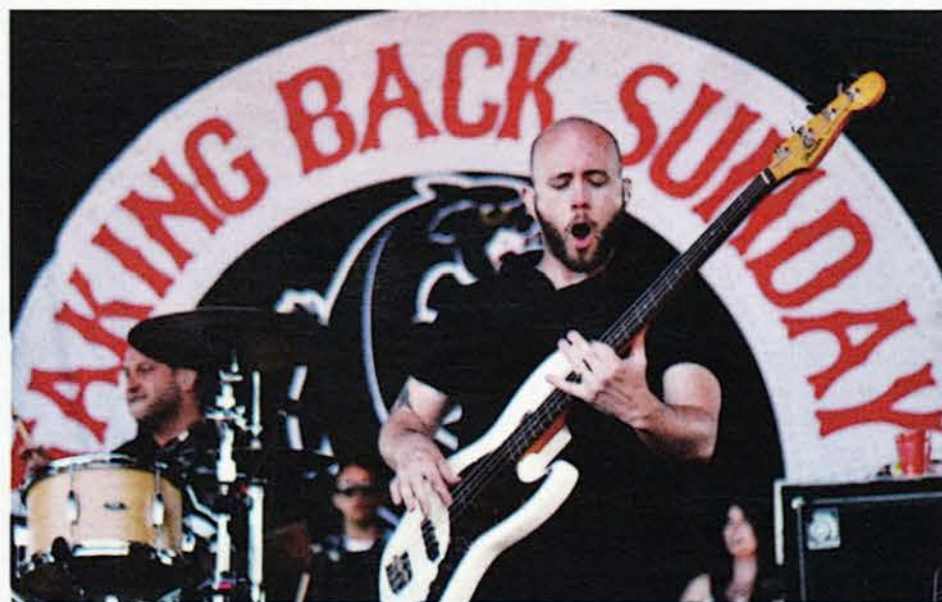
SC: No, no, we're actually excited to head home and finally have time for some writing and recording sessions since we've been on the road so much. I mean we've tried recording on the road but there's already so much work to do and so little time. But it's definitely the time where we're getting excited about working on new ideas.

M: Definitely a well-earned vacation, it seems.

SC: Ha, thank you!

Jackie Braje can be reached at Jacquelyn.braje@theminaretonline.com.

Taking Back Sunday will be playing at The Ritz in Ybor on April 2.



Taking Back Sunday released 'Happiness Is: The Complete Recordings' on March 18.

Death Cab for Cutie Continues Indie Legacy

By JORDAN WALSH
Arts + Entertainment Writer

Death Cab for Cutie is quickly approaching the two-decade milestone, and with that comes the weight of legacy. The act has served as a major representative of millennial indie rock, with two or three seminal records well over a decade old and one on the brink (2005's major label "Plans"). For years now, Death Cab has set the bar for a very distinct brand of professional and confessional indie music. From haunting and minimalist echoes of youth (2000's "We Have the Facts And We're Voting Yes") to cathartic, arena-worthy emo rock (2003's classic "Transatlanticism"), to glossy, macabre and mature balladry ("Plans"), Death Cab has compiled a bildungsroman of sensitivity and surprising grace while maintaining one of the most consistently great discographies in indie rock.

So how does one bring a new record into the conversation with all-time favorites? How can I talk

★★★★★
4 out of 5 stars

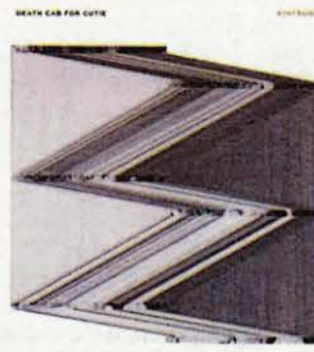
about "Kintsugi," the band's eighth studio album, in the same breath as "Transatlanticism," a record with over 12 years of personal and musical history behind it? The easy answer is that I can't. I can't hold "Kintsugi" opener "No Room In Frame" up to "Transatlanticism" opener "The New Year" with a straight face, with any real insight to be had. I can't seriously attempt to compare one of the best album climaxes I've ever heard (the one-

two-three punch of "Tiny Vessels," "Transatlanticism," and "Passenger Seat") to any selection of this new record. There's no contest, and at this point there honestly never could be. The only question I can answer, in the immediate wake of release, is whether or not "Kintsugi" is a good record. Not ignoring the legacy of a great band, but acknowledging the impossibility of the task of one-on-one comparison.

With all of this in mind, I can now confidently say this: "Kintsugi," is a great record. "Kintsugi" simultaneously balances all of the most admired aspects of the band's discography while teetering on the edge of new territory. The band's last record with long time member Chris Walla and the first without Walla as producer, "Kintsugi" is a record of transition, both in content and execution.

After the nervous bliss of 2011's mildly received "Codes and Keys," "Kintsugi" feels like a return to more depressing subject matter. Throughout the record, relationships crumble and fade away, homes are abandoned and reestablished, grey hairs appear and fall out. The aged character of this record suits the band nicely—indeed, Death Cab has always seemed to have an old soul, level-headed but constantly aching.

Kintsugi is an art form that reconstructs broken artifacts, lining the cracks with gold. This idea pervades the record, a constant sense that things have fallen apart for the good of better reassembly. This is a record that does not dwell, but tries to move on. Opener "No Room In Frame," in keeping with this theme, is a driving song, maintaining songwriter Ben Gibbard's affinity for Kerouac-like tales of fleeing. "I disappear like a trend/in the hum of the five in the early morning," he



delivers bouncily over meandering electronics and deliberate guitar plucks. This stellar reintroduction is an affirmation of the relevance of self-discovery well into adulthood, a reminder to recognize one's self and act in accordance ("how can I stay in the sun when the rain flows all through my veins/it's true").

While Walla's production work has pushed this band to its greatest heights over the past twenty years, the introduction of new producer Rich Costey into the mix really helped shake off any sense of staleness. This is especially evident on dancy standout "Good Help (Is So Hard To Find)," which sports a kind of bouncy indie pop reminiscent of The 1975. Meanwhile, "Little Wanderer" is light and breezy while "Hold No Guns" is intimate and isolated. The range of texture on "Kintsugi" is impressive, the record still maintaining a solid sense of flow (despite a little clunkiness toward the middle—the transition from "Hold No Guns" to the harsh '80s synth of "Everything's A Ceiling" is rather abrupt).

The movement-inducing style of "Good Help" and "Everything's

A Ceiling" marks new territory for the band, but much of this record is a comforting point of balance struck between Death Cab's past stylistic ventures. Lead single "Black Sun" recalls "Narrow Stairs" in its biting guitar solo and lyrical darkness, but incorporates "Codes and Keys" carefully articulated use of electronics and tidy production. "You've Haunted Me All My Life" sounds like an extension of some of "Plans" mid-album cuts, while closer "Binary Sea" plays as a less reactive version of "Transatlanticism's" more majestic piano-led numbers. This fine-tuning never feels like a cheap retread, however. Instead, it comes off as reflective of a journey so far, a conscious admission of a checkpoint reached. With a core member leaving for good, it feels like an important and well-deserved wrapping-up of an era.

However, this is a wrapping-up in full awareness of another act to follow. The final lines of the record reflect this awareness of legacy and hopefulness for great music to come: "lean in close, and lend an ear/there's something brilliant bound to happen here." After years of creating great music, Death Cab has secured its position as a solid, trusted institution of indie rock. "Kintsugi," as a record of transition, admits this and promises to follow through in the future. In the meantime, it's just another great entry into a wonderful body of work. Who knows, maybe history will treat it as kindly as its most revered predecessors.

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

'Get Hard' Unexpectedly Flops Due to Ferrell

Kevin Hart outshines Will Ferrell in prison-prep comedy.

By SAMMI BRENNAN
Arts + Entertainment Writer

What do you get when you cast a fading comedian with a prominent one? "Get Hard." James King, played by Will Ferrell, is a billionaire accused of fraud. Sentenced to ten years in a maximum security prison, James seeks out guidance from Darnell (Kevin Hart), a car-washer, to teach him how to survive in prison. James assumes Darnell has been to jail based on his race and Darnell fakes a "how-to" guide in order to get the money needed to move his family out of his dangerous neighborhood.

The film's take on racial stereotypes is distasteful. As Will Ferrell struts in his "Lil Wayne apparel" next to Kevin Hart, the scene is reminiscent of Steve Martin alongside Queen Latifah in "Bringing Down the House." And yet, that movie didn't hit quite the same nerve as "Get Hard" manages to. Darnell jingles James's car keys after a car wash and James yells in fear since he thinks he is about to be robbed. The film's portrayal of thugs and gangsters induces plenty of eye-rolling. At one point, a gang member chuckles at his "love for murdering." However, Darnell seeking some prison tips from T.I. is subtly clever, considering the rapper has served prison time.

When the film isn't failing at attempts to make racial stereotypes humorous, it utilizes redundant bodily jokes and plays with the suggestiveness of the title at least three times. We get it. In its defense, the film was doomed from the start. The movie is a remake of the failed 2007 Rob Schneider comedy "Big Stan," only in that film, a martial arts instructor, played by David Carradine ("Kill Bill"), takes the place of Kevin Hart. Alison Brie ("Community") overacts as a gold digger, emphasizing her innocent tone until it's babyish. Kevin Hart bursting into a white supremacist gang with a flame thrower recommending to them that they listen to Martin Luther King Jr.'s "I have a Dream" speech is a bit far-fetched. It seems rather out of place considering he had just given Will Ferrell "a free pass" of letting him use the n-word, which was cringe-worthy to say the least.

Ferrell and Hart both use their bodies for comedy. The difference is that Ferrell's repeated nudity no longer strikes the funny bone. As he flashes his manly parts to his gardener while performing squats, the viewer is reminded of the many times Will Ferrell's body has been exposed: "Old School," "Talladega Nights," "Semi-Pro," "Blades of Glory." On the other hand, there is Kevin Hart, stirring laughs as Ferrell picks up and throws his body at a villain. It's hard not to crack a smile as Kevin Hart has to continuously jump to look at cars his employees are washing. A play on Kevin Hart's height never gets old.

If anything remotely decent comes out of this film, it is the confirmation that Kevin Hart is masterful at delivering his lines. From stuttering, to shouting, to mere facial expressions, Hart is comic gold. One of the most memorable moments of the film is when Darnell turns James's tennis court into a prison yard and portrays three different characters at

once. Will Ferrell's presence is repeatedly forgotten as Kevin Hart takes over the show. If that is not any indication that Will Ferrell needs to venture into a different genre, than I don't know what is.

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



Get Hard / Twitter.com

"Get Hard" was released on March 27 and made \$34 million in its opening weekend.

Netflix Guru: Unbreakable Kimmy Schmidt

By **CLAIRE FARROW**
Arts + Entertainment Writer

Netflix is stellar when it comes to its original dramas ("House of Cards" and "Orange Is the New Black" in particular), but what about comedy? Could the streaming gods secure an original comedic show with wit and laughs? Enter "Unbreakable Kimmy Schmidt," born from the mind of comedic genius Tina Fey.

"Unbreakable Kimmy Schmidt" was released to Netflix on March 6 and has since received rave reviews. Emily Nussbaum of *The New Yorker* wrote, "It's not the type of experience that you'd think would inspire comedy, but that's the key to Kimmy Schmidt's ambition: by making horrible things funny, it suggests that surviving could be more than just living on. It could be a kind of freedom, too."

Executively produced by Tina Fey, this quirky comedy focuses on the life of Kimmy Schmidt, a woman who was kidnapped by a crazy post-apocalyptic cult and held in a bunker for 15 years before being rescued. Once she and her three "sisters" emerge from the bunker, there is a big hoopla about their rescue in news, in particular an auto-tuned viral video made from an eyewitness' interview. Following all of the media attention, Kimmy decides to make a new life for herself in New York City. She moves into a basement apartment with a gay African American actor named Titus Andromedon and gets a job as a nanny for a rich New York family.

From there she cheerfully navigates through life in, as Arthur Chu of *Slate* magazine likes to say, a "13 going on 30 '90s refugee" way. She has an eighth grade education, and is very naïve about life in general, particularly adult life. Though her naiveté would be extraordinarily annoying in real life,

in "Unbreakable Kimmy Schmidt" it is endearing and hilarious to watch.

One of the best things about "Unbreakable Kimmy Schmidt" is the cast. Ellie Kemper ("The Office," "Bridesmaids") makes Kimmy Schmidt loveable and sweet in her unbreakable optimism. Her post-bunker roommate, Titus Andromedon, is one of the most dynamic and interesting characters on the show. Aside from being fabulous and flamboyant, Titus also has some of the best scenes throughout the first season (the scenes in which Titus and Lillian are shooting his music video for his original song "Pinot Noir" is a killer example). The man who portrays Titus Andromedon is actor and singer Tituss Burgess ("30 Rock," "You Must Be Joking"). Burgess is better known on Broadway as the originator of the role of Sebastian the Crab in Disney's Broadway production of "The Little Mermaid" in 2007. Burgess' theatre background allows Titus Andromedon's vocal trills and stage auditions to feel authentic. The fact that Tina Fey wrote the character of Titus Andromedon with Burgess in mind adds to the brilliance of this character.

Jane Krakowski ("30 Rock," "Ally McBeal") plays Kimmy's employer, Jacqueline Voorhees, a self-obsessed, insecure trophy wife to a very rich man, Mr. Voorhees. Her character is interesting mostly because of her backstory. Jacqueline is Native American, but she left her home and heritage behind because she felt as though she'd never get anywhere in life if she was true to herself. Her flashback scenes provide a very poignant commentary of the prominence of "whitewashing" in American film culture. Rounding out the main cast is Carol Kane ("The Princess Bride," "Annie Hall"), playing Kimmy and Titus's kooky landlady, Lillian.

Like many other comedies, special guest stars add more pizzazz to shows, and "Unbreakable Kimmy Schmidt"



Unbreakable Kimmy Schmidt / Twitter.com

'Unbreakable Kimmy Schmidt,' written and produced by Tina Fey, is now on Netflix.

has its share of stars. Jon Hamm in particular hams up the screen as the deranged Reverend who kidnapped Kimmy Schmidt; while he is charming, he is infuriatingly manipulative and preys on the stereotypically simple minds of midwesterners. Martin Short's characters are always zany, and his Dr. Franff (Mrs. Voorhees' plastic surgeon) is no different. James Monroe Iglehart, who plays Titus' rival Coriolanus Burt, just won a Tony award for his performance as the Genie in Broadway's "Aladdin", and because he is a fellow Broadway star like Burgess, their on screen rivalry becomes all the more entertaining to watch. Likewise, Jefferson Mays, who plays "Daddy" on the show, was nominated for a Tony this past season for "A Gentleman's Guide to Love and Murder," and his bit part in the fake "classic" movie "Daddy's Boy," along with a special appearance by Robert Osborne (host of the channel TCM) is hilariously tongue-in-cheek. With all the Broadway nods and references, along with other New York references peppered throughout the first season, there is a clear love and knowledge of New York within Ms. Fey (which is to be expected). The attention to detail helps ground an otherwise cartoonish-feeling show in something concrete.

However, with all of the greatness

of "Unbreakable Kimmy Schmidt," the show has a few shortcomings. Most of the characters, while they are well written, lack a level of reality and believability, which may be a turn off for some viewers. Also, there is no denying that all of the minority characters portrayed in "Unbreakable Kimmy Schmidt" are stereotypes, even if they are "positive" ones that facilitate the comedy in the series. This is not to say that this show isn't entertaining, but rather to say that characterization of minorities in this first season could be construed as lowbrow and offensive. For example, the character Dong is an immigrant from Vietnam who is good at math (Kimmy is chided for pointing that out), speaks with broken English, and is completely naïve about sex and romance, as Arthur Chu puts it "model minority stuff." However, Chu points out these jokes aren't "offensive enough" to cause an uproar. While perfection may not exist, "Unbreakable Kimmy Schmidt" possess an endearing, funny charm; hopefully the second season will hit closer to the mark.

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

The Neon Niche: Excerpts From the Journal

'Neon' released their annual journal on March 18 and copies are now available on stands.

I see that you've stopped wearing hoodies everyday.

You've gotten a tattoo.
Horses now run down your forearm
barreling towards your wrist.
I see you.

I see you and I want to tell you
that I'm glad it got better.

That I'm proud of you.

That you are smart
and you are valued.

I want to tell you
I never want to see you
wear a hoodie ever again.

But I don't know you.
I don't know your scars.

Let's compare.
I want to show you mine
because you've showed me yours.

I want to kiss your wrists
but that's far too intimate for strangers.

-To The Boy In My Class With Fading
Scars On His Wrists, by Tali Cohen



What's the Difference? by Daniel Diasgranados

OPINION

Campus Security Unfairly Ticketing Students

CAMPUS
LIZ ROCKETT
Opinion Writer



Nobody likes to receive a parking ticket, especially when it appears to be unwarranted. Students who have gotten tickets feel campus safety issues tickets too often and too inconsistently.

Chrissy Homsher is a senior sports management major who recently got a ticket for parking in visitor parking in Thomas garage on the weekend of March 7, just as spring break was beginning.

"They say that you can park anywhere at certain times, but then I get tickets all the time for that," said Homsher, who feels the parking rules at UT are not clearly explained to students.

I have received several tickets on weekends, which made no sense since students are supposed to be able to park in any lot on weekends. Something needs to be done about how the rules and regulations are presented to students.

Homsher appealed her most recent ticket but hasn't heard back from campus safety. When I received tickets in the past, I was charged immediately to my account, and then never notified that the request to appeal the ticket had not been granted. The only way I found out was by checking my account everyday to see if the charge had been removed. Once four weeks had past, I assumed that they were not going to appeal my ticket.

"If you appeal, you should hear back either way, like if it's granted or not granted," Homsher said.

Tickets can be appealed only within the first five days after they are received. Students should be granted a larger window to appeal tickets due to our busy schedules. Sometimes students won't even see a ticket on their vehicle

until after the five days have passed.

Another issue is that there are too few parking spaces, especially for commuters. Homsher, a commuter, is often late to class due to the sparse amount of spots available. I feel as though campus safety should be more lenient when it comes to ticketing commuters because of the influx of cars on campus. Also, there should be more spots designated for commuters.

UT is making attempts to improve the parking situation, such as the addition to the Thomas parking garage, which has added 400 spaces. Next year, freshmen will no longer be issued parking passes. The addition of new spaces and elimination of freshmen parking may help, but won't completely solve the issue, which goes to show that something more needs to be done for commuters, and residents alike. Either there needs to be even more parking, or campus safety needs to be more lenient about issuing tickets.

"Students can park in most campus parking areas over the weekend, with the exception of fire lanes and spaces for those with disabilities," said Linda Devine, UT's vice president for operations and planning, whose work is focused on the services that add to student experiences, as well as longer-range planning such as parking rules.

This statement confuses me because I, as well as other students, have received tickets on the weekends for parking in visitor parking in Thomas or West garage.

This comes back to the issue of consistency, as well as communication. It is imperative that students are made aware of where they can and cannot park to avoid unnecessary tickets.

"We post vehicle registration and traffic regulations on the website (ut.edu/safety/parking/), and they are printed on the back of campus maps," Devine said.

Devine also mentioned that rules are provided to those who register a vehicle on campus. However, when registering my vehicle, all I received was my parking decal.



Photo Courtesy of Lindsay Knauer
Many students at UT have an abundance of tickets that never make it through the flawed appeal process.

Homsher had a similar experience.

"I know when I got my parking pass, they didn't tell me where to park and where not to park," Homsher said.

While I can understand that we are expected to read signs and research this information online, the rules are not easy to find online if you are not provided with the direct link. The funds from tickets are allocated to the University general fund, as reported by Devine. Students should be able to know what their money is being used for, especially because so many tickets

are unwarranted. The school is essentially getting extra money from us for no reason, which isn't right.

When assigning parking passes, it would be helpful if campus safety issued a list of parking rules to go along with the pass. This would help them to cover all of their bases, and they wouldn't have to spend so much time writing tickets for students.

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

Mo'ne Davis Rises Above Harsh Criticism From Twitter

ETHICS
BECCA TURNER
Opinion Writer



Davis calls for slandering baseball player to get second chance

Philadelphia's Mo'ne Davis stunned everyone watching the 2014 Little League World Series (LLWS), by pitching a two-hitter shutout against Nashville and by being the first African-American female to play in the tournament, according to ESPN. Her Philadelphia team later lost to Chicago, but not before Mo'ne became known for her maturity and skill. Therefore, it is unsurprising and admirable that the 13-year-old Mo'ne demonstrated this sophistication when faced with an inappropriate tweet from a college baseball player who was likely jealous of her early success.

The tweet, written by 20-year-old Bloomsburg University player Joey

Casselberry, followed the announcement that Disney Channel plans to produce an original movie about Mo'ne's story called "Throw like Mo," according to CNN. Casselberry tweeted, "Disney is making a movie about Mo'ne Davis? WHAT A JOKE. That slut got rocked by Nevada." Mo'ne's story could easily make a great, inspirational movie about a young girl breaking gender and racial barriers. Mo'ne, along with Canada's Emma March, entered the 2014 LLWS as only the seventeenth and eighteenth female players to do so in the tournament's 68-year history, according to ESPN. It is a remarkable feat, considering one team may have more male players than the total number of girls to play in the LLWS.

Casselberry clearly did not agree with the fans' lauding of Mo'ne. The first part of Casselberry's tweet is acceptable, as that bit is just his opinion. He clearly thinks it is a waste of time for Disney to produce a movie about the 13-year-old. Why he felt the need to state this exactly is another matter entirely. His tweet will not stop production or make the final product less inspiring. If Casselberry had just left the tweet alone after he got through writing in all caps, then it would have gone unnoticed.

However, Casselberry used the word

"slut" to describe a 13-year-old girl who played her heart out at the LLWS. She even won one game, and thus became the first female to pitch for a win in the LLWS before losing to Las Vegas and then to Chicago, reported ESPN. Bloomsburg University dismissed Casselberry from the baseball team because of this offensive word as stated in a press release, according to CNN. The rest of Casselberry's tweet is not vulgar or defamatory, but this crosses the line and it reflects poorly on Casselberry and Bloomsburg.

Following the overall negative reaction to Casselberry's tweet, Mo'ne again shocked everyone with her capability of overcoming ignorance by asking for the reinstatement of Casselberry, according to NPR. The phenom asked Bloomsburg to reconsider stating, "Everyone makes mistakes and everyone deserves a second chance," according to *The Washington Post*. Mo'ne's maturity far outshines her age. She could have taken this negative statement to heart, but she instead kept it from getting her down and forgave Casselberry's mistake when everyone else was criticizing him.

Casselberry's past accomplishments and lack of cinematic recognition may have influenced his poor social media decision as

he broke many records at his Pennsylvania high school and has had just as much success in baseball as Mo'ne, according to *The Philadelphia Inquirer*. Therefore, it is understandable why Casselberry would be confused as to why Mo'ne has been on the cover of *Sports Illustrated*, been interviewed on ESPN, and will soon have a movie based on her experiences. It is entirely acceptable for Casselberry to question this gap, but no one should ever demean someone else just because that person has enjoyed more success.

Mo'ne is incredibly unique in the testosterone-filled world of baseball. She pitched at 71 miles-per-hour which is the equivalent of pitching 93 miles-per-hour in major league baseball in terms of reaction time, according to MSNBC. Mo'ne's talent, along with her gender, race and age make her an intriguing individual. Mo'ne's heart, compassion and struggle against adversity make her movie-worthy.

Mo'ne impressed LLWS fans in 2014 with her remarkable talent and personality, but this recent situation involving Casselberry only exemplifies the many characteristics that make her an ideal role model for young people.

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

SeaWorld Campaign Fails to Mend Reputation

ETHICS

CAITLIN MALONE
Opinion Writer



Two years after the release of the documentary *Blackfish*, SeaWorld has launched an ad campaign to try to rebuild its reputation, which the film nearly destroyed.

The campaign Ask SeaWorld, released March 23, consists of TV and print ads, as well as a website with videos featuring interviews with trainers and veterinarians. The park is also encouraging anyone with questions to tweet them to @SeaWorld, and the answers will be posted on the campaign's website, ask.seaworldcares.com.

The movie *Blackfish* tells the story of the 6-ton whale named Tilikum that attacked and killed trainer Dawn Brancheau on February 24, 2010, at SeaWorld Orlando. Brancheau was interacting with Tilikum after a show had just ended when witnesses say the whale grabbed her by her ponytail, dragged her into the water and wouldn't let go. The movie presents many negative claims about the way the whales at SeaWorld parks were captured, Tilikum specifically, and how his living conditions may have triggered the incident. The film also emphasizes the fact that this was not the first time Tilikum had been involved in the death of one of his trainers.

I can't say that I think SeaWorld made a smart decision by launching this campaign. Yes, the park needs to do something to rebuild its tainted image, but not this way. SeaWorld can't fight the kind of extremely harsh criticism that was presented in the documentary with merely its side of the story. The only meaningful way to fight back would be to make major changes in

the way the park handles orcas, such as their confined living spaces and the rigorous training processes they go through to prepare for the shows. Overall, SeaWorld needs to be more transparent about the daily lives of these wild animals in captivity.

Since the launch of the #AskSeaWorld campaign, there has been major backlash. One user, Lorena, tweeted, "@SeaWorld so do you starve them before or after you make them perform." Another by Kelli Lovett said, "@SeaWorld why do you provide more area for us to park our cars than you give these animals to live?"

One user even tweeted @SeaWorld an image of the company's falling stock and asked if they thought their new PR campaign was working. Most of the tweets are outrageous; it is obvious that people are still very angry over the claims presented in the documentary. This campaign is not going to be the easy fix SeaWorld was hoping for. Instead, people are using the Twitter campaign to once again criticize the park.

After *Blackfish*'s release in 2013, SeaWorld saw a major decline in attendance and revenue. In the first quarter of 2014, the park said attendance had decreased by 13 percent. Revenue came in at \$212.3 million, a decrease of \$26.3 million compared to the first quarter of 2013.

Animal-rights organization PETA has tried to dissuade SeaWorld from using orcas in their shows for a long time. Their website called SeaWorldoffHurt.com allows users to send emails to SeaWorld directly asking for the release of the captive animals into protected sanctuaries. More than 1.1 million people have contacted the park in regards to their practices, according to USA Today. PETA Senior Vice President Lisa Lange called SeaWorld's new ad campaign "a desperate attempt" to win back visitors, according to NPR. Spending all of this money on a new ad campaign is a waste of millions of dollars that could be used to further



Seaworld's latest rebutte to the Blackfish campaign does more harm than good for the company youtube.com/blackfishvsseaworld

improve the habitats of these captive animals.

Shortly after the release of *Blackfish*, SeaWorld did announce plans to build new habitats for their orcas. The Blue World Project promises a 10 million gallon tank that will be 50 feet deep and 350 feet long. It will also have a fast water current for the whales to swim against. SeaWorld plans to have the project finished in its San Diego park by 2018, and construction will start in its other parks in Orlando and San Antonio. The news of this project was released in August 2014, but despite that and the new ad campaign, SeaWorld is still facing a massive amount of negative feedback. And with the recent release of former trainer John Hargrove's book *Beneath the Surface: SeaWorld Insider Goes Beyond Blackfish*, I don't see the end

of it coming soon.

SeaWorld has a long way to go and a lot of work to do before it can get back to where it was before *Blackfish*. I am unsure if that is even possible at this point. Most people are very angry and have written off SeaWorld completely. I am not one of those people because I do believe SeaWorld does a lot of good as well, especially when it comes to rescuing animals. But unfortunately, the company has also made some big mistakes, including the new campaign. However, I believe SeaWorld deserves another chance. SeaWorld needs to remain focused on its Blue World Project and other initiatives to improve the lives of the animals. That will bring positive feedback and, hopefully, increased attendance and revenue.

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

Mandatory Voting Could Positively Help America

POLITICS

LIV REEB
Opinion Writer



Requiring citizens to vote would change the political landscape for the better

President Barack Obama proposed the idea of mandatory voting on March 18 at a speech in Cleveland. He explained that voting should be made easier, not harder for citizens. In theory, it's sounds like a great idea. Compulsory voting would increase voter turnout and give a better representation of the American public's views in government. Opposition to mandatory voting stems from the incorrect belief that Democrats would take over the government if everyone were required to vote, as well as the condescending attitudes about those who don't vote.

At presidential elections only 60 percent of people vote, and at midterm elections, voter turnout drops to under 40 percent according

to CNN. So 40-60 percent of citizens are voting on behalf of the entire country. Not to mention that the majority of the those who don't vote are young people, minorities and the poor, according to *The Washington Post*. The implementation of compulsory voting would ensure that the perspectives of those demographics were represented in the election process.

Generally speaking, the young, minorities and the poor often identify as Democratic. Studies show, they're also the ones not voting. But demographics such as age, race, and class, aren't the only issue. Nonpartisan people that aren't excited by either party don't vote either. Political campaigns are designed to excite the party's existing members rather than encourage moderates to vote. "In today's electorate, hardcore partisan believers are over-represented; independents and moderates are under-represented," says Time.com, "If the full range of voters actually voted, our political leaders, who are exquisitely attuned followers, would go where the votes are: away from the extremes." This means Democrats aren't trying to take over the government, but rather the moderates are trying to

make the government less extreme from both sides of the spectrum and more willing to compromise to make decisions that would benefit everyone, which is a good thing.

Opponents of compulsory voting cry "unconstitutional" and "un-American" toward the notion of requiring the very principle that America was founded on. Voting is the most American thing a citizen can do and it should be more than a right, it should be a duty. Some believe that uneducated Americans shouldn't be allowed to vote. This is an elitist attitude, un-American and just flat out wrong. How dare anyone tell American citizens that they shouldn't be voting? Asking someone not to exercise their Constitutional rights is ignorant and irrational. Being represented in government, regardless of education level, is a basic American principle. The obvious way to eliminate uneducated voters is to educate the public, not bar the uneducated from their rights.

Opponents also complain that forcing Americans to do anything is un-American; *The New York Times* calls this feeling the, "supposed rights to apathy." But what about taxes, registering for the draft, jury duty, or secondary education? There's no opt-

out for those aspects of American life.

Of course, getting 320 million people to vote is an issue itself. Registering citizens to vote when they get their drivers license and same-day registration at polling places would make voting more accessible to those who don't know how to register. More polling places and an extended voting period would solve the issue of being busy on voting day or not being able to make it because the polling location is too far away. Any form of photo ID should be accepted as a form of identification to prevent voter fraud. Those who don't vote could be fined or possibly jailed for refusing to vote.

Compulsory voting would make for a more representative government that's willing to compromise on issues and promote good for everyone in the country, not just the 40-60 percent that vote. Opposition to compulsory voting comes from those that are opposed to the "uneducated" and "ignorant" voting. Creating a system of mandatory voting would be good for all of the American people.

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

Resumes Not Necessary in Current Job Market

PROFESSIONAL

KHADIJAH KHAN
Head Copy Editor



Throughout every student's time here at the University of Tampa, they receive many global emails about job openings and new organizations looking for members. Many have agreed that the most beneficial emails come from the Office of Career Services. One of the resources that career services provides is looking at resumes. Resumes allow employers to see a brief statement of a student's previous experience, skills, qualifications and education. While many people see resumes as helpful, companies like Fortune and CIO Magazine think that they aren't necessary anymore to land a job and are outdated and I agree.

"I do not think resumes are the most important factor in getting a job in today's job environment," said senior finance major Matthew Colletti. "I'd say the power and size of one's network is the most important factor; events, business card collections, and notably a LinkedIn profile. The whole cake, if you will, is made up of network, key experience or skills, a resume, and the ability to interview well. Without all of these you have a chance of getting a job, but not the highest chance."

Although it's not necessary for students to get rid of their resumes, many recruiters and strategic directors believe that LinkedIn has created a wide variety of profiles. They showcase the different talents people have, but recruiters also feel it is a weakness because of the time it takes to maintain a profile.

While it may seem like LinkedIn is no different from a regular resume besides it being digital, some think that there's no need for a resume at all. An interview will make or break whether an applicant gets a position or not. Showing up with a playbook, bringing up relevant experiences and establishing common ground is key in an interview, according to an article in Fortune. While resumes are important they don't necessarily help your chances. When I applied for a job last semester I created my resume for the first time and when I finally got to the interview I watched my interviewer throw my resume into the recycling bin, because it was just a technicality.

Some UT students agree that, while resumes do play a part in getting hired, it does not finalize whether or not you get hired, especially in regards to other careers involving the arts.

"Speaking from an actor's standpoint. The resumes in our field help back up your audition and show your experience but ultimately your audition is what sells your product to the producer," said senior performing arts major Mitchell Spencer. "I

feel that this is the same in almost every field. Your job interview is an audition and it is your job to display a confident and top quality product under pressure which is backed up by the credibility of your resume however I do not feel a resume makes or breaks a job interview."

While there are employers who look into resumes a good amount of them are not even viewed by a person when they are first submitted. Most companies utilize talent managing

said. "Resumes also show how professional you can write and present yourself. If someone hands you an ugly resume, they aren't going to get the job because they don't know how to professionally present themselves."

As a student journalist myself, getting a job solely based on my resume is something that I feel is unrealistic. While it is a good way to summarize the most important things that you've accomplished it

Most companies utilize talent managing databases to screen resumes and weed out 50 percent of them before they are sent to employers.

databases to screen resumes and weed out 50 percent of them before they are sent to employers, according to Forbes.

While some students think that your network is important and others feel as though resumes are becoming outdated, students like freshman and government and world affairs major Jacob Jefferson still think that resumes are needed.

"Providing employers with a list of your past work experience isn't the only thing resumes do," Jefferson

also isn't the only determining factor. I feel that this works in favor with more majors that require creativity. You show a portfolio instead of a list of accomplishments. Presenting your work and showing your ability means volumes instead of listing the positions you've held when you could have done a poor job.

Khadijah Khan can be reached at khadijah.khan@spartans.ut.edu.

Woolly Mammoth Cloning Leads Nowhere

SCIENCE

MARISA NOBS
Opinion Writer



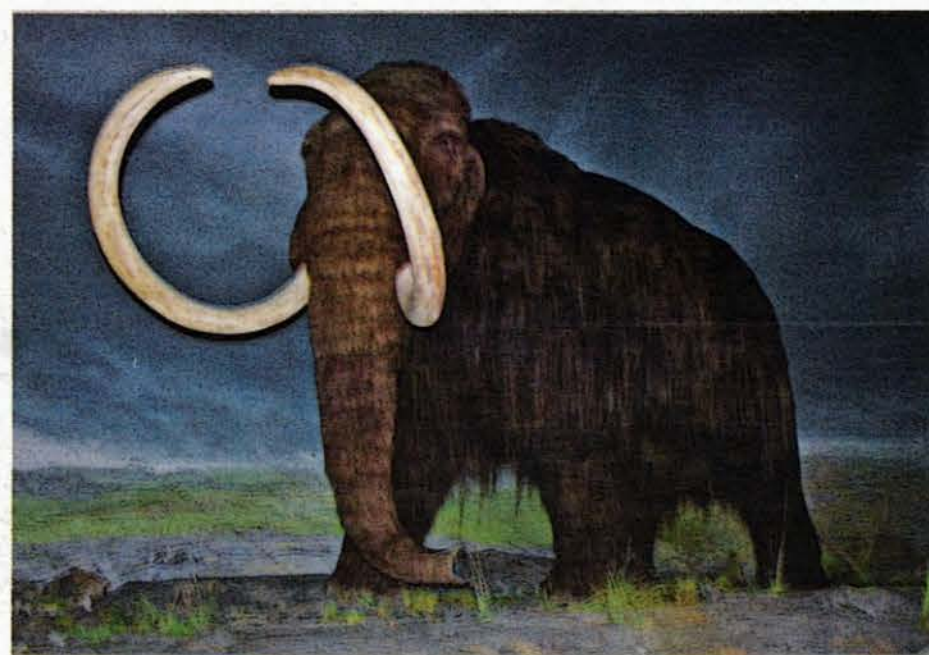
Cloning, while not a new concept, has become a recent phenomenon in the news. While some cloning experiments have a clear scientific purpose, some appear to have no other point than seeing how far they can go. Scientists have embarked on a large project, literally, to bring the woolly mammoth back from extinction. Last May, a carcass of the ancient mammal was found astoundingly preserved on a Siberian Island. There were not only intact blood cells, but also proteins. With the amount of DNA collected, it is now believed that cloning is a very realistic possibility.

Of course, the cloned mammoth could not be identical to the creatures on display in museums. The plan would be to combine the mammoth DNA with the Asian elephant, the closest living relative, and then place that embryo in an elephant. It therefore would be a cross between the two, but nonetheless, part mammoth. Harvard University scientists successfully created the cells by editing parts of the Asian elephant's DNA. While it does appear to be an exciting prospect, it seems bringing back an extinct species is not beneficial in this case.

According to the World Wildlife Fund, there were around 3-5 million African elephants in existence around the 1930s. Today, less than 700,000 roam the continent of Africa. The Asian elephant population is down to about 32,000. These close relatives of the mammoth are still alive, so it seems ridiculous to be placing effort in de-extinction rather than preventing the loss of another species. In addition, subjecting elephants to a pregnancy with unknown complications could be bordering on animal abuse. If these experiments prove deadly, this would further hurt the species.

Let's take it one step further and say scientists do manage to successfully bring back the woolly mammoth. Where do we put them? The world is vastly different than the one they existed in. They were built to survive the ice age, but with problems such as global warming, the newly reinstated species may find itself already at risk of re-extinction. According to *National Geographic*, one of the theories for their demise is in fact climate change. Most likely, the clones would end up in zoos just for people to see.

The public may also start using cloning as an excuse to be careless. Bringing back a species suggests that we can fix all the harm we do to the environment and its inhabitants. Our time and research would be much more valuable toward preserving what



Scientists hope to combine mammoth DNA with Asian elephant DNA to create a hybrid clone. wikimedia.org/WolfmanSF

is left instead of trying to reverse time. Jay Gatsby would not agree, but we all know how his life turned out.

Even the smallest of species, such as mice, have regulations to help minimize their discomfort when participating in any study. There are still many people who believe no animal testing of any kind should exist, despite its major contribution to today's vaccines and other advancements in medicine. Conducting cloning experiments on elephants is much more controversial

and does not have the added benefits.

It is important to draw the line between scientific inquiry for a purpose and for sport. Mammoths do not technically have any quality the world is in need of. Sure, bringing them back to life would be a crowning achievement for science, but that isn't enough of a justification. When two hundred species are no longer going extinct every day, then we can revisit cloning.

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

Busting Birth Control and Infertility Myths

SEX AND LOVE

SELENE SAN FELICE
Opinion Columnist



"My mom and I have been fighting about my birth control lately. She says I should 'take a break' from the Pill because it can cause you to be infertile, but it's my main form of birth control. If I go to a doctor I'll get a 'use a condom' speech, but I've been with my partner for 2 yrs. Is the Pill safe?" - Anonymous

Anonymous,

You are not alone. Many young women trying to get on or stay on birth control have had the exact same issue. We've finally reached adulthood, but our parents still think they have a say in our sex lives. I've seen it many times and have experienced the feeling myself. As soon as a girl mentions she wants to go on birth control, cries of "You'll get fat! You'll get acne! You'll go crazy!" and "You'll never have kids!" come from all angles.

Yes, possible side effects of hormonal birth control include weight gain, mood swings and changes in complexion. For some girls, these side effects can be so extreme that they need to change pill brands or birth control methods, but for many the Pill has no effect on weight, can regulate anxiety and decrease acne better than anything out of a dermatologist's office. Everyone's body reacts differently to the Pill, so there's really no telling what will happen until you take it, but the way I see it all of these symptoms are better than an unexpected pregnancy.

One thing the Pill can't do, however, is stop you from having children when you do decide you want to. The infertility myth was debunked this past January in a blog post for the birth control information site bedsiders.org by Tina Raine-Bennett, MD, MPH. Dr. Raine-Bennett is the director of a family planning and STD clinic for adolescents and a professor in the Department of Obstetrics & Gynecology at the University of California, San Francisco.

"All reversible birth control methods will help prevent pregnancy while you're using them, but none have long-lasting effects on your ability to get pregnant when you stop," Dr. Raine-Bennett writes. "That's why women who use the Pill but accidentally forget to take it for a few days can get pregnant that month."

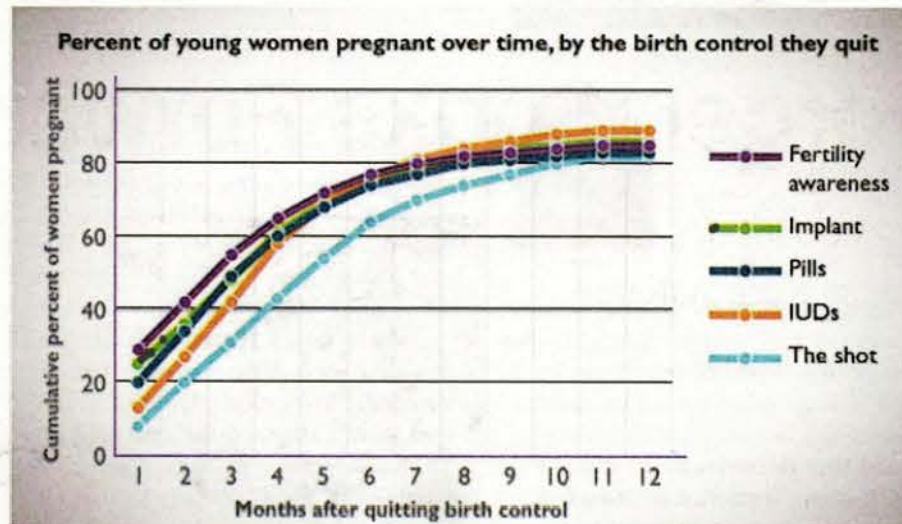
The European Active Surveillance Study on Oral Contraceptives (EURAS-OC) study also backs this up. For two years, over 2,000 women were monitored in their efforts to conceive after stopping the Pill. Within one cycle of stopping the Pill, 21 percent of women were able to conceive. For women who used no form of birth control the rate were 20 to 25 percent per cycle. Twelve months after stopping the Pill, 79.4 percent of women in the study were pregnant. Of women who used the Pill for two years or less, 79.3 percent got pregnant after a year of stopping. Women who used the Pill for more than two years also had no difference in conception rates, with 81 percent getting pregnant after a year of no birth control.

Dr. Judith Reichman, the TODAY show's medical contributor on women's health, took a look at the study and said, "These numbers are pretty much the same as for non-birth-control-pill users. In other words, prior use of the Pill seemed to make no difference to future conception."

Dr. Reichman noted that the old wives' tale of the Pill causing infertility may stem from the fact that birth control is often prescribed to regulate menstrual cycles. For women who have issues with irregular cycles, stopping the Pill may continue that irregularity and make conception difficult. This is the fault of nature, not the Pill.

So, Anonymous, unless you're planning on getting pregnant in the next year, you should definitely not "take a break" from your pill. If you go to a doctor, I'm sure they wouldn't be worried about your eggs going rotten. However, that condom talk is still important.

The Pill is 99 percent effective if taken correctly, according to Britain's National Health Service. But "taken correctly" means more than just popping the Pill whenever. For the highest efficiency rates, the Pill needs to be taken at the exact same time; Every. Single.



Graphic courtesy of Bedsider.org

Day. Missing the window by five minutes won't get you knocked up, but as a rule a one hour window is perfection, two hours is good, and after three hours you need to be more careful. Missing your window and forgetting to take your pill isn't the end of the world, either. Just take it as soon as you remember, but try not to drastically miss the window too often. Otherwise, symptoms like nausea and mood swings can rear their heads, according to Planned Parenthood.

Planned Parenthood also notes that, the Pill can be less effective for women who are overweight. Their site lists the antibiotic rifampin, the antifungal griseofulvin, certain HIV medicines, certain anti-seizure medicines and St. John's wort as medications that can decrease birth control effectiveness. Other antibiotics and antifungals do not affect your birth control, contrary to the other wives' tales floating around. Having diarrhea and vomiting around the time of taking your pill can also decrease effectiveness.

Even after avoiding these medications, being a perfect pill taker can be extremely difficult. That's why backup methods are so important. Not to say you or your boyfriend of two years would cheat and give each other an STI or a STD, but these things can exist within a person without symptoms for months or even years. Even monogamous couples should still be getting STI and STD

tested regularly, including the time while they are in a relationship.

Of course no one is perfect with condom use either. Going "bareback" is incredibly common for couples who don't find themselves at a big risk for STIs and STDs, but getting in the habit of using condoms can make your sex life a whole lot easier.

Whether your mother is more concerned about your fertility or the fact that her baby is growing up, know that you're making the right choice to get protected. "Grown-ups" tend to think scaring their kids with horror stories of pregnancy, disease and side effects will stop kids from having sex. All that does is make everyone's lives more stressful and makes young couples guilty about the sex they're going to have anyways. Be prepared for possible side effects of your birth control, but know you're making the right choice in protecting yourself from a pregnancy you don't want right now.

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

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

Starbucks' #RaceTogether Campaign Flops

MARKETING

SAM ALLEN
Opinion Writer



Starbucks had their baristas stop writing "Race Together" on customer coffee cups after only one week of their controversial campaign. Starbucks wanted their baristas to start a conversation about race inequality through the "Race Together" initiative, but customers were not so enthused. Though Starbucks had good intentions, a conversation about race in a long line of people who are probably in a hurry to get to work is not the time or place.

Starbucks didn't think about who this campaign would impact on a day to day basis. Aside from creating an annoyance for customers, Starbucks set baristas up for failure by not training them properly for the initiative and adding an impossible task to their already heavy workload. I used to be a barista at a small, understaffed café. Cafés are commonly thought of as quaint places to grab a cup of coffee and relax, but that is not always the case. Sometimes, even the smallest cafés generate a lot of traffic, coffee is high in demand. Many of the articles surrounding the "Race Together" initiative speak of the discomfort felt by the

customers, but the baristas were the ones who were the most inconvenienced by it.

A good barista is quick, friendly and efficient. The amount of work that goes into running a high traffic café is tremendous. The baristas must keep the work place clean, (at Starbucks) they must serve their coffee in under three minutes, they have to bake when the food case is understocked, and most importantly keep the customers happy. If you factor in being forced by your employer to begin a deep conversation with a customer, about anything for that matter, the barista's work environment becomes stressful at best and unmanageable at worst. This does not make a good experience for customers from a customer service standpoint. Starbucks executives know that the extended wait time created by the "Race Together" initiative could negatively impact their company's efficiency; however, they had placed their priority in the campaign, according to Business Insider.

The "Race Together" campaign, while not placed in the correct setting, does bring up a good point. Perhaps Starbucks wanted to demonstrate with their controversial campaign that when people are asked to discuss race, anger is the popular response. The company claims that it was always their intention to end the "Race Together" cups Sunday, March 22 stating: "The cups were 'just the catalyst' for a larger conversation, and Starbucks will still hold forum discussions, co-produce special

sections in USA TODAY and put more stores in minority communities as part of the Race Together initiative," reported by the Associated Press. Whether there is any truth to the campaign's 'planned' trajectory or not, Starbucks will have to be careful with their next move toward the initiative. They have succeeded in pointing out that people don't want to talk about race while in line for coffee, but that's not really a success. Consumers may be too annoyed now to take Starbucks' good intentioned initiative seriously. The conversation that has been sparked is not really about race right now, it's about Starbucks.

Starbucks' "Race Together" has been accused of being "opportunistic and inappropriate at a time of national protests over police killings of unarmed black men," reports komonews.com. Since an actual discussion about race doesn't seem to be the subject of conversation surrounding their initiative, these accusations do have some merit. Starbucks has done less of what they have said they were hoping to do in their company memo, and did more for themselves by having the Starbucks brand be the name on everyone's tongue, even if the feedback was negative. In addition, their promotional images for the initiative have shown a distinct lack of diversity. The main marketing photo for "Race Together" only features a white barista, according to BBC News.

The "Race Together" campaign has



the stir.cafemom.com/AdrianaVelez
Starbucks' Race Together Campaign proves unsuccessful.

been stressful on everyone involved. Stressful on baristas, customers and members of minority groups who were supposed to be gaining support from this campaign. A constructive conversation about race does need to happen. We can't stop inequality if we don't talk about race, but this campaign generated more conversation about the corporation and almost none about race inequality. I'd call that a failure.

Sam Allen can be reached at samantha.allen@spartans.ut.edu

SPORTS

Borgen Looks Forward to Final Campaign

Junior continues to impress teammates

By ANN MARIE DISTASI
Sports Writer

Dedication and hard work are crucial for having a successful career in anything that you are passionate about, no matter your age or origin. Nothing can block your path to a goal once there is a full commitment. Whether it is related to sports or academics, the effort to strive for your ultimate goals is what will shape your future. For Runar Borgen, a junior finance major and recent All-American men's swimmer at the 2015 NCAA Division II Championship, it all starts with a talent. Originally from Bodo, Norway, Borgen discovered his talent as a swimmer when he was 7. At the age of 10, Borgen competed in his first competition on a club team, Tromsø Swim Club, which he continues to swim for today.

The rush it gave him to swim fast and the support from friends and family were the two biggest deciding factors on his ultimate passion. Being a member of the swim team is an experience that Borgen said led him to his achievements. He moved to Tampa in 2013 when he transferred to UT from University of Tromsø in Norway after his freshman year.

"Back home if I was going to continue [swimming] I wouldn't have the opportunity to swim and do school," Borgen said. "I had to choose one or another."

He saw the perfect opportunity to fulfill



Photo courtesy of Tom Kolbe
Junior Runar Borgen improves this season for the Spartans, helping to lead them to Nationals.

both goals of having a career in finance and swimming by moving to the U.S. Borgen said that, since he became a Spartan, his skills have improved drastically. He made the All-American cut for five races after competing in the NCAA Championship over spring break. Those races include the 50 Free, 200 Medley Relay, 200 Free Relay, 400 Medley Relay and 800 Free Relay.

He also won the gold medal at a Norwegian competition this past weekend. Friends and family were impressed by Borgen's improvements after becoming a Spartan.

"It's always been a goal of mine to go home and win gold, and I did so I'm very happy," Borgen said. "I've gotten second and third, I don't know how many times, so finally

taking that extra step to go home and get a couple gold's is awesome."

These achievements would be nothing without his coaches and teammates. Borgen discusses that he and his teammates push each other during practice to perform 110 percent every day.

"Runar has the ability to race no matter how deep into training we are," said head coach Ed Brennan. "He is able to recover mentally and physically and race day after day. That challenges everyone in his training group."

Brennan said that one of Borgen's most significant moments on the team thus far was his lead off of the 200 Freestyle Relay at this year's NAAs.

"He kept us swimming against the fastest swimmers in the division," Brennan said. "We broke the national record but finished second."

Both Borgen and Brennan have goals to finish in the top five at next year's NCAA tournament. They also plan on becoming national champions in the 200 Free and 400 Medley relays that they fell short on this year. Borgen is excited for the upcoming season even though his senior year is approaching, which he considers a sad time. He is also looking forward to the number of competitions he will be racing in for his club team this summer.

"It's going to be a little sad but it's going to be a lot of fun because I think I'm going to do really well next year," Borgen said.

Ann Marie Distasi can be reached at annmarie.distasi@spartans.ut.edu

Sophomore Marisa Barton Preps For Stellar Junior Year

By ERIN TOWNSEND
Sports Writer

Finishing the season as a top scorer at nationals, sophomore Marisa Barton is bound to be an instrumental part of next year's UT swim team. "Marisa Barton is one of the most determined, strong-willed and hard working individuals on the UT Women's Swim Team. She gives her best at every practice and is a great person to train with... Women's team captain may be in her future," said junior men's team swimmer Jordan Augier.

Barton started taking swim lessons at age 10. When her swim instructor told her parents she had potential to excel in the sport, they looked into furthering her swim career. "I was not great my first season, but I made such great friends that I wanted to keep doing it. I kept improving and it became more and more fun," Barton said.

One memorable moment of swimming in high school was a fun handshake she made with a fellow teammate who swam the same events as her. "It got us so pumped up to race. I got to race her at NCAA's, so we got to do our handshake again," Barton said.

Barton decided on UT when a fellow high school swimmer, Kelsey Hoxie, chose the school herself. "I came down on a recruiting trip. I fell in love with the school as soon as I saw it. I had such a great host, Lexi Webb, who gave up her weekend before finals to host me; which I was very grateful for," Barton said.

Her decision was widely based on the Spartan's renowned coaching staff. "When I met the head coach, Ed Brennan, I knew I

wanted to come here. He is so intelligent and funny, and I owe a lot of my success to him," Barton said.

During her freshman year as a Spartan, she was awarded Sunshine State Conference (SSC) Swimmer of the Week and achieved SSC Commissioner's Honor Roll. "Marisa Barton plays a vital role on the women's swim team. She is such a hard worker both in the pool and in the weight room and pushes the other women to perform to the best of their abilities," said junior Jeremy Parker.

Barton's teammates and coaches both notice her drive to do whatever is necessary for the Spartans to win. "Marisa leads by her example. She will race until she drops. Sometimes I have to tell her to ease up for fear she'll be so broken down," Brennan said.

Her significance to the team comes from her love and dedication to them. "My favorite part of being on this team is the sense of pride I get every time I put my Tampa cap on. I feel so blessed that I get to train everyday with my amazing teammates who will push me to be my best," Barton said.

After two successful seasons at UT, Barton's favorite memory was getting to walk up to the blocks at this year's NAAs holding hands with her fellow relay team. "Some of the other men's relays starting holding hands, so we definitely started a trend," Barton said.

Barton's main goal for next season is to win conference with the women's team, which last won in 2014. "We're returning some incredible swimmers such as Britt



Photo courtesy of Tom Kolbe
During this past season, Marisa Barton helped UT's relay team reach the NCAA Nationals in Indianapolis.

Bayes, Amanda Nielsen-Fernandes, Noel Styer and Sophie Long, so we're hoping to be on top again next year," Barton said.

Barton credits the Spartan's success in swimming to the coaches and faculty. "We have an incredible coaching staff to push us and prepare us well for competition," Barton said. Weight coaches Drew Ellwanger and Jett Henderson also had an influential part of the team's success this past year. "They did an amazing job working with us and

preparing us for competition this year," Barton said.

When not swimming, Barton has taken up running this off-season. She ran track in high school and is training for a Muddy Buddy run while back home in July. After graduating from UT, she plans to go to graduate school and become a physical therapist.

Erin Townsend can be reached at erin.townsend@spartans.ut.edu

Softball Team Sails Toward End of Season

Strong lineup and pitching staff are keys to Spartan's success

By **MARCUS MITCHELL**
Sports Columnist

Over the course of this past March, the softball team has caught fire and is blazing through opponents with a 21-9 overall record.

The Spartans have won 10 of their last 12 games and the combination of strong pitching and clutch hitting have cemented the Spartans as a legitimate force in the Sunshine State Conference (SSC).

"We have been up and down throughout the season, but are definitely

hitting our stride right now," said head coach Leslie Kanter. "With our pitching doing as well as it is, we are able to fight for every win and we have developed into a strong hitting team."

This is Kanter's 21st season at the University of Tampa and she is looking to take the team to its fifth straight appearance at the NCAA South Regional Tournament. But to do, so the team will need to continue climbing the SSC standings.

Currently ranked fourth in the conference, the Spartans have a 9-6 conference record and have won their three game series with top ranked Rollins College and Barry University.

"We are in a difficult conference that doesn't let you take a breath, but one of the reasons our conference is so tough is because we are in it too," said Kanter.

In this past weekend SSC series,

the Spartans swept Florida Southern University and were able to shut out the Mocs on Saturday's doubleheader. Senior pitcher Julia Morrow started all three games this past weekend and picked up her 16th, 17th and 18th wins of the season.

Over the course of the three games played, Morrow completed all of them and struck out 33 batters with only one surrendered earned run. She was named SSC Player of the Week, her third time this season, and has become an outright ace on the mound.

Over the season, Morrow is sitting at a 1.62 ERA (Earned Run Average) and has shut out teams on nine different occasions this season.

However, it has been the work at the plate that has separated the Spartans from opponents this season. This season, the Spartans have over 100 runs scored and the team has a respectable on-base percentage (OBP) of .333 and a batting average of .272. In comparison, opponents are averaging a .278 OBP and a .231 batting average.

Senior first baseman Meagan Burke and three other Spartans have over 10 runs batted in (RBIs) over the course of the season and the Spartans contain a lineup filled to the brim with talent.

Leadoff hitter and senior catcher Kandi Kuder has been a spark for the Spartan lineup and leads the team in batting average (.347) and hits (33). Kuder and freshman shortstop Sahrina Cortes have found themselves on base often as they share the team leads in stolen bases (four) and runs scored (15).

With a strong on-base presence from

the top of the batting order, the power hitters have benefitted greatly. Burke has been the slugger of the team as the third batter and leads the Spartans in home runs with five on the year.

Batting clean-up in the fourth slot in the lineup is sophomore third baseman Bre Setree, who has excelled in the role and leads the team with 17 RBIs.

Despite the power in the lineup, the quality that the team has shown strongly this season is its focus. When the time demands it, any player on the team is capable of coming up with a hit or making a play.

"When our power hitters aren't doing as well, other people in the lineup know they need to step up and they pull through with a clutch hit," said junior second baseman Alyssa Colletti. "The lineup has definitely gotten stronger throughout the season and every batter is getting more confidence."

With every win, the team is gaining more and more confidence and are playing with focus and determination as they head into the final leg of their season.

The Spartans are riding a four-game winning streak into this week's SSC clash with rival Eckerd College. The team is firing on all cylinders and, with dominant pitching and a focused lineup, are showing no signs of slowing down.

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



Photo courtesy of Tom Kolbe

The softball team continues to be a dominant force in Sunshine State Conference play.

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Flair Paces High Scoring Spartan Attack

Third baseman leads squad in multiple offensive categories

By **ANDREW STAMAS**
Sports Writer

Balancing a varsity sport with schoolwork, transferring schools, and dealing with injuries can all be very difficult things to cope with. For junior third baseman Nick Flair, these are some of the obstacles he has faced so far in his college career.

He has played for three different schools over the past three seasons, but he seems to have found a permanent home here at UT.

It was a long road, but the story all began when Flair was four years old and started playing baseball. He went on to have an outstanding high school career in Louisiana, where he received all types of honors and distinctions in his home state.

Soon it was time to leave high

school and go to college, where Flair had signed to play for Mississippi State University.

Unfortunately, injuries hampered his freshman year, so he chose to redshirt and gain an extra year of eligibility, since he would have missed most of the season by the time his injuries would have healed. The following season, he remained at Mississippi State. But after being unhappy with his playing time, he decided to transfer to Gulf Coast State College, a junior school in Panama City.

For his junior season, he decided to come to the University of Tampa despite some offers from Division I programs. His main reason for this being the coaching staff and the chance to win a national championship.

"I've heard from numerous people that Coach Urso and Coach Sam are the best there are and when I met them I knew it was a perfect fit," Flair said.

His career as a Spartan started in the best way possible, with the team being ranked No. 1 nationally with a 13-1 record. Additionally, he had the chance to play and defeat the Philadelphia Phillies in an exhibition game. For Flair and his teammates, this was an unforgettable experience.

"We got to see the best pitchers and position players in the game right now and actually see how we compared to them in size, skill and strength," Flair said.

Flair also acknowledged that the game was not only about gaining experience, but that the Spartans would do their best to try and win.

"We had the mindset of going in there to play our hardest and make a name for the University of Tampa, and I think having beaten them may have gotten the university some more recognition I hope," Flair said.

Currently ranked second nationally with a 24-7 overall record and a 7-2 conference record, the Spartans are aiming to do exactly what Flair

had hoped for when he first came here, which is to win the national title. "It's all about the team and as a team we are focused on winning a championship. We have to take it one game at a time and if we do that and give everything we have, I think we'll be successful," Flair said.

Flair has been a key contributor this season, having started in all 31 games for UT. Aside from being an integral part of the team's infield, he is also one of the best hitters. He leads the team in hits with 49, RBIs with 41 and doubles with 12. He also has a batting average of .395, six home runs and a triple.

Though he still has next year to look forward to, Nick is hoping to be able to continue playing the sport he loves after graduating. "If I get the opportunity to keep playing after I graduate, I'd definitely continue playing," Flair said.

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



Photos courtesy of Tom Kolbe

Junior third baseman Nick Flair anchors the Spartans in hits with 49, RBIs with 41 and doubles with 12. He also has a batting average of .395 and six home runs on the season.

Club Tennis Impresses In Season Closing Tournament

Men's, women's team finishes successful season at HCC

By **MELISSA TORRE**
Sports Writer

The Club Tennis Team finished up their season by hosting the first ever Spartan Open last weekend at Hillsborough Community College. This tournament was a trial for the team to prove to United States Tennis Association (USTA for short) that next year they can handle running an official tournament.

Freshman Christian Maldonado stood out this meet, competing in his first ever tournament with the team.

Maldonado had expressed interest in playing with the team all season, and competed last weekend on the club's A team in his UT debut.

"He had one tough match that he really grinded through, and he did phenomenal," sophomore Scotty Hilliard said.

Overall, both the club's A and B teams did very well, with the B team making it further in the tournament. Both teams made it to the semifinals

of the gold bracket where the A team lost, and the B team lost in the finals of the gold bracket. "It was a good end to the season, and going into next year I think we're only going to improve and do better next year," said freshman treasurer David Kosman.

Unfortunately, the club's season ended after their meet in Orlando because they did not place within the top three to qualify for nationals in California. However, the team did place within the top ten during this meet, playing against major Division I schools such as University of Florida and Florida State University.

Looking toward next season, the team is aiming to become more competitive and involved on campus.

The team is hoping to reach this goal by implementing recruitment officers who will table for the club in Vaughn lobby and share with interested students information about the team.

The team is also planning on fundraising next semester to help support and lower the costs of competing in some of their tournaments that they attend throughout the year, which can range from \$500 to \$600 per tournament.

Next season, the team is also

holding tryouts for the A team for the first time ever.

"We want to become more competitive because we definitely have the potential," Hilliard said.

With the club ending its second season, they are looking to grow and expand for next year.

By holding tryouts, the team will not only be able to build a more competitive team, but they will also

be able to take a step closer to their overall goal of being able to compete in the national tournament.

The club has proved that they have come a long way since they began only two short years ago, and are looking to take it to the next level and only keep improving in the future.

Melissa Torre can be reached at melissa.torre@spartans.ut.edu.



Photo courtesy of Scotty Hilliard

The club tennis team ends their season on a high note by hosting the Spartan Open at HCC.

Men's Lacrosse Continues Strong Season

Despite injuries, men's lacrosse pushes towards end of season

By **GRIFFIN GUINTA**
Sports Columnist

The quest for a perfect record may have come and passed, but that isn't stopping the men's lacrosse team from playing close to perfection. Since their lopsided defeat at the hands of powerhouse Limestone College, the Spartans have rattled off eight straight wins in impressive fashion.

Make no mistake, the wins have been filled with their share of close calls. The team narrowly edged pesky Ithaca College by a score of 9-8, then triumphed over the eleventh ranked Mercyhurst 11-7 just four days later. This past Saturday, March 28, the team defeated conference rival St. Leo 10-9 on the road thanks to a late goal by sophomore Conor Whipple.

The key to their success? Resilience and a short memory.

"After we watched the Limestone game on film, it was one of those things that we knew we had to move on from," said senior midfielder Nick Ferreiro. "We had a two week bye after the loss and could have easily dwelled on it, but I think the whole team would agree that the Tampa team that was out there on Valentine's Day isn't who we are."

Ferreiro is a senior, so enduring ups and downs throughout a long season has become second nature at this point. Though his fellow teammates are undoubtedly talented,

they are also equally as young. Of the 65 players on the roster, only 10 are seniors, which make what they're collectively doing all the more impressive.

The team was recently dealt a huge blow after losing lockdown defender junior Marty Heyn for the rest of the year, and easily could have panicked. Much like the aftermath of the Limestone loss, however, the Spartans saw adversity as opportunity, and trusted that the 64 other players on their roster would step up to fill the void. Sophomore goalkeeper AJ Arnold has already seen some pleasant surprises thus far.

"Since Marty went down I've really noticed freshman defenseman Nick Balzano stepping up on defense. He's played a big role in shutting down our opponents key players and is definitely a player to watch as we continue through the season," Arnold said.

Ferreiro has also drawn similar observations of the defense, and praised them for their impressive cohesion.

The whole defense has each stepped up a little bit in his absence to fill the huge void his injury has left," he said. "Guys who weren't relied on as heavily before have come through in a huge way, from Nick Balzano to Charlie Cummins to the emergence of AJ Arnold in the net, the whole unit has been playing great team defense."

In any well-run organization, there's always a contingency plan to remedy the loss of an employee who fulfills a certain role. Sure, the organization will never be exactly the way it was before, but that doesn't mean that it can't still function proficiently. Starbucks CEO Howard Schultz once said that "With growth,



Photo courtesy of Tom Kolbe

The men's lacrosse team continues to overcome injuries en route to eight consecutive wins.

successful leadership requires an ability to move the goals ahead and envision the next growth path, thereby pushing the company forward while maintaining its success foundation."

The Spartans may not be budding baristas, but point is, in the midst of setback, they've chosen fight over flight. And if you think they're letting this seemingly instant win streak get to their heads, you'd be mistaken. If anything, it raises the expectation level and places enhanced pressure on the team to keep the momentum going. They'll have a chance to further the notion that they are a national force to be reckoned with by taking on the No. 1 ranked Lake Erie College Storm, who beat Limestone 14-12 earlier this season.

"We often talk about the target on our back growing as a result of our success and it's something we're embracing. We don't take any opponents lightly, especially in our conference where anything can happen because of the familiarity of the teams with one another," Ferreiro said.

At the onset of the season, many believed that this would be year the Spartans would capture the elusive NCAA Championship trophy. Judging by where they are today, that dream is very much still alive. Just be sure to hang on for the ride.

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

Women's Lacrosse Team Sets New Scoring Record

The Spartans score 21 goals in game against Shorter University

By **TESS SHEETS**
Sports Writer

The beginning years after any program's inauguration is a time filled with records set across the board. For the women's lacrosse team, currently in their second year as a program, a new milestone was achieved in a match against Shorter University on March 21.

The team clinched a record high goal performance with a 21 point victory over the Shorter Hawks. This may be a landmark for the Spartans, but players ensure that it is just the tip of the iceberg.

"I think it just shows what we as a group and a program are capable of," said senior midfielder Kirsten Brierley. "There is so much more to come for people to see."

Following their breakthrough victory, the team set out to compete against first Pfeiffer and then Lenoir-Rhyne on March 26 and March 27, respectively. Despite the excitement following their win against Shorter, the team failed to come away with additional victories. They fell to a score of 16-6 against Pfeiffer and similarly to a score of 15-6 against Lenoir-Rhyne.

However, the team notes that the final scores were mostly representations of only the last 40 minutes of each of these matches. While the players started off strong, their most consequential issue was maintaining focus to the finish.

"Our biggest accomplishment was the first 20 minutes of the Pfeiffer game," Brierley said. "We put everything together and played as a unit. Our defense was solid, and we made Pfeiffer a little

nervous. Our biggest struggle was playing consistent the whole weekend. We just couldn't put a complete game together."

However, the team continues to keep their heads high as they work their way toward the Sunshine State Conference (SSC) tournament, which is scheduled to begin on April 24. The two losses put the team at a record of 5-8. At this point, it is important for them to clinch their last remaining victories of regular-season play in order to secure a spot in the tournament.

In the next few weeks, the teams will be competing against three conference teams: Saint Leo University, Florida Institute of Technology and Florida Southern College. Winning at least two of these three remaining matches will allow them to achieve their goal.

"Our last three games of the regular season are all conference games. They

will be tough competitions but there is some animosity that will fire us up and we're ready to go," Brierley said. "We need to play consistent Tampa lacrosse as a team. We need to focus on all the little things we go over everyday in practice."

Instead of dwelling on their losses from the past weekend, the team sees it more as a way to illuminate the areas of their game that need more focus. They have been taking note on both their own and their opponent's strengths and weaknesses, as it will give them more insight into how they will need to compete in the conference tournament, should they qualify.

"The teams we play this week and next week are similar to the teams we previously just played," said sophomore attack Amanda Voges. "If we come out strong and focused we will come out with

the outcomes that we've been working for all season."

All in all, the team's loss to Pfeiffer and Lenoir-Rhyne have only made them hungrier for a spot in the tournament as well as more intuitive in terms of what to expect and how to perform. No match is wasted; each victory and each loss is part of a larger picture of growing the program and learning how to be successful.

"As a whole our trip to North Carolina really benefited us by showing if we do come out strong and play for a full 60 minutes instead of just for a portion of the game no one will be able to stop us," Voges said. "We're a young team still we just got to keep moving forward and progress and time will tell."

Tess Sheets can be reached at sheets@theminaretonline.com

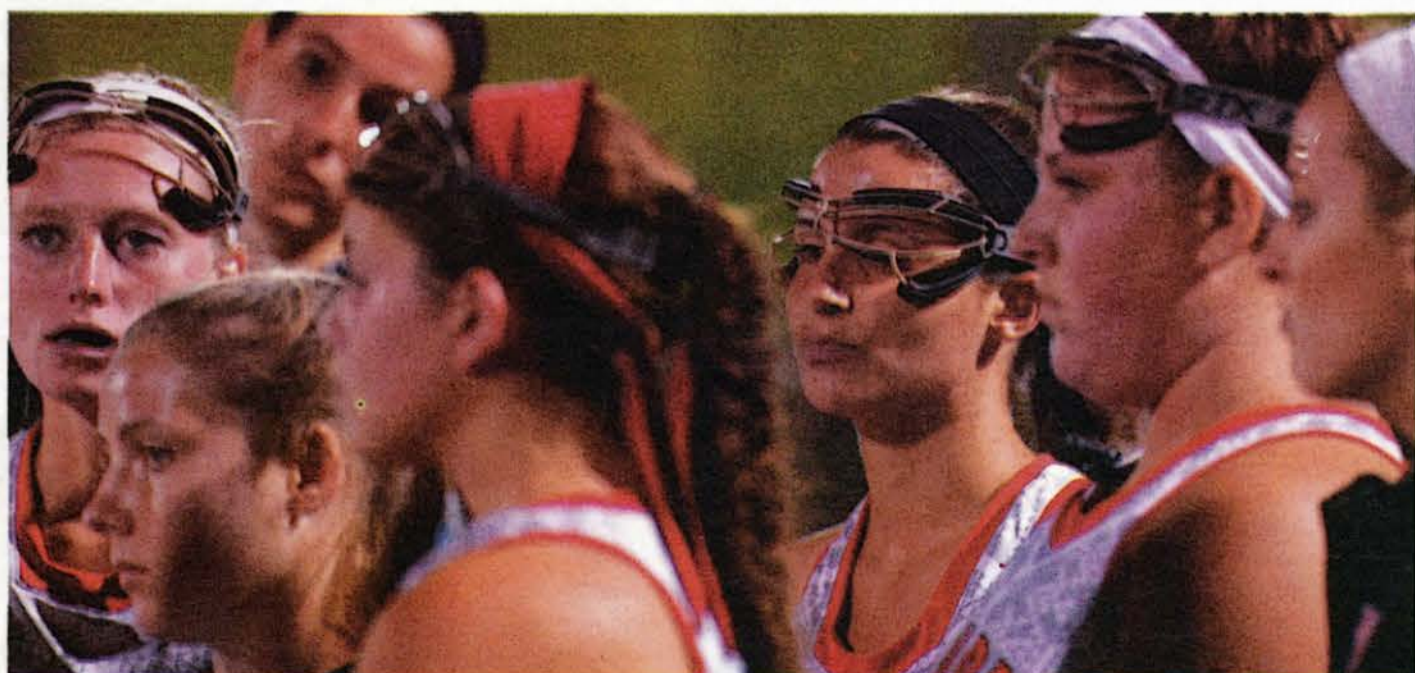


Photo courtesy of Tom Kolbe

Women's lacrosse team looks to rally after record-breaking victory against Shorter University to secure a spot in the SSC tournament.