

4-8-2013

Crow's Nest : 2013 : 04 : 08

University of South Florida St. Petersburg.

Follow this and additional works at: https://scholarcommons.usf.edu/crows_nest

Recommended Citation

University of South Florida St. Petersburg., "Crow's Nest : 2013 : 04 : 08" (2013). *Crow's Nest*. 741.
https://scholarcommons.usf.edu/crows_nest/741

This News Article is brought to you for free and open access by the University History: Campus Publications at Scholar Commons. It has been accepted for inclusion in Crow's Nest by an authorized administrator of Scholar Commons. For more information, please contact scholarcommons@usf.edu.

ONE MONTH

and counting...

That's how long USF St. Petersburg's election for president and vice president has been in limbo.

It's been 31 full days since either James Richards and Jordan Iulucci or Mark Lombardi-Nelson and Christa Hegedus should have been chosen to represent the students of USF St. Petersburg for the 2013-2014 academic year. It's how long the 358 students who cast a vote for a president and vice president have gone unanswered, their voices lost somewhere between campaign infractions and amicus curiae. ¶ For one month, four friends, coworkers and students, burdened by the burning passion to lead, have been caught in a battle of errors that should never have happened — and so has the student body of St. Petersburg, thousands of students unsure about who they can turn to next year for representation.

In a Student Government presidential election so controversial that it received coverage from the Tampa Bay Times, trying to keep up with who's in and who's out has been nearly impossible. But where the Times story focuses primarily on a candidate's absence of undergarments, The Crow's

Nest presents the need-to-know details of the election process. We sifted through the documents submitted to and produced by the SG Supreme Court over the last month to break down each writ, brief, motion and request in terms that don't require a law degree to understand.

See ELECTION, pg. 3

Chasing muses through history

BY JENNIFER NESSLAR
CROW'S NEST CORRESPONDENT

characters, not only through the writing of the play, but also through her own personal experience — she was a muse herself. When she began working on her thesis last fall, she was coming out of a relationship with an artist. She described it as a “difficult time ending being his muse.”

Unlike her “girls,” Chase is unsure how her experience as a muse will affect her. At the end of the play, Chase speaks as herself.

“It was incredible and empowering when it began, and tragic and devastating when it ended,” she said. “I am still trying to figure out whether it will strengthen or wreck me. Despite the ending, I would never take it back.”

Chase hopes her play will cause others to consider the lives of muses. She pleads with the audience to realize there is a real woman behind every muse painted by a male artist. She says that women are more than just a “decorative



Courtesy of Jennifer Nessler

inspiration for a lot of people.”

Theater also has a personal meaning for Chase. She has been involved in the theater since she was 10 years old. She has performed in many local productions, but until now, art has always been separate from her schooling. She now calls environmental science and politics her “fall back” and plans to move

to New York City to pursue acting after graduating in May. She wants to continue writing for theatrical productions.

Chase hopes to continue working on her show, as she says it lends itself to traveling around. If other venues will host her, she will perform.

news@crowsteststpete.com

News Briefs

This week is packed with activities for students, alumni and friends of the university for USF Week.

Monday, April 8

Free food and giveaways on Harborwalk from noon to 2 p.m.

Tuesday, April 9

Live trivia night at the Reef from 7 to 9 p.m.

Wednesday, April 10

Road Rules Campus Challenge featuring Rachel Robinson from MTV's “Road Rules” in the University Student Center ballroom at 6 p.m.

Thursday, April 11

Undergraduate Research Symposium in the USC ballroom from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.

USFSP's Got Talent! competition in the USC ballroom at 8 p.m.

Friday April 12

Bus to USF Tampa's Bullstock concert featuring the All-American Rejects. Bus leaves at 3 p.m. from the USC.

If you're interested in street prostitution, or at least the subcultures and constructed identities of the system, join Dr. Jill McCracken as she discusses her book, “Street Sex Workers' Discourse: Realizing Material Change Through Agential Choice.”

McCracken's talk will provide a thorough analysis of the material conditions surrounding street workers and their connection to discourse.

She will speak on Tuesday, April 9 in the Nelson Poynter Memorial Library from 4 to 5 p.m.

Feeling innovative?

On Entrepreneurship Day, April 10, entrepreneurship club members will demonstrate the products they've developed.

The event will feature live music, food, and activities, and more on Harborwalk, from 1 to 3 p.m.

When senior Karleigh Chase wrote her honors thesis, she did something few environmental science and policy majors do. She wrote a play.

Chase performed a portion of her play, “Memoirs of a Painted Woman,” on April 4 at Studio@620 in downtown. In her one-woman show, she portrayed the women of various famous paintings, giving her own adaptation of their thoughts on living life as a muse.

Character in Chase's play tell the audience how being a muse affected them. Mona Lisa became successful. The Girl with Pearl Earring describes it as tragic. Gala rejoices over the power she achieved. Marilyn Monroe became a martyr, completely destroyed by her experience as a muse.

Chase calls each of the muses “my girls.” She connected with the

Student scammed overseas

BY JACLYN CAYAVEC
CROW'S NEST CORRESPONDENT

Amber Heddleson was 11 years old the first time she visited London. She fell in love with the city.

“It was only a two-week trip, and we were in London for three days ... I told myself, ‘I want to live here!’” Heddleson said.

As a USF St. Petersburg student, living in London wasn't an option, but studying abroad was. So she made arrangements to do so in fall 2012.

Heddleson decided to pursue off-campus housing, so she posted her information on a website through her host school, Middlesex University. It was called “student pad,” a public forum for people to post their living wants and needs. Because it was through her host school, she figured the forum was safe.

A landlord named Clement Boutielle contacted Heddleson about renting a room in his flat. At 400 English pounds a month, the price was too good to turn down.

“The lease was very renter friendly. My boyfriend and father thought so too,” Heddleson said. Boutielle sent her more than five pictures of the flat, and even gave her the name and contact information of her roommate, another study abroad student.

Heddleson finalized a three-month rental agreement with Boutielle, who asked her to wire the money through Western Union. She used an online payment system called Bluepay that sends money electronically through the bank, then transfers through Western

Union to the recipient. Heddleson felt this transaction was more secure than a cash transaction. But the three to five business day waiting period for the money wasn't fast enough for her landlord.

Two days before Heddleson left for London, Boutielle called her about the rent. Until then, they had only communicated through email.

“He was screaming, ‘I need payment! I need payment! I need payment!’” Heddleson said. “He had a foreign accent ... I could barely understand him, but I knew he was yelling at me.”

In a panic, she canceled the electronic transaction, pulled out \$1,657 in cash, and sent it via Western Union to the address Boutielle provided. She didn't want to be homeless in London.

When Heddleson landed in London, she hailed a cab and traveled to 9 Tardwell Place, where she expected to find her home of the next three months. A man answered the door.

“Is Clement there?” she asked.

“There's no Clement here.”

“Are you sure? Because I am supposed to live here,” she said.

“I live here,” the man replied. “I've lived here for a while.”

Heddleson asked the man if there was another Tardwell Place or if he knew anyone named of Clement Boutielle. He answered no to both questions.

That's when Heddleson realized she'd been scammed.

In the week that followed, Heddleson retraced her steps to see where she went wrong instead of getting acquainted to her new environment before starting classes.

What she uncovered shocked her.

She found out that Boutielle had received her money in Scotland. The address he gave her turned out to be an auto shop. The cellphone number he used was registered to an Internet cafe.

A week before leaving for London, Heddleson emailed her roommate, Laura Lee Davies, to introduce herself.

“I thought it was weird that she didn't email me back, but figured she was just busy preparing to leave, too,” Heddleson said.

A week into the trip, Davies finally replied to the email. She informed Heddleson that she was not her roommate and that someone was using her name and contact information as part of the scam. At least six other people had contacted Davies — all introducing themselves as her future roommate.

Clearly, the scam was common.

Raven Villegras, a USF student and intern at the Education Abroad office in Tampa, had a similar experience. Villegras also fell victim to a Western Union scam.

“I did not realize that I had been scammed till I was standing on the doorstep of my so-called flat,” Villegras said. She lost roughly \$1,000 in the scam. Her landlord wasn't real.

“I was just involved in a string of emails that didn't amount to anything at all,” she said.

Villegras said she requested pictures for verification and received them. She was told she would have a roommate, but she was never given the person's name and contact information. She eventually realized it was all made up.

Fortunately, things ended positively for both students. Heddleson met a student from California, who invited her to stay in her dorm for a couple of nights. She used Facebook to reach out to her friends and, eventually, was introduced to a fellow dancer who offered her a room at the flat he shared with his cat.

Villegras found permanent housing with help from Middlesex University. Although she did not live on campus, the university was able to assist her in finding a home with a reputable landlord.

Villegras offers her own advice for those planning to study abroad — investigate your landlord. She says students should always attempt to meet with their potential landlord in person or through Skype to confirm they are real people.

“I never give up, I'm not a quitter,” Heddleson said. “So I stuck through it I found housing. The first night I moved in, I relaxed, sat there, took a deep breath and was like ‘Ok, this is a new beginning.’”

Heddleson feels her experience made her a stronger person.

Villegras believes her experience in London was a “formative, life altering experience,” despite the housing scam.

There are ways to avoid becoming a victim of fraud when studying abroad. The USF Education Abroad website warns students of the Western Union scams and provides links to websites that reveal the most common online scams. Students are also warned of scams at study abroad orientations.

news@crowsteststpete.com

ELECTION BREAKDOWN

news

3

The Crow's Nest documents the politically and legally fraught Student Government elections for the 2013-2014 president and vice presidential seat

BY TYLER KILLETTE
STAFF REPORTER

on campaign signs.

The preliminary results

On March 8, the day after polls closed, the ERC released preliminary results placing Mark Lombardi-Nelson and Christa Hegedus at 233 votes and Jimmy Richards and Jordan Iulucci at 125 votes.

Since the Supreme Court put a suspension on the results the day before, they were not certified and no winner was declared.

Retraction of grievance reports

A day later, the ERC retracted the grievance reports, re-qualifying the Lombardi-Nelson/Hegedus ticket. Vincent de Cosmo, head of the ERC, admitted his "malpractice" and said Matt Morrin, director of Student Life and Engagement, strongly encouraged the retraction.

Request for trial

On March 15, Richards requested a Supreme Court trial to decide whether the alleged campaign violations were valid. The trial would have placed Richards against de Cosmo.

Richards would have argued that regardless of the ERC's error, campaign violations did occur and points should be assessed. Though de Cosmo admitted to breaking rules, he still believed the points he assessed were valid and would have had no argument for Richards.

Even though no issue existed

between plaintiff and defendant, the court scheduled the trial for April 5.

Amicus curiae brief

Lombardi-Nelson and Hegedus submitted an amicus curiae — the legal term for something filed with the court by someone who is not a party in the case — on March 28.

The brief asked the court to dismiss the case and rebutted each violation charged by the ERC. According to Ericson, the court can only review motions for dismissal that come from the parties involved in a case, meaning the brief did not have the power to dismiss the trial and could only be used as evidence.

Motion in Limine

In response to the amicus curiae, Richards and Iulucci submitted for a motion in limine — a request that certain evidence not be used in a trial — claiming the amicus brief "defies logic."

The motion asked that the court not use the information presented in the amicus as evidence during the trial. The court partially approved the request.

Petition for summary judgment

Richards later submitted a petition for summary judgment, which allowed the court to decide if his campaign was harmed by the ERC's misconduct without holding a full trial. Because there was no

factual conflict between Richards and the ERC, a trial was deemed unnecessary.

The court made a summary judgment stating, "If the ERC assessed the points correctly, it is possible the opposing candidate would have been disqualified, resulting in the plaintiff winning the election by default."

The judgment, therefore, ruled in favor of Richards. The court dismissed the trial and scheduled a hearing in its place that would decide whether the allegations made against the Lombardi-Nelson campaign were legitimate.

The hearing

On April 5, Lombardi-Nelson and Hegedus were given five minutes to rebut the alleged violations that disqualified them from the race, but evidence was limited to that which had already been submitted. No new arguments the two presented would be considered, Ericson said.

The court upheld most of the points assessed to the campaign, but did not release official numbers. It has until April 12 to do so. Lombardi-Nelson said "the game's not over," and announced he had plans to appeal to Regional Associate Vice Chancellor Julie Wong next.

More information about the hearing is available in an article that appears below.

The Tampa Bay Times article

An article written about the election by Lisa Gartner of the Tampa Bay Times raised some contempt among students involved in the election process after it was released on the Times' website on April 5.

In the article, titled "On this USF campus, all's fair in love and politics," Garter references Hegedus' decision to not wear a bra, and the strife it caused with one-time running mate Iulucci.

"They really emphasized bras... I didn't think it had anything to do with what's happening?" Richards wrote in an open forum for USFSP students on Facebook. "It was absolutely terrible."

A handful of other students expressed concern about the purpose of the article. Some said they thought it was funny. Hegedus seemed not to think so.

"[Gartner] will come back to USFSP and try to create another article," she wrote in the forum. "I warn you to not speak to her due to her lack of professionalism in writing."

Staff reporter Ren LaForme contributed to this article.

news@crowsneststpete.com

After hearing, president vows to fight

BY AMANDA STARLING
STAFF REPORTER

The Student Government Supreme Court held a hearing on April 5 to determine validity of violations assessed to the Mark Lombardi-Nelson and Christa Hegedus campaign. Though polls closed nearly a month ago, the presidential seat remains open.

The hearing gave Lombardi-Nelson and running mate Hegedus five minutes to rebut the alleged violations that allowed the Election Rules Commission to disqualify them from the race.

The discussion was limited to the evidence previously submitted to the court. Supreme Court Chief Justice Sean Ericson made it clear that no further information provided in the party's oral statement would be considered.

"When it comes to this hearing,

to the decisions already made to this day, recognize the hours spent, the research done, and the new evidence provided even after a moment in time, because it's the statutes and rules you govern by," Lombardi-Nelson said.

Justices questioned the candidates about their campaign violations. Were the candidates an exclusive stockholder or shareholder of the Tavern? Was new evidence referring specifically to a concern brought up by Sen. Jozef Gherman?

In an email addressed to the Supreme Court, Gherman argued that the Supreme Court could not reassess the campaign violations because the power to do so belongs solely to the ERC. According to statute 501.2.1, all cases involving the ERC are considered appellate to the Supreme Court, as compared to cases of original jurisdiction

involving organization controversies, judicial review, contest of elections and impeachment. The case of Richards v. ERC could have been reassessed for appellate jurisdiction.

Gherman argued that because the ERC revoked points from both campaigns, the Supreme Court is unable to determine the validity of the points issued and disqualification of candidates.

The Supreme Court responded in an email to members of the senate.

"We understand, and indeed debate amongst ourselves, the myriad of interpretations that can be made in these matters," Ericson wrote. "I would kindly suggest that efforts to improve the process be placed elsewhere, as there is plenty that needs to be changed in regards to our guiding documents."

Hegedus argued in favor of her

campaign, saying that a victory for the Lombardi-Nelson and Hegedus ticket would have secured a seat on the Board of Trustees. The board determines finances and observes decisions statewide for the USF system.

In 2008, the Board of Trustees developed a process allowing the USF campuses to vote on system-wide decisions.

"If Mark wins, there will be a student voice from our campus," Hegedus said. "The board members are familiar with Mark so they would select him for the seat."

Violations were deliberated within an hour. The court upheld points assessed for violations of the non-display of year or title on campaign t-shirts, banner, stickers and the use of material funded by activity and service fees. The exact number of points reassessed to the Lombardi-Nelson/Hegedus ticket

was not officially decided.

"The game's not over. It's only just begun," Lombardi-Nelson said. He plans to appeal to Regional Associate Vice Chancellor Julie Wong next.

"Trust the process," said Matthew Morrin, the director of Student Life and Engagement, after the hearing. "If there's something wrong with it, we need to fix it and move on."

The court has until Friday, April 12 to release its final statement. Ericson would not comment on what the statement will specifically entail, but it should provide students with a better idea of who will be elected president. Visit crowsneststpete.com for up-to-the-minute election results.

news@crowsneststpete.com

Some movie titles are just so blatantly obvious and without thought that they can be disheartening to the frequent moviegoer. Is it even worth your time and money when they're slapping any old name on the thing? Maybe we want something that inspires some thought, or is at least colorfully descriptive.

Here are some alternative titles to popular flicks:

- Male being of steely anatomy
- Master of the circular finger girdles
- Less-than-wholesome non-living persons
- Guidance on weaning your flame-throwing lizard baby
- Quentin Tarantino goes through a lot of bottles of ketchup (applicable to several films)
- Two cowboy chaps climb vertebrae snapping landscapes to express their feelings
- Too many corny one-liners cause ship to sink; '90s music ensues
- Animatronic lizards brought to life by The Colonel wreak havoc on a tropical land mass
- Morgan Freeman eloquently phrases life lessons (applicable to even more films)
- The journal inscribed with inscriptions, and Ryan Gosling's face
- Forceful leg motion to the rump
- Really big fish sharpens incisors on Homo sapiens; the world learns that it only takes two notes to inspire terror
- Scarlet bodily fluids are very likely
- I Am "an unverified story handed down from earlier times, especially one popularly believed to be historical."
- Ferrous rich guy
- Having a really bad time with John Candy
- Out-of-work bowler literally does nothing (but saves the day)
- Young man has relations with baked good
- Loads of X-rated content from St. Pete Beach between winter and summer
- Hobo with a shotgun

Give up? Answers are available at crowsteststpete.com.

Cooking club bubbles over to USFSP

BY NANCY McCANN
CROW'S NEST CORRESPONDENT

In the galley-style kitchen, Portobello mushrooms are lined up on cookie sheets next to slices of tomato, green pepper, cheese and ham. A young woman with a chef's flair is at the stove stirring a white sauce. The table is set with pink place mats, and a chocolate-colored Labrador retriever is greeting every guest at the door.

It's a rainy school night, and a meeting of Chefs at USF is about to begin.

Students enter the apartment where University of South Florida roommates Ashley Lackey and Ilda Gjonaj have everything in place for cooking a delicious meal. Lackey, the club's president, and Gjonaj are working in tandem to host the meeting. Lackey asks everyone to put toppings of their choice on the large mushrooms that are about to go in the oven, and Gjonaj remains in charge of making pasta Alfredo.

"I'm looking forward to home-cooked food," said Megan Lesh, "and getting away from the everyday routine of having most of my meals out."

The club meets several times a year to prepare and share tasty cuisine or bake desserts and enjoy the friendship cooking brings.

Lindsay Impemba said she likes getting new recipes.

Jason Richardson said when he cooks he likes to "wing it" with whatever ingredients are available.

"I'm Italian, born and raised in Italy," Gjonaj said. "In Italy, we love cooking."

She said her grandmother began teaching her to cook when she was five years old.

Lackey said she started cooking in high school "and just loved it."



Courtesy of Nancy McCann

Chefs at USF club hopes to collaborate with a similar cooking club at USF St. Petersburg

Marissa Chaiser said that she joined the club "to eat."

Gjonaj, Impemba and Lackey are vegetarians. Lackey said there are always choices for club members that do not eat meat. The evening's meal was a good example: the pasta Alfredo was a vegetarian dish, and ham could easily be removed from the mushroom dish.

The club has been on a baking spree, making sugar cookies, chocolate cupcakes and crunchy granola bars at recent meetings. They baked red velvet and "lady bug" cookies on Valentine's Day.

Lesh said last Halloween they made rice crispy treats, marshmallow men, and — her favorite that night — a bowl of punch with a "frozen hand" in it.

Lackey provides the ingredients for the recipes and has the meetings at her apartment to make it easy for the others. She lives close to the USF campus, where the Bull Runner, the university's transit system, makes a stop. Lackey said up to about 15 members attend the meetings, and she is thinking about ways to include students from USF St. Petersburg, where her sister, Katie Lackey, is a junior majoring in business management.

"Some meetings could be near the St. Petersburg campus, or they might want to start their own club," Lackey said. "And maybe the two clubs could occasionally meet together."

The club has the beginnings of a "Chefs at USF Cookbook." Lackey said she is figuring out the best

way to publicize the club's favorite recipes.

Someone helps herself to a second serving of pasta Alfredo. All but one of the baked Portobello mushrooms are gone. Bruce, the chocolate lab, is using his charm in an attempt to secure a table scrap, but gets nice pats on the head instead. The rain has stopped, and it's time to get some homework done, make a late-night trip to the grocery store, or get some sleep. There is talk about the next get-together on the way out.

The age-old pleasures of cooking side-by-side, dining in with friends and trading recipes are not forgotten at USF.

life@crowsteststpete.com

Watch out! Giant mosquitoes!

BY CHELSI KALLIS
CROW'S NEST CORRESPONDENT

Get the insect repellent ready. Scientists expect giant mosquitoes to hit Florida this summer.

The large mosquitoes, known as gallinippers, are believed to have blown in with the wind from Tropical Storm Debby last June.

According to Debby Cassill, an associate professor at USF St. Petersburg, gallinipper eggs can lay dormant for years until high waters force them to come to life. Scientists expect the eggs to hatch this summer.

A University of Florida study found that gallinippers are common to low-lying areas with

damp soil and grassy overgrowth. Cassill said the mosquitoes lay their eggs along the water.

Gallinippers are known to weigh 20 times more than the average mosquito, with a wingspan of about 6.5 millimeters. With furry legs with black and white stripes, they have been called the "hairy-legged zebra" or "shaggy-legged gallinipper."

Cassill predicts the mosquitoes will collect near the Florida panhandle, where there is plenty of salt and fresh water.

She defined the insects as "ambush predators" because of their vicious bite.

"They have a mouth part with teeth like a saw that can drill down

into the skin tearing the flesh," she said. "The pain comes when they let go."

Cassill predicts gallinipper victims to cry out, "We've been stabbed!"

The quarter-sized bloodsuckers have an appetite both day and night and their bites can pierce through clothing. They allegedly got their name because they're so big they can "nip a gallon of blood with a single bite."

Gallinippers do not carry diseases, like malaria and West Nile, which many other mosquito species do. They also eat the larvae of smaller mosquitoes.

The gallinippers will likely be eliminated with annual insecticide

spraying. To prevent them from lurking around, Cassill suggests getting rid of any stagnant water.

news@crowsteststpete.com



Illustration courtesy of Alvesgaspar

The culture behind cruising

BY RYAN BALLOGG
STAFF REPORTER

There is a lot more to the longboarding club than taking joyrides.

Established in the fall 2012 semester, members tout it as the fastest growing group on campus, and they are always busy trying to keep up the energy that comes along with that.

"[The] English composition two [course] basically describes different subcultures as types of discourse communities. I find longboarding to be a perfect example of that," said freshman Megan Hostettler, vice president of the club. "There are so many people you can meet, and there's an entirely different language and skill set that comes from that."

That language includes words like "bombing" — or free-riding down a hill — an activity the group did in a Tampa campus parking garage several weeks ago. It was an icebreaker after meeting the students of USF Tampa's Skate Club for the first time to discuss an event they attended on April 7.

The event was a longboarding conference of sorts, titled Cruisa Palooza. It took place on sidewalks instead of in buildings, but the concept of exchanging ideas and mingling was the same. The club's admission was covered by activities and service fees, and they roomed with students from Tampa.

Cruisa Palooza featured three

different races, raffles and lots of time to socialize. The races were for longboarders, but people with other modes of transportation were invited to travel with them. They also got to meet the owner of CaliFlorida, the skate company hosting the races — another perk of making friends with the boarders across the bay.

"Continuing ties with Tampa will be hugely beneficial for the club. Working with them is getting us a lot of connections and really good information already," Hostettler said.

The club members have a steady stream of activity back home. On March 30 they participated in St. Petersburg Skate, riding alongside USF alumnus and pro-longboarder William Royce. They are one of the few clubs that regularly ventures off campus, a fact that makes club president Franklin Alves proud.

"When we're out riding we look like a really cool gang on longboards — that also happens to love the campus and hand out Valentines," Alves said.

Alves started the club in the fall at the encouragement of some friends. He had only been riding for six months.

"I honestly knew very little about longboards when I started it," he said. "But a lot of people seemed really interested, and if you build it, they will come."

Membership is officially around 50 people, though 15 to 20 attend

the Thursday night meetings regularly.

"We're trying to do all the things that will get us up and running. Our general members give us a lot of ideas," Hostettler said. "The Rescigno twins and Brandon Garvett do a kind of promotional work with the logo."

Alves had the idea to do something for every holiday, so they stylized the logo for Valentine's Day and Easter. Club members packaged the logos with candy and passed them out on campus.

Outside of promotion, Alves is constantly trying to push grants through Student Government to expand the club's opportunities. Among recent efforts are plans for an installation of five or six Santa Cruise longboard racks around campus. They will hold eight to 10 boards, and give riders a place to stow their wheels while in class or eating. Another grant request, just approved, will provide the club with safety equipment.

Alves is most excited about the purchase of three "communal boards" that will be lent out to students and used for teaching. There will be lessons for beginners on campus, and off-campus ones for more experienced riders.

"That's the premise behind this stuff, to get people to learn and get people to join," Alves said.

The club's casual and friendly attitude is on display even at meetings. They were so relaxing for



Thomas Boyd/The Crow's Nest

Sarah Smith that she didn't remember that she had been elected secretary, until at one meeting she asked Alves why he wasn't writing anything down.

"He told me, 'You're supposed to be writing everything down!'" Smith said. "I haven't forgotten since then."

After meetings, they head out

onto the street together for a night ride. For Hostettler, it's the best part.

"I love being able to freestyle on my board, and I love sharing my passion with other people," she said.

life@crowsneststpete.com

Students glam up for a cause

BY MATTHEW THOMAS
CROW'S NEST CORRESPONDENT

Many months of planning culminated in a successful drive for clothes donations at the Fashion-a-Bull show on April 3.

The goal of the event was to put something together that would require the efforts of the housing staff and USF St. Petersburg faculty to raise awareness and get students to donate to Community Action Stops Abuse, Inc.

Models walked out sporting clothes and jewelry by several St. Petersburg boutiques. Resident Assistant Jonathan Boyd emceed the show. The models were confident and showy, and received cheers from the audience as they went down the walkway.

"Being on stage was a very exciting feeling for me. It feels just like being on an actual runway — the emcee calling my name and saying what I was wearing," said junior and aspiring model Allan Pinkerton. "In the crowd, I hear people cheering and clapping for

me but meanwhile being engulfed by the runway lights as well as flashes from cameras."

Of course, it wasn't all students on stage. Regional Vice Chancellor Julie Wong, Dustin Pankow, the coordinator of multimedia programs for the University Student Center, and other staff surprised the audience with their own walks down the runway.

The clothes on display were provided by CASA, Benjamin's Studio, Cometti's Collections, Plato's Closet, Rehab, All Sewn Up, Peur Fashion, Mc. B's Men's Clothing Broker, Overhead Surf Shop, Mia and Maxx Hair Studio, Stella and Dot by Tracy Meehan and the USFSP Bookstore. The show's themes were "everyday casual," "fun in the sun," "formalwear" and "professional wear."

During the show, Linda Crossman, the director of records and registration, took the stage to remind the audience why they were there, discussing the facts of domestic abuse and the lack of resources to support everyone that



Thomas Boyd/The Crow's Nest

comes to CASA for help.

Many involved felt that the event marked a new standard on campus.

"I have never been more proud of myself and of the RA staff than when I peeked out from backstage

and saw a huge crowd having a great time," said Caitlin Green, a resident assistant.

"We set a bar for ourselves," Boyd said. "Those shirts, socks, and pants add up."

Students can definitely expect to see a show like this next year, he said.

life@crowsneststpete.com

the crow's nest

The student newspaper at the University of South Florida St. Petersburg.

editor@crowsneststpete.com

- EDITOR-IN-CHIEF
REN LAFORME
- MANAGING EDITOR
MIKE HOPEY
- CREATIVE DIRECTOR
CHELSEA TATHAM
- NEWS EDITOR
TYLER KILLETTE
- ASSISTANT NEWS EDITOR
AMANDA STARLING
- ARTS & LIFE EDITOR
RYAN BALLOGG
- SPORTS EDITOR
SAMANTHA OUIMETTE
- PHOTO EDITOR
THOMAS BOYD
- GRAPHIC DESIGNER
JUSTIN DUPLAIN
- DISTRIBUTION MANAGER
FRANK KURTZ
- ADVERTISING MANAGER
FRANCESCA GENOVESE
- ADVERTISING REPRESENTATIVE
ANDREA INMAN
- STAFF ADVISER
DEB WOLFE
dpwolfeusfsp@gmail.com.

Mission Statement: *The Crow's Nest* is committed to providing its readers with news relevant to the University of South Florida St. Petersburg and its surrounding community. *The Crow's Nest* abides by the highest ethical standards and focuses on stories that help readers make informed decisions on current issues. We take seriously the public's trust in our news reporting and strive to uphold the highest standards of reporting as defined by the Society of Professional Journalists.

The views expressed—both written and graphic—in the opinion section of *The Crow's Nest* do not necessarily reflect the views of the editorial board. Submit letters to the editor to crowsneditor@gmail.com. *The Crow's Nest* reserves the right to edit these pieces for style and length. If a letter is not meant for publication, please mark it as such. All submissions must include the author's name, daytime phone number, and e-mail address. *The Crow's Nest* is provided free by the Activities & Services Fee, and advertising. *The Crow's Nest* neither endorses nor takes responsibility for any claims made by our advertisers.

The Crow's Nest office is located at:
SLC 2400
University of South Florida
St. Petersburg
140 Seventh Ave. S.,
St. Petersburg, FL 33701
(727) 873-4113

Press run: 1,000
Copyright 2013 St. Petersburg, FL.

The Crow's Nest is printed by:
Web Offset Printing
12198 44th Street North
Clearwater, Florida 33762

Join us at our weekly staff meetings during the spring semester. Mondays at 5:00 p.m. in SLC 2400.



Facebook: The Crow's Nest at USF St. Petersburg
Twitter: @USFcrowsnest
crowsneststpete.com

No tolerance for your intolerance

By TYLER KILLETTE
STAFF COLUMNIST

Nearly a year ago, a teenaged girl wrote a “rap” about the evils of homosexuality, recorded it in the forest from “FernGully” and laid it on top of a dramatic piano soundtrack. She uploaded her anti-gay anthem to YouTube under the name Apologetics and ironically titled it “Rated T for Tolerance.”

Apologetics’ video resurfaced a few months ago, gaining commentary from bloggers across Internet and even a response video from comedian Daniel Tosh on his Comedy Central TV show.

After viewing Apologetics’ video and somehow refraining from jamming screwdrivers into my ears, I decided to jump in on the fun. The following is my response to this poor, brainwashed young lady.

Dear Apologetics,

From the ring on your finger and the video on your YouTube channel of you playing drums in a wedding dress, I assume you’re married. I’m not sure how old you are, but various media outlets labeled you as a teenager and one pinpointed your age at 16. That seems awfully young to be married, but congratulations.

In your rap you say, “Homosexuality can only imitate. It will always be a counterfeit, a

fake.”

Well, Apologetics, I’m glad your love is real. Even though you may only be 16, I’m happy you’ve married a man (boy?) so you can have an authentic romance.

I hate to veer off topic here, but there are few things about your video that I must address.

I assume the ideals you rapped about have been pounded into your narrow mind since birth. Perhaps, instead of Dr. Seuss, your parents read you quotes from Pat Robertson. But regardless of where your bigotry stemmed from, you are wrong.

I would like to point out that the title of your video is quite misleading. Do you know what tolerance means? You experimented with a lot of big words in your rap, like propagate and propaganda, and, though you had some trouble with pronunciation, you almost used them correctly. But your usage of the word tolerance is way off.

Merriam-Webster defines tolerance as “sympathy or indulgence for beliefs or practices differing from or conflicting with one’s own.” I regret to inform you, Apologetics, that your rap actually epitomizes intolerance, meaning your video should have been rated “I.” I would suggest that you intended to be ironic, but I feel there’s an even slimmer chance of you comprehending irony than there is of you understanding what

tolerance means.

In your rap, you imply that being gay is a choice. I especially love the line, “It’s always a choice with whom you fornicate.” Such eloquence. And I admire your proper usage of the word whom.

However, I must again tell you that you are wrong. The American Psychological Association published a study in 2009 disproving the idea that a gay person can be turned straight. The Washington Post reported, “An APA task force found nothing to suggest that therapy could steer a member of a sexual minority toward heterosexuality.”

You say that you’re simply trying to show that homosexuality is detrimental to health. Reports from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention showed that HIV and syphilis rates were more than 40 percent higher in homosexual males than in heterosexual males in 2010. The CDC has since acknowledged that previous STD prevention efforts have failed, recognizing that it’s time to “prioritize the needs of gay and bisexual men with HIV prevention efforts.”

So, Apologetics, while your proposal that gay people simply stop being gay may be in the best interest of their health, I must support the CDC. Call me a dreamer, but I believe efforts to cure HIV will be more effective than efforts to reverse homosexuality.

You also say that gay people “don’t see what’s at stake until it’s too late.” What exactly do you feel is a stake, Apologetics? The opportunity to fall in love? To be happy? To feel comfortable in one’s own skin?

At one point in your rap, you tell us being gay is “like a poison that intoxicates the mind that says you can’t choose your own fate.” Have you perhaps mistaken homosexuality for tequila?

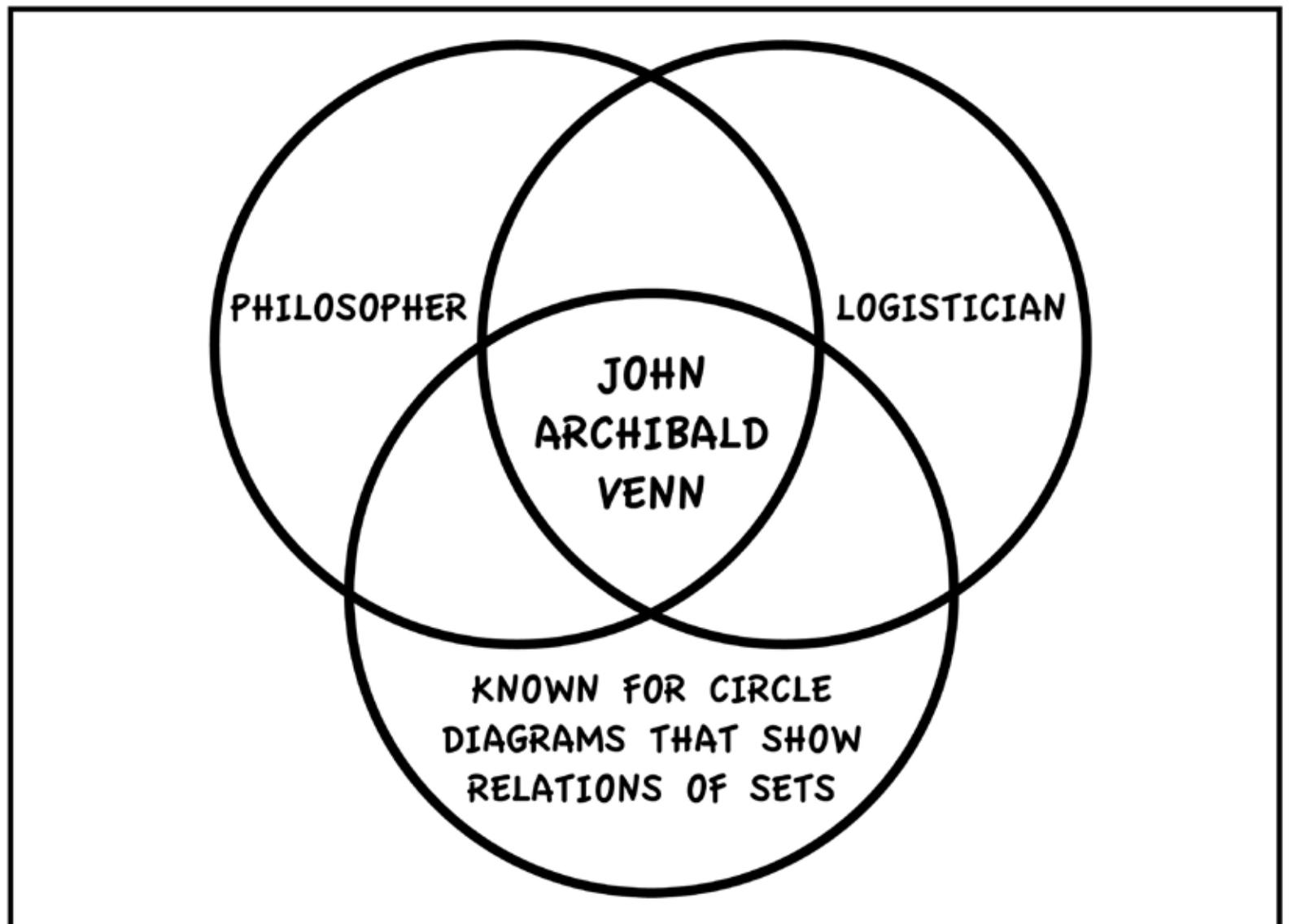
You say gay people will burn in a lake of fire and instead of being admitted through the golden gate to heaven, they’ll be shown an alternative entrance to the afterlife. Instead of making a comment about the existence of heaven and hell, I simply ask you, Apologetics, to let me know which gate opens for you. When my time comes, I’d like to choose the opposite.

(Somewhat) sincerely,
Tyler Kilette

P.S. Have you considered trying out for “the Voice?”

Tyler Kilette is a junior majoring in mass communications and news editor for the Crow's Nest. She can be reached at tkilette@mail.usf.edu

Editorial Cartoon by Justin Duplain



Thankfulness from a jar

BY ERIN MURPHY
GUEST COLUMNIST

My friend Sophie and I were discussing life and boys while sitting on the roof of my church a couple weeks ago when I first heard about the craft project of all craft projects. The memory jar.

After seeing the idea plastered across Pinterest (where else?), Sophie had decided to make her very own memory jar. There are many variations of the project, but the general idea is that you fill a jar with... well, memories. Once the jar is full, you pour your memories out and have Good Nostalgic Times reminiscing.

Seeing as I still have all of my

Pokemon cards stashed under my bed (including Venusaur), I knew this project was for me. I asked my mother if she had any mason jars around the house. My mother is something of a shabby chic wizard. Her ability to collect quaint objects of the vintage variety is unparalleled. Read: my mother has so many wicker baskets that she literally has baskets that serve the sole purpose of holding her other baskets. I wasn't surprised when she offered me not one, but two, Mason jars.

Juxtaposition: In February, I stumbled upon a devotional detailing the life of Ann Voskamp. Despite undergoing the horrific loss of her younger sister, Voskamp's heart was set on finding

joy. She wanted to name 1,000 gifts in her life that she could be grateful for; things that she already had and perhaps hadn't appreciated. This moved me. Why was I so often thankless?

Fast forward to late March. It had already been over a month since I had decided to make my own 1,000-gifts list, but I had made little progress. The list, which I had scrawled in a little blue notebook and long since forgotten, ended at No. 20.

Pathetic.

My memory jar, which I had started a few days after Sophie told me about hers, had an even shorter life span. I kept it for only a day before turning it into

a Thankfulness Jar, inspired by Ann Voskamp and the lameness of my own 1,000-gifts list. Now each day I write down something I am thankful for on a slip of paper and toss it in. Music, ice cream and my sister have all made it into the Thankfulness Jar.

Making the jar made me aware of my own ungratefulness. Yet I look around and see so many things to be grateful for: the sound of the birds in the tree outside my window, my best friend's smile, the cotton comfort of my grandmother's old quilt. These are the types of things that John Piper described as "things that, if we didn't have, we would pay a million dollars to have, but having them, ignore." It's

unfortunate.

What started out as a simple craft project is slowly shaping into a lifestyle. Ann Voskamp knew that there was joy in thankfulness. So often we see what we don't have, rather than the abundance of blessings that already fill our lives. I want to be more thankful for the everyday things: my favorite pair of jeans, an amazing album, a mug of hot chocolate.

Even my mother's wicker baskets.

erinmurphy@mail.usf.edu

The Big East, beginning to end

BY FRANK KURTZ
STAFF COLUMNIST

Earlier last week the remaining schools that play Division 1-A football in the Big East Conference announced the name for their new athletic league — the American Athletic Conference.

In case you missed it, the Big East has been in a state of flux since 2005, leaving member teams uncertain about its future. A number of schools have exited stage right and stage left, culminating with the Big East basketball schools severing ties with Big East football schools.

How did we get here?

In 1979, a group of small northeastern universities decided to create what would become the greatest basketball conference in the history of college athletics — the Big East. Boston College, UConn, Georgetown, Providence, St. John's, Syracuse and Seton Hall were the original members. Villanova joined in 1980 and Pittsburgh in 1982.

In the 1990s, conference members decided to begin sponsoring football, which is where the real money was and still is. This allowed the league to compete in the new Bowl Coalition, which began in 1992. The job of that organization was to decide the No. 1 and

No. 2 football teams on the field. The Big 8, Big East, Atlantic Coast Conference, Southwest Conference, Southeastern Conference and Notre Dame all participated.

The Bowl Coalition was replaced with the Bowl Alliance in 1995, with the same affiliated conferences. For 1996 and 1997, the Big XII Conference replaced the SWC and Big 8.

The Bowl Alliance was replaced with the Bowl Championship Series in 1998 after the Pac-10 and Big 10 finally agreed to join the party. The BCS will be in its last year as an organization for this season. It will be replaced with a four-team playoff beginning with the 2014-15 season.

How does this affect the Big East and USF? Simple. The Atlantic Coast Conference raided our league in 2004 and 2005 when Miami, Virginia Tech, and Boston College left the Big East for Tobacco Road. They were replaced with Louisville, South Florida, Cincinnati, DePaul and Marquette.

The amount of money that collegiate football makes via television contracts coupled with the fact that our league, since 2005, has been looked upon as the weakest of the BCS conferences made Big East universities prone to be picked off and bolt for greener pastures.

Our rival, West Virginia, left for the Big XII in 2012 along with the newly acquired Texas Christian University, which never played a down in the Big East. Syracuse and Pittsburgh decided to both join the Atlantic Coast Conference beginning in 2013. Future members Boise State and San Diego State, which were supposed to join in 2013, decided they liked it better in the Mountain West Conference.

That was countered with Central Florida, Southern Methodist, Houston and Memphis — all of which agreed to join the Big East beginning in 2013. Notre Dame left as an all sports besides football member for the ACC in 2013. Navy was accepted to join the league as a football member beginning in 2015.

Rutgers then decided to bolt for the Big Ten in 2014. They would be replaced with Tulane in 2014 as well as East Carolina joining as a football school. Louisville accepted a bid to join the Atlantic Coast Conference beginning in 2014.

The basketball schools saw their product being watered down and decided to leave the football side of the conference. Negotiations between them determined they would not only keep the Big East name, but continue to hold their tournament in the Mecca

that is Madison Square Garden. Creighton, Butler and Xavier agreed to join in 2013.

I know it is hard to keep all these schools straight, so here are the schools that will make up the American Athletic Conference beginning next autumn: South Florida, Central Florida, SMU, Houston, Memphis, Cincinnati, UConn, Temple, Rutgers and Louisville. In 2014, Louisville and Rutgers will leave and be replaced by East Carolina, Tulane and Tulsa. The United States Naval Academy will join in 2015 as a football-only school.

If you thought that Raymond James Stadium was empty during the Rutgers or Cincy games, just wait until Tulane and Memphis come to town. The only positive in the new league is that we will be in the same conference as Central Florida, a team we beat for four consecutive years. The winner will represent the conference in the final year of the BCS.

Beginning in 2014, the AAC will not have an automatic berth in any of new "access bowls" to the new playoff format. Instead, the winner will have to be "the best of the rest," the non-automatic qualifying conferences, in order to make it into the top tier of the post season. The new

conference will have to negotiate other bowl tie-ins, so it is unknown where our conference champion will play each year.

What does this mean for us at South Florida?

We missed the bus and got left in the dust. We failed to capitalize on our 2007 success when we were No. 2 in the country. If we had produced better results in years past we may have been one of the defectors and the tone of this column would be "good riddance Big East or AAC or whatever your name is, we're going to the ACC, Big XII, or SEC."

But, sadly, that is not the case. The big dogs don't want us, so we'll have to prove our worth, again, as a mid major with the hopes of someday down the road getting sucked into one of the premier leagues.

Until that happens, Go Bulls!

Frank is pursuing a master's degree in Florida Studies and the distribution manager.

He can be reached at fkurtz@mail.usf.edu

Quotes & Notes

The inaugural Everglades Day, established by the Florida legislature, took place on Sunday. The Everglades is one of only three wetlands deemed of global importance by UNESCO and about half the size it was before 1947. That year, a plan put forth by Congress built 1,400 miles of canals and levees, draining much of the Everglades for agricultural use. The Comprehensive Everglades Restoration Plan of 2000 attempted to restore and preserve the original wetlands, but has been fraught by political and economic battles.

"Once regarded a 'worthless swamp,' 'suitable only for the haunt of noxious vermin or resort of pestilential reptiles,' we are now calling it a Wetland of International Importance and World Heritage Site. We have certainly come a long way, but our work is far from done. Hopefully days like these... will remind us that we must cherish our natural lands and work to protect them at all costs for generations to come."

-Mac Stone, Everglades Photographer

8

sports

Follow The Crow's Nest sports page on Twitter:
@crowsteststport

BRIEFS

Darrelle Revis will have to participate in the New York Jets' voluntary workouts to collect the \$3 million in bonuses he's scheduled to earn, according to a clause in his contract.

The cornerback, who has been the subject of recent trade rumors, has been rehabilitating his surgically repaired left knee in Arizona during the off-season. He is expected to report to the team's facility in Florham Park, N.J., next week for the start of the Jets' offseason conditioning program.

It was reported that Revis would prefer to stay in Arizona to continue his rehab, but will join his teammates next Monday regardless.

The Winter Classic between the Toronto Maple Leafs and the Detroit Red Wings at Michigan Stadium has been reset for Jan. 1, 2014 after its cancellation this season due to the NHL lockout.

When the game was called off in 2012, the league said it would schedule the next Winter Classic at the 100,000-seat stadium in Ann Arbor. In addition to the Winter Classic game, there will also be a series of outdoor games played by teams in the American Hockey League and NCAA Division I leading up to the Jan. 1 game.

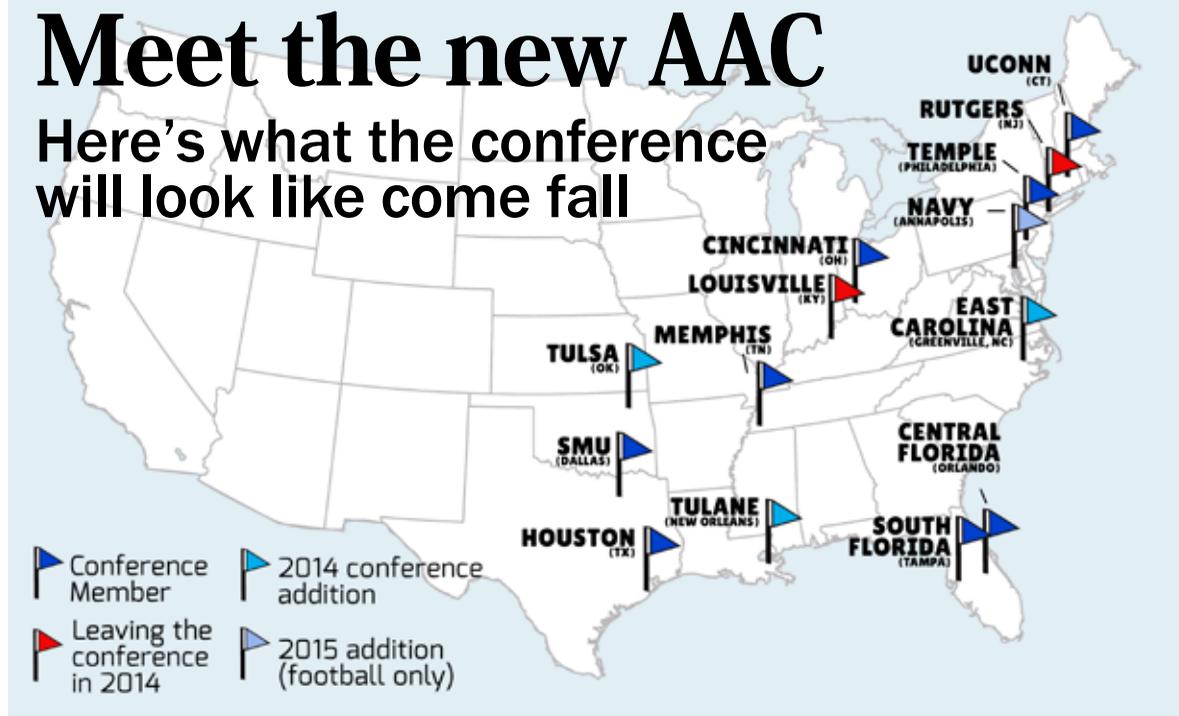
These games will be held in Comerica Park, home of the Detroit Tigers, in downtown Detroit.

The Tampa Bay Storm was behind the Utah Blaze 21-7 in the first quarter of their first road game of the season.

Former-FSU quarterback Adrian McPherson responded with five passing touchdowns and another three on the ground to rally for the 77-65 win on Saturday night. Wide receiver Joe Hills set a new team record with 259 receiving yards as the Storm moved to 2-1 on the season with their second straight win.

Meet the new AAC

Here's what the conference will look like come fall



BY MIKE HOPEY
STAFF REPORTER

For months following the announcement that the current Big East would split, with the football playing members being left to pick up the pieces of the broken conference, fans haven't known what to call the entity. During that time, new schools have signed up to join the nameless conference, while expected members like Boise State and San Diego State have balked.

For a while there were two conferences that had the same name. One was the real one and the other was "the old Big East" or "the other Big East." Confusion was abound as one tried to announce to the world that it wasn't going anywhere, while the other was just trying to settle on a name.

Last Thursday, league officials finally managed to pick. South Florida fans can say goodbye to the Big East and hello to the American Athletic Conference. Beginning in July 2013, that's where the Bulls will

compete.

"We worked with our institutions, sports marketing experts, media partners, and also solicited opinions and reactions from collegiate sports fans to create a compelling list of names," said Mike Aresco, the current Big East and future AAC commissioner. "Versions that included the word American led every list."

Speculation surrounding the name of the new AAC has been around for weeks. A week before the announcement the name America 12 Conference was leaked as a favorite of Aresco.

That name was reportedly rejected because of the inclusion of the number, which officials wanted to avoid given the constant shuffling of institutions between conferences. The AAC would also not feature 12 teams until 2015, and that would only be in football.

"We engaged our fans through social media and focus groups in multiple cities, and we conducted extensive quantitative research,"

Aresco said. "We also received terrific input from our partners at ESPN and CBS Sports. Our name is a nod to tradition, but at the same time makes clear our determination to be a conference with national impact and appeal. We have a broad geographical footprint that represents unity as well as diversity."

USF president Judy Genshaft, who has been heavily involved in Big East, served as the chairperson to the executive committee. Genshaft tried for years to keep Central Florida out of the Big East. The AAC will be the fourth conference affiliation that USF athletics have had since the football team joined the Football Bowl Subdivision in 2001.

"Our exciting new name is the result of a thorough process that has energized our conference," Genshaft said. "The American Athletic Conference brand will embody the values of competition and sportsmanship that our student-athletes have always

exemplified."

The AAC will not be a football-only conference — it will sponsor all men's and women's sports except for ice hockey. UConn is the only school in the conference that has an ice hockey team. Beginning in 2015, both their men's and women's teams will compete in the hockey-only Hockey East conference.

Having 12 teams will allow the AAC to host a football championship, which is added revenue for the league.

The story of realignment in college sports is well documented. Football brings in the most money, and now that sport is dictating where programs land. When realignment came to the Big East the decision to add certain schools was made based on football.

With Syracuse and Pittsburgh leaving the Big East for the Atlantic Coast Conference in July, and Louisville slated to join the ACC in 2014 with Rutgers also leaving for the Big Ten the same year, the conference faced a future with only four football teams. USF, Cincinnati, Connecticut and Temple — it was decided — would be joined by Southern Methodist, Central Florida, Houston and Memphis in 2013; East Carolina, Tulane and Tulsa in 2014; and the U.S. Naval Academy in 2015.

Decisions centered around football concerned the non-football schools in the conference. DePaul, Georgetown, Marquette, Providence, Seton Hall, St. John's and Villanova (dubbed the Catholic Seven) decided to abandon the football schools, taking the Big East name with them.

sports@crowsteststpete.com

Despite tie, Rowdies eye future

BY SAMANTHA OUIMETTE
STAFF REPORTER

The banner was raised. The trophy was presented. Ralph's Mob was chanting.

The 2012 NASL Champions once again celebrated their title on Saturday night before beginning the quest for back-to-back championships. Though the Rowdies' first match with the Carolina RailHawks would end in a 0-0 draw, it provided a solid foundation for the team to build on heading into 2013.

The Rowdies came out strong and applied pressure throughout the first half, forcing Carolina to play a heavily defensive game rather than one that sought to get on the board quickly. Tampa Bay's offensive strategy seemed to pay off at

the 16-minute mark with a header from defender Jay Needham, but the goal was disallowed because of offsides.

Tampa Bay would have three more shots on goal following Needham's discounted effort. The team was unable to get the ball past RailHawks goalkeeper Akira Fitzgerald. Carolina finished the half with only one shot on goal, leaving Rowdies goalkeeper Andrew Fontein relatively untested in the first half of his Rowdies' career.

His only difficult save of the night came minutes into the second half when he was forced to make a save on a shot from outside the box by defender Kupono Low. Carolina had come out of half-time with a renewed vigor, but the Rowdies' defense was able to stop

the RailHawks' efforts, keeping the game on an even keel.

"It was definitely a team effort," Fontein said when asked about posting a shutout in his first start for Tampa Bay, "There was only one shot that I really had to dive for...our defense played really well. I think the team as a whole played really well."

For Tampa Bay, this home opener was a game of missed opportunities. Midfielder Luke Mulholland lamented a lack of luck, while striker Devin Del Do noted that the numerous opportunities the team created to score were a silver lining.

The night was a celebration of the past, but it was clear that the Rowdies were looking only towards the future. After the game, there

was no talk of last season's championship, no mention of the trophy or banner. Tampa Bay's focus remained on the future, and on the team's next game against San Antonio.

"I think it definitely is a bit disappointing that we couldn't have done better," Del Do said. "I think we have to move forward to the next game. We didn't leave here with a loss at home starting out the season, which is good. We just have to concentrate when we get those kinds of opportunities in upcoming games, and make sure we put it in the back of the net."

sports@crowsteststpete.com