

## Campus Medical Response Unit to make its debut



Hannah Halili

STAFF WRITER

At last, students will finally get to see what the two-year wait for the Medical Response Unit (MRU) was all about.

The new campus emergency transportation vehicle will be rolling onto campus Thursday on the Marshall Student Center lawn from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. for the official launching event.

Student Health Services (SHS), Student Government (SG) and the University Emergency Medicine Student Association (UEMSA) collaborated to curate



The emergency transportation vehicle will offer Basic Life Support for instances such as vomiting, abdominal pain, broken bones or stitches. **SPECIAL TO THE ORACLE**

an MRU to provide Basic Life Support (BLS) care for USF students, faculty, staff and guests.

Examples of BLS include vomiting, abdominal pain, broken bones and stitches,

according to flyers created by UEMSA. In severe cases like head injuries, strokes, difficulty

breathing or thoughts of self-harm, 911 should be immediately

See MRU on PAGE 3

## SG revives student discount program once again



Leda Alvim

MULTIMEDIA EDITOR

After years of being outdated, Student Government's (SG) discount program, Bulls Country, was revamped to offer students newer and popular discounts on

stores around Tampa.

The program relaunched May 2018 under former Student Body President Moneer Kheireddine and Vice President Shaquille Kent's platform, however, it was not maintained after the change in leadership.

The newest Bulls Country list includes 25 businesses ranging from restaurants and local stores to fitness centers granting USF students special discounts on their products or services.

Seven were added this year including Peabody's Billiards

& Games, SoulCycle, Orange Theory and Jersey Mike's Subs. Discounts range from 5-15 percent off or include drink and food specials.

CBD, Which Wich and Perkins were among businesses who were removed from the discount program.

Regardless of home campus, all USF students can have access to the discount program by presenting their USF ID when dining or purchasing at each participating location.

Assistant Director of

External and Business Affairs Alexa Fatovic said that more businesses will be added to the list throughout the semester. Currently, SG is waiting on seven more to add to Bulls Country including Green Lemon, Fresh Kitchen, Starbucks, Waffle House and Ciccio Cali.

"I took into consideration what's popular around the region and across the student body," Fatovic said. "A few [businesses] have been around for a very long time, but then we also tried adding a couple of new

ones, for example Soul Cycle, Orange Theory and a couple of local food places. Overall, we're trying to make Tampa more USF oriented."

Fatovic said SG is also looking into adding discounts offered by some stores at Tampa Premium Outlets.

With the revamp of Bulls Country, Student Body Vice President Travis McCloskey said SG is looking to add more local businesses around Tampa with the hopes to increase USF's

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LOOK FOR THE NEXT ISSUE ON MONDAY



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Students can now receive discounts at Peabody's Billiards & Games, Dunkin', Tijuana Flats, Ichiban and Chewy Boba Company. **SPECIAL TO THE ORACLE**

## DISCOUNT

Continued from **PAGE 1**

recognition around the area.

"We're trying to just start chipping away at everyone around here saying 'Hey, maybe you should show more pride for the entity that makes this area thrive economically.' We are just trying to make this area have more pride in USF," McCloskey said.

"Whenever you speak to someone about some schools in Florida, they talk about the University of Florida and Florida State University but you never hear about USF. We are a great institution, but not a lot of people

know that or even care about it. So it's about just starting locally and expanding on our success and what we've accomplished."

In addition to updating Bulls Country, Fatovic said that a sticker is being developed to place at each participating business in order to easily recognize stores offering student discounts.

"We're in the midst of working on a discount sticker," Fatovic said. "So if [the businesses] are interested, we're going to give stickers stating that a 'USF discount is offered here' so they can place it at the front of their stores."

Whether updating Bulls Country will be a priority for the

next semester is still undecided as a new administration will be coming in with their own platform. However, McCloskey said that it also comes down to student demand for that resource.

"It's up to the next administration to determine if this is something that they want to continue doing," McCloskey said. "And that's kind of the limitation and why it fell off in the first place. It's up to the next administration to continue updating it and having an invested interest, as well as students voicing that they want to see that resource in the future semesters."

## MRU

Continued from **PAGE 1**

contacted.

UEMSA President Sebastian Smith explained that many BLS units are owned by private companies and some in the Tampa Bay area are not close enough to respond quickly. Some of these companies include Transcare, American Medical Response and Americare.

Wait times may range from 10 to over 35 minutes for private units, but times can be shortened with an MRU on campus.

SG allocated \$74,300 in Activity and Service (A&S) fees to fund the MRU, as previously reported by The Oracle. In addition, SG will contribute \$2,000 per year for the cost of external detailing and maintenance while SHS will provide quality control, medical direction, protocols and oversight.

In addition, UEMSA allocated \$25,000 to purchase equipment for the MRU, including the stair chair, retrofit for the stretcher and power load, as previously reported by The Oracle.

The MRU will run during the hours of SHS — Mondays and Fridays from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. and Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. The vehicle has two designated parking spots: one behind the SHS building and the other near the College of Nursing.

The unit will also provide free medical transportation to SHS, the Morsani Center for Advanced Health Care and the on-campus residence halls for students, according to SHS's website. To request the MRU, students can dial 813-974-4MRU.

Smith said that MRU staff will consist of student volunteers who

are certified Emergency Medical Responders (EMR), Emergency Medical Technicians (EMT) or paramedics with CPR cards.

"We certify all EMRs through an eight-week course every semester," Smith said. "We also have volunteers who are EMTs and paramedics that have attended community colleges in the area and gotten certifications and licenses for the state of Florida."

While MRU vehicles are new to USF, they can be seen on other campuses across Florida, including FSU and UF.

FSU's MRU handles BLS as well and is stationed at campus events such as at intramural sports games and dance marathons, according to its website.

The Gator Emergency Medical Response Unit (GEMR) at UF is also volunteer-based and an entity of their university police department, according to the GEMR website.

"We decided to go with the van because, if it rains, we can protect our patients," Smith said. "If it's hot and our students are suffering from heat exhaustion, we can provide air conditioning. It also provides better privacy for the patient as well as store more equipment."

Smith explained the MRU will act as an extra resource for safety on campus.

"We're not trying to supplant 911 Emergency Medical Services (EMS)," Smith said. "We're here as an additional layer to support specifically USF students, faculty and guests. We are here as an additional service either while EMS is on their way or to provide a basic life support unit."

# USF TRANSPORTATION DAY

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## MEN

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recognize the unique ways that men and young boys express distress, treating destructive behaviors as warning signs for intervention rather than as problems to be punished.

Another step is teaching boys at a young age to share their feelings rather than hiding or lashing out, while cultivating an environment where vulnerability is welcomed.

From kindergarten to college, toxic masculinity is leaving huge numbers of men behind. It's time to call out the cause of these adverse outcomes and carve out institutions that allow men and boys to be their best selves. For roughly half the population, their futures depend on it.

*Nathaniel Sweet is a senior studying political science.*

## POLICE

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Massachusetts — have already implemented a ban on this kind of technology for any city agency. Matt Cagle of the American Civil Liberties Union, an advocate for the ban in San Francisco, told BBC News that facial recognition technology for police is "incompatible with a healthy democracy." Cagle added that "residents deserve a voice in decisions about high-tech surveillance."

Luckily, no law enforcement agencies in the Tampa Bay area are actively in contract with Clearview AI, but the possibility raises serious concerns. It's important for our federal and state governments to actively regulate this technology and even consider banning it.

*Jared Sellick is a senior studying political science.*

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## student organizations

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## Toxic expectations hinder male success in school



Nathaniel Sweet

OPINION EDITOR

A longtime gap in educational attainment continues to hold at colleges and universities, including at USF, and it's not what many would expect. Last semester, women outnumbered men in first-time-in-college enrollment by a margin of 20 percent, according to a story by The Oracle.

Between fewer applications and issues with retention, the gender gap remains a puzzling concern for researchers and educators. One cause of the gap, however, is relatively straightforward, pervading young men's lives from cradle to grave: toxic masculine expectations.

Men are socialized to be independent and self-sufficient. As a result, men and boys struggling in school hesitate to use resources — like advising or counseling — that might help them get back on track. Rather than sharing their difficulties, they hide them.

These issues are particularly acute when it comes to men's mental health. A 2018 literature review published in the American Journal of Men's Health points out several unique challenges men face when dealing with mental illness.

Masculine expectations push



Masculine norms leave many young men struggling to cope. **SPECIAL TO THE ORACLE**

men to hide symptoms and avoid seeking help. Their peer networks are smaller with fewer close friendships, narrowing their support systems. When men do seek help, counselors and therapists are less likely to recognize a problem, even when they make their distress explicit.

The review concluded that men with anxiety and depression are more likely than women to externalize their symptoms through distraction, substance use and aggression.

These tendencies are particularly problematic in a school setting. Across all levels, education typically demands obedience to authority, close adherence to rules and diligent time management.

Boys and young men facing distress are more likely to break these demands. They could lash out at teachers and other students or otherwise drop off the radar with drugs and alcohol, leading to disciplinary action and chronic absenteeism.

In K-12, that means many boys develop behavior issues. In college, that could mean binge drinking, drug use and missing class, all implicitly accepted

features of college life.

Relatively little research examines these impacts in higher education, but the trend in K-12 is clear.

A 2016 study from researchers at Northwestern University looked at nearly 250,000 siblings in public schools, finding that even within families, boys had higher rates of suspensions and absences than girls, with an especially stark gap in high-poverty schools.

Taken together, the challenges facing many young men are a web of difficulties at the intersection of mental health, material disadvantage and unhelpful gender roles.

To help address the gap, USF has initiatives like Men of Excellence, a project of Housing and Residential Education that helps men build life skills. USF representatives, meanwhile, have spoken at local middle and high schools to encourage college attendance and uplift male role models.

There's still more to be done, however, both in K-12 and higher education. One step is training educators and clinicians to

See **MEN** on **PAGE 4**

## Police facial recognition threatens privacy



Jared Sellick

COLUMNIST

Facial recognition technology may seem like just a feature on our phones, but it's already being used to solve crimes in our own backyard. Police departments all over the country, in Florida and even on campus are using this technology to identify suspects of unsolved crimes.

The Tampa Bay Times reported on Feb. 11 that University Police (UP) took part in a trial run of a facial recognition program created by software company Clearview AI.

Neither UP nor any other police department in Tampa Bay is in an active contract with the company, though Pinellas County is reported to have found a suspect while part of the trial run. Still, many counties in Florida actively subscribe to the program already, including Broward and Volusia counties.

Police interest in this technology is a major concern to those who value their privacy.

Clearview AI uses a massive database of billions of photos found online and compares them to a suspect's photo. In an instant the algorithm can potentially find any photo posted online featuring that suspect. The company's

software has been used by police departments all over the U.S. but are people comfortable with governments using this kind of technology?

There's already so much concern surrounding governments and companies tracking individuals using data that comes off of our cell phones. Now, we also have to be concerned that a police officer can discover our entire online presence simply by snapping a photo.

It's always important to ask about whether this technology can be misused. If there was ever a contentious protest taking place, it shouldn't comfort anyone to know that a police department may be able to identify every individual who may appear in a photo taking part in a demonstration.

Historically, police agencies have targeted individuals involved in civil protests. Since 2014, the FBI has been tracking activists in the Black Lives Matter movement, according to an investigation by the Intercept in March 2018.

For organizations that highlight wrongdoing from law enforcement, these tactics can be used as a way to intimidate. It would be easy for law enforcement organizations to get all online data from a protestor who simply was attending a protest where they were photographed.

Three U.S. cities — San Francisco and Oakland, California and Somerville,

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with universities in Europe, is gargantuan.

"My first day of school, I was really scared," Pinzan said. "I didn't know where to go, because the universities in Italy and in Europe — it's completely different. It's a small building or you have two, three buildings at maximum. Here you have to walk around and you see like 20 buildings with 100 classes inside. I'm like, 'Oh, gosh, I don't know where to go.'

"At the end, if you think about it, it's really, really cool because it's completely different from — everything is completely huge compared to home."

Pinzan eventually found her way around with GPS and an app on her phone.

But there was still the issue of the language barrier.

"It was really bad," Pinzan said. "When we take [English] class in Italy in high school, the teacher usually doesn't speak English. ... So you don't even get used to listening to other people talking in English.

"My first month, I was really quiet. I didn't know what to say and I didn't even know how to say it."

Pinzan's English improved after a few months of studying, and now says she doesn't even need to translate something to Italian before understanding it.

The international flair of her

teammates also aided in the process, because so many of them made the move to a foreign land to play for the Bulls as well.

"It's funny, sometimes when we don't know certain words in English," Pinzan said, "I say it in Italian, and there's Kris [Kristyna Brabencova] and Silvia [Serrat], they're like, 'Oh yeah, I got this word,' because it's similar in Spanish [for Serrat] and then it's similar in Czech Republic too [for Brabencova].

"It helped me a lot in the beginning, because I didn't know the culture here. In Europe, it's kind of all the same, so it's really helped me with all of them around."

As time went on last season and Pinzan adjusted to life

stateside, she became a leader on the floor. She put up a career-high eight assists and seven rebounds against Tulane on March 8, 2019, and scored a career-high 23 points in the first round of the WNIT against Stetson on March 21.

This season, even though she missed more than a month, Pinzan leads the team in minutes, assists, steals and is third in scoring. She's played at least 30 minutes in every game since coming back, including the full 40 in three.

"I think maturity," Fernandez said about Pinzan's growth since last season. "Playing through soreness, playing through pain ... the grind of how much time you've got to invest and put

in, I think she's grown a lot in that, making herself better and investing in her game."

Pinzan overcame the challenge of adjusting to a completely different environment — city, school and language — with a little help from her friends. Bouncing back from her second injury was a similar process.

"After the injury, at the beginning, I was scared," Pinzan said. "But now I'm feeling pretty confident, and I'm happy I'm playing. The team is giving me confidence, the coaches are giving me confidence — they're trusting me. That's made my game easier, too — when you have people around that cheer for you."

**BASKETBALL**Continued from **PAGE 8**

USF went 18-of-26.

Houston also out-scored the Bulls on second-chance points 17-2, thanks to the Cougars' 13 offensive rebounds. USF had nine.

Cougars sophomore Quentin Grimes led all scorers with 22 points, going 6-of-14 from the field and was 3-of-6 from 3-point range.

Senior Laquincy Rideau led the scoring for the Bulls with 21 points — 16 were scored in the second half alone.

Houston picked up the opening basket two minutes into the first half, a 3-pointer from Grimes. It took USF over five minutes to find its opening basket, a layup from sophomore Rashun Williams.

By halftime, the Bulls trailed 31-26 and were 7-of-22 from the field.

Redshirt freshman Madut Adkec led all scorers at the half with seven points — four were scored at the free-throw line.

He finished the first 20 minutes perfect from the line.

Despite forcing more turnovers in the first half, USF was outscored on points off turnovers. The Cougars scored nine points off their five turnovers. The Bulls only managed four points from their seven.

USF went 2-of-10 from 3-point range, but it was a 3-pointer that was a spark for the Bulls.

Akec scored from distance with 6:07 left in the half. His basket led to a 9-0 run by USF, cutting a seven-point Cougar lead to just one.

In the final minutes of the first half, the Cougars broke USF's run, scoring five consecutive points.

Houston finished the half with a 7-3 run to ensure a five-point lead heading into the locker room.

Next up: vs. Tulsa on Saturday at noon (TV: ESPNU | Radio: Bulls Unlimited)

**SOFTBALL**Continued from **PAGE 8**

however.

Besides the opposing teams' ranked statuses, they have top-notch hitting and pitching. Georgia and UCLA both rank high nationally in team batting average and ERA.

The Bulldogs rank fifth in batting average (.411) and are tied for 11th in ERA (.81). The Bruins are ranked fourth in batting average (.423) and 16th in ERA (1.00). UCLA is also scoring 10 runs on average.

Individual performers also pose a threat. The Bulls will go up against some of the top-performing pitchers in the nation.

Oklahoma State pitcher Kelly Maxwell threw a perfect game in a 21-0 win over Florida A&M on Saturday. Texas Tech's Erin Edmondson boasts an ERA of 0.00 through 17 innings.

USF will also face some potential trouble at the plate from players who can get on base and who have heavy bats.

Georgia infielder Jordan Doggett is batting .667 in nine at-bats. UCLA outfielder Aaliyah Jordan is batting .583 and has an on-base percentage of .737. She has seven hits and six RBI in 12



USF faces several top-ranked teams this weekend, but interim head coach Jessica Moore thinks her team is up for it. **ORACLE PHOTO/ BRIAN HATTAB**

at-bats.

UCLA, a team that may have a target on its back as defending champs, will not have its ace Rachel Garcia and its utility hitter Madilyn "Bubba" Nickles, who are both redshirting to play with Team USA in the 2020 Olympics.

The Bruins haven't felt the effects, as they've started the

season 6-0.

With a chance at finally getting in the win column, the Bulls are hungry to perform well and could pose a threat to the top teams in the nation, according to

Moore.

"I think it's tough to play teams that are a little bit beat up. Sometimes they might come out like a wounded animal ready to go," Moore said. "I think we're one of those.

"I wouldn't particularly want to play us right now because you don't know what you're going to face."

## Women's Basketball

# Far from home, Pinzan becomes leader



Brian Hattab

SPORTS EDITOR

In the fourth quarter of a blowout against Alabama State on Dec. 6, Elisa Pinzan went down with an ankle injury — her second severe injury in as many seasons.

The Bulls' starting point guard didn't return until Jan. 12, coming off the bench to play 32 minutes against Tulsa.

"Coach [Jose Fernandez] was like, 'OK, I will give you some

minutes, but I don't want you to play that much. It's the first game," Pinzan said. "But then it's different when you get on the court and you see that he needs you, your teammates need you.

"It's always like, 'I got it. I want to do that. I know that I'm not 100 percent healthy, but I want to do that. I want to get the win for everyone.'"

It's not like that was the first challenge the sophomore from Murano, Italy, faced in her time at USF.

Murano, a series of islands in the Venetian Lagoon less than a mile from Venice, is quite the stark contrast to Tampa.

"It's completely different from here," Pinzan said. "You don't have cars, you travel with boats.

It's a different style of life."

That said, it wasn't difficult to get her to come, according to Fernandez.

"It wasn't a hard pitch," Fernandez said. "We've had a lot of success here and had success with a lot of high-level international guys. She was familiar with our program — and Tampa's not not a hard sell."

Tampa may not have been a hard sell, but Pinzan was far from an expert.

"I just knew that it was hot," Pinzan said. "So that's why I was like, 'OK, I will come.' But I didn't really know anything about here."

It's not just the city that's different. USF, compared

See PINZAN on PAGE 7



Elisa Pinzan had to adjust to life at USF and in Tampa, eventually becoming a leader for the Bulls. SPECIAL TO THE ORACLE/USF ATHLETICS

## Men's Basketball

# Bulls' win streak snapped at 3



Nolan Brown

STAFF WRITER

Despite outscoring and outshooting No. 20 Houston (20-5, 9-2) in the second half, USF (11-13, 4-7) had its three-game winning streak snapped after falling 62-58 to the AAC-leading Cougars on Wednesday night at the Yuengling

Center.

The loss extends USF's losing streak against nationally ranked teams. The Bulls have not defeated a top-25 team since Feb. 29, 2012, when they defeated Louisville on the road.

USF shot 10-of-21 from the field in the second half compared with Houston's 9-of-25. From 3-point range, the Bulls shot 4-of-9, while Houston was 3-of-9.

At the free-throw line, however, Houston out-performed USF — the Cougars went 11-of-12 while

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## Softball

# Bulls embrace weekend challenge



Nolan Brown

STAFF WRITER

USF faces a daunting task starting Thursday.

The Bulls (0-4) begin the St. Pete/Clearwater Elite Invitational against No. 16 Oklahoma State. If that wasn't already a big enough challenge, USF goes on to play

four more ranked opponents over the weekend.

The Bulls play No. 9 Alabama, No. 17 Texas Tech, No. 15 Georgia and last year's national champs, No. 3 UCLA all in the span of four days.

But there shouldn't be any clear-cut winners.

"Every day, anyone is beatable," interim head coach Jessica Moore said.

In terms of team quality, USF is right up there with the rest of them, according to infielder Bethaney Keen.

"I'm just excited to get back

out there competing with mostly top-25 contenders," she said. "We're right there with them."

Despite the gauntlet of facing five top-20 teams the second weekend of play, it's a test that some players are embracing.

"Growing up, you always watch those teams on TV, and the fact that we get to play them — I want to beat them so bad," infielder Madison Epperson said. "We just want to show them we're not some other team. We're here to prove something."

It'll be no walk in the park,

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