

First governor debate left with empty seats and hopeful platforms

By Devin Perry
CORRESPONDENT

A typical debate has all candidates present, rebuttals, and a full audience, but this wasn't the case last night.

USF's first Student Government (SG) governor debate ran with one of two tickets running without a lieutenant governor, and both tickets on what the position of governor and lieutenant governor meant.

Peter Rad, one of the two potential governors at the debate sat alone. His lieutenant governor, Guy Dayhoff, was nowhere to be found.

Rad said in an interview with The Oracle that he learned Wednesday morning Dayhoff



Issues such as a lack of diversity and what role governors will play in a consolidated Student Government were discussed at Wednesday night's debate. **SPECIAL TO THE ORACLE**

was ineligible to run for an SG position.

"Due to the terms of his [National Science Foundation] fellowship, [Dayhoff was] unable to take a position in Student Government," Rad said.

Candidates were asked 17 questions in a Q&A format and given 90 seconds to answer before the question was given to the other ticket.

The two tickets rarely interacted with each other,

considering none of them used their 45-second rebuttal.

When asked questions addressed to the ticket's lieutenant governor, Rad remained silent as opposed to passing, leading to some tension.

He also opted to tap his microphone on the table during the gap of silence.

The audience comprised of around 25 students, with a couple notably wearing stickers representing Rad's opponents, Spencer McCloskey and Zack Blair-Andrews.

McCloskey, running as governor, garnered most of the applause throughout the night among the sparse crowd.

Some of the loudest applause came from a well-known hot button issue: prioritizing Tampa before other USF campuses, especially when discussing the role governors will play in a consolidated SG.

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Presidential candidates revealed for SG election



Leda Alvim

MANAGING EDITOR

On Monday morning, USF sidewalks were filled with chalkings which could only mean one thing: campaigning season has officially begun.

This week, students have the chance to finally get to know the Student Government (SG)

candidates running to become the future leaders of a consolidated USF and start making up their minds on who they will vote for.

Four tickets are running for the position of systemwide president and vice president, of which three are from the Tampa campus and one is from the St. Pete campus.

The four tickets running are: Yusuf Fattah and Claire Mitchell, Kuchari and Hyelampa Thlala Kolo, Guy Dayhoff and Peter Rad and Trevor Martindale and Darnell Henderson.

While some names are new to SG, others were already

known because of their current involvement.

Current members of SG, Fattah is majoring in economics and works as SG's chief financial officer while Mitchell is pursuing a concurrent degree in biomedical sciences and international studies and serves as a senator for the College of Arts and Sciences (CAS).

Although the next ticket has no previous experience in SG, they bring a family bond to the ballot.

International students originally from Nigeria, siblings Kuchari and Hyelampa are

running together for this year's election. Kuchari is a junior majoring in quantitative economics and econometrics, and Hyelampa is a freshman majoring in computer sciences.

Although Dayhoff is on the ballot, Rad said in an interview with The Oracle on Wednesday night after the governor debate that Dayhoff will no longer run in the elections due to the terms of his National Science Foundation fellowship.

Dayhoff is a graduate student in CAS and Radulovic is an undergraduate student currently working as an SG senator.

All the way from St. Pete, the fourth and final ticket consists of Martindale and Henderson. Even though they are from a different campus, Tampa students will be able to vote for them in this year's election. Martindale is a sophomore majoring in political science and currently works as chief legal officer at USF St. Pete SG, while Henderson is a graphic arts junior and director of marketing and design.

The student body will vote March 2-5 at their respective polling locations across campuses, from 9 a.m. – 5 p.m. or online.



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LOOK
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ON
MONDAY



DEBATE

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"My vision is that the governor would be an advocate for this campus on its own," Rad said. "The closer the power is to home, the better."

On the same topic, McCloskey agreed with Rad.

"I had someone tell me yesterday, 'Don't forget about Tampa, because you're running for Tampa,' you know there's other issues on other campuses... but you're focusing on Tampa because there's issues at home," McCloskey said.

One of those issues is student representation, including a lack of diversity in the two tickets.

"We're two white males," McCloskey said. "We want to bridge that gap within the diversity that we see here."

Rad addressed representation in a more personal way, asking students to email him directly so he can "use [his] position to advocate for [students] personally."

When addressing a platform, McCloskey and Blair-Andrews talked about 11 initiatives that they hope to achieve while in their term, proposing a "Diversity Council" to help address a consistent theme of community interaction.

Rad emphasized direct student outreach and "not making empty promises" when talking about his respective platform.

"Part of the platform... is designed around the students," Rad said. "This campaign is not about me, it's about you, so that's why I'm here and willing to listen and take any issues, initiatives, things that the students really want to be pushed forward and use my position to advocate

for you personally before the university."

McCloskey and Blair-Andrews gave concise and direct answers while joking with the crowd, while Rad often would leave the crowd in long bouts of silence while he would think of the answer.

"As you might be able to tell, I'm not the most, best person for public speaking here," Rad said when asked about his weaknesses.

However, both tickets agreed that going forward with the governor position requires transparency and for students' voices to be heard.

"I believe, you know, everyone's personal opinion is significant here and we're here to represent students," Rad said.

After claps from the audience reduced to scattered snapping, McCloskey added, "We have to implement each and every part of this community, like a cog to this big machine, and you need to make sure you have all the cogs to make the machine work."

In closing statements, Rad opted to move in front of the debate tables while McCloskey and Blair-Andrews stayed seated.

Blair-Andrews closed first.

"Each initiative on our platform is in direct response to an interaction that me or Spencer had with students on this campus," he said. "We have listened and we are ready and excited to lead."

Finishing off the debate, Rad closed to roaring applause.

"I can promise that I would be a direct advocate... Just know that you're in good hands, and please make sure that you turn out to vote."

Hope after tragedy: John Dengler's impact on homelessness



In a room of about 25 people, Dengler shared how his interaction with homelessness led to the establishment of The Well, Inc. and WellBuilt Bikes. **SPECIAL TO THE ORACLE**

By **Jorgelina Manna-Rea**
CORRESPONDENT

For John Dengler, a person's relationship with the homeless population isn't charity — it's a mutually beneficial interaction with human connection at its center.

John Dengler, executive director of The Well Inc. and CEO of WellBuilt Bikes, had the room of about 25 people laughing even when discussing touchy subjects, such as car accidents and homelessness guilt at the Hope for the Homeless meeting last night.

Held in the Marshall Student Center, many attendees were members of Hope for the Homeless, a student organization to help Tampa's homeless population, as well as members of the Global Citizens Project. But most were curious visitors.

Though Dengler's personality

lit up the room, the attendees grew silent as he told this story of recovery.

As a teenager, Dengler was hospitalized after driving drunk and getting into a head-on collision. He said he spent weeks on a ventilator after having his face restructured with metal plates and his mouth wired shut.

He returned to school his senior year in high school in a wheelchair and unable to consume solid foods.

"I go back this far in my story because I think the experience of pain, alienation and marginalization played a huge role in my formation over time," Dengler said.

"They graduated me which was like, 'Here's this test, we feel bad for you.' So I walked, or crutched, across the graduation stage."

Dengler continued his education at USF and was

frank to the audience about his partying lifestyle.

"I had no interest in being here," Dengler said. "I was just partying."

Little did he know that a trip on the popular hallucinogen, LSD, would take him on what he called a "religious experience."

"It changed me," Dengler said. "It changed me significantly. But the main thing it did in my mind was make all of it meaningful. All of my pain had a purpose. It came flooding back in this experience and it felt like there was a reason for it."

Hope for the Homeless isn't affiliated with any religion, but the people in the room were eager to hear how this religious experience contributed to Dengler's involvement with the homeless.

"I went looking for a church, that's what I figured people who

DENGLER

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do this kind of stuff do," Dengler said. "I hated it. I still hate it. Don't want to go, I just don't like it."

Dengler still looked into the church to find ways to help people though, where he found his first opportunity. A local church was gathering food to hand out to people who were homeless, and Dengler was able to help out and gave food and a blanket to a man sitting in an alley.

This is where Dengler first began his work with the homeless. This would be the point at which most people would pat themselves on the back for one act of kindness, but that was not the case for Dengler.

He told the crowd, who were anticipating an explanation, about the two pieces of paper he wrote on as soon as he got home comparing his situation to the homeless man's.

"I think people do this kind of thing to feel good but I don't feel good, I feel like s***," Dengler said. "Because this brother is laying in an alley that reeks of urine, without food, and I'm at home, with a blanket, and a pillow, and running water, and a roof over my head, and a fridge, and a car that I got here in and oh, by the way, the water heats up."

The rest of the meeting continued this way, with the room invested in Dengler's relationship with the homeless.

After his experience with the man in the alley, Dengler rented a house with his friends to welcome impoverished people to come and eat, do laundry, sleep and fulfill any other necessities. In addition, they provided rides to anyone who wanted to come to their home. They did this and continued to do it even after someone was stabbed and one had their car stolen.

This home would lead to the establishment of The Well, Inc. and WellBuilt Bikes.

Dengler said that homeless people have the power to enrich his life.

"To me, Hope for the Homeless, a club that is called that, is hope for you — that these experiences can change you," said Dengler. "I'm hopeful that you can build these relationships that have shaped me so much."

Dengler strongly believes in the "wealth of the poor," which means, according to him, that people who are poor and impoverished have wisdom and knowledge that others don't have.

The students in the room applauded Dengler as he ended his story and the president of Hope for the Homeless thanked him.

"You can either get out of this world or crash your life into it," Dengler said. "Over time, I opted for the latter."

DOG

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"He begins to recognize that if he does this action, he gets a treat."

After training Cosmos, Watkins said that she feels more connected to trainers and understands better what they go through.

"[I have an] increased respect for people who spend their days

training dogs," Watkins said. "[Trainers] often have to put aside their own needs and wants for the well-being of their puppy."

In the end, Watkins sees the training as beneficial to both her and Cosmos.

"I am always learning from my mistakes and his," Watkins said.

CLIMB

Continued from PAGE 7

In the gym, everyone is mainly focused on their own climbing progress, so no competition exists between climbers. Even when the USF Rock Climbing Club participates in competitions, rivalries that often emerge are uncommon within the sport.

"You're competing with other individuals who root for you, which is rare in sports," Francois said.

Francois believes that anyone can climb and work hard to become physically and mentally strong while learning how to be upstanding members of society.

"I've learned that a lot of people sell themselves short and don't take into account the power of mindset, so I've learned to help people unlock their own potential," Francois said.

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NUMBERSContinued from **PAGE 8**

ranking still matters more than a decade later, remember that this happened in USF's third season in what we today would call a Power Five conference.

The Grothe era was the foundation of the program.

No. 9: Quinton Flowers 2014-2017

The years following Grothe were bad, though.

After Jim Leavitt was fired following the 2009 season, the next few years were not kind. Skip Holtz went 16-21 in charge and conference realignment saw USF wind up in the non Power remnants of the Big East, the AAC.

USF needed a renaissance, and it started Sept. 13, 2014, when Quinton Flowers made his first appearance for the Bulls, going

1-of-4 passing for 7 yards with two interceptions.

Hey, even the literal Renaissance wasn't obvious until it was well under way. But USF's was clear by Oct. 10, 2015, when the Bulls defeated Syracuse 45-24 in what was essentially Flowers' coming out party. He completed 15-of-22, throwing for two touchdowns and accounting for 314 all-purpose yards.

"Quinton said, 'Coach, let me go,'" coach Willie Taggart said at the time, according to the USF archives. "I said, 'All right, I'll let you go. Just do me one favor, if you don't have the throw, run.'"

He ran that day and every day afterward, setting the record for most rushing yards by a Florida quarterback at an FBS school, surpassing Tim Tebow by 725 yards in 12 fewer games.

Much like Grothe, there are too many accomplishments to list, but Flowers' 42 career, season or game records are all important.

The era he did it in makes it all the more important.

USF was dead in the water as a program. Legend has it that had the Bulls lost to Syracuse, Taggart would have been fired — and who would have wanted that job? Where would the program be now?

Flowers sparked an interest in the program that hadn't been around since Grothe's heyday. If you think fan interest and support was too low in 2019, take Flowers' 21-4 record in 2016 and 2017 out of the equation. It's hard to imagine a decade of mediocrity — at best — would have packed Ray Jay.

Flowers put USF back on the college football map in a similar fashion to the way Grothe put it there in the first place.

That's why both should have their numbers retired.

Not just because of stats and records, but also because of their historical significance to USF football.

BASKETBALLContinued from **PAGE 8**

team to win when they needed big shots down the stretch and she knocked them down."

In hindsight, it was apparent early on USF was in for trouble. Four of the Bulls' first five possessions ended in turnovers.

However, UCF was never able to pull away. Despite leading by as many as 12 with just over five minutes to play in the half, a 9-2 USF run, cut the deficit to five at the half.

After the break, a 5-0 run by junior Shae Leverett tied the game at 23 and it looked like the Bulls, for all their faults in the first half — 13 turnovers and 11 fouls — might turn things around.

"We just knew we had to play better. That wasn't our game," said Leverett, who tied with freshman Elena Tsineke for a team-high 10 points. "We

weren't playing up to our ability.

"Credit UCF, they did a good job pressuring us, but we've just got to learn to settle down, calm our nerves and really get into the game."

With the win, the Knights move into a tie with Cincinnati for second place in the AAC, while USF moves into a tie for third with Temple.

USF has also now lost five of its last eight against UCF, but Fernandez isn't concerned about that.

"Credit to them — they've got a good basketball team," he said. "[UCF coach] Katie [Abrahamson-Henderson], she's done a magnificent job over here.

"And you know what? They've won the last four. Hopefully we play them in the conference tournament and we get a chance to win the next one. I don't worry about that nonsense."

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Tech addiction is a symptom of mental illness, not just a cause



Nathaniel Sweet

OPINION EDITOR

The past decade has seen a substantial rise in anxiety and depression among adolescents and young adults.

A 2019 study in the *Journal of Abnormal Psychology* found that between 2005 and 2017, adults ages 18 to 25 saw a 71 percent increase in psychological distress and a 63 percent increase in major depression.

These trends have led some social scientists to pin the blame on new technologies. Jean Twenge, a psychologist at San Diego State University and co-author of the 2019 study, has written extensively about generational shifts among millennials and Gen Z, tracing the rise of youth mental illness to the introduction of the iPhone in 2007.

Other research has similarly sounded the alarm on tech use in adolescents. A 2016 study from researchers at the University of Pittsburgh found that the heaviest users of social media had the highest rates of depressive symptoms.

There's a major hole in these conclusions, however. It's just as likely that technology overuse is a symptom, rather than a cause, of mental illness.

If we think about heavy tech



Heavy tech use tracks with mental illness precisely because it offers escape. **SPECIAL TO THE ORACLE**

use as an addictive behavior and a maladaptive coping mechanism, rather than just a tool or a source of entertainment, we get much different ideas about why young adults spend so much time using screens.

Maia Szalavitz, a veteran journalist who has dealt with addiction in her personal life, wrote in her 2016 book "Unbroken Brain" that addiction can be understood largely as a disorder of toxic learned behaviors.

Drawing on a range of research that crosses disciplines, Szalavitz argues that dependency arises when a person habitually turns to a substance for relief — for instance, from emotional distress.

By offering 24/7 access to entertainment and communication, social media provides that kind of relief, an on-demand distraction that allows users to avoid thinking about troublesome feelings.

A 2017 study published in the academic journal *Cyberpsychology, Behavior and Social Networking* adds evidence for this theory. Researchers surveyed 449 people on their internet use

patterns and administered a range of psychological tests, finding that anxiety, depression and avoidant coping strategies were substantial risk factors for "internet addiction."

Viewed through this lens, heavy social media use is correlated with mental illness precisely because these technologies offer escape.

It doesn't have to be only one explanation or another, of course. If tech addiction is a learned response to anxiety and depression, then overuse of tech can make these problems worse in their own right.

Using tech as a tool to avoid life stressors leaves the root problems unaddressed. Distraction and wasted time, meanwhile, can also cause problems with school, work and relationships, only exacerbating underlying issues.

What it does mean, however, is that tech alone can't explain why so many young Americans face mental illness. The task ahead for parents and schools isn't so simple as asking young people to put the phone away.

Nathaniel Sweet is a senior studying political science.

Students need action on affordable housing



Jared Sellick

COLUMNIST

On Feb. 12, a new survey from the Hope Center for College, Community and Justice found that among U.S. college students at colleges and universities, an astonishing 46 percent of students were "insecure" when it came to housing and 17 percent of students had been homeless in the past year.

The Hope Center is an advocacy group that conducts research about college students and their issues. Its recent survey included 167,000 students from a total of 227 colleges around the country.

With on-campus housing often being prohibitively expensive and rent rising among traditional off-campus living, these trends will continue into the future unless colleges around the country take action.

In our own community, housing costs are rising. In Temple Terrace alone, rent has gone up by nearly \$500 since 2010, according to data from the rental market database Rainmaker Insights.

It's possible for a student who struggles with housing to get additional private loans to pay for the cost of living that may not be covered by the student's financial aid.

However, student loans are

designed to be paid back with interest, which can lead to additional financial struggles post graduation.

There are a range of options the university could take to curtail this problem.

The most obvious remedy for these issues is to give more affordable options for on-campus housing.

The current rates for USF residence halls range from \$5,990 to \$11,500 for two semesters, which is not a substantially different price from what you would pay if you had roommates in off-campus housing.

In addition, the USF Foundation should be proactive in offering scholarships to students who are insecure in their housing, especially those who don't have family support.

Cost of attendance calculations are also a crucial factor in how much aid students can receive. The university should be careful to consider the rising cost of rent when making those calculations.

Student Government (SG) has engaged in partnerships with multiple off-campus apartments that offer reasonably priced living. SG leaders should continue to be advocates for affordable housing in the broader community.

Students deserve a fix to this growing problem. The USF Foundation and SG should set their agendas to focus on tackling the issue of housing insecurity.

Jared Sellick is a senior studying political science.

Rock climbing coach helps students find inner strength

By Maddie Moure
CORRESPONDENT

Men and women sporting work out gear, chalk bags and climbing shoes are lost in their athletic concentration. Some stand in front of the rock climbing walls, puzzling together their climbing route, while others are already hanging multiple feet in the air from jugular rocks and overhanging structures. Almost everywhere, climbers cheer each other on until they reach the final rock.

This is a common sight at Vertical Ventures, a rock climbing gym popular to USF students.

Vertical Ventures has two locations: one in St. Pete and one in Tampa. Among their staff is Max Francois, a USF senior majoring in electrical engineering. He fell in love with rock climbing in 2010 and has not stopped climbing since.

Other than balancing his studies, Francois has a lot on his hands. He is a personal trainer and rock climbing coach for the Vanguard Youth Climbing Team at the St. Pete gym as well as head coach of the USF Rock Climbing Club at the Tampa location.

One of Francois's favorite things about being a rock climbing coach is training ambitious climbers to reach their full potential.

"I absolutely love being a rock climbing coach," Francois said. "It feels fulfilling to help other people progress through things that I've struggled through personally."

At a glance, rock climbing takes a lot of physical strength, but it also requires an equal amount of mental growth and development. Francois said that he enjoys mentoring and supporting individuals to help

them grow because he feels like he didn't receive the same support when he was a climbing student.

"When I was a kid, I wanted to be recognized by my teachers and coaches," Francois said. "I feel like it was kind of a rare thing for me, so I want to provide that kind of recognition for the kids I coach [and] make them feel seen and heard like they're not just kids."

During training, Francois said he tries to treat the children and teenagers like mature adults. By giving the kids the freedom to determine the pace at which they progress, the kids actually feel more accountable for their actions and become more diligent people, according to Francois.

"When you give people that choice to flourish as opposed to forcing them to, they often end up flourishing faster than when forced," Francois said.

Francois is currently taking a semester break from school, but aims to graduate around 2021. He said he wants to continue working as a rock climbing coach after he finishes school.

While Francois believes climbing is a great opportunity for adventurous and thrill-seeking students, he also encourages introverts to try it as well.

Climbing is a great way for shy people to get out of their comfort zones while also receiving open support from other climbers.

"Climbing can also be very personal," Francois said.

n See CLIMB on PAGE 4

Training more than a companion

By Lauren Sutton
CORRESPONDENT

If you think taking care of yourself in college is taxing enough, imagine adding a furry little companion to the mix.

This is USF student Emily Watkins' life — training with a soon-to-be medical alert dog, all while keeping up with a college schedule. Cosmos, the little German shepherd in training, is currently working to aid with medical alerts or mobility with the help of Emily and her siblings.

Watkins is a freshman studying integrative animal biology while also caring for Cosmos in her dorm room. She has been training him since late December.

"It can take anywhere from six months to several years to fully train a dog," Watkins said.

While training a service dog is a big responsibility, it was the best option to help with her medical situation, according to Watkins.

"I began training my own service dog because I had health issues that needed to be mitigated and going with a training program wasn't an option," Watkins said.

While Watkins said training is an extremely rewarding endeavor, there are moments that can make it difficult. With a tight school schedule, she finds it easy for the training to get slightly off track — especially while training on a campus full of dog lovers.

"Training dogs is really hard and is basically like being a parent



Emily Watkins took matters into her own hands and decided to train her own service dog for her health issues.
SPECIAL TO THE ORACLE

to a toddler," Watkins said. "It is made even more difficult when people try to distract him or me. Often, people will stare, take pictures without permission, try to pet him, make kissy noises and even follow me around."

Although Cosmos's innate puppy enthusiasm keeps Watkins from bringing him to class, she is making small improvements as they go along.

Watkins said that Cosmos is currently being trained to practice waiting and lying down for long periods of time without whining, which will help to tame his personality and eventually let her bring him to class.

"I use treats to reinforce an action and ask him to do it again and again — assigning it a name and a hand signal," Watkins said.

n See DOG on PAGE 4



As a rock climbing coach, Max Francois said he believes rock climbing can help strengthen a body mentally and physically.

SPECIAL TO THE ORACLE

Women's Basketball

Turnovers and fouls sink Bulls in War on I-4



Brian Hattab

SPORTS EDITOR

ORLANDO — Here's the good news.

USF held UCF to 15-of-56 from the field Wednesday night at Addition Financial Arena.

The bad news is the Bulls weren't much better in their 56-48 loss to the Knights in the final installment of the War on I-4's on the hardwood in 2020.

The Bulls turned the ball over 21 times and committed 28 fouls. While USF didn't get critically

burned by the turnovers (UCF only scored seven points off them), the fouls hurt. Forty-one percent of UCF's points (23) came at the free-throw line.

"I thought it was a hard-fought game for both groups," coach Jose Fernandez said. "We fouled too much and we turned the ball over too many times, especially in that first quarter — we had eight turnovers."

USF was held to a season low in made 3-pointers (2) and 3-point percentage (11 percent) and tied for a season low in made field goals (17).

"We got good shots — we just can't shoot that poorly," Fernandez said. "You go 2-of-18 against a 3-2 zone? It's not good — especially us, the 3-point shot's a big part of what we do.



Shae Leverett tied with Elena Tsineke for a team-high 10 points in the Bulls' loss to UCF on Wednesday. SPECIAL TO THE ORACLE/UCF ATHLETICS

"I think we got some good looks ... But again, when you miss 35 shots—you got 13 of those (43 total) rebounds on the 35 shots, but I don't think we got enough to show for it off of second-third opportunities."

Despite all the woes, the Bulls were in the game until the very end — until UCF senior Kay Wright took over. Wright, UCF's leading scorer, had been held to 10 points through three quarters — she scored 14 in the

fourth alone.

"I thought for the most part early on in the first half, we did a good job on Kay Kay," Fernandez said. "But that fourth quarter, she took over. She willed her

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Commentary

It's time to retire a few numbers



Brian Hattab

SPORTS EDITOR

Retiring a player's number is one of the highest honors in sports.

Think about it. A team is saying a player mattered so much, it can't stand the thought of someone ever wearing the same number.

It's easy enough to retire

numbers in some sports. Baseball only usually needs a dozen or two players on a roster. Basketball rosters hover around 10-12. So working around a retired number isn't hard.

But college football — oh boy, is that difficult.

USF's 2019 roster featured 106 players, so needless to say, a few offensive and defensive players wore the same number.

There are some players that mean so much to a program, though, that going against the logical move (not retiring their number) is really the only move.

While that can open up Pandora's box if other deserving

players don't receive said honor, there are some that are obvious.

For USF, those numbers are consecutive, but also represent two distinct eras: Nos. 8 and 9.

No. 8: Matt Grothe 2005-2009

Matt Grothe holds the record for highest career completion percentage and the top two single-season records for highest-completion percentages.

There are many other places you can find Grothe's name in the record book, but that's not what this is about.

This is about the fact he helped put USF on the college football map.

Grothe's redshirt freshman season of 2006 was USF's second in the Big East, its sixth in FBS and just its 10th overall. He led the Bulls to some memorable moments that year, including three straight come-from-behind wins to start the season, as well as a road upset of No. 7 West Virginia to end the regular season.

But it was 2007 when Grothe made his mark — especially in Week 2.

Grothe threw the game-winning touchdown pass in

overtime to defeat No. 17 Auburn on the road in what was USF's first ever victory against an SEC team and, up to that point, its most iconic moment.

The next one wasn't far off though — three weeks later, in the second quarter against No. 5 West Virginia at home, he somehow escaped a sack and found Carlton Mitchell for a 55-yard touchdown that, with the ensuing extra point, proved to be the game winner.

Two weeks later, after a 64-12 win against UCF, USF was No. 2 in the BCS poll. As silly as it may seem to think a one-week No. 2

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