

## Homecoming artist announcement generates mixed reactions



Leda Alvim

MULTIMEDIA EDITOR

is not going to go as he has never heard about the artist before.

"I don't know the two artists that will be performing at the homecoming concert, so for me, I'm just not 'gunna' go," Luu

release of 'Oh Okay' with rappers Lil Baby and Young Thug, Gunna has been active in the music industry since 2013 with the release of the mixtape Hard Body as Yung Gunna.

“**Gunna is going to be a next level of lit.**

Brandon Paryag, a sophomore majoring in mechanical engineering

joked. "I would probably go if there was another artist but I'm not willing to pay for the tickets to see someone that I don't know."

Ashley Leal, a freshman majoring in pre-nursing, said that even though Gunna it's not as well known as other rap artists in the industry, he is still popular among students.

"I'm excited about the concert and I think it's going to be lit," Leal said. "I think the artist are great and fresh. They aren't that big but a lot of people my age like them."

Famously known for the

Syed Hasan, a sophomore majoring in psychology, said he is looking forward to the concert even though he is not familiar with songs by Gunna.

"I feel good about the homecoming concert in general," Hasan said. "Last year, they brought Rae Sremmurd and it was really fun. This year, I'm also looking forward to it."

Brandon Paryag, a sophomore majoring in mechanical engineering, said he expects a large turn out from both students and non-USF guests with Gunna as the headliner.



Rapper Gunna was chosen to be this year's homecoming concert headliner, alongside rapper Bryce Vine as the opener. **SPECIAL TO THE ORACLE**

"Gunna is going to be a next level of lit," Paryag said. "I expect a great performance that will have the crowd moving to songs like 'Baby Birken' and 'Drip Too Hard.' He is an up and coming artist and the protégé of a legend in the game, Young Thug. I'm looking forward to the concert."

See **CONCERT** on **PAGE 3**

## LSAT enters digital age with transition to tablets



Alyssa Stewart

EDITOR IN CHIEF

Paper score sheet, No. 2 pencils and testing booklets are a thing of the past for the Law School Admission Test (LSAT) as it crossed into the digital realm Sept. 21.

The most important standardized test for aspiring lawyers became fully digital

this past weekend at all of its testing centers across the nation. Testers will still have 35 minutes to complete the 22-28 questions for the four timed sections. However, the only difference is that test-takers will be using a tablet instead of paper.

The USF Testing Center

administers over 1,500 exams every month and is one of the few state university test centers in Florida to be certified by the National College Testing Association, according to Testing Services Assistant Director Leonor O' Relly.

O' Relly said that Testing

Services administered 419 LSAT exams last year with approximately 60 to 140 people in each section.

Glen Stohr, Kaplan Test Prep's senior manager for instructional design, said the Law School

See **LSAT** on **PAGE 3**

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**COMING THURSDAY**

## LSAT

Continued from PAGE 1

Admission Council (LSAC) began administering the exam digitally in July to test out the new change.

The July 2019 test consisted of roughly half of the testers taking the exam on paper while the other half took the test digitally on tablets.

USF Testing Services was one of the locations who experienced the early change.

"We started the digital section on July 15," O' Relly said in an email to The Oracle. "The test administrators/proctors attended training provided by LSAC to get familiar with the new process/software/equipment."

Stohr said the vast majority of testing locations had zero issues, but there were some that had technical glitches.

O' Relly said Testing Services did not experience any issues since transitioning to the tablets. He said the proctors enjoy the new platform more than what was being used before, however, there has been one difficulty in having to use nearly 100 tablets each session.

"The only con is the loading of the suitcases that contain the tablets from the storage area to the testing rooms and from the testing rooms to the storage area," O' Relly said.

Because of the number of people who take the LSAT at USF, Stohr said it is vital for testers to understand how to use the tablets to eliminate any distractions during the exam.

"There are a lot of USF students that are taking the LSAT and applying for law school every year," Stohr said. "This test is the most important part of your law school application and I don't



Testers will now take the LSAT on a Microsoft Surface Go tablet. SPECIAL TO THE ORACLE

say that to scare you, I say it because it's true — you need to be diligent."

Stohr is referring to the new tools on the Microsoft Surface Go tablet, which include a stylus, adjustable font sizes, (8, 10, 12, 15, 18, and 27-point font) underlining and highlighting tools, adjustable line spacing and brightness adjustment.

The LSAT considers this to be the biggest change to the exam in more than 25 years, according to Stohr's e-book about the exam. This was in an effort to modernize itself with other standardized tests such as the Medical College Admission Test (MCAT) or the Graduate Record Examinations (GRE).

However, the LSAT sets itself apart since other standardized tests use computers instead of tablets. This is the LSAT can more conveniently transport the required materials to various testing locations.

"The LSAT specifically comes

to college campuses to administer the materials for the exam," Stohr said. "Tablets are portable and it enables proctors to use the same rooms that they've used before."

In addition to the digital changes, people now have the option to take the written section up to one calendar year after the date of the exam. In years prior, participants had to take the written portion of the exam in a separate test booklet immediately after the exam.

Stohr said testers can get to know the digital interface by utilizing the tutorial videos and practice exercises on the LSAC website.

"This is a golden opportunity for test-takers to become familiar with the new platform because there will be people who won't practice and be focused on the device instead of the material," Stohr said. "This version of the test will be as good for you as you are prepared for it."

## CONCERT

Continued from PAGE 1

The concert will take place on Oct. 10 at the Yuengling Center starting at 8 p.m. with doors opening at 7 p.m. Tickets are available to students for \$10 (including fees), one student-guest tickets for \$15 and non-student tickets for \$25 (plus fees). Students will have to present their USF ID with their student ticket at the entrance to get in.

Connor Kasprick, a sophomore majoring in marketing, said that he has high expectations for the concert following last year's performance by Rae Sremmurd.

"I'm excited to see Gunna, he's obviously a well-known rapper and I think he will bring a lot of energy and get the crowd going," Kasprick. "Rae Sremmurd was a lot of fun last year so I definitely have high expectations for this year's concert as well."

Victoria Campana, a sophomore majoring in global business, attended last year's homecoming concert and, based on that experience, she hoped that this year's headliner would be something different than rap.

"I don't really know Gunna but from past experience of last year's homecoming concert, I feel that they bring too many rap artists," Campana said. "I think they need to mix it up and have a diversity upon that. I don't know Gunna nor any of his songs so I don't think it's worth my money."

The survey sent out over the summer allowed students to choose their preferred performers among a list of

more than 30 artists, including Gunna.

For Marco Terron-Barreto, a junior majoring in integrative animal biology, CAB should bring more recognized artists as a way to spread recognition about USF.

"If we want to spread the good word about USF, we must hold preeminent events," Terron-Barreto said. "The homecoming concert is one of the most anticipated events of the year and the one that gets the most social media coverage. If we bring more recognized artists, even if we have to charge students a higher price to attend, we will have more positive feedback."

"If we had more popular artists I am sure that students would pay \$5 to \$20 to get a ticket to see any of the artists in the original survey. If they still can't bring more popular artists, then they shouldn't make the survey with artists that they can't bring."

While many students are unfamiliar with Gunna, that's not stopping them from planning to attend the event.

Recently reported by The Oracle, Gunna is expected to be paid \$75,000 to perform at the homecoming concert. Student tickets went on sale during the week of Sept. 16 while tickets for alumni, staff and faculty will go on sale during the week of Sept. 23.

"To me, it's not only about the artist but the people and friends that will go as well," Hasan said. "Other than that, I think it will be fun and I'm looking forward to a great concert."

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## Florida's schools need resources, not armed guards



Nathaniel Sweet

COLUMNIST

In the wake of the tragic shooting at Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School in Parkland, the Florida Legislature mandated that every K-12 public school in the state have a school resource officer (SRO) on campus. While it might seem like SROs are a no-brainer for school safety, the data shows that school police fail to make schools safer and accelerate the school-to-prison pipeline for low-income African-American and Hispanic youth.

A recent study by Associate Dean Kenneth Alonzo Anderson at the School of Education at Howard University demonstrated as much. The study looked at 430 middle schools in North Carolina, before and after the state expanded its SRO programs in 2013. Despite devoting \$23 million to hiring and training more SROs, Anderson found that the program made no measurable difference across a range of reported disciplinary actions, including school violence, drug use and weapon possession.

In a summary article for the Brookings Institution, Anderson warned that in the absence of



School resource officers became a state-mandated law after the Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School shooting in Parkland last year. SPECIAL TO THE ORACLE

measurable benefits, more police in schools can have needless negative consequences, particularly for marginalized students.

Large disparities already exist in Florida's school arrests around race, class and ability, as documented in a 2016 report from the investigative journalism organization Center for Public Integrity. By putting students in close proximity to law enforcement, and thus the broader criminal justice system, SROs can deepen these disparities even further.

A smart approach to school violence requires a deeper understanding of its root causes. Anderson's study also found that one of the biggest predictors of disciplinary problems is poor performance in class—often lying at a complex intersection

of poverty, past trauma, distrust in school officials and alienation from course curriculum.

Each of these challenges requires a comprehensive and caring approach — one centered on amplifying student voices, meeting student needs and aligning class content with students' lived experiences. None of them can be solved with handcuffs.

Parents, students and advocates are right to be concerned about school safety. Nobody wants to feel unsafe, especially not in a place where children learn.

However, the evidence shows that making Florida's schools safer will require a lot more than armed guards.

Nathaniel Sweet is a senior studying political science.

## Senators need to show more initiative about oil drilling



Jared Sellick

COLUMNIST

What is keeping another drilling project from taking place in the Gulf of Mexico? After 2022, the answer is nothing.

On Sept. 11, the U.S. House of Representatives passed the Protecting and Securing Florida's Coastline Act of 2019. The bill would ban the practice of drilling in the Gulf permanently. The Senate has yet to pass it.

In 2018, Floridians overwhelmingly supported a ballot initiative that would "ban offshore drilling for oil and natural gas on land beneath all state waters." The ballot initiative passed with 68 percent of the vote with over 5 million votes.

This state referendum does nothing to bar drilling from the portion of the Gulf of Mexico outside of the state's territorial seas.

This is a serious concern to many environmentally conscious USF students including, Maria Lorena.

"I can tell you there was an oil spill recently in what

once was one of the most beautiful Caribbean beaches in Venezuela," Lorena said. "Do you want that to happen to our Florida beaches? No thanks."

What is really troubling is that, beyond the Floridian U.S. House constituency, the House passed the bill on mostly partisan lines. Only 22 out of the 196 Republicans supported the effort and 13 of them were from Florida.

This shows that Republicans have little concern for Florida's waters, which should make environmentalists across the nation nervous about whether this will actually make it through the Republican-controlled Senate.

The fate of Florida's coastlines is in the hands of Sen. Rick Scott (R-FL) and Sen. Marco Rubio (R-FL). It is up to them to make the case to their Republican colleagues to pass this bill.

It is incumbent on them to appeal to Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell (R-KY) to bring the bill up for a vote soon, as well as convince their fellow Republicans to vote alongside them.

It is easy to write a letter to the executive branch, but it is more difficult to implement lasting legislation. Let's hope that the senators' words are followed up with action.

Jared Sellick is a junior majoring in political science.

## NASELLO

Continued from **PAGE 8**

Nasello sisters were forced to play the sport, according to their father. Their only requirement was that they “couldn’t just sit at home,” as Tim put it. Whether it was sports, band or drama was up to them — they just all happened to pick soccer.

In fact, Sydney has been playing since she was 3 years old — and she had quite the debut.

“I was coaching Lacy ... and we were playing a game and Sydney always dressed up in a pink uniform and soccer shoes like her sister, and she would come to the games and sit on the sideline and dribble a soccer ball around,” Tim said. “And then there was a game when we were beating the team or whatever — we really didn’t care at that age.

“I went to the other coach and asked him if I could put Sydney in the game. And he said, ‘Absolutely.’

“Well, I put her in the game and she scored two goals. And then he told me I had to take her out. And that’s a true story — she was 3 years old.”

She has trained tirelessly since then, according to Tim, including using a technique that Pelé used — a wall.

“I would say she averaged about 20 minutes a day on the wall,” Tim said. “Even up until a couple of years ago, I would hear it on the side of our house, and my wife and I would go outside, even in high school and she’d be working on things on the wall because she didn’t need anybody to help her.”

It’s safe to say the wall helped. In addition to the accolades she earned while playing at Land O’ Lakes High School — All-State in 2017, All-Tampa three years and All-Conference three years are just a few — Sydney earned perhaps the biggest accolade to date during the late stages of her high-school career: an invite



Sydney Nasello earned an invite to a USWNT U-18 training camp in 2017. **SPECIAL TO THE ORACLE/GOUSFBULLS**

to a U.S. women’s national U-18 training camp in 2017.

“It was a lot of fun ... I used it as a learning experience,” Sydney said, “because obviously I want to play pro later on. And see what I’m up against — people my age, what they’re doing better than me and kind of compare myself to everyone else’s that’s in the age group.”

While being interviewed about the invite at the time, Sydney, who usually doesn’t like talking about herself, according to Tim, opened up about how much the invite meant to her.

“There was an interview on the local TV where we got to really see how excited she was, and that was on channel 13,” Tim said, “and she talked about her dream to be the next Alex Morgan, and this was her chance to start getting there. And that’s when her mom and I really saw that it was special to her because she never showed that to us.”

Those around Sydney believe she has the ability to one day make the senior national team and fulfill that dream she expressed on TV.

“I think she has the ability to do that if she continues to mature as a player,” USF assistant coach Chris Brown said. “She’s definitely headed on that

upward trajectory, and there’s no reason why she shouldn’t have an opportunity to play for the full national team one day.”

Sydney may have helped her cause earlier this season by scoring a dramatic game-winning goal with 20 seconds remaining in regulation against Auburn on Aug. 22. The video was ultimately picked up by the NCAA soccer Twitter account.

“So last year, not too many shots on goal for me, and going into this season, I’m like, ‘OK, I’m going to shoot the ball,’” Sydney said. “I looked, saw the clock ... not much time left on the clock, so I was like, ‘If I’m in front of the goal, I’m shooting the ball.’”

She shot the ball, all right. Sydney put it in off the crossbar, in an area where the Auburn goalkeeper had no chance of saving it. As dramatic as it was, it was just another example of Sydney’s creativity.

“The instincts and the things that she tries,” Brown said, “and that she’s able to successfully pull off as a player in terms of her ability on the ball are pretty incredible.”

How far those instincts take her remains to be seen, but they’ve served her well to date.

## UCF

Continued from **PAGE 8**

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## RUNDOWN

### Basketball schedules released

USF basketball's schedules are complete. The Bulls' conference schedules were released last week.

USF men's basketball begins its third season of AAC play under coach Brian Gregory on Jan. 1 in Dallas against SMU.

The Bulls' conference home opener comes Jan. 4 against UConn at the Yuengling Center.

The schedule includes home-and-homes with Memphis, UConn, Wichita State, SMU, War on I-4 rival UCF and Sweet 16 participant Houston.

All 18 games will be on national television — either on ESPN networks or CBS Sports Network.

USF women's basketball begins its seventh season of play in the AAC on Jan. 5 against Cincinnati at the Yuengling Center.

Coach Jose Fernandez' Bulls have home-and-homes with the Bearcats, Temple, UCF, Tulane and UConn.

The Bulls' second game against UConn, which will also be the Huskies' last regular-season game as a member of the AAC, comes on ESPN's Big Monday in front of a national audience on ESPN2.

Overall, 10 games will be broadcast on ESPN networks, one on CBS Sports Network and three on the American Digital Network.

All radio broadcasts for both teams will be streamed only on Bulls Unlimited on iHeartRadio.

## Women's Soccer

# Working to become the next Alex Morgan



Brian Hattab

SPORTS EDITOR

It's not always easy being the new kid on the block.

But Sydney Nasello had no problem fitting in at USF last season.

Nasello, then a freshman, started all 19 games in 2018, leading the AAC with eight assists on her way to a selection to the AAC All-Rookie Team.

Make no mistake, though, she earned her spot in the starting 11 of a top-25 team.

"I don't think that you can come into a new atmosphere and just expect to start," Nasello said. "I think you have to work really

hard for it and I think I did that over the summer with fitness and touching the ball and making sure that I came in prepared and it paid off."

But it's not like the summer of 2018 was the first time she hit the pitch.

Nasello comes from a big soccer family. Her father, Tim, played at Sangamon State (now known as Illinois Springfield) from 1985-87 and won an NIAA national championship in 1986.

Her sisters all play soccer, too. Holly Nasello played at Point University (West Point, Ga.), Lacy currently plays at Tampa, while her younger sister Lexy plays for Tampa Bay United.

There's no sibling rivalry, though. In fact, Sydney and Lacy will attend each other's games — provided Tampa and USF are not playing on the same night — as will Holly.

Her family being nearby is a big



Sydney Nasello started all 19 games her freshman season. **SPECIAL TO THE ORACLE/GOUSFBULLS**

boost for the Land O' Lakes product.

"It's easier to play, because I have my friends and family that are able to always be at the games — 30 minutes from home," Sydney said. "It's more like a confidence thing and I have a lot of support off the field."

Even though their father played soccer, and they all wound up playing it too, none of the Nasello sisters were forced to

play the sport, according to their father. Their only requirement was that they "couldn't just sit at home," as Tim put it. Whether it was sports, band or drama was up to them — they just all happened to pick soccer.

In fact, Sydney has been playing since she was 3 years old — and she had quite the debut.

"I was coaching Lacy ... and we were playing a game and

**n See NASELLO on PAGE 7**

## Commentary

# UCF was never a Cinderella by its own fault



Brian Hattab

SPORTS EDITOR

The clock strikes midnight. The carriage turns back into a pumpkin.

Cinderella is nowhere to be found, though — mainly because there never was one in Orlando outside of

the Magic Kingdom.

In what was the biggest upset of the weekend, Pitt defeated UCF 35-34 on Saturday thanks to a near-last second usage of the 'Philly Special' — a play that first received attention when the Philadelphia Eagles ran it before halftime during Super Bowl LII.

What a way for the Knights' 25-game regular-season win streak to finally be snapped.

The last time UCF lost a regular-season game prior to Saturday was Black Friday 2016 against USF — which also turned

out to be Willie Taggart's last game as coach of the Bulls.

Such simpler times.

During that streak, UCF's highest ranking in the College Football Playoff (CFP) was No. 8, which feels lower than it should have been, considering the Knights hadn't lost a regular-season game in over two years.

UCF was a figurative underdog for most — well, really all — of its streak.

But nobody outside of Orlando woke up Sunday feeling sorry for the Knights, even though college

football is a sport that loves underdogs and general chaos.

While UCF continued to be ranked lower than it should have been by the CFP, something that should have garnered sympathy — even from USF fans — UCF administration picked the most antagonizing and annoying ways to fight the status quo.

UCF Athletic Director Danny White declared the Knights "national champions" after winning the 2018 Peach Bowl,

**n See UCF on PAGE 7**