

## A night of mystery at the Homecoming ball



Decked out in green and gold balloons, the Center for Student Involvement hosted its annual Homecoming ball with a masquerade theme in the Marshall Student Center Ballroom Wednesday night. USF President Steve Currall and his wife, Cheyenne attended the ball, and Cheyenne was given the honor of crowning the royalty. **ORACLE PHOTO/LEDA ALVIM**

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## Gunna's contract full of excessive requests



Alyssa Stewart

EDITOR IN CHIEF

Popeyes chicken, two bottles of Hennessy and one box of Backwoods Mild cigars were a few of the items Homecoming concert headliner Gunna requested for his performance Oct. 10.

The "Drip Too Hard" rapper is set to perform tonight in the Yuengling Center at 9 p.m. and he had a rider full of specific requests.

A rider is an attached agreement to a contract that provides perks and amenities for the artist.

In fact, Gunna and his production team will be given a \$600 dinner along with \$750 worth of green room items.

In the contract, Gunna's team requested large quantities of food — specifically chicken.

This included 20 chicken wings, 40 chicken tenders and

See **GUNNA** on **PAGE 3**

## SG Emergency Transportation Vehicle 'Bull' speed ahead



Leda Alvim

MULTIMEDIA EDITOR

Student Health Services (SHS), in partnership with the University Emergency Medical Student Association (UEMSA) and Student Government

(SG), will launch a Medical Response Unit (MRU) program aimed at providing students with an on-campus medical transportation system free of charge this semester.

As of Oct. 9, no official launch date has been set by SHS. However, Stephen Poff, medical director of the MRU and faculty advisor for UEMSA, said the launch will occur during fall 2019.

According to Poff, the MRU will provide Basic Life Support (BLS) services to students, staff and faculty on campus. Each shift will have a medical

supervisor, one EMT and two first responders on duty.

"This is indeed a transport unit," said Operations Coordinator for the MRU Austin Jared. "We're not a 911 service, we are a field extension of Student Health Services. So we can come we can stabilize you up to the BLS level."

The MRU will operate during SHS's operating hours — Mondays and Fridays from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. and Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. When launched, students can request an MRU by

dialing 9744-MRU.

The MRU will be comprised of certified student volunteers and will be overseen by SHS. Volunteers need to have either an Emergency Medical Responder (EMR) certification, an Emergency Medical Technician (EMT) certification or a paramedic certification as well as a BLS CPR card.

Once volunteers are selected, they will go through an orientation where they will attend mock trainings and drills

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*of the Oracle*

**COMING MONDAY**



After a one-year delay due to issues with marketing and volunteer paperwork, the Medical Response Unit program is set to launch fall 2019. ORACLE PHOTO/LEDA ALVIM

## VEHICLE

Continued from PAGE 1

while practicing how to write reports and the procedures on treating a patient.

Volunteers who will be driving the MRU are required to complete a 16-hour Emergency Vehicle Operations Course (EVOC) in order to be certified. The training consists of mapping out the campus and finding the quickest route to get to certain buildings.

There are two designated parking spots on campus for the MRU, one behind SHS and the other at the college of nursing.

According to Travis McCloskey, student body vice president, the vehicles were purchased during fall 2018, under former student body president Moneer Kheireddine's tenure. At the time, SG allocated \$74,300 for the

purchase of one MRU vehicle.

Jared said some of the factors for the delay in launching the initiative are due to pending approval from USF marketing for the vehicle's decal as well as volunteer's background checks from Human Resources.

In addition to the cost of the vehicle, SG will contribute with \$2,000 per year for the cost of external detailing and maintenance for the MRU vehicle while SHS will provide all of the quality control and medical direction, the protocols and oversight, according to Jared.

While SG funded the vehicle, UEMSA allocated \$25,000 of its funds to purchase equipment for the MRU vehicle, including the stair chair, retrofit for the stretcher and power load, among others. According to Jared, most of the funds from UEMSA comes from the revenue generated by the EMR training.

"As we've been generating money from the course, we've been reinvesting all of it into the course by getting nice equipment so the course sustains itself," Jared said. "All the money that doesn't go back into the course goes toward funding the medical supplies from that standby or goes to the Medical Response program now that it's created."

With the goal to provide a service free to students as an incentive for students to seek help when needed, Jared said that help will be offered to any student, regardless of the severity of their injury.

"If a student calls us, we will go and help," Jared said. "You could stub your toe, it does not matter. We're here to help. We're not there to judge if your medical call is serious enough. We'll take them to the clinic, that's what we're here for."

## GUNNA

Continued from PAGE 1

a family-sized Popeyes chicken meal with an assortment of white and dark meat.

His team also asked for 24 bottles of water, 12 cans of soda, two bottles of pineapple Fanta, assorted fresh juices, four regular Red Bulls and four yellow Red Bulls.

The contract was clear in specifying details such as having "clothing racks with 50 hangers" and one line even reads "All beverages must be iced prior to serving."

Unfortunately for Gunna, the Center for Student Involvement (CSI) was not able to meet all of his elaborate rider requests.

The contract stated that "The University may not purchase or provide alcoholic beverages for the producer nor shall the producer sell or supply alcoholic beverages without specific authority from the University."

Although CSI cannot provide him with alcohol, Gunna requested one bottle of Moet Rose, two bottles of Hennessy and one bottle of Patron.

"(CSI) sees these items on a lot of riders for the artists that we bring in year after year," CSI Coordinator Jill Teeter said.

In fact, most of the items Gunna requested were in violation of the CSI's rules.

"We do not provide any alcohol, tobacco, flammable items, after-show food, bus stock, or clothing," Teeter said.

Gunna's dressing amenity requests include six white hand towels, six black hand towels, 10 large black hand towels, one pack of medium white V neck t-shirts, one pack of medium

black V neck t-shirts, a speaker system with auxiliary cord and two boxes of Backwoods cigars.

Other aspects of the contract include production equipment, a request for a rolling riser and equipment for a DJ.

Gunna's performance will require a \$5,000 video package, according to the Homecoming concert budget.

Additional concert costs include a \$23,000 Yuengling Center rental, a \$23,000 production budget, \$9,500 for a middle agent and \$250 for advertising.

The contract has 5,000 student tickets and 1,800 guest tickets as the maximum amount that can be sold in order to abide by the Yuengling Center's capacity.

Only students are granted floor access, with members of the community seated above.

The total revenue cannot be determined as tickets are still available for purchase, according to Teeter.

Students were charged \$10, student guests \$15 and community members \$25.

The total cost of the concert is projected to be \$152,100, with Gunna being paid \$75,000 for his 60-minute performance, according to his contract.

Teeter said the requests are not uncommon for CSI and that they work with the agents to find a middle ground.

"We advance the show with the agents to determine which items on the rider are needed to make the artist comfortable during their time on campus," Teeter said.

**BALL**Continued from **PAGE 1**

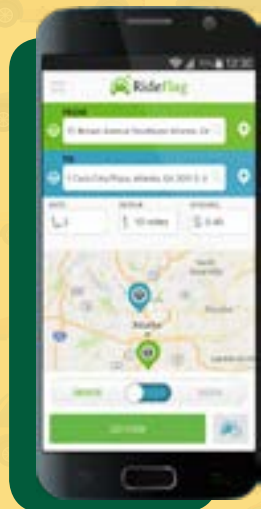
This year Center for Student Involvement replaced the titles of king and queen. In an effort to promote inclusivity, two Homecoming royalty were chosen out of the 10-person court. **ORACLE PHOTO/LEDA ALVIM**



The night kicked off with Jason Campbell and Shamease Cooper being crowned Homecoming royalty. **ORACLE PHOTO/LEDA ALVIM**

See **BALL** on **PAGE 5**

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**BALL**Continued from **PAGE 4**

The theme of the night was a masquerade in which students were outfitted with masks provided to them at the entrance of the ball. **ORACLE PHOTO/LEDA ALVIM**



Students enjoyed plenty of food and refreshments after participating in the music and festivities. **ORACLE PHOTO/LEDA ALVIM**



Engineering EXPO is an annual event that brings USF College of Engineering and the Tampa Bay Community and kids together. Organized and produced by the Engineering EXPO student organizations, the yearly EXPO allows students to enhance their leadership skills and showcase their experiments and products to the public. The event hosts around 15,000 children from Florida Public Schools and families in the area. As a venue for multiple exhibitions from different departments and companies, Engineering EXPO provides an educational playground for everyone involved.

The USF Engineering EXPO 2019-2020 will be held at USF-Tampa for two days, February 21st – 22nd, 2020 and is open to the public for free.

For more information, find us on BullSync or visit [expo.eng.usf.edu](http://expo.eng.usf.edu)

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## DeSantis raising teacher pay is a repeat of past efforts



Jared Sellick

COLUMNIST

On Monday, Gov. Ron DeSantis (FL-R) proposed raising the starting pay for teachers in Florida nearly \$10,000 in his proposed 2020 budget.

The proposal would bring the base salary for incoming teachers from \$37,636 to \$47,500, which would affect over 100,000 Floridian teachers.

If this proposal is enacted, it would help ensure that Florida retains high quality public school teachers, who historically have not been valued by the Florida Legislature. The big question is: How is DeSantis going to get this done?

The state is suffering from a severe teachers shortage, with 3,500 vacancies being reported by the Orlando Sentinel this August. The National Education Association released their annual report of teacher pay and found that Florida was ranked #46 among all states. The crisis is unlikely to go away until the state raises the standards for teachers starting out in Florida.

DeSantis would be wise to learn about the failed attempts by his predecessor to enact a similar measure. Former Gov. Rick Scott proposed a \$2,500 increase in overall teacher pay back in 2014



Gov. Ron DeSantis (FL-R) proposed a \$10,000 raise in teacher pay on Monday, despite former Gov. Rick Scott failing to pass an increase of just \$2,500 back in 2014. **SPECIAL TO THE ORACLE**

but realised the state government had little ability to enforce the pay raise.

By the time the legislature was done amending the 2014 proposal that tied salary increases to performance, which only benefited teachers whose students performed better on standardised tests, a method that has proven to be ineffective at improving student success and did little to stop the teacher shortage.

In the end, the proposal only ended up increasing the wages of teachers in 16 out of Florida's 67 school districts and even those who were awarded salary increases didn't always see the \$2,500 increase in pay that was promised.

How can DeSantis be successful in implementing this plan when Scott was not?

To start out, he should use the political pressure of the governor's office to attempt to remove laws that hinder teacher's unions from having any real negotiating power.

According to Florida statutes, all forms of strikes are prohibited

for public employees, which includes public school teachers. The penalty for striking can include termination for the teacher and disbaring for the teacher's union.

Removing this statute would give teachers all around the state a real voice in their negotiations and allow them to fight for a fair wage without fear of termination.

Next, the governor should take the advice of the Florida Education Association and move to reallocate the money for teacher bonuses that are tied to performance (that have proven to be ineffective) and put that money toward an overall salary for teachers throughout the state.

In order to follow through on his promise, the governor will have to fight an uphill battle among many established rules in the Florida Legislature. If DeSantis is serious about ending the teacher shortage and investing in Florida's future, he will have to be up for the challenge.

Jared Sellick is a junior majoring in political science.

## Florida's economy booms, but low-income workers struggle



Nathaniel Sweet

COLUMNIST

Florida has seen considerable economic growth over the past few years, but it is becoming increasingly clear that the wealth isn't being shared equally. According to a 2018 report by the Economic Policy Institute, Florida has one of the highest rates of income inequality in the country, second only to New York State.

Using 2015 data from the Census and the IRS, the EPI compared the average incomes of the top 1 percent of earners to the bottom 99 percent. For Florida, the top 1 percent made about 40 times more money annually than everyone else — \$1,543,124 compared to \$39,094, respectively.

Strikingly, these millionaires at the top of the state's economy captured over a quarter (28.5 percent) of all income in Florida in 2015, despite being only 1 percent of the population.

What's behind the Sunshine State's extreme income gap? One major contributing factor is low wages for most Florida workers.

According to a 2019 report by the United Way of Florida, over two-thirds of Florida jobs pay less than \$20 per hour. Looking at data from the Bureau of Labor

Statistics, most of these jobs are in traditionally low-to-medium-skilled industries like food service, hospitality, retail and construction. As a result, nearly half (46 percent) of Floridians either live in poverty or are at risk of falling into it.

Another aggravating factor is Florida's tax system. Florida has no income tax, relying solely on sales tax, property tax, and lottery ticket sales for revenue. As a result, the poorest Floridians pay the highest share of their incomes to state and local taxes.

Changing Florida's tax code, however, is an intense uphill battle. Florida's constitution prohibits taxes on income and estates - meaning Florida voters would have to approve a constitutional amendment establishing either.

A likely fix to mitigate inequality comes from a constitutional amendment to raise the state's minimum wage to \$15 per hour, which is expected to appear on the 2020 ballot. Such an increase wouldn't reduce the pay of top earners per se, but it would lift Florida families out of poverty. Per the United Way report, a \$15 minimum wage would put a family of four in Florida just above its "household survival budget," with both parents working full time.

In a state as large and as rich as ours, there's no excuse for working families to scrape by while top earners make millions. It is time to tackle Florida's economic inequality head on.

Nathaniel Sweet is a junior majoring in political science.

## FOOTBALL

Continued from PAGE 8

game was averaging fewer than 100 yards. It exploded for a season-high 313 yards Saturday.

That performance may be what instills the confidence Strong is looking for.

"We're going to take the same approach ... to this game," senior running back Trevon Sands said. "It's no different. It's just a different opponent ... once we get us right, we could beat anyone."

The Bulls' defense has also been looking for more consistency, though in a different way.

USF's defense had its fair share of stellar performances through the season's first five games. It limited Georgia Tech to under 300 yards and took the ball away eight times against South Carolina State.

Saturday's five-sack performance was just the latest way the Bulls' defense put up big numbers.

Figuring out the key in making sure all aspects of the defense fire isn't easy, according to defensive coordinator Brian Jean-Mary, though at the end, the goal is still the same.

"If I had the answer to that, I would be writing books and be making a lot of money," Jean-Mary said. "Whatever we need to do to get the ball back for our offense — whether it's forcing the team to punt, turning the ball over on downs, getting the interception, getting the fumble, getting sacks — that's always our goal."

The defense is playing with confidence, according to sophomore linebacker Dwayne Boyles. Boyles recorded 14 tackles the last two games.

"Even though we lost before UConn, our confidence raised up throughout practice," Boyles said. "We took more pride in the practice, worked hard on the field. And that translates to Saturday."

## SOCCER

Continued from PAGE 8

backline, one that has only allowed five shots on goal the last three games.

"Javain's really hard on me on the field but honestly, I tell him to go hard on me because I actually like it. It's a great learning experience and he's taught me a lot," freshman defender Salvatore Mazzaferro said. "I see how aggressive he is in attacking the half when he goes up for corners, and it was only a matter of time."

Both USF and SMU are coming off impressive games, although neither were victories.

USF had a three-game win streak heading into a game against a struggling Tulsa team Saturday. The Bulls held a 2-1 lead when the game was stopped

been feeling really comfortable around the goal [it] just hasn't gone in. So for him to score was pretty exciting."

The Mustangs had some difficulties of their own the very next night.

The team traded heavy blows with No. 3 UCF in a 3-3 tie. Entering the game, SMU had only given up three goals the entire season.

A key factor in SMU's attack is senior forward Garrett McLaughlin, who has scored nine goals through the season's first 10 games in a bounce-back season. His junior year was injury-filled and he was not nearly as dominant as in his freshman and sophomore years, during which he recorded 42 points.

"I'm glad to see him do well,



Adrian Billhardt scored what would have been his first goal of the season Saturday. The game was ruled no contest due to severe weather in Tulsa, Okla. **SPECIAL TO THE ORACLE/GOUSFBULLS**

with 21:36 remaining because of a severe weather warning. The game was ruled no contest and a makeup date has yet to be determined.

But some good did come out of the game.

Junior forward Adrian Billhardt notched his first — though unofficial — goal of the season.

"Sometimes goal scoring is as mental as much as it is physical," Butehorn said. "For Adrian, I think he's been in the right spots. He's had good looks. He's

not only for the conference, but just for himself. And we look to defend him in the right way and hopefully not make him too effective," Butehorn said.

Despite the resurgence from McLaughlin, Brown is not shaken up by the challenge ahead.

"I don't know much about them," Brown said. "And I don't want to know much about them, it's just at the end of the day who plays better."

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## InBrief

This weekend in  
USF Athletics

## Men's Soccer

SMU — Friday,  
8 p.m.  
Corbett Stadium

## Volleyball

UCF — Friday,  
8 p.m.  
SMU — Sunday,  
noon  
The Corral

## Football

BYU — Saturday,  
3:30 p.m.  
Raymond James  
Stadium

## Football

# Both sides of ball look for consistency, confidence



Brian Hattab

SPORTS EDITOR

If there's one thing that's consistent for USF in 2019, it's a lack of consistency.

The Bulls (2-3, 1-1 AAC) have put up some dreadful performances — most notably in Week 1 against Wisconsin and Week 4 against SMU.

Then there have been flashes of brilliance, like last week's 48-22 victory against UConn.

When USF faces BYU (2-3) at Raymond James Stadium on Saturday at 3:30 p.m. (TV: CBS

Sports Network/Radio: WDAE-AM 620), the Bulls will look to maintain consistency and confidence from last week's rout.

"Consistency is so critical, but also confidence," coach Charlie Strong said. "We need to be consistent, put it all together, play with some confidence and match last week's performance."

The good news is that as the Bulls attempt to play with some consistency and confidence, things are tangibly getting better, especially on the offensive side of the ball.

USF averaged 4.5 explosive plays entering the UConn game (plays of 20 or more yards).

The Bulls broke off nine against the Huskies, which is something offensive coordinator Kerwin Bell said had been lacking.

"That's one thing we're



Dwayne Boyles makes a tackle Saturday against UConn. Boyles recorded 14 tackles the last two weeks. SPECIAL TO THE ORACLE/GOUSFBULLS

missing some is the explosive plays," Bell said. "We had a few in the run game, and then a couple of passes last week.

"But we're missing some easy ones, man. We missed some easy touchdown throws. And Jordan [McCloud] sees them. We show them to him on film. And we're

just a little late, we're just a little bit off here or there. But they're getting better. We're getting there."

The rushing game has also been up and down. Entering the UConn game, the Bulls' run

n See FOOTBALL on PAGE 7

## Men's Soccer

# Bulls defense faces tough test in SMU

By Caleb Stockton  
CORRESPONDENT

What happens when an unstoppable force meets an immovable object?

When USF (6-2, 1-0) faces No. 4 SMU (9-0-1, 1-0-1) at Corbett Stadium on Friday at 8 p.m., the Bulls will look to halt an unstoppable force that is currently on a 10-game undefeated streak (TV: American Digital Network/Radio: Bulls Unlimited).

A major focus for the Bulls

this season has been mental toughness and community, which is a huge talking point among the players and coaching staff.

"They came in with a really good mentality as a group and embrace[d] the kind of things we've been doing, and the team we want to be," coach Bob Butehorn said.

Sophomore defender Javain Brown has been a prime example of mental toughness on both ends of the field, being a defensive leader as well as scoring two goals.



Javain Brown has been a force on defense for USF this season. SPECIAL TO THE ORACLE/GOUSFBULLS

His leadership has been immovable object that is USF's essential to the creation of the

n See SOCCER on PAGE 7