Editors Notes

Our original plan was to publish S.I. on a bimonthly basis. However, since this is such a dynamic department, we have found that we have sufficient material to publish monthly (with only a minimal amount of harassing people for articles!). So enjoy this issue, and keep those articles coming!

Congratulations!

Ben and Hillary Flower have made their own addition to the population explosion. Baby Nora was born on May 18, weighing in at 7 pounds and 19 inches. Congratulations!

Congratulations to Helena Kawall for successfully defending last month. She will soon be off to Brazil. Helena, you will be missed!

Kudos to those athletes who participated in the Madeira Beach Triathlon: Bryan Black, and honorary department members Kurt Hanson, Joe O’Connell, and Sean Singh. A big Bronx cheer to Nan Schmidt who convinced Joe to compete and then couldn’t even get out of bed early enough to watch the race!

Movie Mania

By Jason Lenes & Sherryl Gilbert

Written and directed by David Mamet, The Spanish Prisoner is modeled after an elaborate con-game. Joe Ross (played by Campbell Scott) is the brilliant inventor of a “process” that will somehow bestow a fortune upon the “Company” he works for.

This last nice guy on the planet befriends Jimmy Dell (Steve Martin) who leads him into a world of deceit.

This is Mamet’s second time visiting this topic, the first being House of Games in 1987. In this film, Mamet’s use of dialogue, a broken series of invented cliches, sets the initial mood as one of comedy. The lack of emotion portrayed by the actors at the start is quite amusing, but it soon becomes eerie. This non-typical approach allows the viewer to experience an emotional response despite its lack onscreen. The performance of Rebecca Pidgeon as Mamet’s wife leaves much to be desired, but the movie is redeemed by excellent dramatic roles for Martin and Scott. All in all, we were both pleasantly surprised. This is one that will keep you guessing. Now playing at the Beach Theater.

Score: 3 squids out of 5

Wacky Wednesday Wunchtime A Success!

Topics so far have included “Wallace & Gromit” films, a wonderful unicycling demonstration by Bob Helber, and a Girls Camp slide show. A BIG thanks to everyone who has participated or volunteered. June’s lineup looks very exciting (see Upcoming Events), but more people are needed for July. Remember, it doesn’t have to be too strange. After all, wackiness is in the eye of the beholder! If you would like to make a presentation, contact Jyotika.
The Perils of Coastal Research

By Mark Hafen

In late April, after waiting through months of bad weather, I was finally able to deploy two current meters in my study areas west of Clearwater Pass. One was anchored in a sand ridge in ~8 m of water and another was stationed in ~16 m of water further out on the shelf. That’s the good news.

The bad news is that on May 18, Mark Luther received a phone call from a Pasco County shrimpman who had trawled up an instrument that was yellow and about the size of a bowling ball. You guessed it, it was one of my current meters! We are currently working with the shrimpman to retrieve the wayward equipment.

Something to Think About

In the aftermath of the recent school shootings, we give you this. Every day, on average, 14 children are accidentally shot and killed in the U.S. Based on 28 children per class, every 2 days, an entire classroom is wiped out. Using these numbers, about 183 classes per year are accidentally shot. If an average high school has ~2000 kids, about 2 1/2 high schools are wiped out per year. Now, this department has ~250 people. Using these statistics (and assuming we were children, which for some is still debatable), it would take 2 1/2 weeks to completely accidentally wipe out this department.

Hmmm...

Did you ever realize that for such a hot state, Florida (namely St. Pete) is really lacking in ice cream stores? Well, your worries are over. Sweet Tooth’s is now open at 1431 Central Ave. They offer handmade ice cream, gourmet coffee, candy, and more. They are open until 9pm most nights.

MSAC Notes

Upcoming fundraisers at the Devil Rays games will be on June 6, July 24, and August 9. MSAC and the SCUBA Club will need several volunteers for each game to help cook food and serve drinks. It’s not too early to sign up. Sheets are on the MSL Lounge door.

Spring Splash will be held June 13 from 3:00–midnight. It promises to be a blast, with lots of food and drinks. Music will be provided by Orquestra Matata (formerly Amandla Tunesmith) from 6-10 p.m. Students are $3, non-students are $6, and children under 12 are free. Volunteers are needed and they get in free! The signup sheet is on the MSL Lounge door.

June is Adopt-A-Cat Month!
Dawn...of A New Era

By Chris Simonello

Harbor Branch, DEP, & USGS are just a few of the places that have benefitted from the work of Dawn Olson. Despite her diverse employment, perseverance prevailed and Dawn recently defended. Her contributions to oeanography are even more impressive in light of the obstacles she overcame to reach her goals (and no, I’m not referring to Scott!). She is the only oceanographer I know with an immediate allergic reaction to both rain and aquarium water, and the only one that turns 3 shades of green on a boat. How she managed to dive and survive 3 years of MSAC aquarium maintenance is still a mystery!

In addition to her excellent diving and research skills, Dawn has contributed to the USF community in many ways. She has served as president of the Bayboro Information Technology Society, MSAC officer, a mentor for Girls Camp, helped revive the Slipped Disc ultimate club, was a star player on the softball team, and is an aspiring bagpipe player. Most notable are her wit, unrivaled dedication, charm, and generosity.

As she and fiancé Scott Daeschner head to California, they leave behind a legacy of excellence and a multitude of friends, none of whom shall miss them more than me.

Virtual Ink

By Johan Schijff

Since I suggested that a column on cool websites be included in S.I., the editors have put me in charge! I have a list of sites to last me a while, but suggestions are always welcome.

The USF Virtual Library (www.lib.usf.edu/virtual/): Did you know that many of our Poynter Library resources are available on the web? This site is really too big to discuss in detail but I will mention some of the key features. The Site Map will help you navigate this site, giving direct access to services such as LUIS (the electronic library catalog), online electronic journals, tutorials, interlibrary loan (ILL), and homepages of other Florida university libraries. ILL allows you to reserve books or order Xerox copies of publications not available at Poynter. ILL can notify you by email when your book has arrived, and Xerox copies can be sent to the department or to your home, usually within a week or two.

One service especially worth mentioning is CARL/Uncover. With a CARL account you can create a “profile”, a list of up to 50 journals of your choice. There are literally thousands of journals to choose from. Every time a new issue is released, CARL will email you the table of contents. You can also have CARL search for keywords. This service is FREE!

A service that USF may get in the near future is SUMO. This lets you search for individual publications by title, author, or keyword. This is not possible with other search engines like LUIS. You can create a list of publications that you are interested in and SUMO will then fax the reprints to you, usually within a day. Unfortunately, the database only goes back to the early 80s, and copyright prevents some publications from being sent like this.

I urge you to check out this valuable resource. Deb Henry is always available in the library to answer any questions you may have.

Philosophical Cerebration

By Bob Helber

Why are there so many Bob’s?

My name is Bob and I don’t know why. Why isn’t my name Wix or Lutuq? Most people would say those names are silly, but why? Are they silly because they are not names given to millions of people? Why is it so important to have names that are familiar?

A hobby of mine is to use computers to randomly generate gibberish terms or sequences of letters that form pronounceable utterances. I call them odak. The massive number of odak generated before a single known word is produced amazes me. The odak I create, which could be used as names or words for a future language, are not even completely random. The letters are constructed as pronounceable syllables. In fact, the above names are odak. Even with these rules, which mimic the English language, I can generate pages of completely new gibberish. It is easy to see that the amount of terms, names, or words at our disposal are not limited by possible combinations of letters, nor are they limited by the rules of our language.

There are people who have ventured from the known world of names, but they are rare. For example, creative friends of mine have a daughter named Meridian. Meridian is a word in the English language. In an Arkansas family court, Judge Joyce Warren was confronted with two sisters named Orongiello and Lemonjello (yes, they were named after orange and lemon Jell-O).

When will people take naming to a new level and create companies like Emovvooom Cellular Service or Odznud Random Names? When the taboo of creative names deteriorates, computers can help us expand our horizons and common names like Bob will be a thing of the past.
MarineQuest

MarineQuest is an annual open house event sponsored by DEP/FMRI. Help from USF, FIO, and other organizations made this one of the most successful years ever. This year, the third annual MQ was held on May 14-16. Over 1700 children attended the first two days with their school groups. Over 2000 members of the general public attended the third day. Information booths were set up by organizations such as Mote Marine Lab, the Pier Aquarium, and the Pinellas Seabird Rehabilitation Center. Talks on topics such as El Nino, manatees, and red tide were given throughout the day. Thanks to everyone who helped to make it such a success. See you next year!

Speakers are needed for civic groups on 7/29 & 8/25. Topics should be general interest such as El Nino, coral reefs, etc.

Silly Songs

In the tradition of Will Smith’s latest hit “Getting’ Jiggy Wit’ It”, my mother sent me this catchy tune. “Squid-jiggin’ Ground” is one of the most widely-known of all Newfoundland songs. This “rollicking ditty” was written years ago by a schoolteacher about the fishermen. Some of the ten verses follow. Just please try to restrain yourselves from singing this catchy tune in the hallway!

Oh this is the place where the fishermen gather, in oilskins and boots and Cape-Ann’s batten down. All sizes of figures with squid lines and jiggers, they congregate here on the squid-jiggin’ ground.

God bless my sou’wester, there’s skipper John Chaffey, he’s the best hand at squid jiggin’ here, I’ll be bound.

Hello! What’s the row? Why he’s jiggin’ one now, the very first squid on the squid-jiggin’ ground.

Says Bobby, “The squids are on top of the water, I just got me jiggers about one fathom down”.

But a squid in the boat squirted right down his throat, and he’s swearin’ like mad on the squid-jiggin’ ground.

There’s poor uncle Billy, his whiskers are splattered with spots of the squid juice that’s flying around. One poor little boy got it right in the eye, but they don’t give a damn on the squid-jiggin’ ground.

Now if ever you feel inclined to go squiddin’, leave your white shirts and collars behind in the town. And if you get cranky, without yer silk hanky, you’d better steer clear of the squid-jiggin’ ground.

What Is Irony?

By Jyotika Virmani

Irony: Incongruity between what might be expected and what actually occurs.

The average cost of rehabilitating a seal after the Exxon Valdez oil spill in Alaska was $80,000. At a special ceremony, two of the most expensively saved animals were released back into the wild amid cheers from onlookers. A minute later they were both eaten by a killer whale.

Don’t forget!

* Hurricane Season begins 6/2
* 6/8 is World Ocean Day
* 6/20 is World Juggling Day
* Father’s Day & Summer Solstice are 6/21

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Bryan Black, Hope Botterbusch, Sherryl Gilbert, Mark Hafen, Bob Helber, Jason Lenes, Johan Schijf, Marilyn Schlansky, Chris Simonelli, Rod Stokes, Michele Winowitch
Your Co-Workers
Bare Their Souls!

Due to the overwhelming response, we are continuing to print these. It is not too late to get your responses in, just leave them in our mailboxes. The questions are:

1. If you had one wish for absolutely anything, what would it be?
2. What was the last book you read?
3. What helps you to relax?
4. If you could be any animal, what would it be and why?
5. What do you think is the biggest misconception people have about you?

And the answers are.....

Bryan Black:
1. To be a Navy SEAL.
3. Full contact sports.
4. A dolphin: they’re intelligent and always seem to be having fun.
5. That I’m sensitive and delicate.

Hope Botterbusch:
1. A cure for cancer so no one else has to suffer that horrible disease.
2. “Nicholas’ Wish”, a picture book about a crippled boy with no friends. To fit in, he fixed up old toys and gave them back for holidays. It’s the story of Santa Claus.
3. Sitting in my hot tub sipping a glass of wine.
4. A sea otter: I would be so cute, everyone would love me, and I could swim in the sea and eat all the clams I could find.
5. That I’m unapproachable. It takes a little longer to get to know me, but once you do, I’m a true friend and ally.

Rod Stokes:
1. To be an excellent basketball player so I could play professionally and be paid for my passion of the game.
2. “Savage Inequalities” by Jonathan Kozol. It describes the unfairness of our country’s school systems.
3. Sitting in a lounge chair drinking Carib beer, listening to some smooth cool jazz, while watching a college hoop game on TV with the sound muted.
4. A frigate bird: they are so effortless as they fly above the ocean looking for food or relaxing. Having a long forked tail is pretty cool too!
5. That I really like baseball. I only go to scream at people, drink, and enjoy the outdoors. I would rather do the same thing watching the grass grow!

June 7-13 is National
Ergonomics Week. It is
also National Hug Holiday
Week! June 18 is National
Splurge Day...do something indulgent!

SCUBA Club

Mark Hafen, Secretary

On Saturday, May 2, five members of the SCUBA club traveled to two ledges west of the mouth of Tampa Bay for a series of proficiency/research dives (thanks to Al Hine for use of the R/V Price). Participants were Jen Jarrell, Michael Callahan, Nan Schmidt, Brian Donahue, and Mark Hafen. Ledge sites were provided by Jen, who wanted to look for tagged grouper in the areas.

Fish abounded, but strangely, there was no one fishing in either area. Good size grouper and hog fish were everywhere. Two large lobsters were spotted at the second site, doing the wild thang beneath a ledge! At the second site, the first team of divers (Michael, Nan, and Brian) also spotted a nurse shark, which Brian claims Nan and Michael set on him. The second team (Jen and Mark) had a strange encounter with a grouper, who planted itself on the bottom directly in front of Mark every time they stopped to explore a piece of the ledge. The fish stood its ground when Mark approached it along the bottom, but bolted when Jen snuck up behind it. Jen also found several juvenile grouper hiding in crevices—a good sign for future populations.

The only problem came from an attack of the clumsies by one diver (who shall remain nameless). He
tangled up his wreck reel, then got the line tangled in his fin on the way back to the surface. His tank strap also came loose, causing his tank to float behind him. At one point he was seen holding on to the boat’s dive ladder, tank floating behind, left leg outstretched while his buddy removed the tangled wreck line. Luckily no pictures were taken!

SCUBA Survey

By Michele Winowitch

Please fill out and return to me or Jen Jarrell ASAP! Your input will ensure the survival of the SCUBA Club!

Key West Trip:

In reference to the August trip to the Keys, I prefer (choose all that apply):
* 4 days, 3 nights
* 3 days, 2 nights
* Key Largo
* Key West
* Looe Key
* 2 dives/day
* as many dives as possible (including night dives)
* I would be OK w/scheduled dives that I might be unable to do (i.e. deep wreck dives)
* I want to go to Key West at least 1 night
* I need it planned ASAP so I can budget
* list any other suggestions

* Approx. how much money would you be willing to spend?

General survey:

What type of dives do you prefer:
* only saltwater
* only freshwater
* both equally
* both but prefer salt
* both but prefer fresh

Of the saltwater dives, I prefer:
* wreck  * reef

My biggest concern when going diving is:
* money
* quality
* depth
* distance from St. Pete
* who is going
* other (explain)

Please list each item you must rent:
* BC
* regulator/1st stage
* tanks
* mask/fins/snorkel
* weights and/or belt
* flashlight and other accessories

Do you like diving w/the Tampa campus dive club?
* yes  * no  * sometimes

Would you go on larger overnight trips planned? (list all that apply)
* yes  * no
* depends on cost
* depends on who is going
* other

How often would you be able to go if a trip was planned for 2 days & 1 night (2 afternoon, 2 night, & 2 morning dives)?
* 6 times/yr  * 3 times/yr
* 1 time/yr

Do you like dives over 60 feet?
* yes  * no
* only in freshwater
* only in saltwater

Do you like night dives?
* yes  * no
* only in freshwater
* only in saltwater

When a boat needs to be chartered, I prefer:
* Sat. morning dive
* Sat. afternoon dive
* Sun. morning dive
* Sun. afternoon dive

Do you need a buddy when you dive with us, usually?
* yes  * no

Would you enjoy a dive trip that included camping?
* yes  * no

On overnight dive trips, I prefer:
* only dives to be scheduled
* dives & other fun things
* don’t care, will do both
* won’t be doing overnight trips

I would be interested in going on a live-aboard to the Bahamas for a 3 day weekend for $400
* agree  * disagree  * need more info

I would be interested in going on a live-aboard to the Dry Tortugas for a 3 day weekend for $400
* agree  * disagree  * need more info

If called upon, I would be willing to help make phone calls, etc. to organize a trip
* yes  * no

I am interested in completely organizing a trip for the club
* yes  * no

I am able to dive:
* once/month  * twice/month
* once every other month
* depends on where we go

Based on my likes and finances, I can participate in a saltwater dive:
* once/month  * twice/month
* once every other month
* depends on where we go

If we drive a distance to a dive, I prefer:
* drive my own vehicle
* ride w/someone else in their vehicle
* pay for a school van so most can ride together

Regarding working Devil Rays games:

I feel the profits should be divided per person who worked, and based on the number of hours worked.
* agree  * disagree

I believe the money should be equally distributed to everyone going on the trip.  * yes  * no

Please list any comments or suggestions: