Opening Remarks

Well, the resumes for RT staff openings have absolutely swamped us, which is why this edition is a bit late. As a result of the tremendous demand, the application deadline has been extended. All of those wishing to be a part of this dynamic and fun enterprise need only ask either of the editors. All submissions are still welcome; they can be placed in the RT box in the mail room.

We have cooked up a couple of ideas for new features and would like to know what you, the readers, think. One of our new staffers is Dr. Merkie. He will head up the new column, Merkie Lab Reports. We will regularly (?) focus on some exciting aspect of research here in our own department as a service for those of you who accidentally miss seminars and TGIF. Of course, Dr. Merkie (actually, he’s no: a real doctor, but he does have a master’s degree, in SCIENCE), will gladly accept your anecdotes.

Another of our potential award-winning features will be Computer Q & A. Our crack staff of experts will gladly answer your questions regarding the various computer systems and software available here in Marine Science.

As you can see, we are desperate for young talent. Contact us ASAP.

MSAC News

None here. Anyone know what’s going on?

Student Government News

Of note, SG will hold an official protest of Governor Chiles’ budget cuts to education on Wed., Oct. 9 at 1:30 pm, or the lawn by the Admissions Office. During the past year, USF’s budget has been reduced by approximately $18 million, and now USF faces an additional reduction of $8.1 million. (To put this in perspective, $8.1 million is equivalent to the cost of maintaining USF’s St. Petersburg campus.) USF President Francis T. Borkowski has called for the implementation of a strong tax reform package which will provide increased revenues to support the necessary state services.

On a more pleasant note, SG will sponsor a "mocktail" party on Fri, Oct. 11 from 7-11 pm in the Campus Activities Center. Come and try your lip-sinking abilities at "karecke" and watch professors compete in a "kiss the pig" contest (Vote for Jose Torres and/or Pam Hallock-Muller). There is no charge for admission and refreshments will be provided. The event is to promote awareness regarding drinking & driving.

The USF St. Petersburg Lecture Series is sponsoring a variety of programs this fall relating to the Hot Spots in Our Changing World. The upcoming A&S-funded lectures include:

Oct. 30, Noon, Davis 130 "The Old East Germany: The New Order," Prof. Charles W. Arnade, Ph.D., Dept. of Government & International Affairs

Nov. 12, 7:00 pm, Davis 130 "The New South Africa," Prof. Michael DeLongh, Ph.D., Dept. of Anthropology, Univ. of South Africa, Pretoria

Other issues SG will be addressing this semester include: getting a USF sign of I-275, and getting an ATM machine on campus. The Pinellas Bar Association, in conjunction with SG, will again provide a free legal aid clinic sometime late Oct., more on that later.

Seminar

8 Oct, 1:30pm, MSL Conf Rm, Thesis Defense
Paloma Rodriguez (DMS), Nitrogen enrichment of Tampa Bay and Little Manatee River phytoplankton populations: effects on biomass and growth rates.

9 Oct, noon, MSL Conf Rm
Terry Quinn, (Geol., USF), Strontium isotopes and sea level change.

11 Oct, 1:00pm, MSL Conf Rm, Thesis Defense
Michael Tringali (DMS), Intraspecific divergence of MT-DNA within the continuous western Atlantic range of the Spanish sardine, Sardinella aurita.

11 Oct, 4:00pm, MSL Conf Rm, TGIAF
Dave Mallinson (DMS), (out phosphates - whatever happened to the great soft drinks of the 50's?)

16 Oct, noon, MSL Conf Rm
Jim Gibeaut (Geol., USF), Or the Exxon Valdez oil spill clean-up: two years later.
18 Oct, 4:00 pm, MSL Conf. Rm. -- TGIAF
Tonya Clayton (DMS), (On pH: why is a
woman's pH different from a man's? Why ask
why?)

Kudos

To Shana Smith, for successfully
and splendidly passing her comprehe-
sive exams. She is now officially a Candidate for
the Ph.D.

SuperStars '91

SuperStars is an annual event to benefit the
Marine Science Enrichment Fund. It is a day-long
concrete Olympics. Marine Science students help
to organize and run the event. Student reps on the
Organizing Committee are Beth Holmes, Lynn
Leonard, Shana Smith, and Eric Wright. The
big day is Saturday, Nov. 2, at North Shore Park.

Those who have volunteered for the event are
required to attend an organizational meeting on
Monday, 28 Oct, 5:30pm, MSL Auditorium.

Social Events

The tradition-rich Head of the Rat party was
held last Saturday. Thanks to alumna Sue Brown
for organizing this year's event. New inductees to
the honoific Head of the Rat were Steve Kinsey,
Lynn Leonard, Ernst Peebles, and Marc Frischer.
As usual, all new students attending were formally
introduced to the DMS crowd.

Saturday, 2 Nov, Halloween Party at Jose and
Linda Torres'; see signs.

Myrtle's "Oh Vey!"

MYRTLE SEES NEW YORK

Hey everyone! Welcome to the new semester! Huh?
What's hot? What's new? The semester's almost HALF
OVER already? Oy Vey! Where the heck've I been?

In New York City, that's where. The land of inspiration,
from which I acquired my very glamorous fake accent. All the
high-fashin' New York women of fashion talk that way, you
know. They even wrote an off-Broadway play about the distinc-
tive New York dialect, entitled: "I Packed My Car in a Marked
Stall." Now, even though I'd never been to the glamour capital
before, I thought I knew what to expect, being naturally glamorous
and all. Frankly, I wasn't prepared for the disillusionment.
For example, when I arrived at the airport, I kept my eyes open
for the many stars who regularly travel in and out of New York:
Liza Minnelli, Madonna, Ice T, Spike Lee, to name a few.
Instead of spotting one of these celebrities, I spotted Jocoo, the
one-man band, who for five bucks would play "New York, New
York" and for ten bucks would play it while showing his male
member. Naturally, I wasn't about to give the man ten bucks.
The taxi cab driver was nice enough. As he drove me from
the airport to Penn Station, he told me that he was from Haiti. I
got extremely excited and said: "I've been to Port-au-Prince!" at
which point he called me "sissah" and we laughed and talked for
the entire three-mile trip. After he collected my fifteen dollar
bus fare, we waved a cheery goodbye. It was only after he's
screched down 5th Ave., he pointed to the Hotel that I felt the lightness in my Lis
Claiborne wallet.

Ah, but I was in New York! Land of the eternally home-
less and uptight! And, of course, glamour was everywhere.
Fifth Avenue beckoned, what with its shiny brass and glass and
designer labels. I was particularly attracted to "Chez Ritz," a
creamy-colored place thronged by very handsomely ponytailed
men and very high-fashion women (Side note: New York City
men with ponytails are more common than Florida Oceanogra-
pher men with ponytails. The former spend three or more years
trying to get their hair to grow; then they slick it back with
fancy hair products. Florida Oceanographer men have simply
forgotten to cut their hair for three or more years, and they
probably don't own any hair products). Anyway, this Chez Ritz
was obviously a hollywood-sheen place; 'vuz the boulevard at the door
was selectively choosing who could enter and who could not.
I was certain that he would choose MOI to enter, but when I got
up close I saw the "members only" sign and so was forced to the
side, despite my glamorous presence.

Nothing left to do but go shopping, of course. Grovvish
village didn't look much like a village at all, it looked like any
other street in Manhattan. But the shops! Oy! The shops!
First to a place called "Unique," where I was immediately drawn
to a pair of purple velvet bell-bottoms, on sale for forty-nine --
did I read that right? -- ninety-six @#$%! dollars. I bought a
pair of socks there. Then on to "Urban Outfitters" which had a
totally def assortment of "clothes for the street." Nothing for
sale less than sixty bucks. I bought a stick in there. Then on to
the outdoor market -- finally, the bargains! Lots of dreadlocked
Jamaicans selling their wares. As I perused each table display, I
could think of only one overriding question: Are these Relexes
for real?

Oh, and the weather -- the weather was way cold -- and it
was only late September-early October! Highs in the low sixties
only, I mean, Oy Vey! That's like a Florida winter. Ah,
Florida, so good to be home. Miami, start spreading the news!
You're the big city of my choice, and I'll be coming soon, in a
non rental car.

By the way, just a reminder: send your letters to me. Myr-
tle, c/o the MSAC Residence Times (our box can be found in
the mail room). Need sagacious advice on fashion? Love? Food?
school? Hey, that's what Myrtle's here for. All names can be
kept strictly confidential unless I feel like gossipping.

Speaking of gossip, here's this week's weekly tidbit: Beth
Holmes discovered that she is blonde when she figured out that
a mirror shows her reflection. Stunned, she has been spewing
"blonde jokes" ever since!

Don't just stand there; say OY VEY!

Kisses,
Myrtle

[Ed.'s note: It was quite clear upon our initial reading that our
little Miss Myrtle had no business in a cold cruel city like the likes
of New York. We're glad that she made it back alive.]

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