

THE LIONS' PRIDE

NOVEMBER ISSUE



Homecoming

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Homecoming Weekend 2019 Recap



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Campus News

Dining Hall Changes



Photos by: TLP/MG

The Lions Lair's new meal redemption program frees up room in the dining hall by redirecting student upstairs for alternative dining options

Pleshae Abria
Contributing Writer

Though Saint Leo University maintains a small enrollment in comparison to larger universities it continuously seeks to expand and welcomes hundreds of students every year. Suitably, the university's departments, such as Dining Services, adapt and undergo rapid change to accommodate these increases.

Dining services seek to provide a common resource for Saint Leo students to connect and socialize with good meals and good conversation. The cafeteria offers a wide selection of food options to satisfy vast tastes during the day, and has a

late night cafe, the Lion's Lair, students are able to get quick meals on the go or satisfy hunger outside of dining hall hours.

The 2019 undergraduate cohort and transfers have seen a "record-breaking" influx of students with roughly 1000 joining the pride. This change has resulted in a huge impact on students, faculty, dining service directors, and staff alike.

Justin Bush, Interim Director/ Executive Chef of Dining Services, oversees the services for the Dining Hall and Lion's Lair retail store, and spoke about the changes that dining services has made.

"I have been the Executive Chef for Saint Leo for about 10 years now so I've dealt with these

fluctuations for that amount of time, and though this might have been a larger gap in those fluctuations, it stays pretty consistent year to year", said Bush, "So, you will always notice that we will have a rise and a fall. So, to be able to constantly change and adapt to that is one of the biggest priorities we have here at dining services."

The addition of students consisted of both domestic and international origins, as a result Bush explained that one of the things that Dining Services has done to accommodate the students is providing menu options that are more "globally inspired, and provide different alternatives that meet these special diets."

Moreover, Dining Services is strategic by speaking with freshmen and new students personally along with parents during orientation week, which ensures those needs are met and that menu items are inclusive.

Bush also said that the dining hall has not experienced problems in the regard of accommodation, but modifications had to be made with existing storage systems.

"There's not really a problem accommodating, as far as preparation. Storage has gotten limited in our facility. So we have had to have more deliveries because we don't have quite the storage and refrigeration that we need to accommodate that."

He says in order to manage storage, dining services tracks

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Campus News

their one monthly menu cycle and evaluates the trends amongst students with the different food options. Once analyzed, they "are able to adjust the production for the next cycle that comes around" said Bush.

Dining services tries "to overcompensate when purchasing the food to keep in mind we're going to have 10-12% differences that we might not prepare for,"

Therefore, in this way, Dining Services adapts and ensures that food is always available.

Though Bush's position entails more administrative tasks, he still is at the forefront and is present during peak activity. He agrees that it is crowded, but not to where it is at full capacity.

"Typically we see deviations in the amount of students that come to the dining hall based on class schedules. Because so many students have classes Monday and Wednesday, we see a higher peak, but at lunchtime's core times, 11:30-12:30, we know lunchtime is going to be really busy because there'll be classes let out. It might be a little crowded."

Dining Services has taken proactive action through the additional seating spaces on the upstairs dining hall level located outside of the Lion's Lair to further accommodate the expanding population.

"We [provided] an additional 70 seats for the upstairs dining room by the Lion's Lair. We also added another 25 seats to the patio this semester as well. So we did kind of make preparations to try to accommodate the bigger numbers through a little bit of expansion for the seating."

He said that it has been really well received by the new and existing student population and by the staff and faculty as well.

He also mentioned that toward the beginning of the semester more students were utilizing dining services, with typically 1100-1200 students during the weekday and 450-500 students on the weekends using the dining hall.

However as the semester progressed and students established routines, the numbers in the dining hall began to level off and grow closer to traditional numbers.

Dining Hall worker, Meg Riddle Brennan, has been with Saint Leo University for 7 years and can attest to the changes. Since there are more students, one of the

employees had to be moved to the cashier position, and she has been moved to work at the salad bar at night, when there were previously two workers stationed there.

"It's been fluctuating but this is by far the busiest I have ever seen it," Brennan said.

She said that the amount of salad bags that she runs through in a day has quadrupled since the increase this year and she makes about "500-700 salads a day."

In previous years, dining services had the conventional set up of two servers at lunchtimes, however it has recently adopted the independent self-service to meet the demands of the increased student body.

"You accommodate everybody," Brennan said. "You make adjustments. Now at night we're doing the self-serve salad bar which allows the students to make their own salads. I'm still out



Due to the influx of new students dining services is making an effort to analyze student dining trends to better accommodate student needs

there replenishing and everything thier and if they want me to mix, I'll mix it for them" said Brennan.

Meg feels that above all with the increase, students are always patient and she uses the longer time to make salads as an opportunity to bond and engage with the students.

Patricia Wynn, who has been working in the Lair for 13 years has also seen the big change this year.

"I would say it's been almost double the increase of students," she said.

Wynn explained that Lion's Lair employees have become accustomed to the growth to better serve students.

"It wasn't difficult. We handled it, but it's more of a challenge

because we're trying to satisfy everybody and up there they're not so laid back to sit like in the cafe. We get a lot of staff and we get a lot of commuters, and we get a lot of call-ins. So, they have limited time maybe between their break or because they got another class or maybe they're going home," said Wynn.

Wynn continued, "So, the pace is a little different. We like to serve them in the best that we can to get them out. We really pay attention to the time that they come in to the time that they come out because of the traffic coming in there. Not just the students but we pay attention to everybody because it would get crazy up there just how busy it is."

Wynn also mentioned the implementation of the To-Go case initiative that was put to eliminate some of the traffic in the lair and serves students in a timely

manner.

"There's not so much we can change up there, but with there was the To-Go case they did do with the meal swipes.

So now there's a microwavable meal that they can swipe with the meal plan and get a drink for one swipe or like a salad, chips, and a drink or a sandwich, or a wrap but it's already in that, good-to-go, so the managers have done that to try to help the staff and the commuters to get in and get out and they love it! It's really getting to be a big thing."

Wynn stated that the to-go meals are growing more in popularity among students, and athletes are asking more about it and the managers have placed a sign up explaining more about

the meal options. She said that everyone from the workers to the staff have benefited from this strategy as it saves time because there isn't any physical cash transactions.

Recognizing that students find their carbon footprint increasingly important, University President Jeffrey Senese said that the university is currently in the process of engaging a company that produces biodegradable containers.

"This company produces green containers, so you won't have to return them as they disintegrate over time." Dr. Senese said "When you wash [the containers] you are burning more power than it saves and are cheaper, in the long run."

Rylie McKinney, freshman and Biology major, and is part of the 2019 incoming class explained her experiences so far.

"Food is always available but there isn't any guarantee that it is going to be warm. The quality of food isn't great and there isn't always a lot of options for fresh fruits and vegetables. It is very packed unless I go at an off time of the day," she said.

She said the addition of more fresh foods would be a good step through improving dining services.

"To improve have more fresh food and vegetables. Also change out food more to make sure it is fresh and to solve the packed issue: add more seating," McKinney said.

Notably, Mackenzie Miles is a third year Psychology major and represents the range of diversity that exists within the Saint Leo pride. She is faced with a physical disability, and because of this has felt a much bigger impact with the dining hall changes than other students.

"Breakfast is fine. Lunch and dinner is more difficult, however, because there are much more people. It gets too loud in the cafe sometimes and I can't deal with it. Walking with the plate is sometimes an issue but not always," Miles said.

She suggests a separate eating area and more practical ways to maneuver through the cafe to be implemented.

"Perhaps have a different place we could eat at if we want to during hot months because outside isn't an option. Also, ask if I need help with the plate, but I may not need it all the time."

Campus News

How to Combat Campus Pests

John Hall & Maliek Watkins
*Editor in-Chief and
Contributing Writer*

One of the most frustrating and annoying creatures that humans have to deal with, is one of the smallest creatures which is the ant. As for the students of Saint Leo University, ants are basically only seen as an annoyance as their dorms are traversing their living spaces. From the beginning of the semester to now, students reported an influx of ants in and around the apartment areas.

Associate Vice President of Facilities Management, Jose Caban explained that there were several factors that played into the “sudden” appearance of ants around University Campus; including but not limited to weather changes, and human factors. According to Caban,

“What you are seeing with this ant issue is saturation, We've had a lot of rain this summer and we've had a lot of hot temperatures, and if you noticed they're going into buildings because it's just too wet and too hot when the sun hits the grass when there's water pooling, steaming and cooking the pests which leaves them looking for refuge.”

To remedy this issue, Caban turns to Angel Calderon Pest Control Technician at Terminix, and a partner of the Saint Leo community for over a decade.

Calderon explained that usually persons request that their apartments and living areas be sprayed to eliminate the pests. Calderon explained this is not his first option saying, “I'll go through it and I will assess the situation, see what it is, and [evaluate], what will be the least invasive method to the students.”

Calderon explained that most times he uses a gel bait that attracts the creatures to it, when consumed the gel terminates the pests.

It was explained that the travel path of ants usually lead to spots like cabinets and crevices in the seams of the doors and hinges. Calderon explained that these would be the places he places the gel, clarifying that it would be completely impractical to spray pesticide in those areas as that is where food items

and storage containers are kept.

Caban and Calderon emphasized the importance of placing in descriptive work orders when pests like ants are seen. “What ends up happening is I'll get a work order, I'll go to the room but the student's not there whoever submitted it. I have to look around and try to find where the ants are,” said Calderon.

Caban explained that ants are not the only pests residents in the halls complain about. Amongst the 360+ work orders placed in since Aug. 2019, there were incidents of spiders, mice, snakes, palmetto bugs/cockroaches, and termites to name a few. According to Caban, with the 300 acres the school sits on and the surrounding wetlands, its natural the natural flora and fauna would attempt to get into the buildings.

Nevertheless, the team in Facilities Management is committed to producing remedies from the nuisances. However Caban made an appeal for all stakeholders in the Saint Leo community to be accountable for their part in the fight against all pests.

The pair explained that pests like ants find areas that they can hunker down in and come out only when it's time to eat or drink. Caban says for this reason, it's important not to compound the issue by providing sources for the animals to feed from.

The team recalls countless of tickets where persons have complained of ants and cockroaches in the apartments, only to respond to find instances of trash or dirty dishes in the suites. “One tickets' comment sections said, I found ants on the 5th floor, [when we went to the fifth floor] what do we find? Dishes and food all over the place,” said Caban.

Caban continued, “What I hope that we accomplish is that we identify the issues, we talk about them and how to remediate them and then accountability where it is due.” Ultimately Caban emphasized the point that the issues, faced with pests are not blamed on any individual, nor the inability to handle the pest situation.

The approach is a holistic one and in approaching it Caban says, “How do we get the masses to understand that it's a community issue, I'm [personally] not a big proponent about pouring chemicals, so just because



Ants and other bugs continue to be a source of problems for residence of the apartments.

[there may be] a minor ant problem, we don't want to spray chemicals constantly in rooms and hallways. So we try to identify where they're coming from, what's the food source? What's happening in this year, that's different than last year?”

One of the things that we did recently in house, which is we put a bait throughout the entire campus, because we've noticed that there is an ant issue and they're all over the place and we wanted to do is treat the exterior while Angel [Calderon] maintains the interior. Caban touted the abilities of Calderon as he has been able to identify issues unknown the Facilities Management.

“Angel to me has been nothing but an asset to the university, he's great with students and he's accommodating. So for instance, if you're studying for a test, were not going to spray, you call us when you're ready and we'll get there and will do the perimeter. I need him to come in at 4 in the morning on

a Sunday to treat something, he's done that for us,” explained Caban.

He continued, Angel finds and identifies issues that we weren't even aware of I'll give you an example, we had termites we didn't know we had.

When Angel went in he identified that it's a termite problem that came with the cabinets when they were installed. So he came in and treated with chemicals that were not harsh to the environment or to the people in the room.” Caban added that the majority of the treatments are undetectable, by scent in addition to being non-toxic to humans.

As students continue to live in university based housing, it's important that they continue to be conscientious observing core values like Responsible Stewardship. It is imperative that student be accountable for their areas, working with Facilities Management to ensure a safe, sanitary and enjoyable living environment for all.



The staff of Facilities Management have found trash within the apartments to be a food source for pests, along with weather changes like constant rain.

Campus News

Homecoming Weekend 2019 and Beyond



Homecoming Weekend 2019 provided the right event for alumnus to play catch up with friends, some of which had not met up since graduation.

John Hall

Editor-In-Chief

Homecoming weekend 2019 was full of surprises as many different classes of alumni, came together on University Campus Nov. 1-3.

The events spanned the three days, using several different events to act as mixers and opportunities for those to donate to their Alma Mata.

Amongst the many slated activities were the 30th Anniversary of the Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity Incorporated, the 50th year reunion for the class of 69, the Brews and Bites mixer, The Lions Rally, the crowning of Homecoming King and Queen, and Goat Yoga.

Amanda Laffin, Associate Director for Alumni Engagement and Sustained Giving explained that the events of Homecoming Weekend were planned more than a year away from the date.

"We actually start to plan the next year almost immediately following homecoming weekend.

The office of Alumni Engagement and Sustained Giving plus our cross campus partners discuss what worked, what didn't work and how we were going to make the following year that much better. From there we really hit the ground with the planning process almost 10 months out," said Laffin.

Planning an event of this magnitude requires a team of person who are dedicated to the overall success of the event and account for the logistics that

comes along with the day.

"Homecoming really is a University Effort", said Laffin, we (Office of Alumni Engagement and Sustained Giving) work closely with Student Services and Athletics, but then we even reach out across the community for volunteers for events such as Brews and Bites.

This year we had volunteers from the World Wide community as well as faculty members from all the different Colleges.

Two of the major areas that assist and ensure that the weekend is a success is Plant Operations (Facilities Management) and Saint Leo Dining Services- without them we would not be able to pull off the weekend."

The effort put forward created an environment that was immersive, inspiring alumni and current students to foster more school spirit.

Collin Moran, Class of '19 traveled from Connecticut for the Weekend stating that it was good to be back in the environment he had only left four months prior. Moran said,

"It was great being able to see friends and the university since leaving. The feeling and the look hasn't changed much but what is even more satisfying is to see the growth that has occurred since then," said Moran

Laffin confirmed that the weekend was received well and yielded positive results.

"A lot of special memories were made over the weekend. The class of 1969 came back



Brews and Bites was one of the main events of Homecoming Weekend 2019, the event allowed alumni to taste a variety of treats and sample local brews.

for their 50th reunion and celebrated late into Saturday night. Alpha Phi Alpha celebrated 30 years with a scholarship ball with a check presentation over \$28,000 for scholarships.

Alumni from all classes sampled different Tampa Bay Breweries while mixing and mingling with faculty and staff. Overall, it was a very successful weekend.

As a staff member in the alumni office, I can only hope that while alumni are sitting with their friends from 50 years ago discussing 'Do you remember when...?' that we have created an experience so special that they are also making new

memories that will last a life time.

Looking ahead to 2020 Laffin says who knows what will stick to the wall of events that can occur.

"We do know that events such as the Lions Rally are popular and have become a staple of the weekend, so that will always be around. Things like Goat Yoga? Who knows - maybe 2020 will be Puppy Yoga!" said Laffin.

With Homecoming Weekend 2019 presented attendees with a memorable experience and being recorded in the history books of the University, Hoco 2020 is sure to be impressive.



A myriad of home games kept the crowd entertained during Homecoming Weekend.

Campus News: Exclusive

1001: Now What



With over 1000 students making Saint Leo their home this Fall, the numbers will continue to increase along the trend line for the next few years, raising the number of on campus students.

John Hall

Editor-In-Chief

With over 1001 students entering Saint Leo at the beginning of Fall 2019, everything on University Campus has changed. Traffic entering and leaving the University Campus has increased, lines for the cafeteria have increased, and the frequency of bumping into people in residence halls has been raised exponentially.

Many students and faculty have been concerned about what the increase in incoming class size means for the future of the University. University President Dr. Jeffrey Senese explained that the 1001 is just the tip of the iceberg, as his vision for the future involves increasing the size of on campus students.

Senese explained that the team in Admissions would attempt to reproduce the results regarding intake in the Fall of 2020.

"If we continue on the trend line, there's probably a need for another 500 beds," said Senese.

He continued to explain it would most likely point to another

form of housing being built on the Western side of Campus, near Marmion and Snyder.

Conceptually, Senese has envisioned continuing to build up the western end of campus and creating a small city to itself on University Campus.

"This would create a town that not only would we benefit by, or students have benefited by but the people from the community could interact with us, and it would create really a center of entertainment and attention", said Senese.

The vision has the potential for restaurants (possibly popular chains), a coffee shop and/or a place for the local post office to be creating a hub within the community.

Additionally, the future may also provide for a developer to create and run a hotel on the University property, adding in additional sources of employment for the university students. "We need a hotel not only parents and students coming in and out to check us out, but athletic teams and conferences as well", said Senese.

Senese continued to explain that the size of the hotel would

be no more than 60-70 rooms, as it would service the university, through the provision of jobs to its' students.

With the growing pains of adjusting to the 1000+ students parking has become slightly untenable for some, with complaints of not enough parking spaces.

Senese believes that the parking on campus has taken a significant increase in traffic size, however, it is not more than the university is able to manage.

As a frequent on-campus runner, Senese has observed that there are a lot of spaces for parking, but acknowledges that spots may not be where people want to park.

To remedy this situation, Senese has planned to put additional parking on the opposite side of campus. To bridge the gap between parking structures, several solutions are being sought out, including a short transport system.

"I have a company coming in, called Coast Autonomous that does autonomous vehicles that don't require a driver," said Senese.

The company can place a self-driving system in place that will shuttle passengers to and from

parking areas and stop as soon as a pedestrian crosses its path.

Regarding Dining Hall space, there are plans for expansion that include the expansion of the current dining hall area and increasing it by one-third.

The area will also have a deck that will allow persons to eat outside, depending on their preference.

The continued increase of students annually should offset the cost to provide the services, according to Senese.

"We will bring in a class of a thousand or more again next year, that's about the incoming class that we're going to bring in over the next couple of years", said Senese

The vision is to move the current student population on campus from 2200 to 4500 people total, the increase in population would also allow for faculty to receive raises and have better working facilities.

Senese maintains that it is pivotal that we keep the small sized classrooms that the university has been characteristic of Saint Leo.

Regarding the recent engagement between Saint Leo and The Tampa Bay Buccaneers,

Campus News: Exclusive

1001 :Now What

Senese says that ideally the hope would be that a student sections could be created between alumni and current students.

The banners that are on the fence touting the exclusive partnership is temporary only during the football season, to allow the local community the opportunity to know of the arrangement.

Given the Buccaneers 3000+ employees, and wide outreach in the media, Senese agrees that the partnership is mutually beneficial to both entities as Saint Leo tries to solicit its brand.

"Part of our strategy in the Strategic plan, we have three themes; Culture, Academics, and Growth. Under growth [our goal] is to get the Saint Leo name and brand out there more," said Senese.

Having attended numerous meetings, Senese has perceived that not many persons understand what Saint Leo is today.

"We are the second largest Catholic university in the United States, and in fact, we're twice the size of Notre Dame.

If you look at iPEDS (The Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System), at the data that we use to track our self, we have twice as many students as they do, said Senese.

"We are by far the biggest Catholic Benedictine University in the United States, the next five Benedictine institutions are smaller than us combined. So [Saint Leo] as institution has a lot of breath are economic impact in the country is a billion dollars."

Senese continued on to say that the branding campaign of marketing with the Buccaneers is to get our image with an organization that people in the greater Tampa Bay Area pay attention to you. This allows thousands if not millions of persons to see The Saint Leo name, across several T.V. and Radio stations as well as an aggressive social media presence.

With much debate over the carbon footprint of every day citizens, many students and faculty are concerned about recycling on

Saint Leo's campus.

"There's quite a bit going on in the background with recycling of metals and other substances that we use, but it's not fully developed programmed yet to do that," said Senese.

Dr. Senese explained that the program would require a significant amount of capital in order to commence, but they are working with partners to establish where to curb the university's carbon footprint.

One initiative is with the use of the to-go containers, currently the university is dialoging with a company that creates green to go containers for the dining hall.

"[The biodegradable containers are preferred] Instead of having plastic containers because, when you wash it you're burning more power than it saves," said Senese.

However, Senese warned that there would be a cost associated with this program, and as much as possible the University is erring to the side of caution as it attempts to be good stewards of its' resources.

"We're trying to be careful with



Freshman Orientation allowed many of the 1000+ new students to acclimate to the new environment.

he was about having a ceremony as he believed that they are frequently individual, rather than institutionally centered.

Senese relayed his personal feelings towards events of that magnitude.

"Don't look for a pat on the

"It's not about taking credit for things, it's about doing the right thing for the institution and moving that institution forward."

Jeffrey Senese

our resources, Stewardship is one of our goals and focus it on the things that that students and the community think are important," said Senese.

Although recycling is important to the administration, Senese's student centered goals are pivotal as he attempts to the most good with the available resources.

When asked about the inauguration ahead of the date, Senese expressed how adamant

back and [for someone to say], look how wonderful he is. It's not about that, bold in actual action humble in spirit.

It's not about taking credit for things, it's about doing the right thing for the institution and moving that institution forward," said Senese.

"This is not Jeff Senese's inauguration, this is the inauguration of the President of the institution. It's not my individual event, it's an institution

event and that's what I hope people focus on is that this is celebrating rather than me," said Senese.

Senese was also asked about a concern students have broached concerning cigarettes, e-cigarettes and vaping on campus.

Smoke-free campuses have been declared across the United States and many students wonder if Saint Leo can expect to see the same type of action happening on University Campus.

Senese conveyed his personal beliefs about smoking, going as far to say that it is a practice that he does not prescribe to, in light of the educational campaigns to eliminate tobacco use.

However, he acknowledges that there are several persons on campus that find it a necessity as it is their personal preference to smoke.

"If smokers are interfering with non-smokers, we've got to figure that out and step in. Vaping is dangerous and we've got to educate people that is dangerous," Senese said.

Senese went on to say that ultimately, even with educational efforts to warn persons about the dangers of vaping and smoking, it is up to the individual student to decide whether or not to use the nicotine based products.

Editorial

Distracted Driving

Lauren Felts
contributing Writer

It's time to focus less on phones and more on driving: A new Florida hands-free driving law was issued on July 1 of this year which requires drivers to keep their phones put away at all times and prohibits users from manually operating devices while driving through school or work zones.

Driving while using a phone in a hand-held manner is now not only a serious offense against the laws of this state but is also extremely dangerous and life-threatening.

As of Oct. 1, anyone caught holding a phone while driving in a school or construction zone will receive an automatic citation of \$60 or more, plus any extra added fees, and three points put on the drivers' license.

According to data obtained by The Tampa Bay Times, 36 tickets were issued statewide through the first two weeks after the law went into effect. But through Sept. 17, police in Florida had ticketed 542 drivers for texting while driving and Florida Highway Patrol troopers had issued 438 warnings.

In fact, Officer Juliette Francis of the Florida Highway Patrol mentioned that she's worked about 65 crashes this year due to phones distracting the drivers. Many teenagers think they are invincible and can't get hurt behind the safety of the wheel, but it's actually the opposite. Being behind the wheel

isn't safe, but dangerous. Driving isn't a game, but a privilege.

"Driving while texting has replaced driving while drunk per stats," said Francis, "My sergeant told me in my training that texting while driving is the equivalent of driving on a football field blindfolded going 55 mph which takes about 4.6 seconds to



get from one end to the other. On average, it takes about five seconds for a driver to get their attention on a text."

This has become a nation-wide epidemic and a very serious problem. The law has now noticed and is starting to take action.

"I do agree that this law will make a difference. It's extremely important to me as an officer that has seen many accidents because of cellphones," Officer Francis said. "I'm grateful that they started somewhere."

Currently, 48 states, plus Washington D.C., ban text messages for all drivers. And beginning on Jan. 1, 2020 the full law will go into effect in Florida where hands-free driving will not only be disallowed in school and construction zones, but the whole state. Now is the time to take advantage and start practicing.

"Lead by example," Francis said.

But how? Are there any exceptions to this rule? According to the Florida Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles (FHSMV) website, there are. These are the following exceptions:

- Wireless communication that does not require a person's attention to be diverted away from performing their duties as a responsible driver.
- Calling 911 to report any suspicious activity to law enforcement.
- Communication that has to do with an automatic activation of functions or features within your vehicle.
- Getting messages that are related to traffic, safety-related information, weather, the operation of your motorized vehicle, or the radio (podcasts, music)

etc. The law will also not affect those who decide to pull over, putting themselves and their vehicles out of any danger, to answer a text or perform a manually operated feature on their phone that takes their attention off the road.

"For anybody who is not aware of what wireless communication is, it refers to not operating any manual functions on your phone, including, letters, symbols, typing, and instant messaging," said Francis.

Precautions and extreme measures are being taken to keep the citizens of Florida safe at all times so they can

"arrive alive" to their destinations according to the FHSMV website.

"Over 3,000 teens and young adult drivers die yearly do to texting while driving," said Francis. "You are in fact 23 times more likely to crash while texting." She, along with any other police officer doing their civic duty, cares about the statistics on deadly crashes increasing each year due to cell phones. It's time to set it aside and be safe.

Additionally, a poll was taken on campus to show how much students and staff were aware of this matter. Out of roughly 100 students and staff members in the Saint Leo community, around twenty-two people had heard about the law. Very few of these 22 people had already taken measures to prevent deadly crashes and are driving safe.

The rest of the students or staff were completely unaware about the new changes. Including, Allyson Marino, an English Professor, who inquired that it was good information to be aware of such information. "No, I had no clue," said Sandra Swiderski, a student. "When you're behind the wheel, your specific actions can either cause or prevent an accident from happening. It's so important to be alert at all times. Don't be a statistic." Francis said, "Focus on the road no matter what and always lead by example."



Editorial



Thousands of Hong Kong residents rally to protest the lack of job opportunities available to them due to immigration influxes and financial crisis.

Hong Kong Riots are Destroying the Spirit of the City

Zhiwen Yang

Contributing Writer

China is a rising developing country, it's youth's sense of innovation and social responsibility bear the mission of the country's future development. The consciousness of the youth is the hope of this country, which is the future of the city.

At midnight on June 30, 1997, the British flag was lowered, and the Hong Kong and Chinese flags were raised at midnight to signal Hong Kong's return to Chinese sovereignty after 156 years of British rule. At that special moment, people from all over China celebrated the return of Hong Kong to China in front of the Television.

Hong Kong was a trendy, enthusiastic, and motivated city in the 1980s and 1990s because people of that era believed in their dreams. Hong Kong people are hard-working, have a pioneering spirit, and self-improvement. This is the Hong Kong city spirit in my memory.

As a Chinese person, I have lived on the Mainland for nearly 30 years. When I was young, I watched Hong Kong movies and worshiped their actors. I was interested in

their daily lives and stories, believing that one day, my dream would also come true.

However, the recent violence in Hong Kong has made me wonder: Where is the spirit of Hong Kong? Why do young people in Hong Kong use this way to express their emotions? Is violence the only expression? During this period, because of the escalation of the Hong Kong protests, the airport and subway station was closed for a few days. The pride of Hong Kong, the International Airport was no longer filled with tourists from all over the world. People had to choose airports in other cities to make alternative flight arrangements.

The young people of Hong Kong are now dressed in black and use black masks to cover their faces. In many videos, they are seen beating police and international travelers who they have never met before, with anger and violence full being shown in public places.

A dear friend of mine Shaojun Lin, a resident of Hong Kong spoke concerning the riots, and the effects it was having. Lin said she was safe but very anxious. She said that from

2008, the Hong Kong government had encouraged mainland graduates to stay in Hong Kong. After graduation, mainland undergraduates are allowed to stay in Hong Kong for 12 months and work or continue their studies. If they have lived in Hong Kong for seven consecutive years, they can apply to be Hong Kong residents.

According to local media reports, within the last three years 60 percent of mainland students in the school have continued their studies after graduation, 37 percent stayed in Hong Kong, and only 3 percent returned to the Mainland. The pressure of employment competition is growing, however, because Hong Kong lacks manufacturing, because of the financial crisis in 2008, the development of the financial industry that Hong Kong has been proud of is now dismal. Young people, with little to no education find it increasingly difficult to find a job. At the same time, the influx of a large number of mainland immigrants has intensified the competitive pressure.

According to Lin, "More than 30,000 adolescents aged 15 to 24

accounted for about a quarter of the unemployed population. Last year, the government recruited a secretarial post, and there were thousands of people interviewing and competing", said Ling. "There is no way out for the young people of Hong Kong and they have no confidence in the future that is waiting for them."

China's "one country, two systems" is the primary national policy put forward by the Chinese government, to achieve peaceful reunification of the country. The policy would allow Hong Kong to remain the independent legal systems and police forces of the nation. Global financial turmoil and the surge in new immigrants from the Mainland, put the identity of Hong Kong's youth under social pressure. Regrettably, the Hong Kong government has not proposed an effective policy, to assist with the problems faced. Additionally, a large number of mainland

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Where do they Stand? : Dem

DEMOCRATIC
CANDIDATES

WHERE THEY
STAND

Elizabeth Warren



Joe Biden



**GUN
CONTROL**

Pass anti-corruption legislation to prevent NRA's stranglehold on congress. Gun violence prevention legislation in first 100 days.

Ban the manufacture and sale of assault weapons, background checks, end online sales, and reinstate the Obama-Biden policy.

HEALTHCARE

Medicare for All. Provides a public health care program in which everybody is covered. Will also lower the cost of prescription drugs.

Protect the Affordable Care Act, lessen complications with the current system, and a public option for low-income Americans.

**WOMENS
RIGHTS**

Women's Health Protection Act, guarantee reproductive health coverage, and ensure equal access and reproductive justice.

Focus on measures to address gender-based violence internationally, and provide for unique needs of incarcerated women.

**CLIMATE
CHANGE**

\$3T in initial investment. Zero-carbon pollution, emissions, renewable energy, and eventual 100% carbon-neutral power.

Work towards 100% clean energy and zero emissions by 2050 while incentivizing, and recommit to the Paris climate agreement.

ECONOMY

Reduce household debt, reduce leveraged corporate lending, strengthen manufacturing, limit shocks to the economy.

Rebuilding the middle class to strengthen economic outlook, and make it easier for workers choosing to unionize.

EDUCATION

Universal free public college and cancelling \$50,000 of student loan debt per person. Address inequities in higher education system.

Supporting minority colleges, investing in community colleges, and a \$750B investment in education over ten years.

Democratic Candidate Profiles

Bernie Sanders



Remove NRA's influence, expand background checks, ban assault weapons, and prohibit high-capacity magazines.

Reform of health sector with Medicare-for-all, removal of insurance companies and prior medical debt, and cutting in drug prices in half.

Equal work pay, fully funded planned parenthood, reauthorize violence against women act, and increase protections in workplaces.

Implementation of the Green New Deal, renewable energy, decarbonization, end fossil fuel greed, and justice for communities.

Break up the big banks, limit banking interest rates/fees, tax extreme wealth, fair banking for all, and wall street reform.

College for all, funded by taxing Wall Street, ending equity gaps, invest more for minorities and the underprivileged.

Pete Buttigieg



Banning assault weapons, close gun business loopholes, licensing system, and establish gun violence intervention programs.

Lower prescription drug cost, public health option with current private health insurance options to remain.

Expand healthcare access, closing pay gaps, ratify equal rights by appointing 50% women to cabinet, and increase leadership.

Quadruple federal clean energy research and development and create disaster commission in first 100 days.

Increase entrepreneurship within minority communities, implementation of the Raise Wage Act, and end the banning of union security.

College free for low-income families, invest \$50 billion in black colleges, and strict standards against for-profit institutions.

Kamala Harris



Comprehensive federal background checks, and the revoking of licenses from gun manufacturers who break the law.

Lower healthcare costs, public health option with current private health insurance options to remain, expansion of Obamacare.

Nominate judges who respect Roe vs. Wade, pass the Maternal care act, and stop Planned Parenthood from being defunded.

\$10T in public and private funding over 10 years, modernization of transport and energy, and holding polluters accountable.

Reverse Trumps \$1T tax cut for the rich towards working families, raise minimum wage to \$15, and tax credit for lower income individuals.

Refinance current student debt with lower rates, cracking down on for-profit colleges, and free community colleges.

Arts & Culture

Top 10 Christmas Movies of all time...

Zach Pottle
Contributing Writer

We've all walked into Walmart the day after Halloween and said to ourselves, "What's with all the Christmas decorations?" It's become an all too common sight for the Thanksgiving-lovers; yet, for many, Christmas can't come soon enough. Who can blame them anyway?

Even though we're still over a month away from Santa's annual breaking and entering, Mariah Carey's "All I Want For Christmas Is You" is already shooting up Rolling Stones top 100. So what better time to grab a nice (or naughty) cup of eggnog, dust off the fireplace, and snuggle up with your sugar plum fairy to watch a classic Christmas movie?

Hold your horses, or in this case reindeer, because before we dive into this list of movies, it is important to note how this list was made. Just what exactly makes a movie a "Christmas" movie? More importantly, what makes one a classic? After all, we don't want to watch that same old Hallmark romance movie that comes out every year where a seemingly over-worked businesswoman finds herself in a small little Christmas-loving town where she finds the love of her life. No offense to any of you Hallmark lovers, but those are not up for contention.

That said, there are many things to consider when compiling a list of the best Christmas movies of all time. Everybody seems to have their favorite, whether it be based purely on personal preference or an age-old family tradition, creating a list of the "best" is never an easy task.

Things like box office scores, critic ratings, and its overall timelessness are all needed to compile a truly unbiased list of the top ten best Christmas movies of all time.

By using only one of the previous factors, it is possible to overlook a top ten worthy movie. For example, *How The Grinch Stole Christmas* (2000), while netting over \$260 million, the second-highest of any domestic Christmas movie, averages only a 50 percent rating by critics; those being Rotten Tomatoes, IMBD, Roger Ebert to be exact.

10. Bad Santa (2003)



Arguably one of the most quotable Christmas movies out there, although that may be for all the wrong reasons...

Photo by flickr

9. Die hard (1998)



Yeah, you read that correctly, now deal with it. Since its release in 1988, Die Hard has always been the most contested movie in the Christmas canon. Why is it on this list?

Photo by twitter

8. Nightmare before Christmas (1993)

Long debated between Halloween movie or Christmas celebration, this 1993 Tim Burton and Henry Selick animated classic is often overlooked for its truly inspiring Christmas message...



Photo by twitter

Arts & Culture

7. A Christmas Carol (1951)

Without a doubt, the most well known and well-executed adaptation of Charles Dickens' original tale of Ebenezer Scrooge.



Photo by flickr

6. National Lampoon's Christmas Vacation (1989)

Very seldom does a movie's third installment do better than the first or second. For Chevy Chase's National Lampoon's Christmas Vacation, that is not the case...



Photo by flickr

5. Elf (2003)

We all knew it would be on the list. Will Ferrell's hilarious Christmas classic, Elf, was a hit from the very start...

3. Miracle On 34th Street (1947)

Regarded as not only one of the best Christmas movies of all time, but also one of the best films to come out of the 1940s...



Photo by flickr

4. Home Alone (1990)

What more can be said about director Chris Columbus' and writer John Hughes 1990 hit?

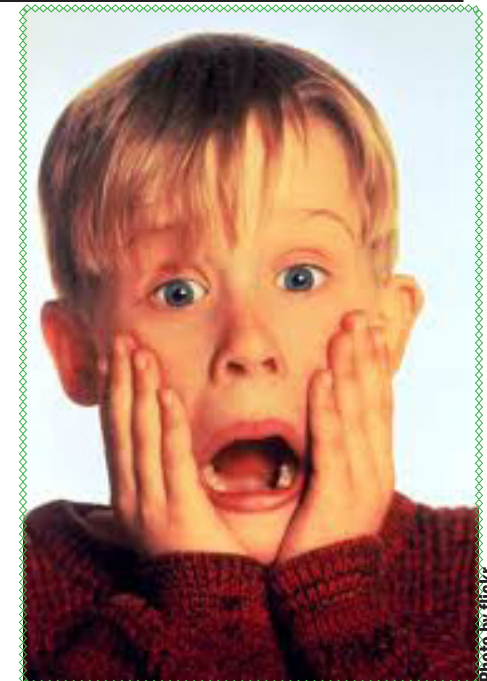


Photo by flickr



Photo by flickr

2. A Christmas Story (1983)

A very lurid leg lamp, tongues stuck to an icy cold flagpole, the not-so-safe Red Ryder BB Gun... There's a reason why it has been remade numerous times and is on a 24/7 loop Christmas day on TBS...



Photo by flickr

1. It's A Wonderful Life (1946)

It is very safe to say that without a doubt, It's A Wonderful Life, even after nearly 75 years is regarded by many as one of America's greatest films ever made...

Continue reading this article online at The Lions Pride Website (URL Below)

Sports

Lady Lions Hopeful After 1-1 start to a Fresh Season

Noah Dombroski

Contributing Writer

After finishing the 2018-2019 season with a 10-18 record, and winning just 5 out of 20 contests within the Sunshine State Conference, the Saint Leo Women's Basketball program is looking to build on those records and make a run into the postseason. Their first two games of the new year have already proven that this will be no easy task, but the team is hopeful after their performances in these inaugural matchups.

Last Friday at the Gulf South/SSC Challenge at Florida Southern in Lakeland, the Lions kicked off their season against #14 ranked Lee University, where they led for much of the contest, but were ultimately defeated by 9 points. The team led for almost the entire first half before the Flames tied it up and caught enough of a spark in the second half to build up the 9-point advantage that would end up being the decider. Senior guard Gina Brierley led her team with a 21-point effort, complete with 3 triples converted on a very impressive 60% clip from downtown.

Head coach Anthony Crocitto told the Saint Leo Athletics Program after the game, "Gina played phenomenally. She did a lot of things on the court for us today, including being a leader." Considering Brierley led her team in points while also playing the entire 40-minute game, Crocitto's words seem to be well warranted. Sophomore guard Alex Button led the Green and Gold in rebounds, grabbing 10 in her 31 minutes of play. Button also finished first in assists, notching 3 out of her squad's 10. Freshman guard Amanda Ulrich finished her first ever collegiate game with a conspicuous 11 points and 9 boards.

Speaking of Ulrich, the freshman from New Jersey would go on to top her inaugural performance in every way the following day against Alabama-Huntsville, peppering the

stat sheet with a jaw-dropping 30 points, 10 rebounds, 5 assists, and just one turnover in her 44 minutes of playtime. The Lady Lions emerged victorious in the contest, which ended in a 86-75 decision in favor of the Green and Gold after the Lions claimed the overtime period 14-5. Button finished with 14 points on a 67% shooting clip, and personally sealed the deal in the team's 8-point comeback in the fourth quarter with a field goal that tied the game and sent it into OT. Junior Alani Gallagher notched her first double-double of the season, putting up 11 points while claiming almost half of her entire team's rebounding total as she grabbed 14

out of the Lions' 30. Another notable performance to mention is that of freshman Casey O'Shaughnessy, who scored double-digit points in both of her first two games at the collegiate level. Good things are sure to come from this young guard from Brooklyn, New York.

Crocitto has been very adept at his position at head coach of the Lady Lions squad, and has made some very positive changes to the program in his time here, despite what last year's record might show. With this new boost of talented freshmen like Ulrich, combined with the experience and leadership of veterans like Brierley, the sky really is the limit for this Lions team this

season.

The squad will head to Alabama tomorrow to take on the Montevallo Falcons, a team that is 2-0 so far this year, and has beaten each of their opponents by an average of 20 points this season. The Lady Lions will certainly have their work cut out for them, but by the way things are looking as of now, there is no one in the nation that they can't beat if they're at the top of their game. The game starts Wednesday, November 13, at 11:00am. Make sure to tune in to the broadcast free of charge and support your Lions. You can access livestream video of the game with commentary or check up-to-date statistics via the team's page on SaintLeoLions.com, or through your D2L portal.



Freshman guard Amanda Ulrich has already notched her first double-double and 30-point game of her collegiate basketball career. (@SaintLeoWBB)

Sports

Lions On The Prowl

William Burns

Sports Editor

Saint Leo University mens basketball team kicked off their season on Saturday, November 9th, in Montevallo Alabama at the GSC vs. SSC challenge. The team had already played in an exhibition game in October against USF, but this was the start of their regular season.

With two games under their belt, holding a record of one win and one loss, the Lions have twenty-eight more games ahead of them.

Last year the Lions had a subpar season. They finished with thirteen wins and sixteen losses, while going ten and ten in conference play. The Lions graduated three seniors who saw a lot of playing time. Junior Searcy, a forward, graduated and is now playing professionally in Europe, Danial Duarte, a guard, and Pape Ngom, a center, all graduated for the Lions. Of the trio of graduates, Searcy was the lead scorer, averaging over ten points a game. Ngom led the way in rebounding with just over four a game. Even with this, the Lions are prepared to fill these holes and come back better than ever.

Head Coach Lance Randall is returning this year to coach the Lions. Randall has coaching experience at both division three and division two levels in his career and holds an overall record of 190 wins and 134 losses in eleven years as a head coach. This includes 78 wins and 44 losses while coaching the Saint Leo Lions. Back in 2013 Randall led the team to an SSC title and had back to back 20+ win seasons. Before Randall came to Saint Leo, he was the associate head coach at Wisconsin-Stevens Point and helped guide the team to the 2010 NCAA Division III National Championship. He also has experience from Webster University, a professional team in



The Saint Leo Lions were picked to finish fifth in the SSC in the preseason poll.

England, and as an assistant at Saint Louis University.

Randall has a good core group of players that played together all last year. With a solid group of returners who all played quality minutes last year, teamwork and continuity should not be a problem for the Lions. Randall should be able to bring the squad together and implement his winning strategies and get the lions another strong season as he has done in the past.

The Lions have a lot to prove this season. In a preseason poll, the Lions were picked to finish fifth in the conference. However, they did receive one of eleven votes to finish first. Last year the Lions finished in sixth place in the conference, but then promptly fell in the first round of the Sunshine State Conference tournament. This year, the nine returning players have an unfinished agenda, and will be fighting to make it farther in the tournament.

The Lions are returning Yalen Reed, Isaiah Hill, Gintaras Bartaskas, Rusty Moorner, Kyran McClure, Wesley Williams, Tyler Carter, Ty Forman, and Malik Fuller.

Yalen Reed started twenty-two games for the Lions and averaged

nearly twenty-four minutes a game. Reed shot thirty nine percent from three and averaged just over nine points a game. He also was a relentless rebounder, adding over five rebounds per game to his line. His defense was also tough, as he had sixteen steals and thirty-nine blocks last season.

Isaiah Hill Started twenty-six games for the Lions and averaged thirty minutes a game. He shot over thirty six percent from three and averaged nearly eleven points a game. He added four point seven rebounds a game, eighty-five total assists and forty steals.

Gintaras Bartaskas only started four games for the Lions but was one of their best three-point shooters, ending last season shooting forty two percent from behind the arc.

Rusty Moorner started ten games for the Lions but played seventeen minutes a game. Moorner was lights out at the free throw line, shooting eighty-one percent from the charity stripe.

Kyran McClure was the Lions starting point guard last season and averaged thirty-two minutes per game. McClure was also a sharp shooter, hitting thirty-nine percent

of his shots from downtown. He averaged seventeen points per game and dished out ninety-three assists. However, he did have seventy-three turnovers but made up for that with thirty-five steals.

Tyler Carter started twelve games for the Lions and averaged fifteen minutes per game. He shot well from the free throw line, hitting nearly eighty percent of his freebies. Carter averaged a respectable five point eight points per game and three and a half rebounds as well.

Ty Forman has a limited role for Lions las season and started only five game while averaging ten minutes per game. Forman averaged just under five points per game but shot well from the free throw line.

Malik Fuller came of the bench for the Lions and averaged just eight minutes a game. However, with three big players graduating, there are holes that need to be filled on the team so Fuller could see his role increase greatly.

With a new coach and a big group of returners with experience, the Lions are running wild and looking to have an exciting season with lots of wins. Be sure to go out and support your Lions when they play!

@saintleoathletics

