

# USFWEEK

ROCKY'S  
BIRTHDAY  
BASH

TALENT  
SHOW

BULLSTOCK

SERIES  
FEATURE

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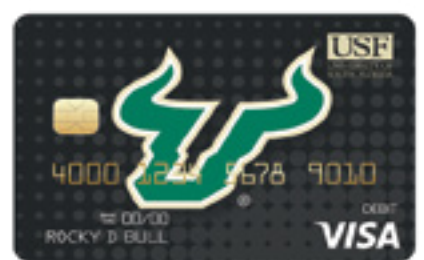
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**Monday, April 4**

**USF Week Kickoff**  
MSC Amphitheater | 6:30 PM

**Tuesday, April 5**

**University Lecture Series**  
MSC Ballroom | 8:00 PM

**Wednesday, April 6**

**Ultimate Bull Talent Show**  
MSC Oval Theater | 8:00 PM

**Thursday, April 7**

**Rocky's Birthday Bash**  
MSC Bookstore Lawn | 8:00 PM

**Friday, April 8**

**BULLSTOCK**  
Lot 95 | 5:00 PM

**Saturday, April 9**

**USF Day**  
Interactive Instagram Stories | All Day  
**USF Football Spring Game**  
Raymond James Stadium | 6:00 PM



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AT HOME IN USF ATHLETICS

**FRIDAY - APRIL 8**

- TRACK & FIELD • SOUTH FLORIDA INVITATIONAL**  
11:00 AM • USF Track & Field Stadium
- SOFTBALL vs WICHITA STATE**  
6:30 PM • USF Softball Stadium

**SATURDAY - APRIL 9**

- TRACK & FIELD • SOUTH FLORIDA INVITATIONAL**  
11:00 AM • USF Track & Field Stadium
- SOFTBALL vs WICHITA STATE**  
4:30 PM • USF Softball Stadium
- FOOTBALL • SPRING GAME**  
6:00 PM • Raymond James Stadium

**SUNDAY - APRIL 10**

- WOMEN'S TENNIS vs FAU**  
12:00 PM • USF Varsity Tennis Courts
- SOFTBALL vs WICHITA STATE**  
12:30 PM • USF Softball Stadium

# USF Week events return in person

By Hannah Wagner  
CORRESPONDENT

As the first in-person USF Week since 2019, the Center for Student Involvement (CSI) and Campus Activities Board (CAB) coordinated a variety of events for students to celebrate.

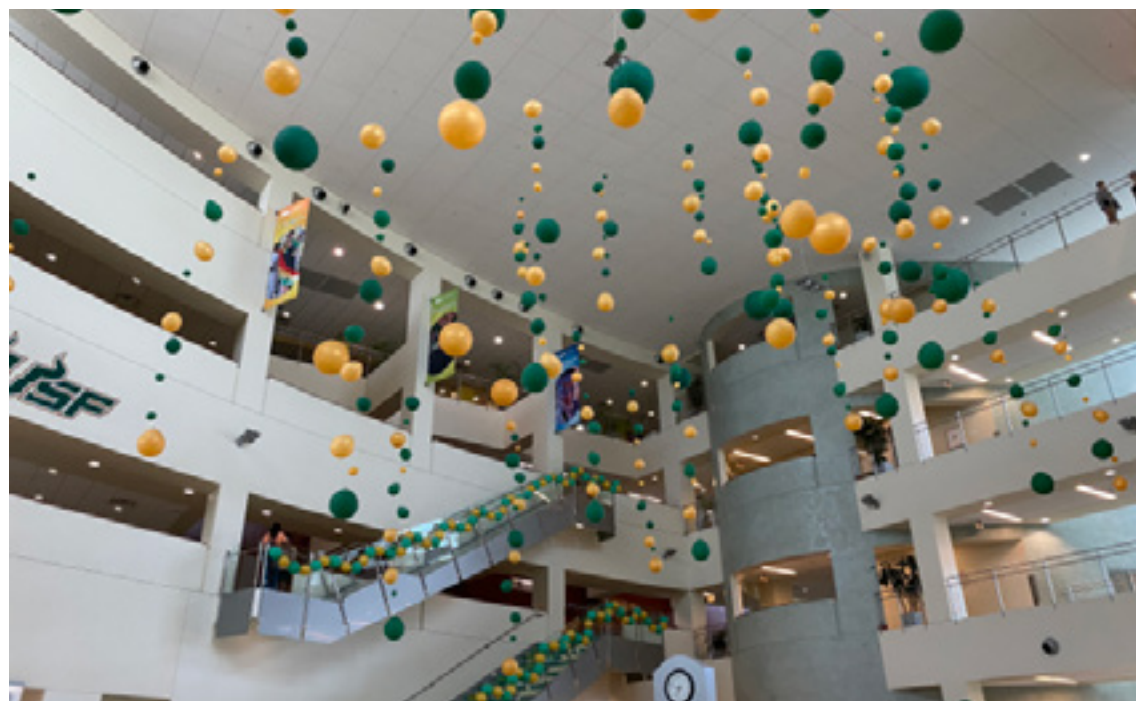
The week's festivities begin on Monday and run through Saturday, or more notably, USF Day. While some events will be online — such as the USF Day social media challenges — the vast majority will be in person and hosted for one night only.

Activities will begin on Monday at 6:30 p.m. in the Marshall Student Center (MSC) Amphitheater for the traditional USF Week Kickoff. At the beginning of the event, attendees will hear from a group of speakers from university leadership about the importance of school pride.

Following the speaker presentations, students will have the opportunity to paint wooden USF-themed crafts at a DIY station and participate in a “USF Traditions” Kahoot for special prizes, according to graduate assistant for Campus Traditions Shirley Daniels. In addition to the prizes given to the top three winners of the Kahoot, she said attendees will be offered a variety of promotional items.

On Tuesday evening there will be a University Lecture Series (ULS) in the MSC Ballroom featuring actress Stephanie Beatriz, best known for her role as Detective Rosa Diaz in the comedy television show Brooklyn Nine-Nine. The event will be from 8-9 p.m.

While Beatriz will discuss her various acting roles, she is also expected to speak about her experience in advocating



The Center for Student Involvement coordinated a series of festivities, such as Bullstock and Rocky's Birthday Bash, to commemorate USF week. ORACLE PHOTO/ALEXANDRA URBAN

for LGBTQIA representation in the entertainment industry as a bisexual Latina, according to graduate assistant for Bull's Nite Out Hannah Sutherland.

Although there will not be any promotional items offered at the event, Sutherland said CAB will be offering students the chance to participate in a giveaway for special prizes.

For students looking to continue their entertainment following the ULS, Wednesday's Ultimate Bull Talent Show will provide attendees the opportunity to watch students compete to win the “Ultimate Bull” title.

With 10 students participating in the competition, the performances offered will vary from musical acts to demonstrative pieces such as stand-up comedy and dancing. The talent show will be judged by a panel of three individuals, according to Daniels.

The panel of judges will be composed of 2022 Scholarship Pageant winner Jailyynn Youmas, Director of vocal ensembles in the school of music Allyssa Jones and 2021 Ultimate Bull talent show runner-up Lorry Saint-Vil, according to Daniels. Hosting the event will be Brittany Gordon, a student and member of the Caribbean Culture Exchange and Jamaican Alliance Movement.

The event will take place from 8-10 p.m. in the MSC Oval Theater. It will cost around \$5,000 to run, according to Daniels, with pricing including prizes for the competitors and promotional fees.

Thursday's event will celebrate the birthday of USF's beloved mascot, Rocky the Bull, with a night of fun. Hosted on the MSC Bookstore Lawn, Rocky's Birthday Bash will include various activities for students to take a trip “under the sea” to celebrate their mascot, such as

riding a mechanical shark and practicing surfing skills on a surf simulator.

Those looking to receive promotional items from the event have the opportunity to bring canned goods to the Office of Annual Giving's collection box, where students will receive a DIY kit in exchange for their donation. Rocky's Birthday Bash will occur from 8-11 p.m. and is expected to carry a price tag of \$12,000, including total event costs, rentals and promotional fees, according to Daniels.

Friday will conclude USF Week's in-person activities with Bullstock, or USF's annual spring music festival. Headlining musical acts will include both Battle of the Bands student winners and performances from DREAMERS, Olivia O'Brien and Neon Trees.

Given that this year's event is the first in-person Bullstock celebration since 2019, CAB

Coordinator Alexis Fuentes Roman said he is excited for students to be able to experience the series of performances in a traditional concert format.

“We are excited to announce a traditional spring concert again, with food trucks and carnival rides,” he said. “It follows a similar type of setup and layout as we have done in the past ... and we are following a similar type of talent [with] alternative music.”

The event will take place from 5 p.m. to midnight in Lot 35, providing students a seven-hour window to participate in a variety of Bullstock festivities. In addition to the musical acts, CAB will be hosting carnival activities, T-shirt giveaways and food trucks for students throughout the night.

Being the most expensive event of the week, the cost of Bullstock totals to approximately \$124,100, which includes event fees, promotion and rental costs, according to Fuentes Roman.

All of the week's events will conclude with USF Day on Saturday. As an entirely social media-based celebration, students will be able to participate in a series of activities on Instagram, including story challenges, games and giveaways. For more information on the activities, students should follow posts from USF CAB's account as USF Day approaches.

As USF Week and its events return in person, Fuentes Roman said he hopes students will be able to join together to celebrate a collective sense of school spirit.

“The purpose of this event ... is to increase awareness on USF Day and USF Week and have our students be proud of being USF Bulls,” he said.

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# STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS

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## WHAT IS THE CREATORS CLUB?

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# Stephanie Beatriz to discuss representation in media at ULS



Jordon Myrick

STAFF WRITER

With a passion for theater and advocacy, actress, singer and model Stephanie Beatriz will take the stage as keynote speaker for USF Week's University Lecture Series (ULS) event on Tuesday to talk about her career and representation.

The talk will be held in the Marshall Student Center Ballroom from 8-9 p.m. Check-in begins at 5:30 p.m., and doors will open at 7:30 p.m.

Beatriz will speak on her roles, advocacy and representation in the media and her identity as a bisexual Latina. The price tag of the talk is \$36,500, and will include a 45-minute moderated lecture and a 15-minute Q&A to follow, according to graduate assistant of Bulls Nite Out Hannah Sutherland.

USF's Campus Activities Board (CAB) has designed questions for Beatriz that the moderator, CAB Vice President of Programming Jonathan Borelley, will ask during the lecture and Q&A.

As of now, 721 students are registered for the lecture, according to BullsConnect. Up to 770 people will be able to attend.

Playing Detective Rosa Diaz

in the 2013 Fox and NBC series "Brooklyn Nine-Nine" is the role that catapulted Beatriz to fame.

"Brooklyn Nine-Nine," which ran for eight seasons, was an American police procedural comedy that followed the work of NYPD detective Jake Peralta, played by Andy Samberg, and his interactions with other members of the Brooklyn police precinct, including Beatriz's character.

During its run, the show received numerous awards and nominations, including a Golden Globe Award in 2014 for Best Television Series and a GLAAD Media Award in 2018 for Outstanding Comedy Series.

While in her role on the series, Beatriz received multiple distinctions, including a Gracie Allen Award for Outstanding Female Actor in a Supporting Role in a Comedy or Musical in both 2019 and 2020.

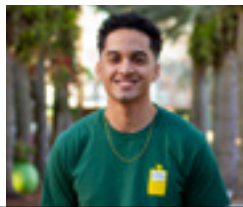
After graduating from Stephens College in 2002 with a bachelor's degree in fine arts for theater arts, Beatriz moved to New York City to pursue her acting career.

She began her career in theater, playing Lydia in playwright Octavio Solis' play "Lydia" in 2008. In her early career, she also acted at the Oregon Shakespeare Festival, Theatreworks USA, The Old Globe Theater and the Yale Repertory Times.

She debuted on screen in her role as Camila Santiago in the 2009 series "Closer." She went on

■ See ULS on PAGE 10

# Athletics events to attend during USF Week



Alberto Camargo

ASSISTANT SPORTS EDITOR

Several of USF's athletic teams are in action during USF week, starting with baseball on Tuesday, softball on the weekend and culminating in the annual football spring game on Saturday.

Here's everything you need to know about each of the matchups this week.

## Baseball vs. North Florida

On Tuesday night, USF baseball will play a one-off game against the North Florida Ospreys at the USF Baseball Stadium. The Bulls (18-10) are coming off a weekend series against archrivals UCF in which they lost the series 2-0.

Coach Billy Mohl has led an impressive start to the season for USF compared to their streaky form at the beginning of 2021. Twenty-seven games into last season, the Bulls were three games under .500 at 12-15.

The team is currently six games better with an offense that is scoring two runs more per game than last year's unit.

Improvement at the plate has been led by sophomore outfielder Drew Brutchter who leads the team in batting average with a strong .333 mark that places him among the 10 best hitters in the AAC. Brutchter is joined in the .300 club by redshirt sophomore

infielder/outfielder Carmine Lane (.316) and freshman outfielder Jackson Mayo (.310).

The same trio also leads USF in home runs, coincidentally in the same order with nine, seven and five, respectively.

On the mound, the Bulls have enjoyed strong pitching from the duo of redshirt sophomores Orion Kerkering and Jack Jasiak. The former leads the team in innings pitched with 41 over eight appearances while the latter leads in ERA at 1.32.

The game against UNF will be streamed on ESPN+ and broadcast on iHeartRadio Bulls Unlimited at 6 p.m.

## Softball vs. Wichita State

There's a compelling conference clash going down at the USF Softball Stadium over the weekend as the Bulls (31-10) meet the Shockers in a three-game series that starts Friday.

The appeal of seeing one of

college softball's best pitchers should be more than enough to draw one out, as senior Georgina Corrick will likely shoulder the load in the circle all weekend. She is currently leading the AAC in virtually all major pitching categories.

Corrick, USF's all-time leader in strikeouts, already has a perfect game this season on March 5 against Florida A&M and threw a program-record-tying seventh no-hitter April 2 against ECU.

At the plate, junior outfielder Alexis Johns has been a standout. Her .365 batting average leads the team and she's also one of the most disciplined Bulls in the box with just eight strikeouts this season.

Friday's game against Wichita State begins at 6:30 p.m. while Saturday's clash starts at 4:30 p.m. Both can be streamed on ESPN+.

## Football spring game

USF Week will wrap up on

■ See SPORTS on PAGE 10



This year's USF spring game will see over 100 football players looking to solidify their roles on next season's roster. USF ATHLETICS PHOTO



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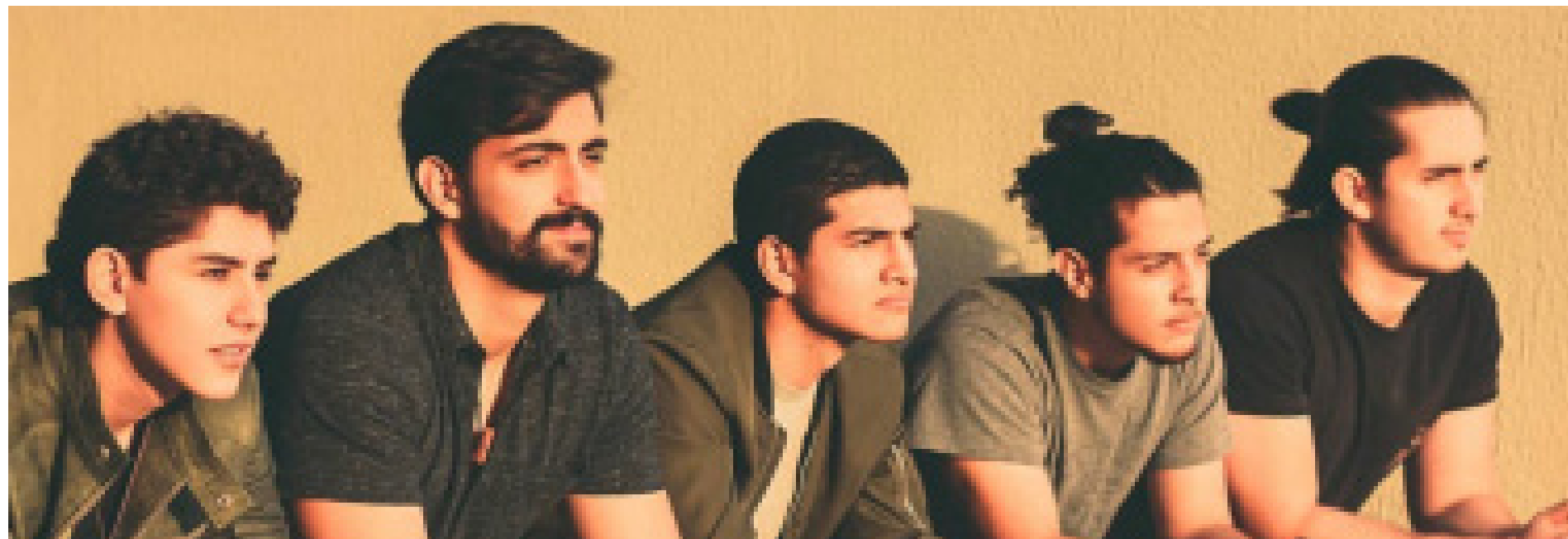
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# Battle of the Bands winners' path to Bullstock



USF-based bands, such as Hybris, worked their way from small audiences to one of thousands at USF Week's Bullstock. [INSTAGRAM/@hybris\\_band](https://www.instagram.com/hybris_band)



**Kellie Murray**

STAFF WRITER

Continuing the week of USF fun and pride, Bullstock will feature five bands from the Tampa Bay Area and beyond. Battle of the Bands winners, Hybris and MOKA the Band, will open the show for DREAMERS, Olivia O'Brien and Neon Trees.

Lot 35 will be filled with Tampa Bay food trucks, carnival games and the highly anticipated concert. The Campus Activities Board (CAB) is expecting 5,000 attendees, according to CAB Coordinator Alexis Fuentes Roman.

Happening in person for the first time since 2019, Bullstock will not vary from the traditional style it previously followed.

"We are following a very

similar type of talent, such as alternative music, as we have done in 2018 with acts that we brought, such as Time Flies and other bands that students fit within the alternative/indie genre," Fuentes Roman said.

The first band — Hybris — was the Fan Favorite at Battle of the Bands, and will open the concert at 6 p.m. with its upbeat rock music.

Hybris debuted in Tampa with its Battle of the Bands performance. The band originated as a passion project for junior industrial engineering major Jose Manuel Lujan-Suarez, the lead singer, in his home city Santa Cruz, Bolivia.

"Last semester, I pretty much spent the whole semester trying to look for the right people for this project to become successful," Lujan-Suarez said.

He met Hybris' guitarist, freshman computer science major Kay Riddle, when they pledged to their fraternity last semester. Riddle appealed to Lujan-Suarez due to his music

work in the library after his study time.

"We were both in the library and we started working on music," Riddle said. "He saw me working on beats in the library all the time."

Lujan-Suarez met the band's drummer, junior mechanical engineering major Dimitri Tsolakakis, through a class they shared and by seeing one of his bands, Primo, perform.

After seeing Tsolakakis perform, Lujan-Suarez was determined to have him as a part of his developing project. Tsolakakis is very close friends with the band's bass player, Xander Mars, who is also a part of Primo.

Pianist and sophomore chemistry major Mikayla Stokes found the band through her close friend who is in the same fraternity as Lujan-Suarez and Riddle. Her friend was the original pianist, but due to a busy schedule, he handed off the position to her.

"He knew that I could play

just as well," Stokes said. "I was helping him with the songs, so I knew all of them."

Following Hybris at 6:40 p.m., MOKA the Band, Judges' Choice winner of Battle of the Bands, will perform. MOKA started with two members, recent alum and guitarist Morgan Matlaga and senior marketing major and vocalist Karina Jose. The name of the band is derived from a combination of their first names.

Matlaga and Jose met through an organization on-campus that they were both a member of. When they realized they both had musical talent, they decided to start a band.

"We just joined forces," Jose said. "We would always go and play at the garage and do a couple of covers."

Through their performances, drummer and junior engineering major Tzuriel Garcia, who they call TZ, was inspired to link up with the band.

"When they asked me to jam with them and see if we could play together, I was down for it,"

Garcia said. "It's very interesting to play a different genre and to expand your horizons."

MOKA doesn't have a defined genre, but Matlaga explained that the band rotates between some alternative, indie and rock performances.

At Battle of the Bands, all members of MOKA felt the energy of the audience, having a different experience than their typical top-of-the-garage performance.

"We've never performed in front of a crowd that large," Jose said. "It was really intense to have a whole room looking at you."

The members of MOKA look forward to performing at Bullstock and experiencing the other bands and headliners playing as audience members as well.

"We are very excited to have the opportunity to perform at Bullstock," Matlaga said. "We're excited to thank the USF community, and we want everyone to come out."





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Stephanie Beatriz, best known for her role as Detective Rosa Diaz in “Brooklyn Nine-Nine,” will speak at USF Week’s University Lecture Series. CREATIVE COMMONS

## ULS

Continued from PAGE 6

to play the recurring minor role of Sonia, Gloria’s sister, in the popular 2009 sitcom “Modern Family.”

Beatriz is well-known for her starring roles as Carla in the 2021 Tony Award-winning onscreen adaptation of Lin Manuel-Miranda’s musical “In the Heights” and Mirabel Madrigal in the Academy Award-winning film “Encanto” in 2021. The Disney animated film took home the award for Best Animated Feature at this year’s Oscars ceremony.

Identifying as a bisexual Latina has been a large influence in Beatriz’s career, according to a

June 2021 interview with Metro Weekly. She said that growing up LGBTQIA representation was not varied and often presented queer stories associated with trauma.

As a result, Beatriz made headlines in 2018 after calling on all casting directors to be more diverse in their casting, especially for those of the LGBTQIA community.

In her past roles as detective Rosa Diaz and Carla, which were both queer characters, Beatriz said she was glad to bring more multifaceted, refreshing experiences to the screen.

The desire to increase this visibility has also spread outside of the acting realm for Beatriz, as she has become an advocate for improving this representation.

Beatriz has been credited in 61 films and shows, according to her IMDb filmography page. Some of her iconic appearances include those on “Bob’s Burgers” and “Bojack Horseman.”

Voice acting has been the actress’ forte long before her work in “Encanto.” Beatriz has lent her voice to a number of other animated films, such as “The Lego Movie 2: The Second Part” as Sweet Mayhem and “Ice Age: Collision Course” as Gertie.

Currently, Beatriz is playing the role of PO Guzman in director Kase Peña’s debut film “Trans Los Angeles,” a slice-of-life anthology series offering a glimpse into the daily life of a transgender character.

## SPORTS

Continued from PAGE 6

Saturday with the annual football spring game at Raymond James Stadium, a chance for Bulls fans to get a look at the 100+ players in spring camp who hope to make the final roster come fall.

Under coach Jeff Scott, the Bulls are slowly transitioning into a new era with first-year coordinators on both sides of the ball.

Travis Trickett arrives from West Virginia with an offensive style that relies on fast pace and a diverse passing game. Bob Shoop is at the helm of the defense, installing a scheme loaded with blitzes and aggressive play at the line of scrimmage.

While the spring game will feature some key returners like sophomore quarterback Timmy McClain, senior running back Jaren Mangham and sophomore All-American kick returner Brian Battie, the real intrigue is catching a glimpse of the fresh

faces that will likely make an impact this season.

Keep an eye on sophomore wide receiver Ajou Ajou on offense. The Clemson transfer has a unique physical skill set and could be a huge weapon for whoever’s starting under center in the fall. On defense, Scott has been impressed by the play of freshman defensive back Aamaris Brown and sophomore linebacker DJ Gordon IV.

The spring game will also feature a halftime alumni flag football game where several USF football greats will line up one more time for the fans at Raymond James. Former quarterback BJ Daniels headlines the player group, while current NFL players Marquez Valdes-Scantling, D’Ernest Johnson and Mitch Wilcox will be coaching on the sidelines.

*Kickoff is scheduled for 6 p.m. Both 95.3/620 WDAE and iHeartRadio Bulls Unlimited will provide radio coverage of the game.*



Redshirt junior Roberto Peña is currently tied for third on the team with five home runs. USF ATHLETICS PHOTO

# USF Day to close out the week with interactive festivities

By Gabriela Menez Chahade  
CORRESPONDENT

Closing off USF Week, USF Day — the university's official day as declared by former Tampa mayor Pam Iorio in 2010 — will be commemorated April 9 through social media challenges and in-person events held on and off campus.

Campus Activities Board (CAB) will host social media challenges on Instagram, such as Wii Bingo during USF Day. There will be story games, interactive story challenges and giveaways through both CAB and homecoming Instagram pages.

Students will be able to participate in interactive stories where people can tag the Instagram pages for an opportunity to win promotional items, according to CAB

Coordinator Alexis Fuentes Roman.

Following last year's fully virtual event, there will also be in-person events held this year to commemorate USF Day, including RiverFest and the spring football game.

Recreation and Wellness will host RiverFest at Riverfront Park from 12-6 p.m. Some of the activities include free boating, ziplining, kickball and a slip and slide.

Availability is unlimited and students can register in the BullsConnect App. The first 50 participants that arrive and sign-in will win a giveaway.

The daylong festivities will continue with a home softball game against Wichita State. Pitching starts at 4:30 p.m.

USF Day's last event will be the spring football game. Kickoff

is set for 6 p.m. with gates opening at 5 p.m. at Raymond James Stadium. Parking lots will be opening at 4 p.m. and both attendance and parking will be free of charge.

During the day, there will be tailgating, stadium activations, food trucks and performances from the Herd of Thunder Marching Band and USF Cheer and Sun Dolls. Post-game entertainment includes a light show and fireworks.

With the many events taking place during USF Day, Fuentes Roman said USF hopes to create school spirit among students.



The daylong event will feature RiverFest, a six-hour engagement that will give students the opportunity to zipline and play kickball. [INSTAGRAM/@wellnessusf](https://www.instagram.com/wellnessusf)



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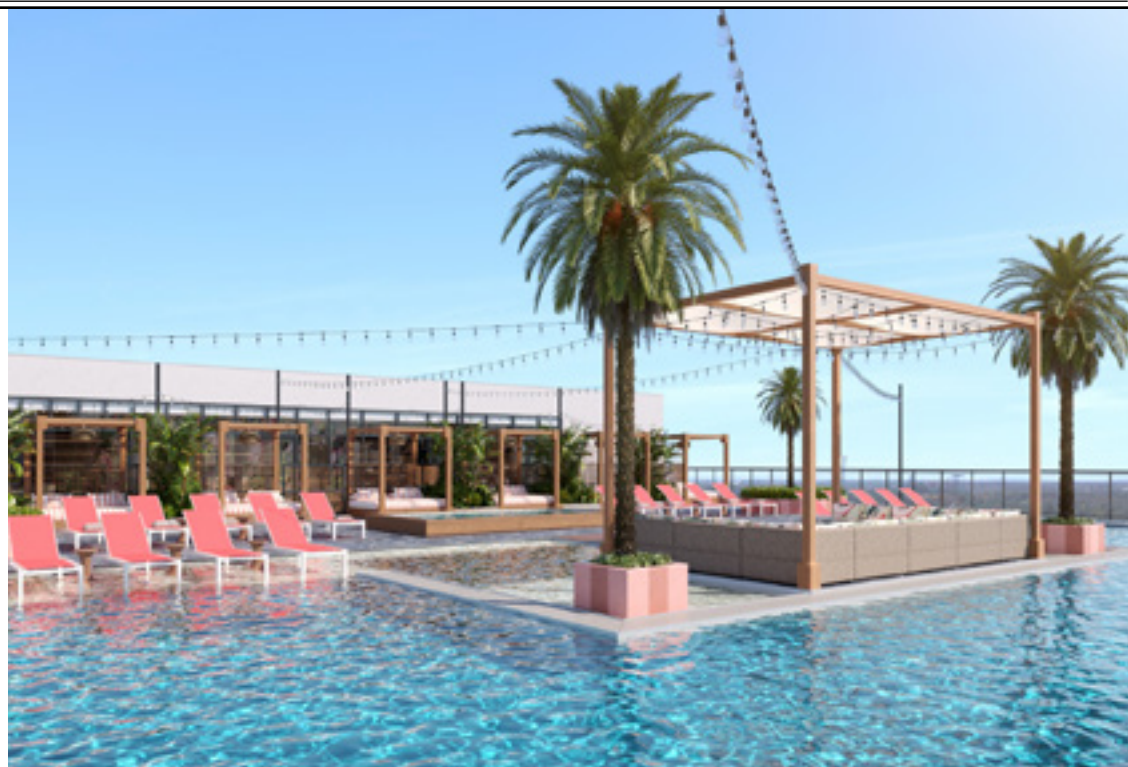
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