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Strange finds artifacts near Dead Sea scrolls

What could be one of the most important discoveries in recent years? Strange believes it is. Strange recently found four pieces of pottery with writings at a site in Qumran, Israel. Strange believes the Ostracon — writing on a piece of pottery — will provide insight into the daily lives of the people who lived in the ancient city.

Archaeologist James Strange

text of at least 16 lines. The entire thing is about 17 centimeters high and about 6 centimeters across. It is written in hand-dated to the first century B.C. or first century A.D. We’re very excited about it,” Strange said. Strange said the first two lines are completely readable. The first line reads “In second year,” which Strange believes refers to the reign of a king. The second line reads “By the hand of Eleazar, son of Nahum.”

Even though the remaining lines are not easily readable, “we can tell that something is being or taking place,” added Strange. “We assume it is some kind of memo from the person who lived there as a work order or something of that nature. We hope that we will have something that illuminates their daily life.”

USF names Paula Varnes budget director

The University of South Florida has named Paula Ann Varnes director, university budgets.

In 1993, the former assistant director, university budgets at the University of Florida, will preside over a $566 million budget, which includes four regional campuses and a health sciences center. She will assume her USF responsibilities March 5.

Varnes’ experience includes 15 years of fiscal management in the areas of budgeting and accounting. She attended the University of Florida and an MBA from Nova University.

Paula Varnes

The conference will be held on the USF campus at the College of Arts and Sciences, Davis Hall.

The conference will examine the classical and contemporary theories of the ideal political order of Christianity, Judaism and Islam, and establish the importance of these issues in contemporary politics in Christian, Judaic and Muslim states.

The theme of the conference is the role of religion in politics. The conference will feature papers on the role of religion in politics, the relationship between religion and politics, and the impact of religion on politics.

The conference will also feature a keynote address by a prominent scholar in the field of religion and politics. The keynote address will be followed by a panel discussion on the role of religion in politics.

Gov. Chiles visits USF

Gov. Lawton Chiles and the Florida Commission on African American Affairs held a forum to discuss crime and justice, education, economic development and social service in Florida’s African-American communities on Feb. 15 at the Marshall Center Ballroom.

Flat tax talk won’t yield dramatic change, says USF prof

The story of Steve Forbes, his money and his flat tax ideas have dominated the early primary season. But Forbes’ idea is hardly original.

It’s not even that recent. According to USF St. Petersburg accounting professor and tax expert James Fellows, Nobel laureate Milton Friedman suggested a flat tax in 1962 in his work Classic and Freedom. More recently, the flat tax was popularized by Stanford University’s Hoover Institute. But it is Forbes who put it in the headlines.

“A flat tax is one in which the marginal tax rate remains constant as the tax base changes,” says Fellows. “This constant tax rate persists no matter how large the taxable income. Investment income such as interest, dividends and capital gains are excluded from taxable income and not subject to taxation. The flat tax would strip deductions such as home mortgage interest and charitable contributions.”

Fellows says the principle outcome of the flat-tax system, according to its proponents, is to encourage more productive efforts from taxpayers, fostering increased additional time at work as well as increased capital investment.

This result, which would spur economic activity and growth, is a fundamental notion of supply-side economic philosophy. The end result is increased economic growth, because additional savings and investment will occur.

One thing Fellows says he isn’t hearing in the flat tax debate is the savings in what is called “transaction costs.” These costs include the time, effort and cash outlays involved in complying with—and even avoiding—the tax laws of the U.S. If these costs can be significantly reduced, then there will be a net gain in society’s real income and therefore in its economic welfare.

Under the current tax system, some one paying a stiff penalty may seek ways to find shelters or not to report tax at all—participating in an “underground economy” where transactions are not shown on the books.

Fellows says the imposition of a flat tax does not have to lead to a redistribution of wealth to upper-income groups. A careful design of a new system can avoid this.

“A reform of the entire tax system, such as eliminating deductions, exclusions and other loopholes, could actually redistribute income to lower-income groups,” he says. “High income groups presently claim a disproportionate share of tax benefits.”

Still, to avoid an inequitable tax burden on the middle class, capital gains and investment income would have to be part of the tax base, says Fellows.

He says the tax code, now well over 1000 pages long, is a monstrosity with many complexities. He recalls the changes made in the 1986 tax laws.

“In 1986 we got a flat tax with a flat code,” Fellows says. “But the flat tax is more than flattening rates—it’s flattening the IRS code as well.”

Fellows doesn’t expect any dramatic changes in the form of taxation to arise. “The flat tax is a noble idea that’s been around for some time,” he says.

“If we use the ‘96 election to get people to talk about it and other tax reform ideas, then the flat tax debate will have served a good purpose.

“But I don’t look for post card tax returns any time soon.”

Forum to focus on budget/higher education issues

President Betty Castor and Provost/Executive Vice President Thomas Tighe will host a forum on Wednesday, Feb. 28, focusing on the university budget and other higher education issues facing the 1996 Florida Legislature in its upcoming session on March 4. The forum is set for 1:15 p.m. in the Special Events Center.

All students, faculty and staff are encouraged to attend this important information session, which will also be broadcast live to all four regional campuses.
Faculty/Staff Notes

Awards, Elections and Appointments

Yvonne Ralston, Dean/Executive Officer, USF Lakeland, was elected as vice chair of the District 14 Health and Human Services Board (HRS) for 1996.

Huijun Yang, Marine Science, has recently been chosen as a member of the Global Organizing Committee and organizer of the special session “Nonlinear Systems in Atmospheric, Oceanic and Climate Dynamics” at the Second World Congress of Nonlinear Analysis, to be held July 1996 in Athens, Greece.

Presentations

Sami L. Bahna, Internal Medicine, recently spoke on “Allergies to foods and additives” at the Eighth Annual Literature Review Course of the American College of Allergy, Asthma and Immunology in Texas and “Meet the Professor Seminar” at the 53rd Annual Meeting of the American College of Allergy, Asthma and Immunology in Texas.


Julia Coronella and Bruce Cochrane, Biology, presented “A Novel Class of Cystathionine-S-Transferases with Partial Membrane Association” at the American Society of Cell Biology Meetings in Washington D.C.

Robert Barylski


Daniel P. Greenwald, Internal Medicine, along with J. Wisser, W. Puellacher, J. Vacanti, J. Morris and C. Vacanti presented “Mechanical Characterization of Bovine Hyaline and Fibrocartilage Synthesized in the Nude Mouse” at the Annual Meeting of the American Association for Hand Surgery. Winner of best paper award.


G.H. Lyman and J. Webster, H. Lee Moffitt Cancer Center, recently presented “The Use of Human Recombinant Granulocyte Colony-Stimulating Factor (G-CSF) to Reduce Toxicity and Sustain Dose Intensity in Breast Cancer Patients Receiving Adjunct Chemotherapy” at the Second International Conference on Neutropenia in Brussels.

Dean Martin, Chemistry, recently presented “Micellar Membrane Dynamics” at the American Chemical Society Meeting in San Francisco.

Margaret O. Hall, Susan S. Bell and Bradley Robbins, Biology, published “Toward a Landscape Approach in Seagrass Beds: Using Macroalgal Accumulation to Address Questions of Scale” in the journal Oecologia.

Marvin R. Alvarez, Frank E. Friedell, Biology, and Francisco Ruiz Roman published “In Vivo Chemotherapy of Oyster Hemocytes Induced by Bacterial Secretin Products” in the journal Invertebrate Pathology.

Frederick Essig, Biology, published “A Checklist and Analysis of the Palms of the Bismarck Archipelago” in the journal Prin­ciples.

Margaret O. Hall, Susan S. Bell and Bradley Robbins, Biology, published “Toward a Landscape Approach in Seagrass Beds: Using Macroalgal Accumulation to Address Questions of Scale” in the journal Oecologia.


Huijun Yang, Marine Science, has recently published “Production of Dry Air by Isotonic Membrane System” at the American Physical Society and “Three Dimensional Transport of the Ectod Potential Vorticity and N2O in the GFGL SKYHI Model” in Journal of Atmospheric Sciences.

Editor’s note: Please send faculty and staff notes to Tom Wagner at ADM 264 or e-mail them to wagner@comp.usf.edu. Notes should include name, college (or department), title of presentation or article, conference or publication, location and date.

Homecoming events are good as gold

Homecoming activities for the week of February 26 through March 2:

MONDAY 26

Bulls Basketball: USF vs. DePaul at 7:30 p.m. in the USF Sun Dome

WEDNESDAY 28

Movies on the Lawn: 7 p.m., Crescent Hill

THURSDAY 29

Kick-off: 11 a.m. - 3 p.m., Torch Run, cake cutting, freebies, video buttons, moo USC灭亡, free music and fun at the Phyllis P. Marshall Center

Reggae with the Bulls: 8 p.m. - 12 a.m., Live Reggae band, free beer and soda, free food, games, bounce and much more at the Intramural Fields

FRIDAY 1

Social Work Symposium: 8 a.m. - 5 p.m.
USF Social Work Alumni Society at the Phyllis P. Marshall Center

SATURDAY 2

Golf Tournament: 7 a.m. - 4 p.m.
USF Charity Homecoming Golf Tournament at The Claw, USF Golf Course

Trek to Homecoming: 8:30 a.m., USF Southwest Florida Alumni Chapter leaves from Fort Myers

Alumni Brunch: 10 a.m. - noon, School of Physical Education, Wellness and Sport, USF will host an Alumni Brunch at the Recreational Sports Complex

“Walk in Greek Park” Brunch: 10 a.m. - noon, hosted by the Chi Omega and Sigma Alpha Epsilon House Corporations

Corvette Show: 10 a.m. - 3 p.m.
Crescent Hill

USF Bookstore Homecoming Sales: 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. at the USF Bookstore

Medical Alumni Picnic: 11 a.m. - 12:30 p.m., College of Medicine Alumni Society at the Courtyard/Volleyball Courts, Health Sciences Center

Homecoming Picnic: 11:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m., College of Public Health Alumni Society at Riverfront Park

Around the World Carnival: Noon, free rides and games for everybody, live entertainment, fireworks and a day long at the USF Soccer Stadium

Homecoming Parade: Noon - 1 p.m.

Olympic Athletes, Community Leaders and Queen Court, freebies an plenty of special activities for this exciting pre-game event.

Alumni BullBlaze Tailgate: 5 - 7 p.m.
Join Rocky the Bull, Coach Bobby Petro, fellow alumni, students and friends for this exciting pre-game event. BullBlaze will provide fun for the whole family, including a sports trivia contest with giveaways, and many fun activities for the sports lover, The Corr new Auxiliary Gym in the Sun Dome

Homecoming Game: 7:30 p.m., Bulls vs. University of Alabama-Eminham at the USF Sun Dome

Cheerleader/SunDoll Alumni Reunion: 5 - 10 p.m., Cheerleader/SunDoll Alum Society

Bullbys: All week
For more information on any event, call ext. 4-4380
FRIDAY

Symposium: "21st Century Teaching Technologies" will examine new technologies to foster education and faculty efforts in using computer technology to enhance teaching and learning. The morning session is at 10 a.m., keynote address at 1 p.m. and afternoon session at 3 p.m. For more information or to register, call ext 4-2576.

Women's Basketball: USF will play Cincinnati at 7 p.m. in the Sun Dome. Tickets are $4 for general admission and $2 for students and seniors. For more information, call ext. 4-2125.

SUNDAY

Presentation: National Students' Support for Africa will host "Africa Enlightened: Dispelling the Myth of Darkness" at 7 p.m. in the Marshall Center Ballroom.

TUESDAY

Computer Class: Academic Computing is offering a class on "Browsing the Internet WWW, Gopher" from 2 to 4 p.m. Please call ext. 4-1792 for more information.

Concert: The USF Percussion Ensemble will play at 8 p.m. in Theatre 2. Tickets are $4 for general admission and $3 for senior citizens.

Florida Families: The St. Petersburg campus "Florida Families" lecture series continues with "Raising Boys to Be Men" at 6 p.m. in the Campus Activities Center. Admission is free. For more information, call ext. 3-9160.

Women's Basketball: USF will play conference opponent DePaul at 7:30 on the Sun Dome. Tickets are $12 for general admission and $8 for students and seniors. For more information, please call ext. 4-2125.

Luncheon and Conference: Business Leaders Conference and Alumni Awards Luncheon from 8 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. in the College of Business Administration Building. The Alumni Awards luncheon will be held in the Special Events Center. Cost for conference and luncheon is $30. Alumni Awards luncheon only is $15. For reservations, please call ext. 4-5176.

Concert: USF Student Chamber Players will perform at 8 p.m. in Theatre 2. Tickets are $4 for general admission and $3 for students and senior citizens. For more information, call ext. 4-2311.

SUNDAY

Tennis: USF will host Bryant in a 10 a.m. to noon featuring international experts. Reservations are required due to limited seating.

CONTESTANTS

FRIDAY

Symposium: "Global Aspects of Quality" will be held in Engineering Building II, room 113 from 9 a.m. to noon featuring international experts. Reservations required due to limited seating.

Men's Basketball: USF will play conference opponent DePaul at 7:30 p.m. in the Sun Dome. Tickets are $12 for general admission and $8 for students and seniors. For more information, please call ext. 4-2125.

Computer Class: Information Technologies will offer an introductory class on WordPerfect 6.1/Windows from 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. in SVC 1091. The class is for new users of WordPerfect and Windows The cost is $25.00 and registration is required. For more information, call ext. 4-5908.

Women's Awareness: Positive Parenting Workshop from 2-3 p.m. in the Student Center Events Center. For more information, call ext. 4-2311.

SUNDAY

Symposium: "The Power of the Internet: Using the Internet, WWW, Gopher" will be held at 3 p.m. in the Student Center Events Center. For more information, call ext. 4-2311.

TUESDAY

Computer Class: Information Technologies will offer an introductory class on WordPerfect 6.1/Windows from 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. in SVC 1091. The class is for new users of WordPerfect and Windows The cost is $25.00 and registration is required. For more information, call ext. 4-5908.

Women's Awareness: Positive Parenting Workshop from 6 - 7 p.m. in the Student Center Events Center. For more information, call ext. 4-6444.

Artist talk: Lorna Simpson will speak from 7 - 9 p.m. at the Contemporary Art Museum East Gallery. Admission is free.

Special event: The 18th annual Student Composers' Symposium will feature an Electronic/Computer Music Concert at 8 p.m. in Theatre 2. Admission is free.

A calendar of USF events and activities can be viewed via Gopher of the Profs e-mail system. To input an event interest to the campus, send the information to Anne Cash in LIB 654, or call her at ext. 4-1816.