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IN BRIEF

DuBois Center Rededicated
On Friday, November 18, Rollins alumni, students, faculty and staff joined with Carol DuBois at the rededication of the DuBois Health Center. The health center was originally dedicated in February 1967 and is named in honor of DuBois' parents Mr. and Mrs. Charles A. DuBois.

Miniature Solar System

Astronomers have discovered what they believe is the birth of the smallest known solar system. Peering through ground- and space-based telescopes, scientists observed a brown dwarf — or failed star — less than one hundredth the mass of the sun surrounded by what appears to be a disk of dust and gas.

Sandspur on Break

The *Sandspur* staff and community wishes all our readers a restful break and a wonderful holiday season. The newspaper will return with Volume 112, Issue 15 on January 27, 2006.

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Iraq Debate Heats Up
Jack Murtha starts a storm in Washington with his suggestion to withdraw.

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Brian Hernandez Goodbye
After years of distinguished service Production Manager Brian Hernandez departs with touching words.

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Dani Picard relates how to best prepare for your final exams.

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Goodbye London
Lara and Jessica leave London and relate their bittersweet emotions.

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The Four Senses on Display

■ Touch, Sight, Sound, and Tasteful art found in the Darden Lounge.

by **Kelsey Field**

the sandspur

On Tuesday, November 15, 2005, the Darden Lounge at the Campus Center displayed works of art from both the Rollins College student body and greater Winter Park area. The show, "Texture. Textile. Touch" featured ten students and four local artists, allowing Rollins students to view their fellow peers' artwork.

The event, in coordination with the WPRK, had music going throughout the two and a half hour display where people could both view the art and meet the artist. The show had a wide array of works, from work on canvas, to digital photos to painted Plexiglas with articles that were found.

Abby Hertz, the art director who runs the pro-



BRETT HEINEY / The Sandspur

INSPIRATIONAL: Felipe Palomeque's "Food for Thoughts" was one of many highlights in the November art show dealing with the senses.

gram, has art showings every few months at Rollins, all which have a theme. She opens it up to Rollins College students, alumni, faculty and local artists in the community, who submit their art to her. Abby then

sorts through the varying submissions, and decides which art goes with that month's theme. This month's theme focused on senses; most of the pieces had layers of paint in order to comply with the theme. The pieces

ranged in sizes, themes and mediums, but all centered around the Texture. Textile. Touch theme.

The event had a great turnout, as many students and members of

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

Academic Honor Code Approved

After two years of debate the Rollins Honor Code was approved by panel.

by **Kim Lyon**

the sandspur

The academic Honor Code, in the works for two and a half years, was passed on Thursday, November 17 in a ninety minute faculty meeting. Present were members of the Student Government Association, the Student Life Committee, President Lewis Duncan, Deans and other members of the Faculty.

The bill went through with no amendments in a secret ballot vote of 50 to 15. With the biggest hurdle out of the way, the Honor Code bill will go before the Senate after the Thanksgiving recess and then finally before the Executive Committee. It is expected to go into full effect by Fall 2006.

Since the beginning of the drafting process two and

half years ago, several Student Life Committees have been involved to work out the kinks of the document. The chief accomplishment on the part of the student effort was to obtain 100% confidentiality in reporting.

The faculty was divided over the issue because some felt it diminished the integrity of the Code. It was, however, ultimately adopted along with mandatory reporting. "Everyone agreed that mandatory reporting was necessary to have the system work, however, the students felt it was crucial that there be confidentiality for any student who decides to turn in a classmate." Cat McConnell, President of SGA, stated. She also wishes to alleviate any fears regarding the use of TJ's tutors and

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Trojan Women



AMY BROWN / The Sandspur

THOUGHT-PROVOKING: Michael Dalto looks pensively at his cocktail during a performance of *Trojan Women*.

for more coverage turn to page 10

Winter With the Writers 2006 Rollins Announces Lineup of Novelists, Poets, and More

■ This year, the Winter with the Writers tradition continues with an impressive lineup.

by Kim Lyon

the sandspur

The more than 50 year old Winter with the Writers tradition continues with a 2006 season that is expected to be just as impressive as the 2005 season. Over the years, Rollins has brought in some of the greatest contemporary literary influences including Kaye Gibbons, Edward P. Jones, Michael Ondaatje and Richard Ford. This coming spring will feature Nathan Englander, Nikki Giovanni, Dorothy Allison and Tobias Wolff.

Nathan Englander, a New York native, is renowned for his fiction which has been published in the esteemed American Short Fiction, the New Yorker, and the Atlantic Monthly magazine. His collection of stories, *For the Relief of Unbearable Urges*, was an international bestseller, and he is currently working on his first novel entitled *The Ministry of Special Cases*. Englander has won several awards including the Pushcart Prize and received the Guggenheim Fellowship in 2003.

Nikki Giovanni, born Yolande Cornelia Giovanni, Jr., is a highly acclaimed poet and essayist who is also known for her roles as an English Professor and activist in the Black American community. She has written over two dozen books which include collections of essays, poems and illustrated children's books. Her collection of poetry spoken-word CD was a Grammy finalist in 2003, and her book of essays *Racism 101* took the American literary world by surprise with its bold, controversial views on racism in America.

Dorothy Allison, born in Greenville, South Carolina, has made her mark on the contemporary literature scene as a multi-dimensional talent. She has found success in fiction, poetry, the essay, and the memoir. Her book, *Bastard out of Caroli-*

na, was made into a highly commended film, some of her other works have made it onto the screen as documentaries, and the national bestseller *Cavedweller* was featured on the Broadway stage.

Tobias Wolff, born in Alabama, is currently the Ward W. and Priscilla B. Woods Professor at Stanford where he lives with his wife and family. He has worked as editor on several anthologies, and has won many awards including the PEN/Faulkner award and the Los Angeles Times Book Prize for work as a novelist, memoirist, and writer of short stories.

With such an inspiring line-up, Rollins is sure to be a festival of the literary arts. The visiting writers, one for every Thursday in February, will conduct a master class where interns will have their work critiqued by the author and a reading session. This year's interns are Boyd Geary, Robert Hoffman, Keri Joseph, Luke Kupscznk, Jessica Miles, Sarah Kathryn Moore, Kimberly Moorehouse, Daniel Paulling, Gregory Pyne, Nick Sansone, Lily Velez, Genesis Whitlock, and Heather Williams. The master classes and readings are free and open to everyone.

Master Classes: 4 p.m.

Readings, On-stage interviews, signings: 8 p.m.

02/02/05 - Tobias Wolff

02/09/05 - Nathan Englander

02/16/05 - Nikki Giovanni

02/23/05 - Dorothy Allison

Director of the program and Professor of English at Rollins, Connie Fowler, extends her welcome to the Rollins and Winter Park Community. "Winter with the Writers '06 continues the Rollins tradition of bringing to campus America's finest contemporary writers. From short story masters, internationally acclaimed novelists, and legendary poets, this season promises to be one of the most compelling in the series' long history," she said.

Rollins Art Show Draws the Community

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

community wandered through, viewing the art while enjoying the food and listening to the music provided by Rollins' own radio station, 91.5 WPRK FM. Even the food was themed, focusing around a Thanksgiving feel. Cookies were covered in pumpkin frosting, meshing well with the surrounding art work.

The last few art shows have been well attended as well, according to Hertz. Although none have had the success of the first show,

which had about 250 people come out to view the art work, all have had at least 50 people come to the grand opening of the show. The art work can be viewed in the Darden Lounge during the open hours of the Campus Center for the next week.

The art show is also a great benefit to the students who are putting their art on display. Studio art major Maria Petrakos was featuring her piece of work, a beautiful oil painting of Winter Park. Students such as Petrakos are able to experience first hand what show-

ing their art is like, an opportunity which the Rollins College students would otherwise not have. Hertz has created the art show program in order to get students accustomed to what it feels like to have people come and view their art. All art that is on display is for sale, unless the artist has explicitly stated that they do not want their art to be sold. The range in prices during the history of the art shows this year has been between thirty dollars to a five thousand bronze sculpture, which was featured at the first art show.



BRETT HEINEY / The Sandspur

TEXTURE, TACTILE, TOUCH: The art show, held in the Campus Center, featured work from Rollins students and members of the Winter Park community.

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The Elie Weisel Essay Contest Seeks Ethical Input From Students

by **Jami Furo**

the sandspur

Every year, the Elie Wiesel Foundation for Humanity hosts an essay contest in which college students analyze ethical issues in society that they feel require immediate attention.

There are several suggested topics for the 2006 essay contest. Students can reflect on a personal moral dilemma that they have encountered and analyze what that dilemma has taught them about ethics in their own lives, discuss the relationship between religion and ethics in today's world, analyze the relationship be-

tween genocide and ethics, discuss how ethics can transform for the better of a community, nation, or institution, or examine the ethical aspects or implications of a literary work, film, or significant piece of art.

These topics are not the only topics about which students can write, however. These are merely suggestions, and the foundation urges students to write about any ethical topic that they would like to explore.

The students that enter the contest must be full-time juniors or seniors at a four-year college or university in the United States. A commit-

tee that includes Elie Wiesel judges the essays and chooses the winners of the contest.

The Elie Wiesel Ethics Essay Contest was started in 1989 and has taken place every year since. This was only shortly after Elie Wiesel and his wife, Marion, established the foundation after he won the Nobel Peace Prize in 1986. Wiesel was inspired to found the organization based on his experience as a victim in the Holocaust, which is the subject of his famous book, *Night*. The purpose of the foundation is to combat intolerance, indifference, and injustice, which they accomplish through in-

ternational dialogue and through youth programs that instill values of acceptance from a young age, hoping those students will grow up to be informed, ethical, tolerant adults.

The foundation sponsors programs all over the world, though the Essay Contest only takes place in American schools. Also in the United States, the foundation awards the Elie Wiesel Humanitarian Award to a deserving individual. Laura Bush was the winner for 2002.

There are five prizes awarded in the Elie Wiesel Ethics Essay Contest: first

place, second place, third place, and two honorable mentions. The first place winner receives \$5,000, the second place winner receives \$2,500, the third place winner receives \$1,500, and each of the winners of the honorable mentions receives \$500.

Rollins students are welcome to enter the contest. The deadline for essay submissions is December 9. To obtain more information about entry guidelines, eligibility, topics, the foundation, or how to submit an article, visit the foundation's website: www.eliewiesel.org.

Debate Over Iraq Pullout Heats Up

Democrats in the Senate and House Question Withdrawal

by **Robert Hoffman**

the sandspur

With Thursday, Nov. 24 marking the third Thanksgiving that American soldiers have celebrated in Iraq, the issue of a withdrawal of military forces from the beleaguered Middle Eastern nation has been spoken with increasing frequency and urgency in recent weeks.

Beginning with sentiments expressed by members of the Senate, the discussion over the removal of American forces from Iraq was further escalated when Representatives from the House and even the President himself began getting involved.

What followed was a war of rhetoric and publicity stunts, aimed as much at making points and scoring political success as it was at

actually resolving the issue.

The foundation for the recent debate was laid when, in August, Senator Russ Feingold, D-Wisc., called for a timetable to be set for the pullout of American forces, with a final deadline of Dec. 31, 2006. Feingold is the vanguard of the movement and the only member of his party to set a date for withdrawal, but he is far from alone. There has been a growing voice of discontent, and everyone from Senator John Kerry to New Mexico Governor Bill Richardson has come out with a clear message: "It is now time for the military commanders to design a phased, definitive withdrawal plan."

Many senators and congressmen have reversed their original positions, such as Massachusetts Represen-

tatives Martin Meehan, Stephen Lynch and Edward Markey. Perhaps the most high profile figure to recently alter his stance on the war is Representative John Murtha the top Democrat on the House Appropriations defense subcommittee. A Marine for thirty-seven years, Murtha was once a vocal supporter of the war, but now claims "Our troops have become the primary target of the insurgency. They are united against U.S. forces and we have become a catalyst for violence."

President George Bush has not ignored the increasing criticism of the handling of the war in Iraq. He caused a stir by attacking the Democrats on Veterans Day, and aides at the White House said that they are preparing further defenses against denunciations from the left. Secretary of Defense Donald Rumsfeld has refused to comply with demands for a timetable, stating instead that plans for the removal of American forces will have to depend on the situation in Iraq and the discretion of the commanders there.

On Nov. 19, 2005, House Republicans arranged a dramatic vote that they hoped would settle the issue in their favor. They unexpectedly proposed a GOP-written resolution calling for the immediate withdrawal of forces from Iraq, forced a vote on it, and then resoundingly voted it down 403-3. The vote, which came late on a Friday evening before the

House began its two-week Thanksgiving recess, was planned by the Republicans, but it caught the Democrats entirely off-guard. The House minority leader Nancy Pelosi was initially speechless, but later called the vote "a disgrace." The Democratic Party accused the Republicans of organizing a "political stunt" that did not allow for a rational debate on the subject, and most of them voted against the resolution, recognizing it to be a political indefensible move.

To the Republicans, however, the message could not be clearer. "Congress in strong, bipartisan fashion rejected the call to cut and run," said White House spokesman Scott McClellan. In the eyes of most conservatives, withdrawing from Iraq represents a retreat. Referring to the Democrats push-

ing for a plan for removing American forces, House Speaker Dennis Hastert said, "They want us to wave the white flag of surrender to the terrorists of the world." Many Republicans have claimed that America's mission in Iraq has not yet been fulfilled, and to leave now would harm the progress made in the Middle East and invite terrorist attacks in America itself.

The debate has been placed on hold as Congress is on break for Thanksgiving, but it could restart at any time, for the issue at hand is far from resolved. Neither side has scored a decisive victory, and neither is likely to surrender their position. The conflict in Iraq has been divisive from the beginning, and with no easy end in sight the dialogue over America's role there will only continue.



photo / CHUCK KENNEDY / KRT CAMPUS

DISSENT GROWING: Rep. John Murtha called for the immediate withdrawal of U.S. troops from Iraq.

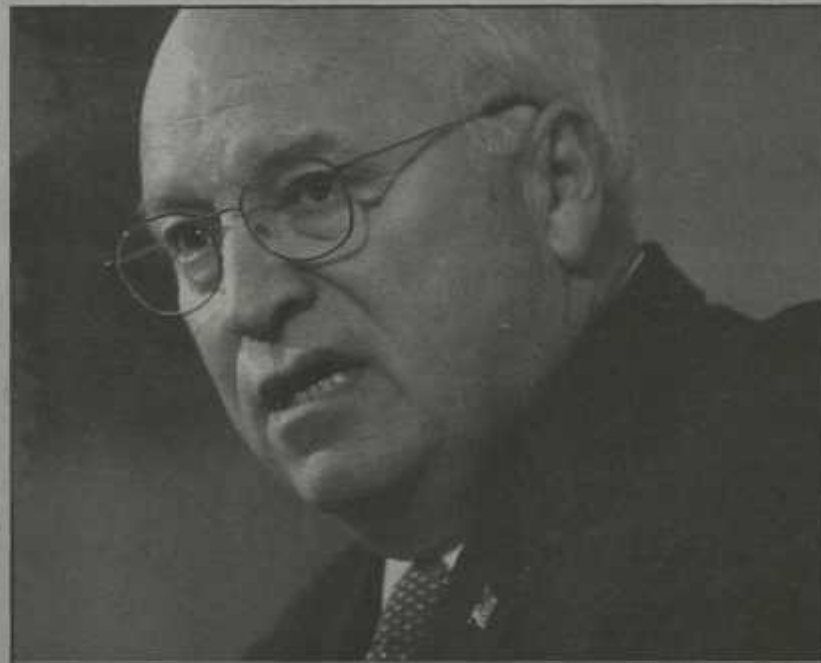


photo / CHUCK KENNEDY / KRT CAMPUS

WASHINGTON, DC: Vice President Dick Cheney delivers remarks on "Iraq and the War on Terror," in a speech to the American Enterprise Institute.

Faculty Passes Academic Honor Code

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1
and writing consultants because they are not considered unauthorized assistance.

The Code will take the form of a commitment at matriculation by means of the following pledge: "The development of the virtues of Honor and Integrity are integral to a Rollins College education and to membership in the Rollins College community. Therefore I, a student of Rollins College, pledge to show my commitment to these virtues by ab-

staining from any lying, cheating or plagiarism in my academic endeavors and by behaving responsibly, respectfully and honorably in my social life and in my relationships with others." A recommitment to these principles will be made when submitting any piece of work for academic credit by handwriting the brief statement, "On my honor, I have not given, nor received, nor witnessed any unauthorized assistance on this work."

It is widely believed that it is due time for Rollins to

implement an Honor Code in order to cement its stance alongside other prestigious universities.

"The goal of the Honor Code is to, five, ten years down the road, have it adopted as a culture."

Nick Tanturri
SGA Governance Chair

The long term objective of the legislation is to have it

embedded in the Rollins community where honorability is supremely important. Nick Tanturri, SGA's College Governance Chair, expressed this desire. "The goal of the Honor Code is to, five, ten years down the road, have it adopted as a culture."

Those involved in the legislative process are aware that the document will meet some student resistance, particularly from upperclassmen when it is time to enact the code. They, however, are confident that it will be em-

braced by the majority of the student body who value the reputation of their education.

In the words of Cat McConnell, "the document isn't perfect, but it is a living document, and it can be amended as the process starts to unfold. Most importantly, the students should embrace the fact that students run the Honor Council, and it is in our hands to trust a system of our peers instead of an array of punishments dealt by the faculty."

Suicide Bombers Attack Hotels in Jordan, Leaving Over 50 Dead and Hundreds Injured

■ Three hotels in Jordan were attacked by suicide bombers, leaving over 50 dead.

by **Kielsey Field**

the sandspur

On Wednesday, November 11, suicide bombers attacked three hotels in the Jordan capital, all hotels that are known to be frequented by westerners. The blasts left scores of people dead, with hundreds more wounded in the explosions that occurred almost simultaneously. Because the attacks were on high profile, western targets, police believe that the bombings are linked to Abu Musab al-Zarqawi terrorists.

The first bomb exploded at 8:50 pm in the Grand Hyatt hotel, shattering its stone entrance. Next, police reported a bombing at the Radisson SAS hotel, close by

to the first attack. This bomb occurred in a wedding hall, where 300 guests were attending.

At least 20 people were wounded, and five killed in the explosions at the Radisson. This hotel was also involved in a plot in 2000, as it is a hotel popular with both American and Israeli tourists. The third bomb took place at the Days Inn Hotel, where no deaths were reported but there were injuries.

All hotels are high end hotels in the Jordan capital, Amman, which has become a base for westerners who fly in to Iraq for business related trips. As a result of the tourism to the capital, the area has experienced an economic boom between the Americans, British and affluent Iraqis who are fleeing the violence in Iraq.

Following the bombings, hundreds of angry Jordanians rallied outside the hotels

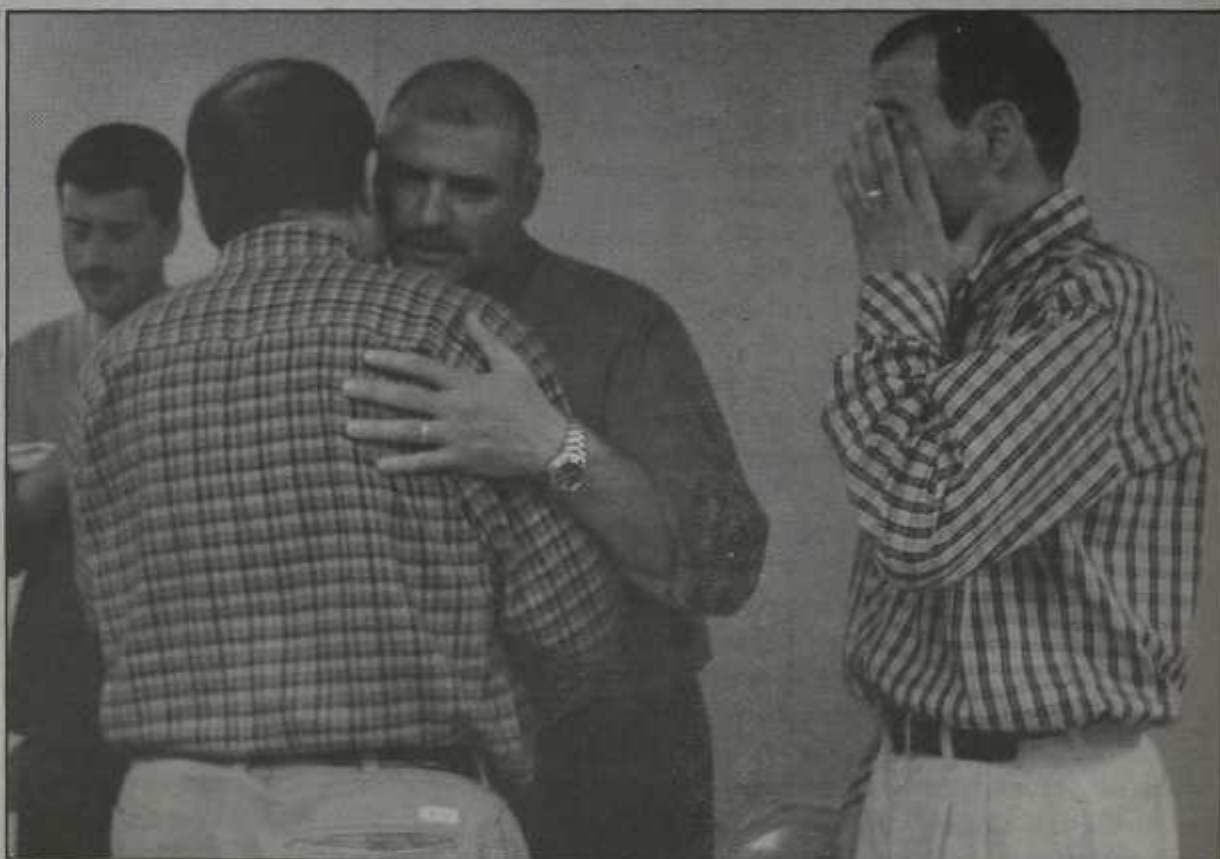


photo LARUIE WARD

COPING WITH LOSS: Brothers Nader, left, and Khalid receive condolences at a service at the Al-Iman Mosque in Arlington, Texas, on November 10, 2005, in honor of those killed in terrorist bombings in Jordan. The Akas brothers lost 17 relatives in the attacks.

to condemn the terrorist leader, who had left approximately 56 people dead as a result of the bombings. The

gathering was organized by Jordan's 14 trade and professional unions, which are comprised of both Islamic hard liners and leftist's political organizations. Thursday was declared a day of mourning, and streets were deserted as citizens around Jordan mourned the loss of lives. According to the American Embassy, at least one American was killed and two were wounded. Both victims have remained unidentified. In an internet statement, al-Qaida called Amman the "backyard garden" for US operations, as Jordan is a close ally with the United States, and linked the blasts to the war in Iraq.

Speculation began to circulate about the date of the bombing, which in the Middle East would be written 9/11, as the date comes before the month. The govern-

ment spokesman Bassel Tarawneh said although the death count was at 56, he said most likely it will rise in the coming weeks. In addition to the American, the victims included 33 Jordanians, six Iraqis, two Bahrainis, two Chinese, one Saudi and one Indonesian, and the rest are waiting to be identified.

Two of the victims killed in the attack included high ranking Palestinian security officials, another senior Palestinian banker, and the commercial attaché at the Palestinian Embassy in Cairo, Egypt. The head of military intelligence in the West Bank, Major-General Bashir Nafeh, and Colonel Abed Allun, a high ranking Preventative Security Forces official, were all killed in the Grand Hyatt hotel attacks, according to Ambassador Attala Kheri.



photo LARUIE WARD

MOURNING VICTIMS: Women pray during a service at the Al-Iman Mosque in Arlington, Texas, on November 10, 2005, in honor of those killed in terrorist bombings in Jordan.

Women Sex Offenders Are Just as Dangerous as Men, Right?

■ Why are men convicted and women insane in the case of sex offenders?

by **Tanisha Mathis**

the sandspur

The judicial system never fails to fail. They have found yet another way to ensure there are double standards. First a white man could kill a black man in the middle of town in broad daylight and still be found not guilty. Then the rich could steal millions and escape with probation while the poor could hold up a convenience store for \$38 and get twenty years in prison. Now, women can molest children and walk away without paying for their crime.

Debra Lafave, the former Tampa middle school teacher accused of having sex with a 14-year-old male student, will avoid prison time. After pleading guilty to two counts of lewd and lascivious battery, a felony, LaFave received three years house arrest and seven years' probation. A deal was

reached two days before Thanksgiving after the victim's family said they wanted the ordeal to end so their son could get on with his life. That's understandable but her crime was not just against the young boy but also against society. These women are in positions of power and violate the trust that parents, children and their communities have given them.

It seemed like we couldn't go a week without hearing the awful news of another victimized child, particularly in the state of Florida. Where is the outrage we had when the television was full of pretty little girls who had been victimized by repeat offenders? Where is the fear that this vile human being will prey on another child if given the slightest chance? There is none, because society mirrors the unjust judicial system; it is full of double standards.

In our society male students aren't considered victims and their sinister predators are not seen as criminals. Lafave, and all the women like her, are seen as some 21st century Mrs. Robinson. They transform

young sexually curious teenagers into men. And once we see how attractive these young teachers tend to be, most men spend their time laughing, calling the young victims lucky, and whining that none of their teachers were hot enough to pose on motorcycles half naked.

If the genders were reversed, Mr. Robinson would be lucky not to be castrated before the first day of trial. We even talk about the criminal acts differently. Men are sexual predators. Women are involved in teacher sex scandals as if they were having caught having an illicit affair with the gym teacher.

Their lawyers want to portray these women as fragile beings that were dealing with deep mental issues and battling depression. Lafave's attorney planned to raise an insanity defense. "If we were at trial, the doctors would be explaining how trauma over the years has affected Debbie. These traumatic events have an effect on her bi-polar illness. It was my feeling that any juror who listened to the testimony of all the difficulties Debbie has gone through

would have found it a very sad and compelling story," said John Fitzgibbons.

Not for one moment could a man get away with that nonsense. The Lafaves of the world aren't mental patients and they aren't depressed; they are animals that prey on children. And if by chance they are sick, that's even more reason they should be behind bars. Men are sexual monsters and women have mental health issues? The judicial system is clueless that a woman can be just as conniving, criminal and cold-hearted as any man if not more so. They are given counseling while men serve time in prison. These women are not victims in any sense.

"To place an attractive young woman in that kind of hell hole is like putting raw meat in the lions," Lafave's attorney said in July of the possibility of jail time. Raw meat is exactly what those middle school kids were as they sat in a child molester's classroom. All of the Lafave's in our society belong in a prison cell instead, where the inmates can treat them like they treated those children.

Research Shows General Scientific Knowledge Not Well-Known

■ American education takes the focus off science, as research shows.

by **Sheila Phicil,**

Sana Lateef, and Rachel DiGiovanni

contributing writers

Is the American education system failing to instill a foundation of basic knowledge? Recently, the Microbes, Disease and Humans RCC Class discovered an article "Scientific Savvy? In U.S., not so much" in the New York Times that reveals astonishing facts about the scientific literacy of our country. The article states that "one adult American in

five thinks the sun revolves around the earth."

After reading their results, we decided to test science literacy on our own. A survey of ten questions was devised and handed out to two college populations, fifty students at Rollins and fifty students at University of Central Florida. The survey contained basic science questions, which should be common knowledge to any high school graduate.

When comparing the results of the survey, Rollins students scored higher with an average of 74.4% correct answers, while UCF received an average of 71.6%. Three of the ten questions were of special interest to our class. When asked if the earth revolved around the sun 88% of Rollins students and 90% of UCF students answered

yes.

Compared to the findings in the New York Times article, our results proved that college students are more science literate than the average adult.

Surprisingly, the question that resulted in the lowest percentage of correct response was "What gas comes from plants?" The answers varied from kerosene gas to carbon monoxide, when the answer was simply oxygen.

We also asked "Does an antibiotic have an effect on a virus?" and 70% of Rollins Students and 56% of UCF Students answered no. We asked this question because our class has been discussing the misuse and overuse of antibiotics due to the fact that a majority of our society does not know that antibiotics have no effect on virus-

es.

The lack of basic science knowledge is a rising concern in our society. Further studies should be done to determine the cause of this problem. The failure of the American education system is evident when college students are not able to correctly answer simple science questions.

Tests, like the FCAT in the state of Florida, which are designed to increase children's education, are actually hindering because students are only drilled in math and English while the other subjects are ignored.

As a result of the current education system, the youth of America are not being adequately equipped to become global citizens and responsible leaders.

The Sandspur

The Oldest College Newspaper in Florida



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Death Penalty Unjust

by **Brett Heiney**

the sandspur

There is a lot of talk today about the right to life and the culture of life; everyone wanting to save unborn babies and keep those in persistent vegetative states alive. Though, I think that the majority of the right to life movement has forgotten a group that needs their support. The news is alive now with death penalty cases, those about to be executed, and those who are about to enter sentencing. This constituency is an important one that those who attempt to establish a culture of life have left out.

I personally am a right to lifer, I am against abortion. This is partially because I am Catholic, and because of my personal morals and ethics. My appreciation of life and my respect for it does not end at helping the unborn be born, but to help those who are currently living remain in that state. I know that this is a tricky subject to address, many people think "an eye for an eye," but that is no excuse to me.

Many use that specific Bible verse saying that it gives express permission to kill those who kill. But as a Christian, I site the New Testament when in a religious debate about the death

penalty. Jesus Christ in the New Testament talks about love and forgiveness as what is most important. I'm not suggesting that murderers go free or that we allow them parole even. I do not want them to be executed.

One who assumes the audacity to take another human life should be punished, but only temporally. By executing prisoners, we assume the same audacity they did when we take the murderer's life and the decision about who lives and who dies is not ours to make. Life without parole is the answer; make them suffer through the rest of their natural life in a maximum security prison.

For once I actually agree with Europe; execution is a barbaric act, left over from a less civilized time. Europe chooses not to extradite wanted people to the US if they may face the death penalty. Though it can be frustrating as an American to see the tension between Europe and our nation, I cannot say I blame the Europeans to standing by their principles.

Not just is the death penalty morally appalling but there are very practical reasons to get rid of it. I hope you all know about this little thing called DNA testing, it can pretty accurately

tell with the right physical evidence whether a certain person did commit the crime for which they are being accused. Since the advent of DNA testing, we have learned that far too many, one being too many, innocent people have been executed. The system is still not perfect today, even with further advances in DNA testing. If we lack the foolproof system, and if there is a one percent chance that an innocent person will be executed, then no one should be put to death no matter what the crime.

Whether you are a religious person or simply a practical person, do not advocate the death penalty. The majority of the right to life movement is hypocritical, lacking anti death penalty rhetoric. The Bible may say "eye for an eye" but Jesus says love; DNA may show someone is guilty but it also shows so many executed have been innocent. I urge you to support life; life is sacred and should not be taken by anyone. Even if someone takes it upon themselves to commit murder we should not lower ourselves to their level by killing them. Life is the path we should follow, even in the face of murderous evil.

And That's the Way It Is...

Parting Words from the Editor-in-Chief

After serving for two semesters as the editor-in-chief of *The Sandspur*, I believe that now is the appropriate time for me to step down and let some other outstanding students in our organization continue the tradition of quality and improvement that we have made a priority in my time here.

When I came to *The Sandspur* as a staff reporter two and a half years ago, the first issue on the stands was eight pages. This issue has twenty, and they are filled with news, features, reviews, editorials, and recaps. I am extremely proud of the progress we've made under my watch and those who have come before me, and I truly believe that readers will see even more dramatic strides made in the semesters to come.

I never imagined myself

reaching this position when I joined to cover sports and maintain the web site. But I just couldn't help getting sucked into the fast-paced, high-stress world of journalism and production.

In my travels through Production Manager, Managing Editor, and finally Editor-in-Chief, we've had some memorable moments. We went through an election last year, and I had the privilege of editing the "Decision 2004" special section each week. There was the "Rollins on Being Sexy" spread, which got us lots of reader feedback (glad you were paying attention!).

Probably the most fun moment of my tenure was the April Fool's edition, which I conceived as a joke, but the staff loved the idea, and from the feedback I got, our readers

enjoyed reading it as much as we enjoyed writing it.

And Dr. Duncan still delivers "Duncan" Donuts on production night from time to time.

I think now it's time for me to find a quiet spot on a faraway beach and retire there. (Ha!) Actually, I'll be sticking around in a consulting role, trying to make sure that my successors don't have to learn the ropes the hard way like I did.

It has been an honor and a privilege to be a small part of *The Sandspur's* 112-year history. I am proud of what has been accomplished while I've been here, and I am extremely optimistic about what is to come.

Mark Bartschi

Mark Bartschi
Editor-in-Chief

"RIGHT" ANSWER



by **Jami Furo**

political columnist

REPUBLICANS SHOULD NOT SURRENDER

Congress' new project is creating an exit strategy to get American troops out of Iraq as soon as possible. Their plan will establish a plan to accomplish the goal and set a deadline for when to get the soldiers out of Iraq.

It sounds like a good idea in theory, doesn't it? Bring our boys home. Peace in the Middle East. I agree with you. It does, in fact, sound like a good idea. In theory.

But this plan, as far as I can tell, is only a good idea in theory. In practice, sure, it might work, but it has a potential for disaster.

First of all, I see this exit plan as a cowering, surrender from the Republicans in Congress. They are tired of taking abuse from Democrats and from the media. They know that President Bush's approval rating is less than stellar, and they want to clear their names. A big part of being a politician is being popular so you can get re-elected. If your decisions are not popular, you will not be back for another term to regain the trust of the nation. Therefore, if there are problems, you have to take care of them quickly.

I understand that. I understand wanting people to like you. I understand wanting to be the popular kid that gets to sit in that prestigious table in the cafeteria farthest from the teacher's lunch area.

But are politics all there is to being a politician? The term is misleading, really. Congressmen are not just politicians. They are legislators. They represent the people with an informed voice about law and policy. Their job is not to duck and run when approval ratings are low. Their job is to make the right choice based on knowledge instead of fear.

This is not just a matter of politics, however. There are larger dangers at hand. If Congress establishes a deadline that the President must follow for a time to retreat from Iraq, there is a possibility that they will estimate wrong. They may not give themselves enough time, abandoning the country while there is work left to be done.

If soldiers leave Iraq too quickly, they may leave the people of Iraq in a situation that they are not equipped to handle. They might leave the people with the violence of the insurgents in Iraq. It may leave them with a newly born government that is not yet equipped to handle the nation on its own. It may leave the burden of war with Iraqi civilians instead of well-trained troops.

Departing from Iraq before we are ready can bring danger to us, as well. It can show weakness, which is an open invitation for terrorists to come onto our soil and attack us again. If terrorists see us backing out too soon, they will equate that with vulnerability, putting American civilians in harm's way. Whether it is in Iraq or in the United States, it is innocent civilians that will suffer from the United States pulling out of Iraq too soon.

It pains me to think of the terrible things that our soldiers must see and endure in the Middle East. It hurts me to hear about each and every soldier that is killed in the line of duty. But I am afraid that the exit plan puts too much emphasis on a deadline and not enough on getting the job done. I am afraid that it is being born out of politics and not out of the best interest for the American and Iraqi peoples.

War Means Killing, Not Mass-Murder

Dear Editor,

It is fitting that Tom Trasente's November 11 editorial takes its title, and moral inspiration, from a quote by the founder of the Ku Klux Klan.

Mr. Trasente is correct to question our fighting of the war on terror. The truth is that we have let Osama bin Laden and those like him slip away. But contrary to Mr. Trasente's argument, our lack of success does not stem from want of bloodshed.

In fact, the indiscriminate killing that Mr. Trasente seems to advocate can itself be credited for our failure to find Osama bin Laden and those who seek to continue his work. The War on Terror is an unfocused mess. This is not because of any lack of conviction on the part of the American people. Mr. Trasente is again incorrect when

he claims that America doesn't have the heart for this fight. What we lack is leadership.

Mr. Trasente should read what he cites. President Washington warned against unnecessary foreign entanglements, and our policies of arming the Saudi government and occupying Iraq show of the wisdom of his advice. And it is disingenuous to refer to Michael Scheuer without acknowledging that much of his book denounced the clumsy, emotional appeals made in Mr. Trasente's argument.

Forgive me if I find dancing on the bodies of innocents a bit grotesque. That was indeed how some armies fought the great and terrible wars of the last century, but American soldiers were not among them.

William Jarvis

Howl Again Poetry Winners

by Issac Stolzenbach
the sandspur

Due to the lengths of the winning entries, we are unable to publish them in The Sandspur. But don't be disheartened because you can see the winners read their work LIVE at Austin Coffee and Film on Wednesday, December 14 at 9 pm. Nude Bandit, a local poet and facilitator of Naked Word--a weekly open-mic night at Austin--will host the show.

If all goes according to plan (stop laughing) we'll film the top three entries as they read their work for a Current TV submission early next

year. Without further a due, the winning poets:

Third Place: "Splinters" by J. Bradley

Second Place: "Cognizant Garbage" by Sandra Monday

First Place: "The Infiltration of America" by Joshua Strassner

Remember, Strassner will receive a \$50 gift certificate courtesy of Austin Coffee and Film! We hope to see everyone there and we encourage you to come and read your work any Wednesday night at Nude Bandit's Naked Word. Again, thank you to all who submitted. Check our website, www.the-sandspur.org, to see the winning entries.

THE
OFFICIOUS



OMBUDSMAN

by Issac Stolzenbach

THE 2005 CALIGULA AWARD

This semester's *Caligula Award* goes to: Big Oil! Grab your ankles America, it's only going to get worse....

The *Caligula Award* goes to those corporations who care more about racking up profits and evaporating the middle-class than they do about the welfare of the American people. The last award went out to banks for the "Check Clearing for the Twenty-First Century Act," or Check 21 as it is commonly known; the additional revenue generated by the paperless check system is not reciprocated to the worker.

Big Oil gets the award because they see nothing odd in the fact that Americans have been fisted at the pump for the past quarter, and in the same quarter they just so happen to have the best quarterly profits they've seen in years. Earning more than \$33 billion the past quarter, Big Oil reported before Congress that they "... do not conduct, condone, or tolerate price gouging." Pffttt...

They say they're not gouging, but they wouldn't swear by it. Democrats requested that the executives swear in like Big Tobacco did many years ago before discussing whether or not their cigarettes were harmful. Republicans were quick to huddle and proclaim that the Dems were "grandstanding" and would not allow the execs to go under oath. *Imagine that....*

The American people were so outraged they pushed the Senate to hold a special session to question Big Oil execs from our five major oil companies: British Petroleum, Chevron, Conoco-Phillips, ExxonMobil, and Shell.

Anyone else see a reason to get upset here? To place these huge numbers into context, Big Oil earned enough profit in one quarter to write a \$110 check to every man, woman and child in this country... *that's* how much money we're talking about here. In addition, our wonderful government granted the Big Oil companies subsidies to the tune of \$500+ million dollars

in the 2005 Energy Bill; Veterans only received \$25 million to take care of their homeless population.

Where are our priorities? Shoving cash hand-over-fist to the jagoffs who need it the least (mainly in Texas to companies like Tom DeLay's Texas Energy Center in Sugar Land) or give it to our vets who are living on the streets because they were never able to make the transition back to civilian life? Who deserves the funding? The people who fought for this beautiful Nation, or the people fisting it?

Generally, S&P 500 companies have an *outstanding* quarter when they see a 15% profit growth, Big Oil saw a 65% profit margin increase at \$33 billion, more than the other S&P companies combined.

What are we going to do about this?! I know... nothing but kick the dirt and wish we had more money to spend on gifts this holiday season with a pump in one hand and a fist in the other.

FAREWELL!

Well Rollins, it's been real, it's been fun, and in some places it's been real fun (especially all the stuff I did with your sister). In the past few years that I've worked for The Sandspur, I've talked about everything short of that thing your sister does with farm animals on the weekends, and I don't think I've gotten a rise out of you all on any of it. I fear that my generation's apathy has trickled down to yours. I hope not, but it seems to be the case.

[shrugs] Be that as it may, I wish you all the best in the years to come; they may prove to be the most challenging yet. All I ask is that you wish me luck on my journey to stand on the shoulders of a giant, the late father of Gonzo journalism, Hunter S. Thompson.

—Issac Stolzenbach

P.S. I'm promoting myself to "Senior National Affairs Correspondent" so I can write you from the road. Gobble, Gobble, Gobble...

THE 2005 CALIGULA AWARD



Communique Helps Give Kids The World

by **Lauren Kleinschmit**
contributing writer

Rollins College Communique students recently spent some time giving back to the community, at Give Kids the World in Kissimmee. Their task was to decorate a villa with Christmas decorations for a family staying in Orlando for the week.

At the end of the day, the family was surprised to be greeted at their villa with a decorated Christmas tree, stockings and other festive decorations.

Give Kids the World is a local charity that grants wishes to children who are terminally ill. The organization has more than 90 living facilities



COURTESY OF LAUREN KLEINSCHMIT

or villas on the property for families to stay. "This was a great opportunity for our organization to come together and help a family cherish their holidays and their experience at Give Kids the World," says Lauren Klein-

schmit, president of Communique. "It was truly a humbling experience."

Communique members who volunteered were Lauren Kleinschmit, Meredith Spindler, Karen Cunningham and Melissa Robinson.

Turning Passion Into Practice

■ Insights and reflections from a departing Sandspur staffer.

by **Brian Hernandez**
the sandspur

"You know you're in love when you can't fall asleep, because reality is finally better than your dreams." These words by Theodore Geisel, aka. Dr. Seuss, are as timeless and poignant to me now as they were when I first heard them as a child. But it wasn't until I had the opportunity to enroll in the Holt school and join the ranks of *The Sandspur* that I truly appreciated how meaningful those words truly were.

I'll be graduating at the end of this semester and concluding what has been a remarkable journey of self discovery and grand accomplishments, which unfortunately must come to an end. But I wouldn't have had the pleasure of experiencing any of this had it not been for the Rollins College Hamilton Holt school and this little paper you're reading right now.

As I pen what will be my last of almost 40 articles for *The Sandspur*, and wrap up my undergraduate education, I do so with a heavy heart but also with a spring in my step. I've had the great opportunity of learning from some wonderful professors and students these many semesters and have had the honor of helping

to bring this newspaper to life for three years.

Several years ago had the idea of returning to college after a 10-year absence and lofty yet waning aspirations. I wanted a career in journalism but had no idea how to get there, let alone how I would earn a college degree in the process. So after some soul searching and an information session on campus I enrolled

Sandspur by then editors Brad Aboff and Robert Walker, and I was off and running as an assistant news editor, and later as opinions editor and now production manager. Aboff, Walker and current editor Mark Bartschi, were the driving force in the redesign and rebirth of the paper, and under their guidance and support I flourished and parlayed what was initially a student activity



BRIAN HERNANDEZ/ The Sandspur

into a passion for storytelling and the culmination of a dream.

Because of that support I started and ran the Holt News section, successfully spearheaded the famed "April Fools" issue of *The Sandspur*, and was asked to bring my experiences to Hamilton Holt Student Govern-

ment Association to help promote and highlight some wonderful events throughout the years.

Through the academic and professional experiences I gained through the Holt school and *The Sandspur*, I was also able to convert a TV news internship into a paid producing position that allowed me to take part in two years worth of award winning coverage and some unforgettable hurricane seasons.

And now I find myself graduating from school and moving to Denver, Colo. to take on another media opportunity that promises to be as challenging as it will be fun. And all because I made the most of the opportunities available at this school and my love for a little newspaper

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The
**CAREER
COACH**

Marian Cacciatore

DIFFERENCES BETWEEN CURRICULUM VITAE, RESUME

Dear Marian:

What is the difference between a CV and a resume? When should I use one format over the other?

Cherie '05

Dear Cherie:

Good question!

For many people the words CV and Resume are used interchangeably.

However, while the overall format may be similar there are distinct differences between the two. The answer to your question depends on the type of position that you are applying for.

Typically a resume highlights key skills and accomplishments and should be no more than 2 pages.

In comparison, a CV can be quite lengthy and span numerous pages. The CV provides greater detail regarding academic, scholarly and research accomplishments in addition to work experience.

Details on a CV will also include awards, publications, special projects, honors, memberships and affiliations.

When would you use a CV instead of a resume?

I would recommend using the CV format only when pursuing an academic (postsecondary institution) or a high-level research industry.

Typically undergraduate students are rarely expected to use curriculum vitae. For most Holt students a well-written resume will be all that you need!

Do you have a question for Marian? E-mail her at mcacciatore@rollins.edu. She guarantees that all questions will be responded to individually or in this column.

with mighty ambitions.

Yeah it's been a great ride and I'm sorry to see it end but I hope reading about my journey can help inspire all of you to get involved on campus and do what you can to make this school a little better than the way you found it.

The Rollins ethos of Fiat Lux, "Let there be light," can serve as more than just some fancy script on a logo, it's a mindset that can embolden a

student to forge their own path and reach new heights of success even they may not have fathomed.

I'm getting a little misty eyed so I'll sign off now but I thank you for supporting *The Sandspur* all of these years and for helping a departing graduate realize some of his whimsical dreams. As Dr. Seuss once said about endings, "Don't cry because it's over, smile because it happened."

WHSOA
Happy
Hour

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 8
7 PM

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Come celebrate the end of the semester
and meet other Holt students and
faculty. Plus pick up your free
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CANSTRUCTION® On CAMPUS Event Collects 2,000 Cans For Charity

On Saturday November 19, 2005 three teams from the Hamilton Holt school came together with Holt SGA and the Orlando chapter of Canstruction®, to collect food for the Second Harvest Food Bank of Central Florida.



Connie Holt, Director of Student Services, cheers on her Holt Administration Team as they lay the foundation of their design.



Matt Sayti, Holt Program Advisor, puts the finishing touches on the Holt Administration Team's festive design.



Applying his engineering expertise, President Lewis Duncan ensures that the Holt faculty design is structurally sound.



Communication Professor Wendy Stahler and her trusty assistant begin marking the area for their grand structure.



Contestants and spectators beam with excitement as "O'Cannenbaum" is awarded top honors for the day.



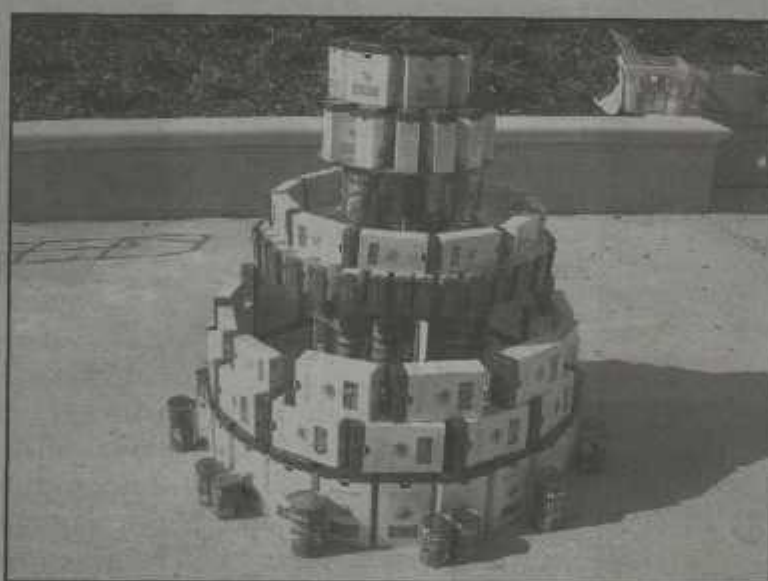
The Holt Faculty Team with Sue Easton, Ph.D., Professor Wendy Stahler and Holt Graduate Program Coordinator Laura Pfister, work their way through the center section of their Campbell's Soup Can structure.



Dean Sharon Carrier, and Lorrie Kyle, Executive Assistant to the President, begin their meticulous assessment of the designs.



Dean Sharon Carrier gives "O'Cannenbaum" a judge's once over.



Holt SGA/Communique's wedding cake structure.

First Place: "O'Cannenbaum" - Holt Administration Team
Second Place: "Campbell's Soup Can" - Holt Faculty Team
Third Place: "Wedding Cake" - Holt SGA/Communique Team

BY BRIAN HERNANDEZ

Congratulations to the Holt School Administration Team for their winning design "O'Cannenbaum"

Trojan Women Storm the Fred Stone

■ The Fred Stone once again stages an amazing student production.

by **Sophia Koshmer**

the sandspur

The persecution of races and civilizations are prominent throughout history and violence against women is no stranger these books. But such themes are truly universal and transcend time.

The Trojan Women, a play based on the infamous Euripides version by Charles L. Mee, is a violent, heart wrenching adaptation portraying human nature at its most despicable. The beauty of this play lies in the fact

that its message is one which is just as vital in today's world as in the world of the ancient past.

The first act of Mee's Trojan Women is set in the past, the time period itself insignificant, in a world suffering post-war conditions where the surviving women of those who have lost are left to be raped, tortured, sacrificed and murdered at the hands of a ruthless enemy.

The women are led by the ever strong and matriarchal character of Hecuba, and since the end of the war have been in limbo, finding safety under a bridge, unsure of what their fate will hold for them. It isn't long before the victor's side led by Talthibius and his men

come to harass them and brutally reveal what is to be of their bleak futures, including the condemnation of Hecuba's own daughter, Andromache.

When the women decide to fight back, one of their own is raped and brutally murdered as a sacrifice and many of the women are brutally beaten and sexually assaulted without shame or remorse. Soon they call upon the only surviving man of their civilization, Aeneas and send him to begin anew with the goal of one day returning to conquer these perpetrators.

The second act is set in modern times in a setting called "Carthage", a women's club where women give themselves freely to men, searching for love in a world where such a thing is rare.

There is one woman, Dido who will not lend herself so freely to the false promises of love. When Aeneas comes along, with his talk of taking chances and allowing oneself to believe in love, Dido is soon drawn in, unable to deny what lies within her heart. However, it is not long before Aeneas reveals that he must return to where he came from to fulfill a promise to avenge those who had wronged his people.

Unable to bear this heartache and betrayal as it seems to be, Dido murders her love, and holds him as he dies, her teardrops reaching his body as the life leaves him.

The director, Celia Merendi, has created so brilliantly such a beautiful and tragic tale. It is clear that she had a deep understanding and intimacy with this play. Her minimalist set gave way to some of the most poignant portrayals ever to reach the Fred.

Actress Sarah Kate Moore seemed such an unlikely candidate for such a strong, commanding role as that of Hecuba with her small stature and yet she demands to be both seen and heard with her incredible projection and her undeniable presence on the stage. You could feel the pain of Hecuba, watching her children suffer and die at the hands of a cruel and inhumane race of men. Her air was so convincing that it tore you apart to see even her unfailing strength and courage begin to fall towards the end of the first act as all hope seem lost.



Junior Kelly Crooks has given yet another incredible performance at the Fred with her heartbreaking portrayal of Andromache. The innocence and fear was so genuine that one could not help but feel it deeply and want so much for her protection and safety. Each of the women's roles played also by Seniors Sarah Waibel, Carrie Bonnell and Jill Jones, have their own moments of beautiful and heart wrenching poignancy as they gave individual accounts of their war experiences in such a way that Act 1 surely broke the hearts of its audience.

Even the roles of the men played by Freshman, Joseph Bromsfield, Junior Seth Stutman and Sopho-

more Mike Nardelli, were so believable it hurt to watch their cruelty and abuse. The second act was filled with equal realism and truth with especially notable performances by Jill Jones as Dido and Michael Dalto as Aeneas. The audience watched them fall in love and felt their happiness, felt them let go and give into love only to have it end so tragically. Jones and Dalto gave Dido and Aeneas heart and terrible pain.

The performance of The Trojan Women at the Fred Stone Theatre was beyond words. But if one had to choose the words would be powerful, heart-wrenching, poignant and beautiful.

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Xbox 360: Is It Worth The Hype?

by **Issac Stolzenbach**
the sandspur

I sat down for the much-anticipated moment of booting my brand new Xbox 360 for the first time. Sitting slack jawed, I reveled in the Disney-like magical moment of diving into liquid graphics and nonexistent load times. The birds were even chirping!

Wait . . . it's not birds singing, it's this friggin' controller squeaking! All the fuss and fighting over this supposed "next generation gaming console" and they can't even get the controller right? Uggh. A short bout of flailing and cursing got enough spittle into the left analog stick to quiet the sound a bit (actually, a little silicone spray).

After grumbling about the controller, I finally immersed myself into a game of Quake IV. The graphics are liquid, making my mouth water; the sounds are crisp and bassy, making my heart pound in my throat. I was just about to pounce on an end-boss with my newly acquired grenade launcher when . . . BOOM . . . the screen froze. I slung the controller at the screen,

"What!?"

A Microsoft product with a glitch? No way. I hopped on the web to see if anyone else had experienced the same problem, and to see if my blind-faith in Microsoft's billion-dollar-ability to release sound products could be tested (the whole bit about using the public for quality control to fix the bugs in Windows XP was just a rumor).

Low and behold! There were blogs and articles spinning all over the web about overheating issues with the Xbox 360's brick of a power supply. Reviewer recommendations ranged from dangling the hardware on its end by a string to using a freezer drink cooler.

I really thought Microsoft could have made a good product this time. Bill Gates, Chairman of Microsoft Corp., certainly thought so when he told a Bloomberg News reporter that the Xbox 360 is "... the hottest product we've ever had." Why does he think the Xbox 360 will prove to be his best and brightest? Because they used a Mac to develop it! The Alpha model of the 360 was a Mac G5 running dual

PowerPC processors. It took Billy awhile to figure it out: If you want to make Microsoft products better . . . go ask Apple how.

The architecture of the 360's guts is quite sophisticated. Boasting a three-core PowerPC-based processor running at 3.2GHz, the 360 seems to have the power of three computers in one. There's not much bottlenecking between processors either, with over 20 GB/s processing rates between the three-core PPC, ATI's 500MHz GPU at the center, and the 512MB of main memory. Utilizing the binary strategy of Apple computers has effectively squashed backwards compatibility between old and new Xbox titles, but some can be emulated with the purchase of the add-on 20GB harddrive.

Pretty impressive techie stuff, but does the Xbox 360 have the grapes to make the gaming world do a 360? You would think so by looking at eBay on launch day where Xbox 360 Premium packages (retail \$399) sold for over \$2,000!

Microsoft is as good as our government when it

comes to controlling the headlines. Instead of reading about the problems with the 360, we're hearing about the demand. Oh the demand! Everywhere the systems are sold out, and people are freaking out. People camped out over night in front of electronics stores; a bona fide riot broke out in a Maryland Wal-Mart when a manager tried to manipulate the number system developed by people waiting in line for 12+ hours; a woman held at gunpoint and robbed of her son's Christmas present in Georgia. Stores are telling people they won't get another shipment of the consoles until next year; Microsoft states that they are shipping out orders each week . . . will utter hysteria break out before Christmas ala Tickle Me Elmo?

So is it worth all the hype? The answer to this question was best answered by Tre—a Blockbuster employee who works in the store's "Game Rush" department—when he said, "Ehh, my brother got one and I've played a few of the titles, but it's just another gaming console." Tre's languid remarks are shared by many

die-hard gamers who thought the Xbox 360 would make the old Xbox look like Pong.

The best improvements: Better integrated Xbox Live abilities where your in-game achievements are kept with your "Gamertag" for the world to see. Fluid graphics and outstanding sound. The "more PS2-like" wireless controller, which is much smaller and lighter than the original Xbox controller released four years ago.

The drawbacks: Finding one to try out before buying. Absolutely nothing from your old Xbox hardware will work with the 360, and only select first-gen Xbox games will work if you get your hands on the harddrive, which is also sold-out everywhere. There's really nothing new here, so I would wait until your buddy gets one so you can check it out for yourself.

Conclusion: See how much they go for on eBay right before Christmas, then you'll know if the 12-hour wait in line to get one was worth it and/or wait for the PS3 (which will actually allow you to use the hundreds of dollars worth of accessories).

WEEKLY HOROSCOPES



Aries (March 21-April 19): The end is in sight so don't stress out too much about the countless things you have to do between now and then. Be sure to depend on your friends this week and through the end of the semester to help you get through the tough times ahead. With a little luck and some help everything will come out alright.



Taurus (April 20-May 20): You've been on a lucky streak lately despite some minor incidents of distress. This will continue this week and through the end of the semester as long as you don't slack off between now and then. If you don't keep up with everything then it will all catch up with you.



Gemini (May 21-June 21): Exercise is a great way to relieve stress and feel great so you should look into an exercise program in the coming weeks. You're about to encounter a great deal of stress in your life and you should find ways to positively deal with it.

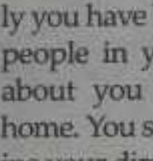


Try starting a new exercise program or activity this week.

Cancer (June 22-July 22): Be sure to keep in touch with your friends over this upcoming break. In these last weeks of school you'll find they can be a bastion of strength during stressful times. Keep this in mind as you relax during the holidays and don't forget to check in on the people in your life who care about you at school.



Leo (July 23-Aug. 22): You need to rearrange your priorities this week. Clearly you have been neglecting the people in your life who care about you at school and at home. You should also reexamine your direction in academics this week. Be sure you're happy with the path you're on.



Virgo (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): It's time to buckle down on your academic work for the rest of the semester. You got to relax over Thanksgiving so now you have to plan and prepare for the abundant amount of work you're about to



be slammed with. Make lists, get your act together and start planning your time efficiently. If you don't get with the program then you'll never manage to catch up.

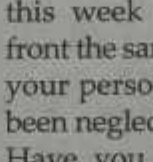
Libra (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Life is going to knock on your door this week to remind you that there is life outside of academics. Don't ignore your academics all together but be sure to recognize that there is life after the classroom and you belong in the outside world. Try enjoying your free time this week.



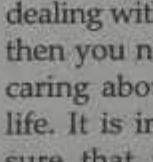
Scorpio (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): While you seem to have your act together this week on the academic front the same can't be said for your personal life. Have you been neglecting close friends? Have you been putting off dealing with love? If you have then you need to get back to caring about people in your life. It is important to make sure that you take care of number one but don't forget that sometimes you need someone else to take care of number one too.



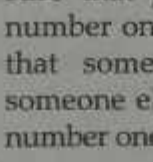
Sagittarius (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): It may feel like you've gotten into a rut lately in your life. You can only be downtrodden if you let yourself. Try looking for a new life philosophy this week to help you get back on track. I'm not saying to go find a new religion, but try looking for a healthier, happier way to deal with situations and people in your life that are stressful. With a little positive thinking you'll find that things are never that bad and karma is just waiting to reward you.



Capricorn (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): You need to stay on top of your stuff this week. With the end of the school year approaching you may be tempted to slack off due to the sheer amount of work being forced upon you. With a little positive thinking you'll find that things are never that bad and karma is just waiting to reward you for good words and good deeds. So get out there and make karma want to pay you back in full by stying on top of your commitments. You'll thank yourself later.



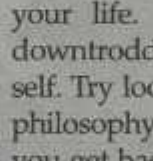
Aquarius (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Life has a way of repaying us for good works. You need to catch up or you'll find yourself on the negative side of karmic feedback. You'll get your chance to help others this week as you encounter extreme drama in the life of others around you. Stay out of it and be a neutral party. What people in your life need from you is an objective opinion that is willing to support them without taking a definitive side and swaying their decisions. If you get involved in drama in the life of others you will soon find your own life is plagued by drama as well. Help others but don't influence them.



Pisces (Feb. 19-March 20): This is a time for keeping yourself in the here and now despite the new beginnings you will soon encounter in life. Stay focused on the important things in your life like family, friends, and personal goals. Academics are always important but you need to value people in your life above all else just now. With the holidays coming up you should seek to make others in your life feel loved and valued by you.



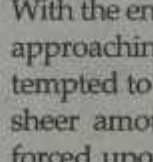
Aries (March 21-April 19): The end is in sight so don't stress out too much about the countless things you have to do between now and then. Be sure to depend on your friends this week and through the end of the semester to help you get through the tough times ahead. With a little luck and some help everything will come out alright.



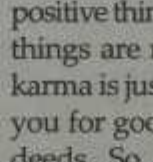
Taurus (April 20-May 20): You've been on a lucky streak lately despite some minor incidents of distress. This will continue this week and through the end of the semester as long as you don't slack off between now and then. If you don't keep up with everything then it will all catch up with you.



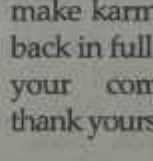
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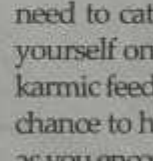
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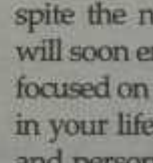
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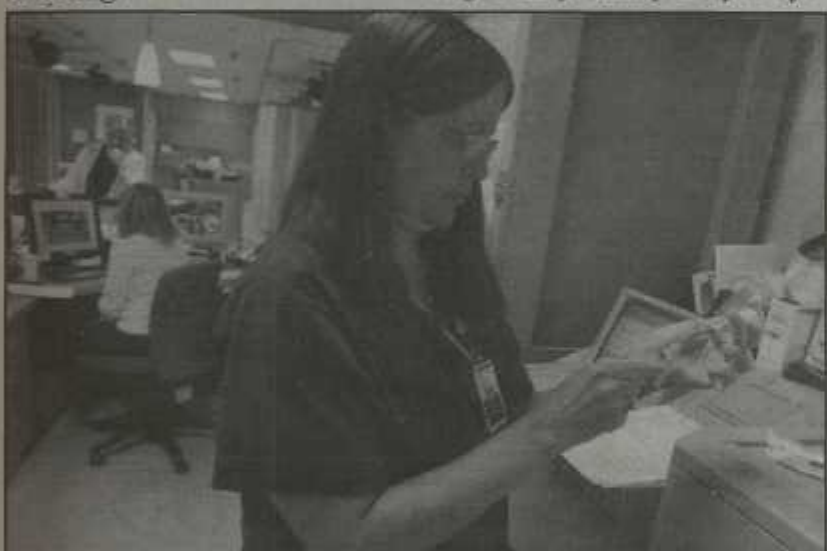
Beating the Flesh-Eating Bacteria With a Smile

by **Tatianna Geliga**

contributing writer

Drilled holes in supple flesh, nauseating mixture of pus and blood oozing from infected gashes, flesh-eating bacteria devouring muscles and nothing but probable theories to explain how this could have happened to an otherwise healthy young woman.

The last few weeks of summer vacation are expected to be spent relaxing on the sun-bleached Floridian sands or maxing out your credit card in search of the perfect first day of school ensemble. However for Cameron Boylston, her lounge chair quickly became a hospital bed and her ocean view was nothing more than the aquatic swirls of wall paper that bordered her isolated room that could induce seasickness if stared at too long.



JASON KUNDIG / KRT Campus

FILLING THE IV: A nurse fills an IV in the nurses station in the emergency room of a hospital.

An ocean of IV tubes and waves of monitor sounds crashing with each other, drastically contrasted with the beautiful mountains of North Carolina where she spends two months out of the year working at Camp Sky Ranch, a summer camp for mentally handicapped children.

After saying her good-byes in August, she left camp to make her way back to Gainesville, where she is now a sophomore at the University of Florida. Taking a few days for herself in Charleston, South Carolina—visiting a camper and exploring boutiques—was just what she needed.

Little could she have foreseen that her last two weeks of summer were going to be abruptly interrupted by something as trivial as a presumed bug bite.

On a Thursday evening, Cameron returned to Florida with the inner thigh of her right leg showing signs of redness and inflamma-

tion.

She came back and she had something growing on her leg, and I wanted her to go right away to the emergency room but she wouldn't, explained Stephanie Patrick, Cameron's good friend of six years and college roommate. It was like a huge boil and it was really pink and red. It just didn't look good.

She was limping and she couldn't really move. I was so scared for her I couldn't do anything for her so I just felt helpless, Stephanie relayed with a touch of distress.

Against Stephanie's advice, Cameron left the next day not for the hospital, but to spend some time with her mother, who lives in Winter Park.

We were at Rock Springs and I told her she was walking funny, Mary Kay Boyl-

ston said. I called my mom crying, I just didn't know what to do. I was so scared they were going to amputate my leg or something it was completely infected and nasty.

When Cameron arrived at the hospital, she was immediately taken into the operating room.

She called me on Tuesday right after she had seen the doctor around eleven, and she said they were going to be taking her in and she thought she was going to have surgery and she wanted me there, Mary Kay said. I thought it was infected. But I had no idea the extent of the process we were going to have to go through.

Her mother and Whitney, her older sister, arrived at the hospital while Cameron was in the operating room.

She had 103 degree fever when she came in and was groggy and delirious, said Sonja Gray, a Shanks physical therapist. In her 12 years, Sonja has seen similar cases. However on seeing the condition of Cameron's leg during the first surgery, it still produced a bit of a shock.

The surgeon was getting ready to perform the IND which is debridement of the wounds, and he wanted me to see them so that I knew what I was going to be dealing with after she came out the next day. And the first word that came to mind was massive.

The diagnosis: Necrotizing Fascia—a rare but highly dangerous condition.

Commonly referred to as flesh-eating bacteria, Necrotizing Fascia is characterized by an extreme destruction of skin and the soft tissues beneath it, including fat. In Cameron's case, as it advanced, complications with an antibiotic-resistant Staph infection developed.

The IND procedure, which had to be done while Cameron was under general anesthesia, is the removing of all the non-living viable tissue leaving open areas that are 100 percent red and beefy which can then proceed to heal.

Other people said it looked like Swiss cheese. I say it looked like somebody took an ice cream scooper to my leg, Cameron said with an amused grin.

Though diagnosed, the mystery of its origins remains unsolved.

Eight days, four consecutive surgeries, and count-

less morphine and antibiotic cocktails later, Cameron was left with seven gaping holes in her leg—the largest burrowing about 8 centimeters deep.

An infection like that can get into your body system and if not treated, you could go into a coma and die, Sonja said while putting on her gloves before beginning one of Cameron's now tri-weekly wound care sessions.

For about a month after the series of surgeries, Cameron went to wound care every day, taking two buses to get to the hospital.

At first it was hard to walk. They didn't think I was going to be able to go to school. But I decided I was going no matter what! Cameron said with a defiantly determined tone.

She went from a wheelchair to crutches to walking on her own—all in the first week after she was released.

Forgoing getting a job and dropping one of her classes, Cameron was able to schedule her busy life around her recovery process.

In fish-pattered purple and hot pink scrubs, Sonja stood gloved and ready to assess Cameron's leg.

Oh, your skin looks awesome! she exclaimed as she undressed the now healing wound. She has had an excellent recovery. It was not slow at all, everything

she cleaned the area with antifungal soap. I think she would have had a harder time if she didn't have the family support she had. Somebody came with her to every visit.

My sister made me a scrapbook that was amazing, and ironic, and funny, and flowery, and pretty, and nasty, Cameron laughingly said. She'd come to wound care and take pictures of me and the wounds that were disgusting and put them into a beautiful scrapbook that I will cherish forever.

She plans to keep the large, beige photo album in the living room she shares with her three best friends, claiming it'll make a perfect coffee table book that will catch every unsuspecting guest off guard.

People say I was positive, but most of the time I really didn't know what was going on or how bad it actually was, Cameron said. But I think my main motto was that I was happy to still have my leg. So at least I have that, she said nonchalantly with a shrug, modestly accrediting her seemingly pleasant disposition on the constant morphine drip.

I'm going to the doctor for every single bug bite I get from now on. I definitely see hypochondria in my future! she half-jokingly exclaimed.

And though she fully intends to return to the



STEWART F. HOUSE / KRT Campus

SURVIVOR OF BACTERIA: Debbie Hardy had the support of her family when she was diagnosed with the flesh-eating bacteria disease.

has gotten better and smaller.

She estimates that Cameron will be fully healed before Christmas.

Her mom and family were great, praised Sonja as

wilderness of North Carolina to pursue her passion of caring for children with disabilities, Cameron has come away from all this with three words of wisdom:

Wear bug spray!

Study Tips for the End of the Semester

by **Dani Picard**

the sandspur

Finals week: the delightful time in which most students seem to have more cups of coffee than hours of sleep. Some students never leave the library and some are still locked in the depths of Bush

keep in mind during this crucial period. Remember, your grades conveniently get sent home at the same time your parents would otherwise be giving you that new Xbox 360 or that to-die-for Louis Vuitton bag that would be a great addition to your ever-growing collection. For some rea-

son, parents tend to frown on a semester filled with letters that come after C, especially those that are really far away from it...like I or W.

Number 1, professors tend to think poorly of students who miss their exams. If you must miss a final, think

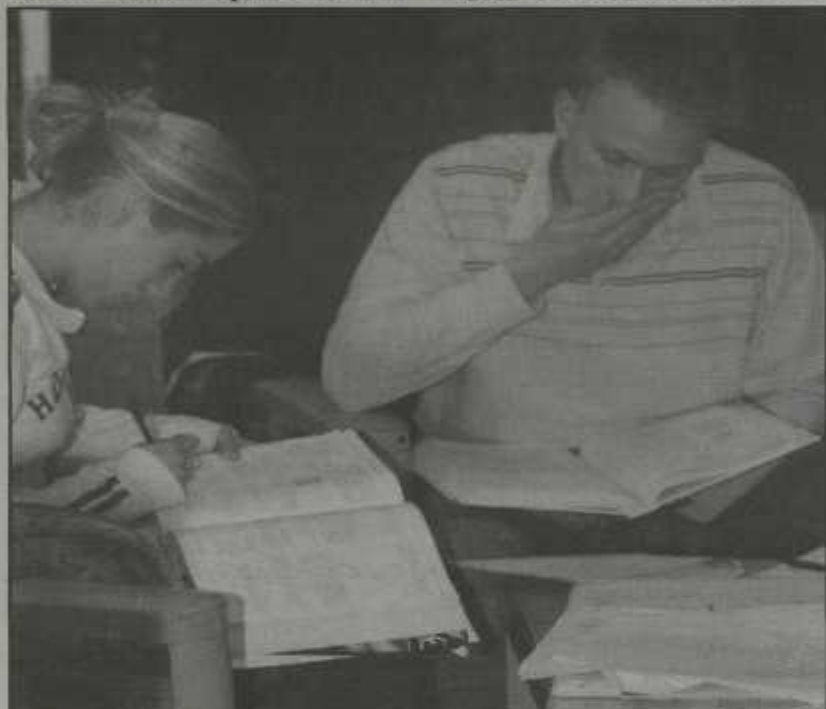
of a good excuse, like ravenous squirrels attacked you on Mills Lawn, brought you down to their secret underworld as a sacrifice, and you had to save yourself by fending them off with your 20 page term paper. "Your roommate didn't wake you up," rarely makes up for you missing that lovely 8am final. However, if you use the squirrel excuse, try to lose a limb or two to make the story seem more legitimate.

Number 2, playing DDR for three straight days does not help you study for any final. At last check, the songs did not include reasons why Falun Gong should not be considered a cult or an in-depth examination of Piagetian theories. It is also a little difficult to concentrate on that 400 page book you have to finish in 8 hours when you are jumping up and down trying to beat your opponent who has refused to do anything but play DDR since August. This person has obviously resigned himself to a gift-less holiday or has already forged a grade report to show his parents if they ask.

Number 3, although you may have scored perfectly on all your sunbathing exams out by the pool, those grades rarely show up on your tran-

script. Take a break from the pool and find out where the library is. Hint: It's the big building with the computers

your time complaining to your friends about how much work you have to do, because by the end of your little spiel,



Group Study: Taking time to study in a group with other classmates can help improve chances of doing well on exams.

and have not seen sunlight since the semester began. However, to those students who are still feeling a little happy that this time is upon us and have not yet realized the quiet tremor of impending doom, it might be handy to inform you of things to

son, parents tend to frown on a semester filled with letters that come after C, especially those that are really far away from it...like I or W.

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TAKING THE TEST: Students taking their exams in a college English 130 class.

and the books that you have to pass by to get to the pool if you're coming from Ward or Elizabeth.

Number 4, AIM away messages, while interesting and potentially entertaining if you know the right people, do not often include hints on how to successfully compute integrals of trigonometric functions. Setting your book next to your laptop does not mean that the information in the text will gradually infiltrate your brain through osmosis, no matter how high the humidity is here in Winter Park.

Number 5, don't spend

you have just successfully wasted half an hour and your friend is only going to waste another 40 minutes trying to top your story. If a friend starts to go into this tirade, quickly tell him that you killed an angel with a toothpick and go back to your dorm room to study. If the individual ranting is your roommate, refer to advice number 3 on directions to the library. If that fails, remember that certain sections of Lake Virginia are deep enough to hide any incriminating evidence. Blame his absence on a fight with the ravenous squirrels.

The Most Amazing Inventions of 2005

by **Erika Batey**

the sandspur

A rope that senses the amount of weight it is bearing, a watch that waits to wake you up until you are in a light sleep, a door that opens just enough to match the shape of the person or object passing through it? These are among *Time* magazine's most amazing inventions of 2005.

Some are bizarre and seemingly useless, but among the long list are a few useful and even potentially lifesaving inventions.

The Tweel from Michelin is described as a shock-absorbing rubber tread band that distributes pressure to dozens of flexible polyurethane spokes. The spokes are supported by an aluminum center. Its most distinguishable feature is that it is airless, and therefore never goes flat.

It has been tested on the IBOT robotic wheelchair and military vehicles, but is not available for cars at this point. Michelin says it is still too noisy for automotive applications.

Another invention, Smart Rope, is embedded with electrically conductive



SHOCK ABSORBERS: Two police officers ride their new bikes enhanced with new shock absorbers and airless tires.

metal fibers that allow it to sense the amount of weight it is bearing and alert users to a load that is too great. If there are any problems, a handheld receiver sends a warning message to the owner. Smart Rope is designed for use on boats, securing valuables, or in rescue operations.

One of the more bizarre inventions is the Sleeptracker. Equipped with a built-in motion sensor, the watch can tell whether you are in a

deep or a light slumber. The more restless you are, the lighter your sleep. To ensure

an optimal waking time, it instructs the user to allow a window of about 20 minutes when you wish to wake up. Then Sleeptracker's alarm will go off when it senses that you are best ready.

Chef David Burke of the restaurant davidburke&donatella has created a line of flavor sprays that mimic the taste of foods but have no fat, calories or carbs. There are 18 varieties available, with flavors such as Memphis BBQ, pesto, and choco-

late fudge. The sprays are created from natural and artificial flavors.

One of the most amusing on the list is the new iCat. What makes this robot unique is its expressive face. If you tell it to go away the iCat will look sad. Praise it, and it will beam. There are even internal microphones that can be used to record sounds and assist with speech recognition. iCat is also multilingual!

Perhaps more useful are the Nike invented new amber-tinted MaxSight contact lenses that filter out blue light to reduce glare and improve the visibility of baseballs, tennis balls and other moving targets. There is also a gray-green version made especially for golfers that enhances the dips and curves of a distant putting green.

Equally useful, as well as unique is the new Japanese designed Fukuda Automatic Door that opens just enough to match the shape of the person or object passing through. The motion-detecting portal saves energy

by keeping a door from having to repeatedly open all the way. This also helps to maintain a stable temperature in a room and can prevent dirt and other materials from being swept inside. In addition to people, the new system can be used for small objects, like packages dropped off at a post office, or for larger things, like a car coming through a garage door.

Of all the inventions of 2005, the LifeStraw by the Swiss-based company Vestergaard Frandsen has been voted among the best. For only three dollars, it is a drinking straw that uses seven types of filters, including mesh, active carbon and iodine, to make up to 185 gallons of water clean enough to drink.

As a result it can help prevent waterborne illnesses, such as typhoid and diarrhea. It can also create safe drinking water for victims of hurricanes, earthquakes or other disasters.

With today's technology and innovation, the limits to invention seem boundless.

Holiday Traditions by Rollins Students

Ah, the holidays are here again! I'm amazed each year how different they are for myself and my family, which as far as an immediate family consists of mom, dad, brother, and me.

My Father was Jewish (passed away recently) and my Mother is Episcopalian but converted to Judaism when they married - technically making my brother and me Jewish, but not really...

We celebrated Hanukkah only one time. I remember it vividly because we had to wait each day for ONE gift.

If you don't know, on this holiday a candelabra called a menorah with nine candles is lit, one by one, over the holiday, and as kids we were given one gift each of those days totaling nine (or was it eight? I can't remember) gifts.

Hated it!

My parents were totally cool about not making us do anything we didn't want to do, so that was the end of Hanukkah, of course still respectful of Jewish traditions.

Thanksgiving is typically a time for a big meal and a big family that's loud, obnoxious, and asks you a million questions that you don't want to answer. Aunts and uncles that you have not seen since last year ask you about school, your social life, your job, and everything else in the world. Then, you answer the same questions to about 97 more sets of relatives. You eat too much, then the men in the family crash on the couch watching football while the women are stuck with the dishes.

Does this sound familiar?

In many families, that is what Thanksgiving is like. In my house, it is a little different. I do not have a large family. It's basically me, my parents, my grandmother, my brother, and that's it. However, my brother and I are both engaged, and each of our fiancés has large families that have enormous Thanksgiving extravaganzas of their own that they are more or less required to attend.

So what is a small family to do? Certainly, it is not a

We went back to buying a tree and the decorations, and the following year the entire living room was filled with gifts for me, the entire dining room with gifts for my brother Bill - to be opened all at once! Yes!

I was certain I had died and gone to Toy Heaven!

Ever since, our yearly

Christmas:

By: Lori Lipkin

times have always been different, for if I were to label what our 'traditions' were - it would be...well chaos and inconsistency!

What is always present though is our love for each other and our willingness to express it - pretty much any way possible.

We fight and yell we cry and make up; we function in our dysfunction with love and the utmost respect.

My brother and I are living together going on three years as he helps me finish my education.

We buy a great big tree each year, decorate the house with lights, candles, and hang the cards with tape over the doorways, play the sappy Christmas tapes, watch the movie *A Christmas Story*.

We put out lights all over the house, using those cool colored rope ones that you can twist into all kinds of funky ways or even words if you have enough tie wraps.

Then Mom drives up from West Palm and invades our space-kidding, really!

We all pretty much just hang out for a week or so and eat like pigs. We go to the store multiple times and just gorge.

Sometimes I create a whole menu of new dishes I want to see if I can actually pull off, other times we literally just order pizza!

The theme of our traditions remains and always is: love...and making sure we tell each other through words or hugs or just being together.

times, it is elsewhere. While many families have a standard Thanksgiving procedure, ours changes from year to year. It's alright, though. I like the variety.

One thing is standard about Thanksgiving in my family, though. We always put up our Christmas lights on Thanksgiving. If we're not cooking or eating, we are putting up lights. Most of our Christmas decorating takes place over Thanksgiving weekend.

The day after Thanksgiving, of course, is our day to contribute to the United States economy by participating in the typical Black Friday festivities. We get up at five o'clock in the morning and hit the stores, even though everyone in my family is an early shopper and we have usually all finished most of our Christmas shopping at that point. We usually buy a few odds and ends, but most of all, we go for the sport of it. And you never know - we might find a sale or two that we just cannot live without.

Happy Holidays everyone!

I never realized that my family's version of Christmas was all that different from everyone else's until I was about 16 years old. Apparently the "normal" Christmas dinner is ham, but that's about all I know. Are they sides that accompany? Is fruitcake the dessert at the end? As my family is Swedish, we have always celebrated Christmas with Swedish traditions mixed with some good old American traditions.

To begin with, everyone in my family, cousins, aunts, uncles etc,

come over to my house on Christmas Eve, so the day is spent frantically cleaning our house and making lots of food that really only the adults eat. The day before my mom, brother and I head out to Ballard, which is in Seattle, to pick up some traditional Scandinavian food for dinner.

By dinner I mean a Smorgasbord, or basically open faced sandwiches. Unlike most families, our dinner is pretty informal, with the kids sitting in the kitchen talking about the food we are never going to eat, and the adults scattered around the living room gossiping about this and that. Our dinners are always the same: pickled herring, head cheese and other normal types, meat, scallop potatoes, Swedish meatballs and salmon, with homemade cookies that grandpa made for dessert.

Essentially, a dinner that I can only bring other family members to, because the one time I invited my boyfriend

to Christmas Eve dinner he left very hungry and very disgusted. But hey, to each their own. After dinner we sit around and wait to hear the sound of jingle bells at the front door.

Literally.

Not only does Santa come when everyone is asleep, at my house he comes when everyone is awake as well. It's a tradition we've had for a very long time; since my mom was a kid.

Christmas:

By: Kelsy Field

The Diabetes Society, a long time ago for a fundraiser, began a program where a Santa will

come to your house, sing songs and pass out Christmas presents to everyone. Everyone sits on Santa's lap and everyone tells him what they want for Christmas, even though all of us kids are grown up now. The Santa Clause list is hard to get on, and so we continue on with the tradition so that when my siblings and I have children, they can have Santa come to their house as well.

When Santa leaves, then the family does our own gift exchange. The adults and kids draw names at Thanksgiving, and then at Christmas we give gifts to the person we chose. The adults do a charity exchange, where they donate money to charity.

Everyone goes home that night except for my aunt, and the next morning my family wakes up, opens up gifts and then has Christmas breakfast. After the huge meal, everyone just kind of sits around, relaxes, and enjoys the sounds of Christmas.



LET IT SNOW: Mickey Mouse and friends celebrate Mickey's Very Merry Christmas Party going on now at the Magic Kingdom.

Ask The Fox!



Dear Fox,

I have a ton of finals this year since I took six classes this term and I'm getting bogged down with homework and studying. The problem is, my friends and my boyfriend of two years are constantly asking me to do things with them. I feel like I'm obligated to say yes and go hang out, but every time I do, I can't stop thinking about all the study time I'm missing. What should I do? I don't want to make them angry with me but most of them only have one or two exams and they don't really understand. It's important to me to do good this semester because I haven't done so well in the past. I feel like if I spend time with them, I'm going to fail everything. I'm lost.

~Can't Say No

Dear Can't Say No,

I think the absolute most important thing you need to do in this situation is explain your situation to your friends and your boyfriend. If they truly love you as friends and significant others should, they will understand. Succeeding in college is one of the most important things right now in your life. Partying and hanging out is fun, but it's not what you should be focusing on.

So, the thing you have to do is the one thing you say you can't: say no! Practice saying no right now. It's easy. The important

thing to remember is that they will understand. Whether they have exams or not, if you sit down with them and tell them you need to study, then they should be accepting of it.

Also, why don't you guys all go out for coffee or lunch/dinner and you can bring your books. It might be distracting, but they can help you study if they really want to spend time with you.

Another idea would be making flash cards for one of your tests and asking one of your friends to help you. That way they would be spending time with you and you would be getting work done.

There's only a couple days of school left and after exams are over, you can hang out with friends all you want. Remind your friends of that. Tell them you'll have a huge get together once finals are over and you can relax.

This is a very stressful time of year for everyone and even though your friends and your boyfriend don't seem to have a lot to do, I'm sure they have the same worries as you. Talk to them about how you feel and things will work out just fine.

Good luck with your dilemma and also with your finals. Remember, if your friends and your boyfriend care about you, they will understand. It's as simple as that.

~Daisy Fox

The Fox returns to answer this weeks social and relationship questions from Rollins students. If you have any questions that you would like The Fox to answer, then send an email to fox@thesandspur.org

Win a Trip to Space!

by Lori Lipkin

the sandspur

We hear all the time about traveling into space as a passenger. Apparently if you have enough money, you are relatively - free to go.

Well what about the rest of us? We want to go! Well now we've got a chance.

Sometime in the next few months SpaceShot out of Texas, as well as the British-based Virgin Group will be unveiling some online games that offer a grand prize of a trip into space.

Sam Dinkin, the founder of SpaceShot, has started an online game that everyone can play.

He shared with MSNBC.com that he started up his company out of frustration over the high cost of citizen spaceflight.

He also told MSN that "It's a non-dexterity skill game, not a shoot-'em-up type game. It doesn't have anything to do with Virgin Group's game," and he goes further to say "It's not a game where people have to play for a while, like checkers or chess or Reversi."

What you buy is an entry into the game that would cost less than \$5, putting you into a gamut of multiple tournaments resulting in a seat on a rocket ship, literally.

Dinkin is so passionate about giving the average person the chance to fly into outer space that he declared, "I will sell as many Rocket-plane flights as people are willing to buy entries for."

SpaceShot is partnering with a company called Rocketplane Ltd., and they are planning to have a suborbital service to outer-space by 2007.

The other company called Virgin Skill from Virgin Group is developing a space-themed game giving



COURTESY OF KRT CAMPUS

SPACE TRAVEL: Astronaut Soichi Noguchi, mission specialist, representing Japan.

the top winner a seat on a rocket plane called SpaceShipTwo, beginning in 2008.

The game is called Virgin Galactic Quest and if you play, you will be pitted against other players at various levels posing an escalating series of challenges.

Stephen Attenborough, vice president of astronaut relations at Virgin Galactic, describes it as "a tournament which will lead to a finale with a Virgin space seat for the lucky winner."

He could not give a precise figure charge-wise for playing the Quest, but believes the fees may vary depending on the level of play. He assures everyone that it will begin at a minimal amount.

As with anything that sounds too good to be true there are several legal and ethical hoops to jump through. For SpaceShot, a legal team has been put into place to navigate the uncharted waters.

None of the winners will be able to cash in their winning seats for another couple of years but Dinkin is confident saying, "We're going to deliver this service and I think it's going to be a good service."

Overall, the attempt to get more earthlings on board in regard to space thinking and space travel is coming into view.

Even last year as a Super Bowl promo, Virgin Galactic and Volvo partnered together and awarded a suborbital space seat to a man from Colorado.

Also a company called Space Adventures working with Oracle Corp., and a Norwegian candy company called Nidar are giving away spacecraft rides (to be named later) and there are even more sweepstakes in the works.

The main difference between SpaceShot and Virgin Galactic game playing is the fee necessary to enter. For other sweepstakes you just enter personal information and the winner is randomly picked like a lottery.

Two years ago, Florida officials actually rejected setting up a lottery type situation with space-themed prizes.

Leslie Steele, Florida Lottery spokeswoman told MSNBC.com that based on focus-group sessions, "Our players (that is specific regular Florida Lottery players) said that they would be more interested in winning cash prizes as opposed to going into space."

Not this Floridian! How about you?

Head to www.hobby-space.com and check out this wild site. If you're interested in playing the games or entering sweepstakes: on the left under "activities" click on contests.

You can even have a personal item sent off into the outer world if you'd like, and when it comes back they'll give you an official certification that it has flown into and back from space!



SOUTHERN AFRICAN LARGE TELESCOPE / KRT Campus

STAR LIGHT, STAR BRIGHT: The formation of the Lagoon Nebula is about 3,800 light years from Earth.

Goodbye London! The Top Ten:

by **Lara Bueso and Jessica Estes**

study abroad columnists



LARA BUESO / The Sandspur

SCOOTING AROUND: Lara Bueso, Jessica Estes, and friends travel by way of scooter.

other language is certainly the best way to achieve true fluency, so we urge students with sufficient foreign language proficiency to study at an institution at which it is the language of instruction. Normally this requires successful completion of two years of college level courses in this language (or its equivalent).

Escaping the Rollins bubble gives those who dare a whole new perspective on life. It is such a Sex and the City moment when independently listening to your iPod on the way to work, picking up a few groceries from the modestly-sized local market, walking through historical districts with the cold London wind blowing through your scarf, struggling to open the front door to your flat while balancing a coffee, school books, your work bag and purchases that you couldn't help but make on the way home through Oxford Street, and the whole time thinking "I am living on my own for the first time in my life – and loving every second of it."

Stepping outside of our "comfort zone," as the international programs department refers to it, was honestly the best decision of our college career thus far. We don't want to sugar coat the experiences too much, expect to confront hurdles along the way – hurdles that will inevitably benefit you in

the long run. It was nerve-racking being thrown out into the big city alone the first few days in London hoping for a familiar face to appear amongst the large crowds. We would have been happy if our pediatrician had visited. In light of those previous sentiments, the great majority of us laughed the other day when reminiscing about how homesick we were in the first week and how completely opposite we feel now. Some of us have been offered the opportunity to stay for the next semester and work. Others plan to move back. And yet some have taken the opportunity for granted...there's a sour apple in every group.

And although you are forced to take an impractical Crossing Cultures course, don't feel as if you are going to fall behind in your studies. Plan accordingly, make this a priority. IT COSTS THE EXACT SAME TO STUDY IN WINTER PARK AS IT DOES IN LONDON, SYDNEY, OVEIDO, or any other place your heart desires. If you are concerned about credits, realize that you can still receive between 14 and 16 credits. In some programs you can even take a class for your major or add on an extra minor in the case of Australian studies. Also don't feel confined to studying abroad in the fall or spring semesters. There are plenty of poor planning students out there, those who have switched majors or cannot study abroad for other academic, economic, or personal reasons. For any of the above, Rollins also offers two to six week course studies during winter break and in the summers with financial aid opportunities. Just do it!

If this article wasn't convincing enough, check out our pictures and you'll wish you rode a scooter on the coast of Barcelona too!

Places You Won't Find in a London Guidebook

by **Lara Bueso and Jessica Estes**

study abroad columnists

Although you may first read this and have no clue what places we are taking about, we encourage you to save the information for a potential visit to London, especially for those of you studying abroad next semester. You will need time to carve your own niche and discover your own local pubs, clubs, shops, and parks. But to help you find those, we have composed the following list.

1. Primrose Hill – North of Regent's Park, the highlight of Primrose is the spectacular view of the city skyline. The 216 feet summit allows you to see a panoramic view stretching from areas past the Globe Theatre, Buckingham Palace, The Houses of Parliament, London Eye and Tower of London. Once a popular venue for duels, the park was saved from development in 1841 when the Crown Commissioners took it over.

2. The Pint Pot – Located on Tottenham Court Road, the bar is one of the few opened until 1 am on the weekdays (most close at 11 pm). On Thursdays, the pub attracts many locals for karaoke night where you can freely sing along to Brown Eyed Girl, Wonderwall, or Sir Mix A lot. You can be assured that the pub is hopping every Thursday with two-for-one cocktails.

3. Be afraid, be very afraid of cinema ticket prices in London. However, hidden among the overpriced Odeons (this is their major movie theatre company that charge anywhere from £7 - £15) in Leicester Square, lies a £1 theatre with £1 beers called Prince Charles Theatre.

4. Many musical theatres such as Piccadilly Theatre save front row seats for those willing to sit out front, day-of, early in the morning, for a few hours. For a discounted price you can purchase tickets to sit three feet away from stars such as Ewan McGregor.

5. You will undoubtedly hear encouragement to strut down Oxford Street, one of London's premier affordable shopping districts. However, try stepping two blocks off of Oxford Street to take advantage of vintage shops, specialty stores, and other overlooked mom and pop stores.



LARA BUESO / The Sandspur

IN THE BOOTH: Rollins students sightsee in London.

6. The pseudo national dish of the British is curry. You cannot experience London without tasting a bit of their curry. Try walking over a few paces east of Shaftsbury Avenue and Charing Cross to Mela Indian Cuisine where waiters are quick to assist you in ordering spicy or mild curry, nan, or Kulfi Indian ice cream for desert.

7. The WalkAbout – London has thousands of night spots to choose from, but the relaxed atmosphere and great music make the Walkabout our favorite. Ladies will be warned of the sneaky Australians who attempt to swoon tourists with their attractive accents.

8. The Red Lion – The most popular pub name in all of Britain, this specific one is adjacent to Parliament. It is not uncommon to find Members of Parliament unwinding in the bar. Use this as a opportunity to meet British politicians and express your concerns.

9. Top Shop – Three stories of London's latest trends at somewhat affordable prices, there are several locations across town. With a convenient candy shop inside, vintage clothing on the bottom floor, nail salon, lingerie section and shoe department, you can find great deals among the racks of clothing.

10. The Skate Park – located on the Southbank next to the Royal Festival Hall lies a park complete with railed obstacles undisturbed by cops. Built by the city, skateboarders can freely practice tricks up and down ramps, benches and graffitied walls without the fear of local officials coming to move them along.



LARA BUESO / The Sandspur

GHETTO GIRLS: Rollins students see a different side of Europe, getting into the ghetto style.

A-Rod edges Big Papi for American League MVP, Pujols wins first NL award

■ A-Rod and Pujols among the honored with end of the year league awards.

by **Tanisha Mathis**

the sandspur

Three weeks ago the New York Yankees found another way to finish ahead of the Boston Red Sox as Alex Rodriguez beat out David Ortiz to win his second American League Most Valuable Player award in three years. The Yankees third baseman received 16 first-place votes, 11 second-place votes and one third-place vote for a total of 331 points from the Baseball Writer's Association of America.

Ortiz, Boston's designated hitter, finished with 11 first-place votes and 17 second-place votes for 307 points. Los Angeles Angels' outfielder Vladimir Guerrero received one first-place vote and finished third with 196 points.

Rodriguez hit .321, an AL-high 48 homeruns, 130 RBI and 21 steals. Ortiz hit .300, 47 homeruns, a major league leading 148 RBI and one steal. Rodriguez may have sealed the award in the

second to last game when he went 4-for-5 with a homerun against the Red Sox in Fenway Park leading the Yankees to an 8-4 win over Ortiz and the Red Sox to clinch the AL East division.

With nearly identical offensive numbers defense was the deciding factor. Rodriguez had another wonderful year at third base; some felt Gold Glove worthy while Ortiz could only help his team with his bat. "I think defense, for the most part, being a balanced player and also saving a lot of runs on the defensive side, I think was a major factor here," Rodriguez said.

Rodriguez also won the award in 2003, his last year with the Texas Rangers as a shortstop. He became the first Yankee since Don Mattingly in 1985 to win the award, giving the Yankees the most MVP awards of any team with 19. Rodriguez earned a \$1 million dollar bonus for winning the MVP.

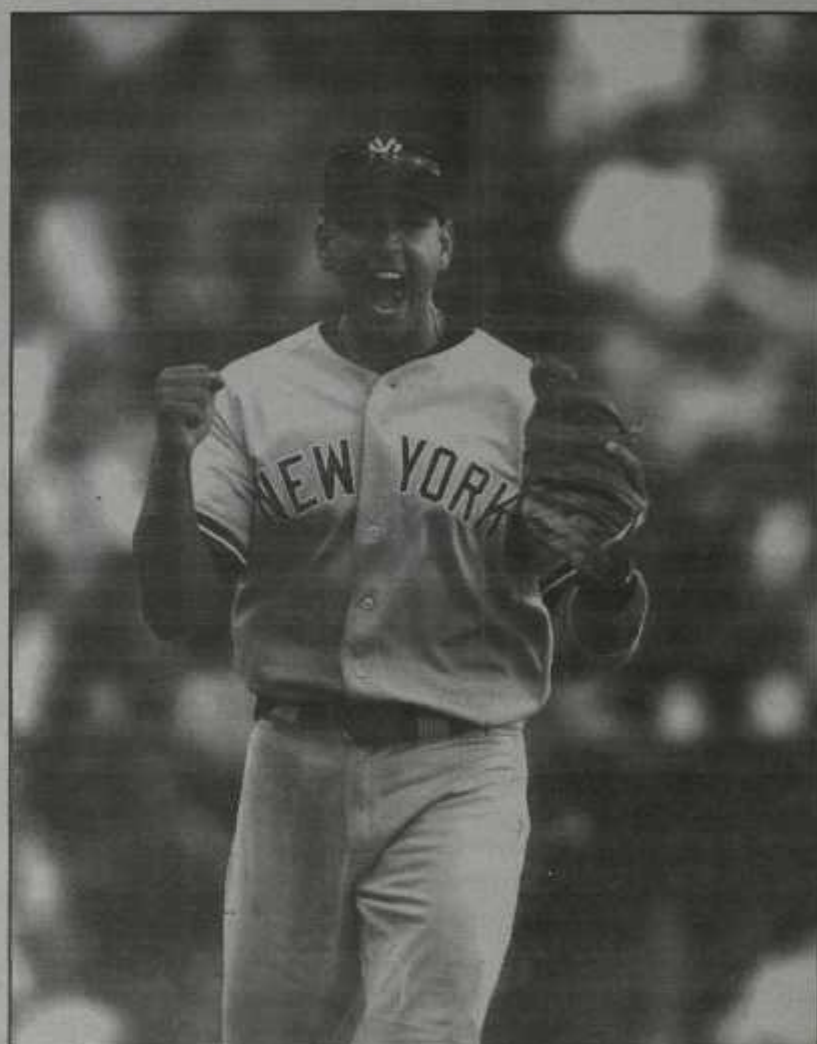
After four amazing statistical seasons, Albert Pujols won his first National League MVP award in his fifth season. Pujols was helped by the absence of San Francisco-Giants' outfielder and 7-time MVP Barry Bonds who was out for the majority of the season with a

knee injury. Pujols finished in fourth place as a rookie in 2001, he finished second to Bonds in 2002 and 2003 and third behind Bonds and Adrian Beltran last year.

The St. Louis Cardinals first baseman received 18 first place votes, 14 second-place votes for 378 points beating Atlanta Braves' centerfielder Andruw Jones who received 13 first-place votes and 17 second-place votes for 351 points. Chicago Cubs first baseman Derrek Lee was third with 263 points.

Jones had 128 RBI, a major league leading 51 homeruns and won his eighth Gold Glove but was surely hindered by a .263 batting average. Pujols hit .331 with 41 homeruns and 117 RBI. He was among the league leaders in every major statistical category and for the fourth straight season he earned more walks than strikeouts.

His manager Tony LaRussa has described Pujols as the best player he's ever managed. "Albert's award was well deserved because he was the most valuable to our team across the board as soon as he showed up to the ballpark until he left," LaRussa said. "His value went beyond statis-



PAUL J. BERESWILL / KRT Campus

A REASON TO CELEBRATE: A-Rod became the first Yankee since 1985 to win the American League MVP.

tics." Pujols received a \$200,000 bonus for winning the award. It was the 15th for the Cardinals, the first since Willie McGee in 1985.

Other major award winners of the 2005 season included the Oakland Athletics' reliever Huston Street winning AL Rookie of the Year. Philadelphia Phillies' first baseman Ryan Howard, who took over for the injured Jim Thome, was the NL Rookie of the Year.

The Angels' Bartolo Colon ran away with the AL Cy Young award and be-

came the first Angels pitcher in 41 years to win the honor. The Cardinals' Chris Carpenter beat out the Marlins' Dontrelle Willis and Astros' Roger Clemens for the NL Cy Young.

Leading the Chicago White Sox to their first World Series title in 88 years ensured Ozzie Guillen of the AL Manager of the Year award and the NL Manager of the Year was Atlanta Braves skipper Bobby Cox who tied LaRussa with the most manager of the year awards with four.



LAURIE SKRIVAN / KRT Campus

A CAREER BOOSTER: Pujols fifth year in the National League has been a success after being named league MVP.

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Rollins College Student Wins 2005 World Cup Women's Slalom

by **Jeni Hatter**
contributing writer

Rollins College senior Michelle Simpson recently won the 2005 World Cup Women's Slalom title. After a summer filled with international tournaments that took her to England, France, Greece, Russia, China, Austria, Switzerland and Ireland, her hard work

paid off with the culmination of her big win in the United Kingdom.

Her fourth place finish at the Russia World Cup and her second place finish at the Ireland World Cup were enough to secure her the number one cede as the World Cup Champion.

"Winning this title was the best moment in my career so far and it was also

my first win. The confidence I gained from this experience will help me next season to compete at an even higher level," shared Simpson. "My ultimate goal is to win a World Championship title and break the World Record." The World Championships are held every two years.

Originally from Bridgeport, Texas, Simpson began

skiing at the age of four and competed in her first tournament at the age of nine.

Since then, she has earned four records in the Slalom category and has competed in numerous competitions; including the U.S. Junior Open, the Water Ski National Championships, the Water Ski World Championships and the U.S. Open. Her season

usually begins in June and ends in September.

Simpson will graduate from Rollins College in December of 2006 and plans to pursue law school upon completion of her English undergraduate major. For more information on Simpson visit her website, www.michellesimpson.com

Baseball Agrees on New Steroid Policy

■ MLB now touts the toughest steroid policy in American pro sports.

by **Tanisha Mathis**
the sandspur

Motivated by threat of legislation, Major League Baseball and the players' association agreed on a new drug policy. Earlier this month baseball owners voted unanimously to approve Commissioner Bud Selig's tougher penalties for steroid use including, 50 games for a first offense, 100 games for a second offense and a lifetime ban for a third, plus testing for amphetamines for the first time. A player will be tested during spring training and at least once during the regular season, with additional random testing.

The policy is definitely more severe than baseball's current penalties of a 10-day suspension for a first

offense, 30 days for a second and 60 days for a third offense. The previous policy also saw players tested once from the start of spring training through the end of the regular season, with additional random testing. Both versions provided for off-season testing. The earliest a player could be banned for life under the current policy is after the fifth offense. The new policy will take place next year and the twelve players who tested positive for steroids this year would be treated as first time offenders under the new policy should they test positive again.

"Listening to the Donald Hooton story about how his son died because of steroids really, really got to me. And I remember that very lonely night, getting on the plane...the more I thought of that story, I cried," Selig said. "And I made up my mind that night that this sport wasn't going to rest until it had

taken...the appropriate action."

In April, Selig suggested a 50-100-lifetime ban and, for the first time, suggested testing for amphetamines. In September, the players' union head Donald Fehr responded with 20 games, 75 games, and a penalty set by the commissioner for the third offense. The players' association surrendered to Selig's demands but won the right to have an arbitrator review reinstatement decisions. A player can seek permission to return to baseball two years after being banned for life.

While all the attention has been on steroid use in baseball many have called amphetamines an even bigger problem. The penalties for amphetamine use are not as severe as the penalty for steroids. A first positive test of amphetamines will lead to mandatory additional testing, a second offense will draw a 25-game suspension, and a third of-

fense will garner 80 games.

"It became a priority when I met with 10 team doctors and four team trainers and they spent most of their time talking about amphetamines, deep and abiding concerns," Selig said. Players use amphetamines because they are said to be effective in combating fatigue and make the user feel more alert. "There are 183 days in the season, you have about 20 days off and, let's face it, guys get tired," said pitcher Al Leiter, a 19 year veteran. "This is not a present-day modern issue. You can look back at what ballplayers did in the 50's and 60's. There was always somebody peddling some kind of juice."

From players to owners everyone seemed relieved, even happy about the new policy. "Baseball clearly did the right thing," San Diego Padres owner John Moores said. "It took a lot longer than it should have, but it got done."

If baseball had been unable to agree on a stiffer steroid policy a bill introduced by Sen. Jim Bunning, (R-KY) and Sen. John McCain, (R-AZ), would have gone to a vote in the Senate. It calls for a half season ban for a first positive test, one season for a second and a lifetime ban for a third offense. The policy would apply not only to baseball's major and minor leagues but also to the NFL, NBA and NHL.

With pressure from Congress, baseball now has the toughest drug policy in American professional sports. New drug policies in sports that began this year saw the NBA double its first penalty to 10 games and the NHL institute steroid testing for the first time with a 20-game ban for a first time offense.

Even though baseball reached an agreement Bunning said the legislation will not be withdrawn because he wants to "see what other leagues will do."

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Women's Tennis Ranked Seventh in Nation

by **Nate Weyant**

sports information desk

After a very successful fall season, the Rollins women's tennis team was placed seventh in the latest ITA national poll. The Tars are also third in the region

behind Sunshine State Conference foes Barry, who is third in the nation and Lynn, who checks in at fifth.

Junior Tasi Purcell (Orlando, Fla.) is currently the 15th ranked singles player in the nation with Marnie

Mahler (Naples, Fla.) ranked 42nd. As a doubles team, the pair is ranked seventh in Division II. Regionally, Purcell is fourth, Mahler is 10th and freshman Anastasiya Shevchenko (Kyiv, Ukraine) is 15th in singles. In doubles,

Purcell and Malher are ranked second while Shevchenko and Sonia Bernal (Bogota, Colombia) are ranked ninth.

Complete Rankings: http://itatennis.com/Div2Rankings/d2women_fall05.htm

The women's tennis team opens their spring season on Wednesday, February 8 at home against Stetson. Play is scheduled to begin at 3:30 p.m.

Women's Basketball Team Rolls Through Florida Tech Classic Tournament

by **Nate Weyant**

sports information desk

The Rollins women's basketball team completed a season sweep of their Puerto Rico opponents last week, downing Mayaguez by 27 and beating Rio Piedras twice by an average of 44 points. The victories have the Tars off to their best start since the 2002-03 season when they were also 6-0.

Rollins matched up with Puerto Rico Rio-Piedras on Wednesday and used a pair of big runs to down the Jerezanas 69-37. The Tars were led by senior Joslyn Giles with 17 points and eight rebounds with junior Larissa McDonough putting up 16 points and pulling down a career high 12 boards.

The Tars scored five unanswered baskets early in the first half and a free throw to take a 14-2 lead. The Tars would hold the lead for the remainder of the game and would lead by as many as 19 in the first half and 37 in the second half. Late in the second half the Tars scored eight straight baskets to take the 37

point advantage, but Rio Piedras fought back by notching five free throws in the last four minutes to cut the Tars lead.

Rollins had a rough night from the free throw line as they connected on only 14 of their 36 attempts and also struggled from the three-point line, going 3 for 17. Freshman Jennifer Dyer (Wake Forest, N.C.) had a team high six steals, while Giles (Winter Haven, Fla.) added four assists to her 17 points.

After a quick holiday break on Thursday, the Blue and Gold headed to Melbourne for the Florida Tech Thanksgiving Classic. Rollins opened with Puerto Rico Mayaguez and turned back the Janes 65-38.

Leading the way for the Tars were seniors Joslyn Giles (Winter Haven, Fla.) and Randi Weiss (Kissimmee, Fla.), who both scored 13 points in the game. Weiss and freshman Jessica Barker (Orange City, Fla.) both had career nights on the boards grabbing nine rebounds

apiece, as the Tars out-rebounded the Janes 53-27.

The first half saw the Janes keep the score close, as their tough defense put pressure on the Tars. With 14:15 remaining in the first half, the Janes cut the Tars lead to one after a three-pointer by junior Aixañell Santos. The Tars then went on a run of their own, pulling ahead by as many as 16 with 1:23 to go in the first half. Barker started the run for the Tars, hitting three jumpers in a three-minute span. At halftime, the Tars had pulled the lead to 36-23.

The Janes tried to match the pace of the Tars in the second half, only to fall short in the long run. Both teams went 6-25 (.240) from the field in the second stanza, but the Tars added 17-29 (.586) from the line, while the Janes only went to the line three times in the second half (2-3, .667).

The following day, the Tars finished the tournament with a 101-45 drubbing of Rio Piedras. Leading the way for the Tars was Joslyn Giles with 16 points and freshman Jessi-

ca Barker with 13 points and eight rebounds. For their effort, both Giles and Barker were named to the Thanksgiving All-Classic team.

During the first half, Puerto Rico-Rio Piedras kept the game close and with 11:51 remaining on the clock took a one point lead 14-13. The Tars shooting finally began to connect and the Tars went on a 34-10 run to finish out the first half. At the break, the Tars were up 47-24, led by Barker's nine points.

The second half saw the Tars pull away, going up by as many as 61 points. Over a span of almost 11 minutes in the second half, the Tars held the Jerezanas to only five points (two free throws and one three pointer) while scoring 24 points themselves. Giles scored nine of her 16 in the second half while sophomore Rachael Workman (Northampton, Mass.) added seven.

All 12 Tars found their way into the boxscore, with Workman and sophomore Jennifer Musgrove (Palm Bay, Fla.) scoring 12 apiece and

senior Sally Johnston (Winter Springs, Fla.) adding 11 points. The Tars reached the free throw line a season high 53 times, connecting on 31 (.585) and out-rebounded the Jerezanas 58-27. Rollins' 101 points was the first time the Tars have reached the century mark since a 100-39 win over Mayaguez on November 18, 2000 and is the most since a 120-73 win over Monmouth (Ill.) on December 27, 1993.

Giles leads the Tars offense on the season as she is averaging 17.5 points per game. McDonough is also off to a fast start, putting up 15.8 per contest while the pair have identical rebound numbers, pulling down seven a game.

The Tars will return to Winter Park to take on Flagler College on Wednesday, November 30 with tip-off at Warden Arena set for 5:30 p.m. The Tars will then open up their Sunshine State Conference slate on Saturday, December 3 with a trip to Florida Tech. Game time is scheduled for 2 p.m.

ROLLINS COLLEGE - CAMPUS CALENDAR

Friday 12/2	Saturday 12/3	Sunday 12/4	Monday 12/5	Tuesday 12/6	Wednesday 12/7	Thursday 12/8
Last Day of Class	Reading Day	Hamilton Holt Community Service Day at The Ronald McDonald House - 6:30pm Reading Day	Exams	Exams	Reading Day	Holt SGA Happy Hour Fiddler's Green 7 p.m. Exams
Friday 1/13	Saturday 1/14	Sunday 1/15	Monday 1/16	Tuesday 1/17	Wednesday 1/18	Thursday 1/19
Last Day of Intersession Organ Concert Richard Webb Knowles Chapel 7:30-9:45 p.m.	ResLife Training 8 a.m. - 5 p.m. Organ Series: Richard Webb Knowles Chapel 9 a.m. Lecture 10:15 Masterclass 7:30 p.m. Concert		MtKJ Day	A&S New Students Report	First Day of Class A&S Drop/Add SGA & COL 6:00-9:30 p.m. Galloway Room	A&S Drop/Add Cello Concert Susan Goldman Tiedke Hall

THE SANDSPUR IS OFF FOR THE HOLIDAYS AND WILL BE BACK ON 1/27/06.