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The Sandspur

ROLLINS COLLEGE ■ WINTER PARK, FLORIDA

Stephen Kellog and the Sixers Rock the House
Known for their unique style of music, the aspiring band came to Rollins to promote their first album released by major record company.
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Making More of Your Time
Two examples of how college students are seeing the world and making a difference in other's lives and end up changing themselves.
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Opinions Topic: The Bush Administration
Differing points of view on what the Bush Administration has accomplished for the country and what the President should do now.
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THE STUDENT VOICE OF ROLLINS COLLEGE SINCE 1894

VOL. 112 ISSUE 24

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APRIL 7, 2006

McConnell and Bueso Elected After Controversial Campaign

Joshua Benesh
the sandspur

In the leadership elections for Student Government Association of the Rollins College School of Arts and Sciences held last week, the voters of Rollins College have chosen to return to the position of president of the SGA Caitlin "Cat" McConnell along with her vice presidential running mate Lara Bueso. Defeated in the election were presidential candidate Allen "Eddie" Mehnert and vice presidential candidate Savannah Stephen.

Ms. McConnell, advancing a platform to lessen apathy and continue initiatives begun in her previous administration, was able to easily defeat Mr. Mehnert while Ms. Bueso defeated Ms. Stephen by an even greater margin.

The election, for the first time in recent Rollins history, was able to mobilize enough voters to achieve quorum without reopening the voting process for an additional length of time.

The campaigning and election process began with contention. Initially, Ms. McConnell ran unopposed, with the filing deadline for campaign eligibility ending without additional complete and valid applications. Immediately following the filing deadline, Mr. Mehnert filed an appeal, citing improper procedure on behalf of the Elections Committee.

After several meetings and procedural hearings Mr. Mehnert was allowed onto the ballot, the campaign already well underway, and began a rigorous campaign to challenge Ms. McConnell.

The campaign season brought about an exciting debate focusing on reforms to the process of representation. All sides throughout their appearances and in the formal debate agreed that change in the structure of SGA and its constitution were important steps to take in order to advance the state of student life at Rollins.

As the opposition, Mr.



PHOTO COURTESY OF CAITLIN MCCONNELL

ROLLINS' NEW POWER DUO: Newly elected SGA Vice President Lara Bueso (left) with re-elected SGA President Caitlin "Cat" McConnell.

Mehnert campaigned on a platform that necessitated change and a writing of the

wrongs that existed in past administrations. Ms. Stephen was not so critical, opting to

represent herself as a new
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Chris Masterson Pays a Visit

Kelly McNoldy
the sandspur

On Wednesday, March 29, Chris Masterson, from TV's "Malcolm in the Middle," and Nick Peterson, director of the film "Intellectual Property" came into WPRK for an on-the-air interview to discuss "Intellectual Property." The film played at the Enzian that night for the Florida Film Festival.

Masterson, who plays the eldest brother on the hit

Fox network TV show "Malcolm in the Middle", has been acting since he was two years old.

However, that's not when him and Peterson met, which was actually two years ago. "We met on Myspace and we were trading music - which now is illegal and wasn't then," said Masterson. "He said 'I have this cool idea for a movie' and actually it was written by Nick's friend Hanson and it was a really cool script... I liked it for so many reasons, and the main reason is it gave me the main type of character I have always wanted to play. This was the first time I could do something so far from what I really am."

It was not just Masterson who decided that he was

going to play the part of Paul, a paranoid inventor, but Peterson as well. "When I first met Chris," said Peterson, "because I had never met him before project, and one of the reasons that I was convinced that he could do this part so well was...he actually creates characters with his performances and for this film in particulars that's what I really



KELLY MCNOLDY / The Sandspur

INTERVIEWING WITH THE STAR: Chris Masterson from Malcolm in the Middle recently came to WPRK at Rollins.

ly needed."

For Peterson, getting Masterson to play the part of Paul was just a small step

when it came to preparing for and making the film. "Even before shooting the

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WORLD NEWS

COURTESY OF CNN.COM

China: Shortages at hundreds of factories have led experts to believe that the economy may be undergoing some major changes.

India: Childless parents are now looking to India for surrogate mothers. The number of cases of surrogacy is said to have doubled in the last three years.

India: Indians are finally cracking down on female gender abortions.

Afghanistan: Violence expected to increase this year. In the recent weeks about four attacks have taken place per day.

Brazil: Emergency workers recovered 19 bodies out of the remains of a plane that exploded on impact when it crashed into a mountainous region.

Canada: An explosion in the downtown shopping district killed one man inside of a coffee shop.

Vatican City: Thousands of people from around the world flocked to the Vatican to remember the first anniversary of the death of Pope John Paul II.

NATIONAL NEWS

Louisiana: It seems that geological faults in New Orleans have caused the downward movement of land, causing levees, bridges and homes to sink.

Massachusetts: Three people were killed when a construction crane collapsed on a downtown street.

Tennessee: Dozens of homes were destroyed, many were injured and 27 people were killed when thunderstorms containing tornadoes and softball sized hail passed through the Midwest.

California: "Ice Age: The Meltdown" earned a mammoth 70.5 million dollars in the first weekend. The sequel to the previously popular "Ice Age" movie grossed higher than anticipated.

Washington D.C.: Ex-House majority leader Tom DeLay will not run for reelection in the upcoming congressional elections. His long career will come to a close at the end of the year.

Illinois: Car seats are now being made heavier for those children that are too heavy for the standard car-safety seat.

Pennsylvania: A methamphetamine lab discovered in Somerset County recently in a state park. There are no current suspects for the creation of the lab, but the police are investigating further.

SGA

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1
generation of capable SGA leadership.

The team of Ms. McConnell and Ms. Bueso refuted these calls for a change in leadership by citing positive advances made by SGA under Ms. McConnell's administration during the last legislative year and calling for a continuation of leadership as being necessary for both stability and change.

This year's campaign season was well-noted as being representative of the dynamic environment of on-campus politics. It saw an extensive use of facebook.com as a means of communication and mobilization, a means of reaching a wide range of constituents with relative ease. The campaign also saw an impressive use of visual media, with Mr. Mehnert investing in "Vote Eddie" yard signs and posting them around campus. The other candidates utilized more traditional means of advertisement, focusing on paper banners, printed flyers, and candy bedecked with catchy slogans.

The win was a mandate on the leadership of Ms. McConnell, seeking a second term as president of SGA. In response to her win she stated, "It's exciting to win the election and I'm looking forward to the opportunity to continue all of the great initiatives SGA started this year. Lara and I already have plans to improve and innovate SGA for next year." Ms. Bueso added, "I eagerly anticipate the challenges on the horizon and hope that together the Rollins community can work toward the betterment of the Rollins lifestyle. We must do all that we can to include the diverse voices of the student body in the decisions and actions that not only SGA but we as students take."

Kelly McNodly
the sandspur

On Thursday, March 30, the Cornell Campus Center hosted the opening of "The Outsiders Within" art show. The show focused on graffiti-inspired artwork by Rollins students, alumni and local artists.

Everything about the opening and the show was graffiti-themed. Most of the music played was rap and techno with dark, rugged beats, played by DJ Keith Jackson of the "My Wax Octopus" show on WPRK 91.5 FM.

The catered food even resembled the art work which the show consisted of. White, red and black tortilla chips with matching salsa, miniature egg rolls, stuffed spinach pastries and cinnamon-sugar pita chips were all complimented by soda and water and laid upon black and red tablecloths.

"The culture clash of Mexican Asian and Greek foods was eye opening and really resembled the sampling technology of hip hop and graffiti artwork," said Phillip Illeto, one of the observers at the art show.



ADMIRING ART: Rollins students attended the Graffiti Art recently to observe the different mediums and messages conveyed through each piece.

The main part of the opening - the artwork - was extremely varied and rich in the mediums used and messages conveyed. Several pieces actually were made with spray paint while others painted bottles of spray paint onto cardboard.

With several other pieces one would not be able to guess that they were graffiti-inspired unless they recognized the work of the artist, who actually does graffiti throughout Orlando.

There were photographs of graffiti and there were skateboards, both full and

broken in half, painted.

Although there were many pieces, there was not much variety as far as the number of artists. There were six pieces in the show by the artist Null alone and five by Swamburger.

Some people found this lack disconcerting because it does not represent the student interest in art.

However, other people, such as Illeto, understood why there were not as many artists, and more specifically student artists compared to the past shows featured at the Campus Center.

"As the year is winding down, school is becoming busier so I understand why there isn't as much student contribution," said Illeto, "however, the art that was submitted was still quite good."

Other art shows that have been featured at the Campus Center all had themes too. Just last February the art show curator, Abby Hertz, collaborated with the campus rendition of "The Vagina Monologues" and its celebration of V-Day with an art show centered on women, containing risqué pictures women.

Other art shows featured Halloween themed inspired works and works containing texture in the show entitled "Texture, Tactile, Touch."

There will be one more art show at the end of the school year that will not have a theme. It is open to all students, faculty, and staff. If there are any questions, please contact the curator of the art shows, Abby Hertz.

As for "The Outsiders Within," Illeto just had more thing to say in regards to his entire experience: "Dope art, dope food, dope beats, dope dope."



FACIAL EXPRESSIONS: There were many different types of art at the recent Graffiti exhibit in the Cornell Campus Center.

BRANDY VANDERWERKEN / The Sandspur

Rollins Gets a Lesson on Kabbalah

Rochelle Siegel
the sandspur

Dr. Zion Zohar recently visited Rollins to present students with a lecture on growing popularity of Kabbalah. Dr. Zohar specializes in Jewish studies and has taught a wide array of different courses based on the Jewish religion, society and beliefs.

Why is it that a religion so old is now becoming so popular? Unfortunately celebrities influence society and promote millions to believe in what they believe in. Fads are always coming and going. Kabbalah is the new Hollywood fad, which teaches people the mystical way of thinking about the universe, God and people.

Kabbalah, the Hebrew word for tradition, originally designated legal tradition of Judaism, but was later applied to the Jewish mystical tradition. The goal of Kabbalah is to obtain a complete understanding of God, the universe and how they relate to each other. Jewish holy books, symbols and analogies are used to achieve this understanding.

The popularity of Kabbalah has become widely known through those actors and singers who have decided to adopt the religion and in turn bring their fans along with them.

Madonna, a popular

singer, is famous for her devotion to Kabbalah. She has donated a lot of time and money to her belief in Kabbalah. Britney Spears followed along in the footsteps of her friend Madonna in the practice of Kabbalah. Spears claims that it "has helped me get rid of a lot of negative influences that were guiding me down the wrong path."

Kabbalah refers to oral mystical teaching not normally revealed to the general population, but passed on from teacher to pupil. In legend God taught Kabbalah to some angels, who in turn after the Fall taught it to Adam. The Kabbalah was to help mankind return to God. It then passed to Noah, to Abraham and to Moses.

Kabbalah places God as being above all existence. According to Kabbalah beliefs, a pure soul, once the body dies, will be sent to God. An impure soul will be reborn in another body, and the process continues until the soul has become pure. Evil is only the denial of good, and in the Jewish setting evil is only overcome through strict obedience to the law.

The influence Kabbalah has had on Hollywood has prompted the opening of "The Kabbalah Center" in Los Angeles, California. "The Kabbalah Center" is the international headquarters of Kabbalah. The center in-

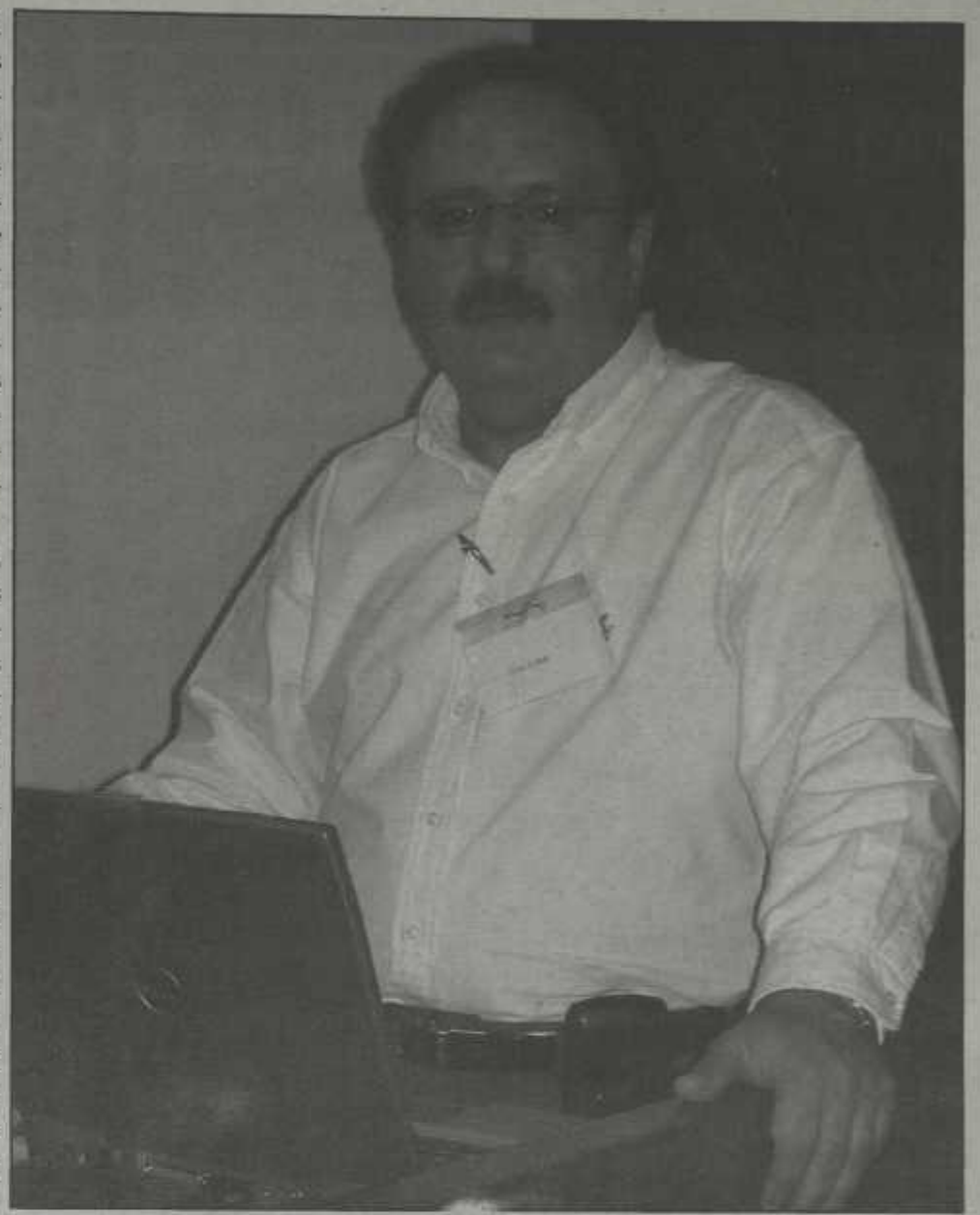
cludes fast-paced prayer services and separate seating for men and women. It is a typical Orthodox synagogue, except for the fact that many who pray inside are not even Jewish. The center has transformed Kabbalah into a generic, nondenominational mysticism.

"The Kabbalah Centre" also sells thousands of Kabbalah based books each year. They have produced a Kabbalah energy drink, a highly-caffeinated, vitamin-rich, rabbi-blessed drink. And don't forget about the little red strings that run from twenty to one hundred and fifteen dollars for the fancier ones. A lot of money is made.

Supposedly even famous figures from the past, Plato and Shakespeare, wanted to learn the "secrets of life" by taking up Kabbalah. Jewish mystics believed that every letter in the Hebrew alphabet was a channel to the life force of God and possessed a sacred meaning. Finding associations of

words with the same value has revealed a complex series of hidden meanings beneath the text of the Torah, the book of law attributed to Moses. In fact, it is believed by some that the entire Torah is a single word spelling out one of the names of God.

To believers, Kabbalah has uncovered a layer of the secrets of life, and the Creation of the soul and of heaven.



BRANDY VANDERWERKEN / The Sandspur

SPEAKING TO ROLLINS: Dr. Zion Zohar came to Rollins recently to share his knowledge on Kabbalah.

Florida Film Festival Hits Rollins

Kelly McNoldy
the sandspur

The Florida Film Festival took place at the Enzian Theater and the Winter Park Regal Cinemas from March 24 to April 2. The FFF featured over 150 films from all over the world and United States, including some from Central Florida. The featured guests of the FFF were John Waters, writer of "Hair-spray," and Christopher Masterson, Francis from TV's "Malcolm in the Middle."

The FFF opened on March 24 with an Opening Night Party where, for the right price, future audience members met with actors, directors and producers of the films that were featured in the Festival. Several films also opened up the night and question and answer sessions were held after some films with the director.

For those who have never been to a film festival, it is actually quite simple. A film festival can last a couple of days or a couple of weeks. There is a schedule of films being played, all of which are categorized into groups. A festival does not only show feature-length films but short, animated and documentary films as well. Each film has a specific time and location as to where it is being played and tickets are bought to see the film.

For the FFF, there were several groups including, but not limited to, national feature-length films, international feature-length films, documentaries, animated shorts, and shorts. The Festival received entries from all over the world, although most of them were from the United States. For most films, this was the first or second time that they had played even though the film

could have been around for five years. "The Florida Film Festival shows a neglected selection of films that are actually pretty good and there are so many films that so many people can come and enjoy something there," said Maria Petrakos.

Some films featured at the Festival were "Loverboy" directed by Kevin Bacon, "Lonesome Jim" directed by Steve Buscemi, "Intellectual Property" directed by Nick Peterson, "American Stag" directed by Ben Meade and "The Devil and Daniel Johnston" directed by Jeff Feuerzeig.

Besides seeing great, independent films, there are some other perks to a film festival, including meeting the makers of the films. "The greatest part of a film festival is the overall experience of being able to meet sorts of directors and people who are passionate about film

and exchanging ideas," said Chaz Moore. A festival is the one place where an aspiring filmmaker's work can be showcased without breaking their budget. Another great thing about a festival concerning the filmmakers is that it is almost-free publicity for their film. That and there is free food most of the time.

Kristen Stone said that the FFF really brought the community together. "It seemed like a really valuable community event because everyone in the area was talking about it," said Stone.

It is not so often that independent filmmakers have a chance to showcase their work. Film festivals are prominent in many cities throughout the United States and the more popular ones are usually overseas. Notable film festivals include the Cannes Film Festival and the Sundance Film Festival.

The FFF was sponsored by Full Sail. Its theme was that of a flight, with posters representing pictures of those one may find on airplane safety guides.

Some of the winners of the FFF were "Convention-eers" directed by Mora Stephens for the Grand Jury Prize for Best Narrative Feature, "Sweet Land" by Ali Selim won the Audience Award for Best Narrative Feature, "Showbusiness: A Season to Remember" directed by Dori Berinstein won the Grand Jury Prize for Best Documentary Feature, Shaun Conrad and David Raccuglia's "Purvis of Overtown" won the Audience Award for Best Documentary Feature and "Full Disclosure" by Douglas Horn won the Special Jury Award for Screenwriting.

A complete list of the winners can be found at www.floridafilmmfestival.org.

Stephen Kellogg and the Sixers Perform

John Ferreira
the sandspur

As part of the "Mi Casa Es Su Casa" tour, independently signed rock band, Stephen Kellogg and The Sixers, stopped by at Rollins College on Wednesday, March 29, and preformed at Dave's DownUnder in the Cornell Campus Center. A good sized crowd turned out for the event, and many were brought in by the

music that could be heard around the Campus Center.

The band is attempting to create a buzz around their self-titled new album, which includes seven new songs and four re-recorded songs that the band said they "wanted another shot at." This is the first album released through a major record company, Foundations/Universal.

This is the sixth album that the band has released,

the previous five were released through independent record companies.

Stephen Kellogg and The Sixers have attempted to create a solid fan base by crisscrossing the country, and logging in hours at small venues such as Dave's DownUnder.

According to their website, the band has played more than three hundred shows in the last two years and have sold more than 10,000 copies of their albums. The strategy seems to have worked in fact, the band's six albums and various other band souvenirs like posters and t-shirts which read "I Love Kellogg."

The band calls themselves a rock band, but they do not admit to being a traditional rock band.

They describe themselves as, "Van Morrison with better articulation or Elvis Costello without the vitriol." They do indeed have an eclectic sound with a mix of alternative and country. Kellogg prides himself on playing the harmonica, and they tap into a fun and playful side of music.

The loudest applause that the band received during their show came when they mixed in lyrics from current popular songs like, "I'm in love with a stripper", "Float On", "My Humps" and other hits from artists like 50



JOHN FERREIRA / The Sandspur

SINGING IN DAVE'S: Stephen Kellogg almost swallowing the mic at a concert in Dave's DownUnder, sponsored by ACE.



JOHN FERREIRA / The Sandspur

RISEING STARS: Stephen Kellogg and The Sixers performing at Dave's DownUnder March 29.

Chris Masterson

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

the DP and I compiled a book which was like three inches thick where it literally mapped out every single camera placement," said Peterson. "So it's already pre-thought and it's not so much going on the set and figuring out what I'm doing next, it's more the execution and making sure it's executed the way you planned."

Masterson also agrees that planning is very important when it comes to making a film, but if someone is an aspiring filmmaker or actor, he advises that they just go and do it. "I know so many people who have spent the last five, ten, fifteen years on this movie that they're going to make at some point," said Masterson.

"They just know that as soon as it gets made they'll be the biggest thing in the entire industry - but it just has to get made and they just need that break. And then I look at all the people

who are working directors and the difference is that they just went and did it, and if they didn't get the money, they just shot it for less or rewrote it and found a way to do it," said Masterson.

"Intellectual Property" is about an inventor in the mid 1960's whose father sold off all of his inventions when he was younger. "So as an adult he's extremely paranoid of everything and everyone around him," explained Peterson, "so he kind of lives this life of absolutely seclusion and is actually kind of hiding from the world."

That is, until a tragic event happens in Paul's life. "So [the event] kind of throws him out into the world and everyone starts noticing him and he kind of goes insane," said Peterson, "and he thinks everyone's out to get him - mainly the Russians... and it's not till the end of the film that you finally see what's behind the curtain of the film."

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Crummer News

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Rollins CEO Welcomes President of ACD Enterprises Adam Dudley

Christopher Cleary
contributing writer

This past Thursday, March 30, the Rollins Collegiate Entrepreneurs' Organization (CEO) hosted Adam Dudley, President of ACD Enterprises. In his talk, entitled "The Not-So Glamorous Side of Entrepreneurship", Mr. Dudley addressed the audience on his experiences in entrepreneurship and also gave away the "seven secrets" of his multi-millionaire mentors.

With an undergraduate degree in sports sciences, Dudley spent the first few years of his career in the fitness industry when he established his first venture, a mobile personal training company. It was through this experience that Dudley first made his entrepreneurial contacts. Mr. Dudley stressed the importance of the book, Rich Dad, Poor Dad, in motivating him to pursue entrepreneurship. He also noted that his middle-class background and lack of support from family

and friends has made entrepreneurship an especially challenging new territory.

The talk began with an "entrepreneurial idea tournament", in which Dudley passed out index cards and asked everyone to write down their business ideas. He collected the cards and then paired the ideas up and asked the audience to vote on which business concept they thought had the most potential for success. The activity had people thinking on their feet and coming up with spontaneous ideas.

Dudley then proceeded to discuss his experiences with entrepreneurial mentors. His involvement with these mentors has given him the possibility to participate in a number of ventures: an import/export business, nightclub/restaurant business, and Gulf Coast real es-

tate deals. Through working with these mentors, he was able to travel, make powerful contacts and experience the ups and downs of starting businesses and making deals. "Working with mentors is the fastest way to learn," said Dudley.

Dudley then offered advice for young people with business ideas. First, it is im-

tors, compile data, and put this information into meaningful action.

Second, it is important that you immediately define a unique competitive advantage for your idea. Third, you must make time to network. Dudley urged the audience to join local networking organizations and, most importantly, the Chamber of Commerce. Fourth, when hiring a management team, it is important to hire people who you click with and who have the passion for your idea. "Favor passion and attitude over experience and qualifications," Dudley explained.

He also recommended several books, newspapers and blogs that he feels are quite valuable resources: My Life in Advertising (Claude Hopkins), The Financial Times, The Art of the Start (Guy Kawasaki), Forbes, Dan Feld's blog at feld.com and his own blog.

Dudley then highlighted

the "dark side" of entrepreneurship. He warned of numerous failed start-up ventures, personal bankruptcy, failed relationships, and a lack of support from family and friends. He sees all of these failures and setbacks he has experienced as an advantage. He stressed that with failure comes knowledge.

Dudley's visit gave the audience an opportunity to test their entrepreneurial instincts as well as hear advice from someone familiar with the hurdles facing the average young businessperson.

Founded in the summer of 2004, the Rollins Collegiate Entrepreneurs' Organization (CEO) functions as the student arm of the Center for Entrepreneurship and is a chapter of the National Collegiate Entrepreneurs' Organization. The organization's goal is to provide students with a resource that exposes them to the world of entrepreneurship.



COURTESY OF
ROLLINS CEO

"Favor passion and attitude over experience and qualifications."

-Adam Dudley, ACD President

portant to be prepared. When approaching a mentor or a potential investor with an idea, it is important that you have done thorough research on your project.

"Entrepreneurs are great question askers," explained Dudley. The mentor/investor you are likely to approach will expect you to be prepared for tough questions. Look at market indica-

EAMBA End of the Year Banquet

Melinda Green
the sandspur

Last Friday at Dubsdread Golf Course, the reality sank in that the year finally was coming to an end. The end of the year banquet, held at Dubsdread's Tap Room, was a huge success with a sizeable number of EAMBA 9s and 10s as well as a great turnout of faculty and staff members.

The Tap Room is a very nice facility with two main large rooms inside, a porch on the back, and plenty of

open air space by the course, and was the perfect venue for the event.

Before ever walking inside, attendees could tell it was going to be a special night from the music playing and the excitement in the air. Then, upon entering the building and seeing everyone not in class-style business suits but in fancy evening wear, it seemed impossible for the evening to be anything other than spectacular.

Before being able to join the buffet line or start min-

gling, everyone stopped at the table just inside the entrance. On it was a commemorative CD, and, as anyone who stuck around until the end knows, plenty of blue plastic Crummer travel mugs to serve as party favors.

With mugs in hand, attendees filled their plates and sat around tables to watch the picture slide show. Everyone enjoyed looking for their pictures from the GRASP trip last year or from any number of socials this year. The evening was

capped off with superlatives and appreciation awards.

For most of the attendees, the banquet signaled a nice start to summer, but for

the members of EAMBA 9, it quickly reminded them that the only thing left to do is graduate.

Upcoming Events

4-27
Business EDGE Online Chat
Find out more about the Business EDGE Summer Business Skills program in an online chat with the admissions committee. Noon to 2:00 PM.

4-30
2nd Annual Crummer Golf Tournament
Come to the Red Tail Golf Club in Heathrow Country Estates for a 4-person scramble. There is \$1,000 in prizes and gifts and a registration fee of \$75. Sign up by April 14, by calling 407-646-2537.

5-11
Executive-in-Action Speaker Series
The Center for Entrepreneurship invites you to participate in the Executive-In-Action Speaker Series sponsored by Broad Street Partners, LLC. 5:15 PM to 7:00 PM in the SunTrust Auditorium.

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Holt News

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6

A Spring Break With An Executive Delegation From Turkmenistan

Oksana Baker
contributing writer

On March 6, 2006, I had the pleasure of spending the evening with five executives from Turkmenistan.

The event was organized by the International Council of Central Florida and sponsored by the Department of State. The meeting was held at Fleming's Prime Steakhouse and Wine Bar in Winter Park.

The delegation was from Ashgabat, the capital of Turkmenistan, and consisted of Ms. Zeynephibi Agamamedova, a correspondent for Neutral Turkmenistan, a national newspaper, Mr. Mametkylych Kutiyev, the editor of Turkmen Gundogary, Lebap province newspaper, Mr. Murad Meredov, legal advisor for economic society Hak, Mr. Setdar Rahmanov, a counselor at the leadership council in Ak-Depe region of Dashoguz province, and Mr. Abram Mogilevskiy, an attorney at Medet law firm.

Turkmenistan was one of the fifteen former Soviet Union republics. Turkmenistan borders Uzbekistan, Afghanistan, Kazakhstan, and Iran. It is mainly an agricultural country with large gas and oil resources. One-half of its integrated land is planted in cotton, which makes it the world's tenth largest producer of cotton. Poor harvests in recent years have led to an almost 50 percent decline in cotton exports.

In 1998-2005, Turkmenistan suffered from a continuous lack of adequate export routes for natural gas and from obligations on extensive short term external debt.

At the same time, however, its annual exports rose to approximately 30 percent from 2003 to 2005 largely because of higher international oil and gas prices.

The evening started with Max Stuart, Director of International Council of Central Florida, introducing the guests. He announced that the guests made the trip to learn about local government. Through a question-



FROM LEFT TO RIGHT: Zina Agamamedova, Abram Mogilevskiy, Oksana Baker

answer section the attendees, including myself learned a lot about Turkmenistan. I was happy to serve as translator for the evening.

Glenn Williams, one of the attendees asked the group, "I am interested in gas production in Turkmenistan. What can you tell me about it?"

Abram Mogilevskiy started by giving the audi-

menistan borders Afghanistan, Uzbekistan, Iran and it is basically surrounded by those countries. Because of this geographical position it is harder to export gas as the gas lines go through bordering countries and a lot of business depends on how bordering countries play with one another."

Roshani Gunewardene, a local attorney asked about

menistan, but anyone can file a law suite against a lawyer if there is a problem. As a matter of fact, the government of Turkmenistan passed the law that any citizen can file a complained against a government official."

Roshani Gunewardene pursued with another question, but this time for Mr. Zeynephibi. "How the media is controlled in Turk-



FROM LEFT TO RIGHT: Jack Talansky, Elena Bell, Murad Meredov, Glenn Williams

ence a bit of history on Turkmenistan. "The history of Turkmen people goes back as far as 4,000 years. Turkmen are known as the best horse riders of the world, who are called dzhigits."

He continued, "Turkmenistan got its independence fifteen years ago and it is hard for the country to compete with others on international level because the country is so young. Turk-

how lawyers work in Turkmenistan. Are they independent or do they have a Bar Association, he asked.

Abram Mogilevskiy answered, "I was teaching law for many years and now, I have my own law firm. My law firm represents foreign companies, who came to conduct business in Turkmenistan."

Then he said, "There is no Bar Association in Turk-

menistan and are there any privately owned newspapers?"

Mr. Zeynephibi said, "The media is controlled by the government and there are no privately owned newspapers."

Then Mr. Roshani asked, "So, if you want to critique the government can you do that?"

Zeynephibi said, "The purpose of the media is to re-

port a fact and stay as close to the fact as possible on what is going on in the country."

He continued to say, "If there is a problem we try to provide suggestions on how to improve the area. There are sixteen newspapers in Ashgabat and over forty six in Turkmenistan."

After all, I met Murad Meredov. When he found out that I was from Ukraine he told me about his vacation in Yalta Ukraine, where he likes to visit and stays in summer.

Murad also enjoyed his last visit to Kiev Ukraine as it is always pleasant to go sightseeing there.

It was a pleasure for me to attend this meeting and learn so much about Turkmenistan and its people. I appreciate the group's willingness to travel thousands miles to come learn about U. S. government, but in so doing taught me and other attendees about Turkmenistan.

"We are not here to copy the democracy you have; we are here to learn about your government," said Abram Mogilevskiy.

This event would never have happened if it was not for the Department of State and its International Visitor Program.

You can go to <http://exchanges.state.gov/education/jexchanges/> to learn about this program.

I was invited to the event because I am a member of International Council of Central Florida.

It is only \$15 a year for students to join. To learn more about the latter organization go to www.iccfvip.com.

And to become a member and participate in upcoming events contact Max Stuart at max_stewart@iccfvip.com. Information about Turkmenistan can be found at <http://www.cia.gov/cia/publications/factbook/geos/tx.html>.

I would like to thank Gerald and the staff of Fleming's Prime Steakhouse and Wine Bar in Winter Park for hosting the event.

Summer Term Is Sweet, Sweet, Interesting

Linda Carpenter
staff contributor

Undergraduates can complete a credit course in just four to eight weeks this summer at the Hamilton Holt School. Two sessions begin June 5th and a second four-week session begins July 3rd. New students must have their applications and official transcripts on file by **April 21st** in order to register **May 18th**.

Classes are intense. You must attend three nights per week during a four-week session, or two nights per week during the eight-week session, but you can complete a full four-credit course during one of these short terms. Many undergraduates enroll in electives during the summer to fulfill their requirements for the bachelor's degree.

Courses include "Cultural Anthropology," "Sculpture," "Personal Finance," "Public Speaking," "Jazz Dance I," "Musical Awareness," "Shakespeare in Text & Film," "Marine Conservation," "Journalistic Essay," "History of Rock and Roll," "Statistics for Social Sciences," "The Artist's Book," "Listening," "Elementary Spanish" and more.

You can obtain a complete listing of undergraduate

courses, times, and instructors at www.rollins.edu/holt/2006/06Schedule.html. Undergraduate tuition for summer term 2006 will remain at \$884 for a four-hour-credit class, but will increase to \$980 in the fall. For more information about admission and registration, please call student services at 407-646-2232.

Holt School seniors or new students with a bachelor's degree also can enroll in a graduate liberal studies elective this summer. Courses completed satisfactorily can be applied toward the master's degree in liberal studies.

Ed Cohen, professor of English, will teach "Sherlock Holmes and Contemporary Critical Contexts" during the summer eight-week term on Tuesday and Thursday evenings beginning at 6:45 p.m. The course will explore strategies for evaluating "one of the world's most remarkable literary characters," said Professor Cohen. Students will examine several elements—including detection, plot, narrative, society and culture—in the Sherlock Holmes stories.

Barry Levis, professor of history, will offer "Europe in the Ages of Reason and Passion" on Monday and Wednesday evenings at

6:45. The course will explore how the art, music, literature, philosophy, and religious thought in Europe from 1700 to 1789 and from 1789 to 1848 reflected, respectively, the Apollonian stimulus and the Dionysian force. "By studying the political, social, and cultural histories of these periods, so closely linked in time, we will determine why they exhibited such a strong divergence in their individual temperaments," said Professor Levis.

Two short masterworks courses (1.34 credit hours) also will be offered this summer. Professor **Alexander Boguslawski** will teach "Introduction to Vladimir Nabokov" in five sessions on July 11, 18, 25 and August 1 and 8. Professor **Joe Nassif** will teach "American Theater: The Fabulous Invalid" in five sessions meeting June 6, 13, 20, 27, and 29. For more information on graduate liberal studies courses, visit the Web at <http://www.rollins.edu/holt/gradschedule/liberalstudies/Summer06MLSschedule.shtml> or call **Claire Thiebault** at 407-646-2653.

New students register 4 to 6 p.m. May 18th at the Hamilton Holt School office. Tuition is \$984 for a four-semester-hour course and \$328 for a short masterworks course.



The
**CAREER
COACH**

Marian Cacciatore

WAITING AFTER AN INTERVIEW? DO THE FOLLOWING

Dear Marian,

I went to a recent interview and am still waiting for a response. What would you suggest that I do? Graduating Senior '06

Dear Graduating Senior,

Did you send a thank you letter? After any interview, I recommend you follow-up with a letter thanking the interviewer for his/her time and consideration.

Please note that I suggest that you compose an "old fashioned" letter and mail it via the US Postal Service instead of simply sending an email. An effective letter will accomplish a few important things:

It serves as a reminder about you for the recruiter and helps you stand apart from the competition. Many people just do not take the time necessary to compose and send one.

Sometimes, when you review the interview, you may realize that you forgot to mention some key skills

or experiences. A thank you letter allows you to highlight these additional items and reference your conversation in the interview.

It allows you to reinforce how your knowledge, skills and abilities will add value to the organization. It is another opportunity to spotlight what you can do for them.

Prior to sending out the letter, make sure that there are no spelling or grammar errors since having mistakes in the letter can actually backfire on you.

I would be happy to share some sample thank you letters and assist you in developing a few of your own. Schedule time to come in and meet with me OR email me. I will be happy to help!

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.

LEADERSHIP OPPORTUNITY FROM THE DEAN

Dear Students,

You are invited to take a leadership position within the Hamilton Holt School and become a member of the Holt School Academic Honor Council.

Please visit the Hamilton Holt Student Government Association's website at <http://www.rollins.edu/holt/hhsga/honorcode.shtml> for more information including eligibility requirements and the application form.

A faculty reference is required for consideration. Applications are due at the Hamilton Holt School Dean's Office (dtatum@rollins.edu) by April 7, 2006.

Thank you,
Sharon M. Carrier, Dean

MAKE USE OF THE CAREER PLANNING AND SERVICES DEPARTEMENT

New career Opportunities are posted with Hamilton Holt Career Services.

If you are interested, contact our Career adviser, Marian Cacciatore or visit the Career Planning and Services Departemnet website

<http://www.rollins.edu/holt/careerservices/>.

And while you are there, click on AskThe Career Coach to drop Marian a Question or Just send your question to mcacciatore@rollins.edu.

Also read the career coach weekly column in The Sandspur. In her column, she answers career related questions from students.

You can call the Holt School as well to set an appointment to see Marian Cacciatore. She will be more than happy to assist you with your questions.

Life & Times

EDITOR: KARINA MC CABE
FEATURES@THESANDSPUR.ORG

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Better Than Beer

...Or at least an alternative way to spend a college spring break

Paul Haney
contributing writer

Common perception of the college student's spring break entails getting away from studies and partying on the beach. So why would one want to undertake more credit hours and a larger workload instead of reveling in an inebriated state with the rest of their friends?

For starters, the international experience gives one an excellent chance to gain a greater cultural breadth firsthand.

"I found that the London field study was a great opportunity as a chance to see what's happening outside of our country," says Julia Jackson, '07. "I really enjoyed meeting new people, seeing the sites, and enhancing my traveling experience."

Over the course of the trip, we saw six plays and two theatrical productions of our choice. Along with the shows, we visited a number of galleries and museums, and were led by the Boles family. "I want you to see the London that you want to see," says Dr. Boles from the Rollins English department. Apart from class meetings, he permits students total freedom in the city.

Many students took full advantage of being in London for their spring break week. Between the required shows and visits to the different attractions, students were free to explore the metropolis and all of its sites. The liberty we had allowed us to truly experience the culture and personality of England's capital city.

"As a 'family-man,' I was hoping for a break from the everyday pressures at home and school," says Dennis Mrozek, Rollins night student, in an e-mail interview. "I was hoping that I would have some fun and relax a bit, but I was also hoping to learn something and absorb life in a different culture."

Most of us found the culture of London welcoming and inviting. Irate Londoners are an uncommon sight, and the most cross words you will hear from them are "Please, be courteous." They



TIME ON THE THAMES: The London Spring Break group.

are surely among the most amiable people in the world, meaning Americans must be on top of their manners. In the theatre they are attentive and observant, and the smallest noise may interfere with their viewing of the production.

After the refined experiences in the grand theatres, students were free to see the night-life of London. Soho

on the bank of the Thames river, looking like a giant, slow-moving Ferris wheel from which visitors view the city sprawl. The Globe Theatre is a required stop for students to learn how Shakespeare's plays first appeared.

London's park system weaves itself extensively through the city; the largest tract of land being Hyde Park. Here you will find countless soccer games, a serene waterway, beautiful walks through gardens and scenic trees, and an area where people from all sects of the world debate issues of theology, politics, and economics while standing on step ladders in front of crowds of people.

The greatest part about the London Field Study is that the cost is billed straight to your tuition, so a student loan is available for those registered. That does not cover all the costs of the trip, and you will need to bring plenty of money because things in London are almost twice as expensive as they are in the U.S. Also check the weather before your flight. On our trip the high for the week was 6 degrees Celsius. But, as Dennis Mrozek says, "I do think this is an excellent spring break getaway, especially being from Florida. We get sun nearly all year round, so a spring break trip to a colder climate works well."

The field study offers an excellent pairing of benefits: world travel and college credit. Any student interested in a London cultural experience might find this alternative enlightening and entertaining, with many of the same freedoms as a normal vacation. The overall package may be more attractive than the usual inebriation of spring break.



PHOTOGRAPHER NAME / Source
BIG BEN: A London Mainstay

and Picadilly are two areas which may attract students looking to mingle with the youth culture. However, on Friday and Saturday nights it's sometimes impossible to hail a taxi, and the Tube closes at midnight. Needless to say, on a few occasions we found ourselves walking endless blocks back to our hotel.

"It was a valuable experience to see how young people have fun in a different country," says Rachel Bubis, '08. "I met a lot of new friends in London from the class and from the locals."

During the day, the city sites are numerous and you will want to see as many of them as you can. The Tower of London houses the sparkling Crown Jewels, a good experience for seeing how elaborate the English can be. The London Eye sits

Ask The Fox!

Dear Fox,

This past weekend a friend of mine came to visit from overseas. We had great time while he was here and we ended up getting a little bit closer than I expected, and now I am finding myself getting attached. Now I hate to be cliché about this and get clingy in this situation, but I miss him more than I am letting on. He's back in England for classes and I am still stuck in sunny Florida for at least the remainder of the semester. Now I was invited to visit him this summer, but let's just be honest, do I really want to travel thousands of miles JUST to see him? And even if I wanted to travel to visit, it would take a great deal of convincing on my part to get my mother to let me go, let alone fund the trip. What should I do? Should I let this possible relationship slide or should I start and make an effort?

Sincerely,
Attached and Distant

Dear Attached,

Long distance relationships are always a hard topic and understandably so. I think the most important thing you need to do, is realize whether or not you're willing to put in time and effort to this relationship.

It would be one thing if he lived in Texas, but England is much further away. I think going to visit him this summer would be a good idea, regardless of your romantic involvement.

First off, traveling is always exciting and fun, and secondly, I am assuming that above all you two are



friends and a friendship is definitely worth keeping - no matter what the distance. As for the relationship part, I think you need to understand what it would mean to be in a relationship with someone overseas.

If both you and your friend are willing to travel to see each other once in a while and make the effort to talk everyday then it could potentially work out.

The most important thing would be your communication since you wouldn't be able to be physically present in each other's lives, so keeping in touch would be crucial.

At the end of the day, however, you need to figure out if anything will ever come out of the relationship. If you end up in a serious relationship, would you or your friend be willing to relocate to give the relationship a real chance? But definitely take a trip to England this summer! You can convince your mom by raving about all the wonderful things you can learn and see in England, or you can try and convince your family to take a trip together and while you're there you can sneak off and see your love interest. Good luck and bon voyage!

Lovingly Yours,
The Fox

The Fox returns to answer this week's 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

CULTURALLY RELATIVE: IS CHAOS ORDER?

Cora Hardin
the sandspur

You know what I really love about being abroad this semester? Being able to answer the question, "dude, where were you last Friday?" in the elevator nonchalantly with, "Oh, Singapore."

My reservations about the city possibly having too

keep the elbow-fighting techniques that I have perfected over the months in China in check, giving people some personal space.

The first time I heard someone say "Sorry" after accidentally brushing my arm in the crowd with the airiest of qualities, I think I may have laughed a little. I also had to tune down my voice a few notches, and remember what that weird spikey thing in front of me was. You know, a fork...

The weekend trip was packed to the brim not only with reminders of home, though, but with totally new experiences that I never dreamt of. Visited a Hindu Temple? Been there, done that. Mosque? Been there, done that. Slept in a windowless hole after passing by big fat scantily clad men sweating in the smoldering heat in the hallway of our hostel? Been there, not done that, and still trying to get rid of the mental image.

Seriously, though, the entire trip was a blend of the strangely familiar and exotic, and coming back to Hong Kong was the shock of a lifetime to

say the least.

What is with the chaos? All the signs hanging from one end of the street to the other? The dirt on the ground? The insane cab-drivers?

It is truly strange how quickly one becomes accustomed to a place, and that it only takes a short little trip away to open ones eyes yet again as if it were the first

day.

I am still embracing the whole Chinese culture, though. There is nothing like it, and while, from a Western point of view, this city is certainly undeniably chaotic and vivacious in ways that I cannot follow. My German attraction to rules and order make this city the most mind-boggling experience ever. I predict the failure of everything in it every two seconds, yet, it keeps going and going, and gaining strength.

I think Europe and America will seem entirely slow-paced and, well, maybe just a little boring after all of this. So how can I learn to combat this? I find myself on iTunes downloading some popular Chinese songs. What can I say? Hong Kong, wo ai ni ai zhe ni jiu xiang lao shu ai da mi! (I love you like the mouse loves rice!) That is the tune the Chinese people apparently have gone completely crazy and insane over.



CORA HARDIN / The Sandspur

TOURIST TIME: Cora explores a temple during her trip to Singapore.

Yep, beats me, too.

Being honest, though, it would not be half as much fun if I was not perplexed by the people 50 percent of the time, right? So, bring it on!

I am still willing to learn, and I better be, because aside from the daily cultural holes I can fall into, there are also so many public lectures, presentations, etcetera on global politics that I feel being here has opened a door of understanding in me not only to Asia, but to the countries I come from to begin with.



CORA HARDIN / The Sandspur

OLD MEETS NEW: Architecture has its own cultural conflicts.

"The trip to Singapore felt...like a trip straight back to Europe, except that the people were shockingly polite and happy."

- CORA HARDIN
CLASS OF 2007

great a similarity to Hong Kong were immediately swept away as the brilliant colors of the houses and the smells of foreign spices sent my senses swirling like I have never known before.

The trip to Singapore felt, strangely enough, like a trip straight back to Europe, except that the people were shockingly polite and happy. I really had to refocus and



Seth Stutman
contributing writer

Watch out ladies, there is a new 'Big Man on Campus'. This massive man has outlasted the rigorous competition by eating chicken wings like a champ and avoiding flower-ridden fastballs. He creates waves with his belly flops and wowed the competition with his talent at the 'main event' that took place recently in the Bush Auditorium.

Austin Connors, 20, representing the Rollins Outdoor Club squeaked out of the field of 12 and won the twelfth annual Mr. Shamrock pageant. The pageant was sponsored by Kappa Delta with profits going towards preventing child abuse in America.

The participants were chosen from all of the dormitories and residential organizations on campus. This year the event, traditionally a one night talent show, was

Kappa Delta's Shamrock Studs Are A Success on Campus



broken up into a week long extravaganza culminating with the "main event" on Thursday night.

"I thought I was going to win the competition, but those wings really upset my stomach." La-Ron Bowden, 20, represented Sutton and had a fantastic time throughout the week.

Monday's competition started out with the hot wing eating contest. Domino's Pizza boxes stuffed with wings awaited the eager competitors. Initially confident about his wing eating ability, Bowden was among the first to bow out and relocate to a nearby bush. Steve Otto, 19, was the last person standing victoriously among a table full of spilled sauces, red grease and chicken carcasses. In the fifteen minutes allotted to the competitors, Steve ate 57 wings and gained bonus points for the main event.

Day two tested the cunning and quickness of the participants. Instructed to

arrive at Mills Lawn wearing black, the potential Mr. Shamrocks were paired off and each given balls filled with flower. The balls were then thrown and the man who could avoid the most direct hits was passed onto the next round.

The finals featured a Cinderella story and a bracket buster for sure. Tyler Maddox, 19, of X-Club and Bowden, two underdogs, duelled in the finals, each advancing with logic and a few lucky maneuvers. Runner up Maddox offered his take on the situation: "He was a cleverer player than I." While La-Ron prevailed, every participant and audience member was well entertained and spectators got in the flower tossing action soon after the winner was determined.

Perhaps most appealing to the ladies was Wednesday nights' swimsuit and belly flop competition. Grown men were reduced to wearing thongs, women's bathing

suits and all too revealing outfits to appease the female judges.

Beginning his routine in a police officers costume, Connors took home the gold in this competition. "I thought it was a brilliant cultural and artistic moment."

The "main event," a talent show, was held in the Bush auditorium and was well attended. A five dollar cover charge was donated directly to the Prevention of Child Abuse in America fund. All of the participants brought their best game even if they did not have a talent whatsoever.

Among the highlights were tap dance routines, comedy acts, strip shows and guitar talent. With his roller skating, drum beating effeminate tribute to Madonna, Connors took home the grand prize, a three hundred dollar cash prize. What is Austin doing with the prize money? "I'm going to Disney World!"

Of course a massive un-

dertaking like The Mr. Shamrock Pageant could not transpire without many Kappa Delta girls working diligently to get this event off the ground. Nikki Baird, 20, a new member of Kappa Delta stated that "it was great having the girls all work together for charity."

The ringleader of the event, Jordan Dunlap estimates that the girls have raised over fifteen hundred dollars this year for the prevention of child abuse.

Mr. Shamrock has grown from a one night popularity contest into a week long fundraiser, aimed at finding the sexiest man on campus and raising both money and awareness for charity.

After a week of seeing these 'sexy' men shamelessly polish off boxes of wings, throw flour at each other and jaunt around in their skivvies, this reporter is ready for the Mrs. Shamrock competition.

Making The Most Of Your Time

Summer 2006: The To-Do List

Kelsey Field
the sandspur

Summer is fast approaching, and it is now time to start thinking about the oh-so-scary future. But remember, it is all about baby-steps and taking it slow, so here are some ideas on what you can do this summer to boost your résumé without completely leaving the life of a college student.

Get a summer job. Apply for something that both looks good on your career resume and makes you stand out from everyone else who went back home and picked up the burger flipping job they left off. For those who have not had a job before, though, there is no time like the present. With web sites such as MonsterTrak, your job search is now easier than ever. Another great place to check out the local job scene is Craigslist.com, where you can both post the job you want and search for jobs posted by others.

Volunteer your time. No matter where you live, there is a non-profit agency perfect for you that is in desperate need of your help, and working with them is also a great way to gain real world skills and great people skills. Check out your local Boys and Girls club, Habitat for Humanity, or your local organizations. Alternatively, set up a clothing or food drive throughout your neighborhood, and drop it off to your local migrant workers. Not only will you get to see a different style of life occurring right here in the United States, but you will also be bringing desperately needed goods to those who truly need it.

Summer school. Maybe you fell a little behind this year, or you just do not have time to take that specific class. Start checking out your local college's summer schedule of classes, and sign up! First, make sure that it is approved by Student Records. So, stop by and pick up the proper forms prior to leaving for summer.

Summer classes are not just all about academics though. Spice up your life

with some hobby classes. Maybe you took photography and loved it in high school, but just have not had the chance to start it up again. Your community probably offers a wide choice of classes from yoga to scuba diving to life guard training. The best way to figure out what is happening is to check out your local community center for information.

Travel. These years are supposed to be the best time of your life, so pack up your car with your best friends and take a drive somewhere new. AAA is a great place to help you with maps and tour books, and you can always check online on ideas for places to go, things to see and places to eat.

Alternatively, go somewhere international. The travel possibilities are endless now more than ever, so check out online and travel somewhere exotic, like a two week safari in Africa to a week tour of the Great Wall of China. Make sure you check out the advice on the country given out by the US government, and make sure you have the shots you need.

Internships. It is not too late to find a summer internship, but be prepared to search for it. Although they are not always paid, they are a great way of adding real job experience to your resume, which is exactly what employers are looking for with their college students. For internships offered, check out the Career Services website, which has a list of over 400 internships available to students in every area imaginable. On the other hand, you can always make your own internship, using your friends and family who may already have their career and business set up.

So, get out into the real world and do something useful this summer, whether it is working, volunteering or checking out the life and times of other places, people and things. The possibilities are endless, it is just a matter of making yourself go out there and look.

Teaching English In China

Tom Trasente
the sandspur

My first experience with China was three weeks in the summer of 1999, with a class trip during college run by a Chinese professor. The experience was a real first since I had no previous understanding, or interest in anything Asian. After I returned to the States to finish my senior year, though, I knew I was going to return to China and teach English.

I taught English for two years, at two separate schools, one year each. My first year was in the district of Daxing, which is part of the municipality of Beijing, the capital. I taught freshman undergraduates spoken English at the Beijing Institute of Petrochemical Technology (BIPT).

Daxing is an industrial and agriculture city famous for its watermelons. Daxing watermelons continually win top prizes at national agricultural fairs in China. My school was on the farming side of town, with the factories on the other.

Beijing Institute of Petrochemical Technology is a science and engineering school but it has recently expanded into business and English programs in order to meet the growing demands of the quarter-century old Chinese free market.

My second school was the Central University of Finance and Economics (CUFE) which is one of the top schools in China. This school is in the Haidian District of Beijing around the corner from one of China's many-labeled "Silicon



PHOTO COURTESY OF TOM TRASENTE

OFF TO MARKET: Trasente (bottom right) is here on a busy market street in China.

Valley's," Zhong Guan Chuan.

My teaching at both schools was not focused on expanding their vocabulary or slang or books or listening to tapes. I was more interested in correcting their pronunciation and giving them opportunities to express themselves and guide them along.

Teaching spoken English to them was not too much of a problem even though I did not speak Mandarin because my students usually had seven years of English instruction previous to my class.

After I returned to the States, CUFE became one of the ground zeros of the SARS epidemic with at least one retired professor dying, and my dormitory building becoming quarantined.

Americans often ask me how my students reacted to me. Chinese students are incredibly interested in learning about the outside world, not just America, and are always curious and very eager to hear about my own particular life and experiences.

The crowds of China do not really exist. I grew up next to New York and the crowds in that American town are not really all that much smaller, or bigger, than in China. As for all those bikes we Americans think of when we think of China? They have been run off the road by the swarms of buses and private cars.

What was the worst part of China? The banquets, and the air pollution.

What was the best part of China? The students, the people, the culture, and merely the enjoyment of living where everything is just so different, and yet similar in certain very human basics.

Looking back on my entire life, I view everything as either 'before China,' or 'after China.' My two years in China was the turning point in my life and without doubt the two most important years of my life.

If anyone would like to ask me questions directly, or is serious about possible teaching English in China, feel free to e-mail me: ttrasente@rollins.edu.



PHOTO COURTESY OF TOM TRASENTE

SAY CHEESE! Trasente was not very interested in a typical grad school scene.

For more information:

- Peter Hessler's "River Town," -> A Peace Corps volunteer who spends two years in Sichuan province.
- Pearl Buck's "The Good Earth," The classic story of a Chinese farmer.
- Anything written about China by the New York Times journalist Nicholas Kristof.
- Iris Chang's "Thread of the Silk-worm" and "The Rape of Nanking."

English teacher in China:

- Free room
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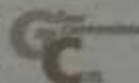
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Arts & Entertainment

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EDITOR: LARA BUESO

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Don't Waste Your Time — Just Read Shakespeare

Katie Pederson
the sandspur

Why Amanda Bynes continues to be given roles in major motion pictures I will never know. I remember her back in the days of Nickelodeon's *All That*, and I remember thinking she was an annoying, sorry excuse for air time even back then. Then someone got the bright idea to take her to Hollywood and put her in films and all the while I heard the sound of nails scratching on a chalkboard in the background and instinctively cringed. To add insult to injury, this time the Bynes-mobile has taken a hit at time-honored, marvelously coveted literature, defacing the true beauty of Shakespeare with the teeny-bopper spring-fling of a film "She's the Man."

"She's the Man" is a modern day remake of the classic William Shakespeare play "Twelfth Night" which follows a string of twisted love affairs as centered around the young Viola. Things start to go crazy for our contemporary Viola (Bynes, "What A Girl Wants," "Robots") when her older brother decides to skip out on the first weeks of his elite boarding school, and Viola, anxious to continue playing soccer when her school season gets cancelled decided to disguise herself as him and starts attending his school in his place. To complicate matters, Viola starts to fall for her brother's soccer teammate Duke

(Channing Tatum, "Supercross," "Coach Carter") who doesn't realize that his new best friend Cesario is actually a girl. To Viola's dismay Duke is horribly smitten with the ice-princess Olivia (Laura Ramsey, "Inside Out," "Lords of Dogtown") who ironically starts to fall for the fake front of Cesario (Viola disguised as a man).

She's the Man is not a bad first try for director Andy Finkman at breaking into the teen drama-comedy genre. The screenplay which was adapted by Karen McCullah Lutz (who also wrote on 10 Things I Hate About You) very much has that same Shakespeare gone cutesy feel that the modern day mock-ups 10 Things and "O" have when trying to duplicate the originals of "Taming of the Shrew" and "Othello." Despite my Bynes-bitterness the film does have some redeeming one-liners

and slapstick comedy that keeps you interested and chuckling even if never rolling on the floor. The cast actually does a decent job of embodying the personality of the characters that Shakespeare once created, though truth be told, I would rather see the Royal Shakespeare Company do *Twelfth Night* any day.

With all the other seriousness in the theatres right now, "She's the Man" is a good escape for a few hours of giggles marked by twisted and complicated crushes. If instead you want quality theatre, I suggest you stay away from this flick and continue to pray with me that Hollywood will one day wake up, smell the coffee, and relegate this actress back to the throngs of Nickelodeon-ness.



COURTESY OF PARAMOUNT STUDIOS

"My Ghetto Report Card" Gets a Solid C

Juan Bernal
the sandspur

Lil Jon as a producer has made beats for some unbelievable lyricists such as Lil Scrappy, Trillville, Usher, Bo Hagon, Chyna White and Petey Pablo. His latest featured artist, E-40, is just slightly above average. E-40, straight out of Oakland, California, is a west coast rapper that tries to combine West Coast lyrical flow with dirty south beats and its "get crunk" ideology. Lil Jon and Rick Rock Thomas co-produce on E-40's album, "My Ghetto Report Card."

One part of this ghetto report card that gets an A is the beats on the tracks that Lil Jon produces. The standout track on this album is "I'm Da Man," which features Mike Jones and Al Kapone. The song is a typical Mike Jones song, which talks about how E-40 can pimp girls, has "purple drank" in his cup and how he's going to rack up an outrageous amount of pocket change from this album. The best part of the song, however, is when Mike Jones announces the April 18 release of his album, "The American Dream." E-40 also does a good job of mixing it up with a couple of club jams. U and Dat, which features T Pain, is a typical club joint, in which a guy tries to get a girl at a club.

E-40 seems to be proud of his distinction, that he is an East coast type rapper with west-coast geography. He does a decent job of representing the "Yay Area" Bay Area, Oakland, San Francisco, California. However, his lyrics

are below average. The album is only average because he does not do a good job of combining lyrics with the beats. The best beats that are on the album are in the songs: Muscle Cars, Tell Me When to Go, U and Dat and Yee. Go Hard or Go Home, Gouda and They Might Be Taping are the other songs that do not have Lil Jon beats, but the songs are good, but not great.

Toward the end of the album, E-40 throws out a couple of slow jams. "Head," which is another Lil Jon beat, is probably the best lyrical song on this album, which proves that this is not a BAD album. "She Says She Loves Me" is the other slow jam. He ends the album with "Happy to be Here," which is his personal life story, talking about how he had to overcome the ghetto politics and how hard he had to work to get in the rap game.

"My Ghetto Report Card" is something that any music fan can listen to, only if you accept C's with an A in the beats department, but a NI (Needs Improvement) in the lyrics class.

Artist: E-40
CD: "My Ghetto Report Card"



My Ghetto Report is something that any music fan can listen to, only if you accept C's with an A in the beats department, but a NI (Needs Improvement) in the lyrics class.

Everybody has a secret...
Duke wants Olivia who likes
Sebastian who is really Viola
whose brother is dating
Monique so she hates Olivia
who's with Duke to make
Sebastian jealous who is really
Viola who's crushing on Duke
who thinks she's a guy...



AMANDA BYNES
She's THE MAN

CHANNING TATUM LAURA RAMSEY "WIFIAN" BRADLEY PETERSON
COURTESY OF PARAMOUNT STUDIOS



Overall Rating: For a witty, yet unequivocally failing attempt at bringing Shakespeare to the silver screen

C-

Movies With Heroes Ushers In The New Emo

Jami Furo
the sandspur

Maybe, to the untrained ear, they are just another emo band. But this band has much, much more to offer.

Movies With Heroes, with their album *Nothing Here is Perfect*, is the sound of desperation. Their intellectual lyrics, matched with raw power chords and a harsh, though surprisingly intoxicating singing voice, leaves a sound that forbids you to hit the stop button.

It was not an easy road for Movies With Heroes. They never won a reality show to win their record contract. They paid their dues in the form of five years of indie touring and self-recording. They have released several other albums, but this is the first under a "real" record label—CI Records. They describe the album as "five grown men going for broke."

The album begins with a brief electronica synthesizer riff, giving the listener a completely different impression of the album than the way it is. This deceiving sound is really the only one of its kind on the album. The rest of the album consists of natural rock sounds like electric guitar, bass, drums, and the scratchy, soulful vocals of Keith Wilson that

are not classically, but rockfully, beautiful.

While the entire album offers the same emo sound, there are definite juxtapositions hidden within the ten tracks. The band moves with ease from the delicate to the desperate, the gentle to the giant, the introspective to the destructive. The changes are subtle, but between changes in lyrics, slight changes in volume and instrumentation, and changes from commonplace chordal structures

ever-persistence of rock, creates an enchantingly beautiful delight for the ear.

The album continues strongly from there, moving on with songs like "Believe," which is very much in the same style as "Nothing." "Moth and Rust" is another song that mixes the harsh with the delicate in the same way.

Not all of Movies With Heroes' songs are of the introspective quality, however. Some are more immediate and desperate, both in the lyrics and in the music. Songs like "Need It Now" and the opening track, "Wake Up," convey feelings of urgency and someone who is going for broke, much like the band itself feels like it is doing in the creation of this album. The instrumentation is harsher, like more common rock, but its rawness does not get in the way of its melodic, musical quality.

Movies With Heroes has still, to some extent, maintained the indie sound that they have produced since their conception in 2000. Their sound, in some ways, is not much different than groups like Saves the Day and Our Lady Peace. However, they display a maturity and intelligence that, paired with their songwriting and performance talents, creates an exceptional band.



COURTESY OF MOVIES WITH HEROES

in the harsher tracks to more complex, unusual, unpredictable harmony in the more introspective tracks, Movies With Heroes has learned how to add variety, while still maintaining their sound.

The album starts off a little slow. The first few songs are nothing to be excited about, really. They are typical emo songs you could find on a million other albums. However, the album finds its turning point on the fourth track "Nothing." The lyrics are hauntingly reflective, and the softer, gentler sounds of the instruments and vocals mixed, with the

Thank You For Smoking

Chris Hewitt
krt campus

You can count the good guys in "Thank You for Smoking" on its permanently flipped middle finger.

An irreverent comedy about a likable lobbyist for Big Tobacco whose job requires him to encourage sixth-graders to give smoking a try, "Thank You for Smoking" is based on Christopher Buckley's uproarious novel of the same title. The movie is funny, but not as funny as the book because it lacks Buckley's unique voice and because the 11 years since the book came out have blunted its story about a man so charming that he could sell cigarettes to Yul Brynner on his deathbed.

Aaron Eckhart ("Erin Brockovich's" ponytailed squeeze) is excellent as Nick, the ciggie-butt apologist who meets regularly with a gun flack and a booze flack to compare notes on whose products are the most lethal. Most of the humor comes from that sort of outrageousness, from the gap between the characters' lies and what we know to be true.

Too often, though, the movie settles for cheap jokes. Let's face it, an amoral tobacco lobbyist is an easy target for satire, and the movie's other targets — Hollywood shal-

lowness, sixth-graders' dopey speeches — are even easier (rent "Citizen Ruth" if you're interested in a satire that gets bigger laughs with bigger risks). That so many of the jokes do land is due to the efforts of a cast that is like a best-supporting-actor reunion (William H. Macy, Robert Duvall, J.K. Simmons, Sam Elliott, Adam Brody), under the guidance of directing newcomer Jason Reitman.

In a scene in which Reitman cuts between Nick's kidnapping by terrorists and his son giving a speech about what makes America great, the director gives the movie an energy and intelligence that isn't always there in his script. Making connections between seemingly unconnected things, establishing tone, guiding us toward surprising relationships without spelling them out — these are the some of the things a talented director brings to the table and that suggest Reitman could be a unique new voice in movie comedy.



Sudoku

Fill in the grid so that every row, every column, and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1 through 9

	8		4			3	5	
	9		1	5		2		
3	5					7	1	
	2	5				6		8
1	6					7	2	
7		8				5	4	
	7	6					2	3
		9		7	8		6	
	1	3			6		9	

2	6	8	9	4	2	1	5	3
5	9	1	3	7	8	6	4	2
3	2	4	1	6	5	9	7	8
1	4	5	2	9	6	8	3	7
2	7	6	5	3	8	4	9	1
8	3	9	7	1	2	5	6	4
4	1	2	6	8	9	3	5	7
9	8	2	3	5	1	7	4	6
6	5	3	7	2	4	1	8	9

Rollins, Do We Know?

Juan Bernal
the sandspur

Who was George Mason?



Total Sampled: 75

Did not know

Answered Correctly

Answer: He was a delegate in the Constitutional convention and a key advocate in abolishing slavery.

Friday Night Sound Check Brings Counterculture to Central Florida

Kalene McCort
the sandspur

On a magical evening in March music lovers from all over journeyed pass the white gates and into Markham Park where the honey sweet vocals of Theresa Andersson and the not yet tainted blue water in the Porto-potties spoke of new beginnings. This was Friday Night Sound Check at Langerado, an annual everglade festival that through the years has attracted a diverse crowd of southern rockers, Rastafarians, peace loving hippies, and salsa grooving homies.

In this its fourth year Langerado provided its patrons with five stages, to keep the great eclectic music and the positive vibes continuously flowing. Michael Jordan, a "festival virgin" from West Palm said, "This is so awesome, it's like the entertainment never ceases to stop!" as he grasped a half empty Zephyrhills bottle. Five piece band, Lotus got the people moving kicking the festival off noon on Saturday with their electronic jazzy sounds. Men and women both dressed in long

ful social conscious Michael Franti and Spearhead took to The Sunset Stage like fish to clean non-polluted water. Not only did Franti and his posse of skillful musicians get the crowd's hips swaying, but also managed to motivate them to think about social justice. Encouraging booty shaking while expressing discontent with the global situation of our day may seem like a hard task but theses soldiers of love pulled it off, specifically in their song, "We don't stop." With politically

hind frontman Wayne Coyne stood a gang of about 30 people decked out in butterfly, banana, zebra, cheetah and bunny suites. If one festival goer had opted not to indulge in the many substances circulating the park that day, they were made to feel like they had anyway. Before breaking into songs like "She Don't Use Jelly" and "Do You Realize" Coyne, much like a manic hamster surfed above the crowd in a clear plastic bubble. Later the Lips conducted a sing along to Queen's "Bo-



Come the second day it was musical bliss we got. Ocean Beach California Boys, Slightly Stoopid, brought a real energetic aura to the fest. Their Reggae infused bluesy hip-hop rock was almost reminiscent of the early nineties band Sublime. An earthy dreadhead mama rhythmically moved to the southern country rock sounds of Florida native band MOFRO, with her little tie-dye dressed son, upon her hip. The funky heavy horned Antibalas

Afrobeat Orchestra and quirky folk guitar genius Keller Williams kept the people dancing, smiling and wishing they could live in this enchanting festival town forever. Some brave souls even climbed trees to get a better view of the performances. The music made its way from the stage to the vender area, as concert goers and artists formed drum circles.

Laura Rincon from Naples said, "I could get down to those bongos all day!" while rolling her hips to the beat, playfully touching her molasses cocoa dreads.

As the day turned to night and the cool winds calmly blew through the

park, The Black Crowes broke in to their first song of the evening. Perhaps the only true American Rock n' Roll band not left over from the sixties, The Crowes brought to the stage that powerful force of raw sensual heaviness. Lead singer of The Crowes, Chris Robinson, jumped around the stage and busted out quite a few Mick Jagger-Iggy pop-like moves. When the Crowes finished their set, a bittersweetness seemed to brush over the park. You could see it, that look of "Is it really over?" on so many sunburnt faces. As people packed away the sunscreen and oversized hula-hoops the only music that could be heard was the sound of car alarms going off in the lot. Multicolored confetti was strewn along the ground, remnants of The Lips psychedelic performance. Langerado, with its non-stop music and warm vibes managed to work its way into the souls of many. We all walked away that night with memories of intrinsic beats and microbrews, longing for next year's festival which would reunite us with old friends and Mother Earth.



charged lyrics like, "A war with jets and a war with missiles / A war with high seated, government officials" who couldn't in the midst of their grooving be made more aware of the many social injustices that happen daily. Franti with dreadlocks flying in his usual "how yaaa feeeeling" vibe actually

hopped off the stage and got "down" so to speak with the people. But, who would expect anything less from this gentle soul who in the past has performed for American troops who were stationed in Israel, Iraq and Palestine even though he is strongly opposed to the War.

At 4:00 p.m. Midwestern Band Umphrey's McGee continued to captivate crowds with their blended music that hints at metal, jazz, funk and classic rock.

Things really took a turn for trippy-ville when eccentric band The Flaming Lips hit the stage. Be-

hemian Rhapsody," it was kind of like karaoke night; only in the heart of swampland with 15,000 friends.

As the sun dropped down and the stars graced Langerado with their celestial presence, Ben Harper and The Innocent Criminals lit up the Everglades Stage in a spiritual sense. Harper, also expressing his concern with issues of social justice through song, appeared like a musical Gandhi preacher of sorts, and we were his congregation. His intense performance sent langeradoans back to their cars, tents and hotels craving more musical bliss.



skirts danced around the emerald grassy fields while blackening their bare feet and brightening their spirits. A little dirt didn't seem to hinder the energy in the slightest. After all, this wasn't just about jamming out to music, but about getting back to the earth. Natural sunkissed faces whirled by making their way to the many vendors who were selling everything from falafel and hummus to Christ-like rope sandals and crystal jewelry.

Around 3:00 p.m. just when the hot south Florida sun was shining down in full effect, soul-

CAMPUS EVENTS

Friday April 07

Shabbat Dinner

Faculty Club - 6 PM

Pirates vs. Ninjas Movie Night

Sullivan House - 7 PM

Rollins Horn Ensemble

Tiedtke - 7:30 PM

Sat April 08

McKean Hall Community

Easter Egg Hunt

Mills Lawn - 11 AM

Tues April 11

Music at Midday - Tiedtke Concert Hall - 12:30 PM

"US vs Art Thieves" - Chapel Garden - 7:30 PM

Thurs April 13

Music at Midday

Tiedtke - 12:30 PM

"Freedom of What?" Forum

DownUnder - 3 PM

Global Peace Film Festival

Bush Auditorium - 6 PM

Faculty Percussion Recital - Tiedtke - 7:30 PM

Wed April 12

Campus Crusade for Christ

Bieberbach-Reed - 7 PM

Fri April 14

"Lost Boy No More"

Bush Auditorium

5:30 PM

WWW.THESANDSPUR.ORG

Opinions

 EDITOR: BRETT HEINEY
 OPINIONS@THESANDSPUR.ORG

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Topic: The Bush Administration Bothered by Bush's Big Blunders

A thread of hope lies ahead for the U.S. in 2008; all we need is to wait out the rest of the Bush years.

Kelsey Field
the sandspur



As the Iraq war continues, its cost is approaching half a trillion dollars. Besides the fact that we should not have entered into this ridiculous waste of money in the first place, now that we are in, we are in it for the long haul. I hate to break it to you Bushy-poo, but Democracy building is not cheap, this is not the Soviet Union, which tumbled and found Democracy. The façade of nuclear weapons turned out to be false, the reason why we went into the war in the first place, and people are still not flooding the streets in protest. Maybe they do not care, it has not affected their lives.

What really bothers me is we are spending all this money on the Iraq war, and when our own country gets blown away by hurricanes, all the sudden there is not enough money to go around, and so the war continues to suck the banks dry.

Then there was the little issue of FEMA, which really made obvious the incompetence of our government, starting at the very top. Note to the President-you cannot just appoint people with very important duties who have no idea what to do when a real tragedy hits-yes, it is very different in real life than what you have read in your text books.

So now that we are in the war, we are stuck. Then there is the little issue of our debt, which has sky

rocketed out of control with no end in sight...at least until 2008 that is. However, until then we have to deal with the idiocracy of the ruling party allowing for blank checks to be written.

Just recently congress moved the debt ceiling from \$781 billion to \$9 trillion. Some people do not think that the national debt is a problem. Unfortunately, the national debt increases every day by \$2.42 billion, beginning in September 30th, 2005. As of today, April 3 2006 at 2:28:23 PM GMT, the outstanding debt is \$8,379,790, 610,348.80, according to brillig.com, which has a national debt counter. So far that is \$28,030.71 per person living in the United States. Oh no, the debt is fine....riiiight.

I mean, for the most part I can look past the fact he is the worst speaker I have ever seen... obviously Yale and Harvard do not focus on the presentation side of class. Irony, as many of them go on to positions which require them to make public speeches. But more so than his awkward "hrming" and "hmming" that he does

when he is asked an uncomfortable question, I disagree with his politics.

The constitution has written in it a separation of church and state, for obvious reasons, and yet it was moral, religious ideas that got him elected in the first place. Maybe instead of worrying what other people are doing with their lives, he should get his own family in line first.

Abortion and gay rights should not be the defining issues that get a president elected, they should be the secondary facts after important issues such as national security, national debt and other problems that are plaguing to every country. Perhaps instead of worrying about "Brokeback Mountain", he

should instead be questioning his bureaucracies why there is such abundant misinformation going around.

No wonder the Democrats are putting their money on the female population to help pull this country out of this ridiculous situation. Look out men, the mommy party is up and coming for the next round of elections. That is right. The mommy party. But hey, although I don't like the name, I am going with it. Women are going to be running in nearly half of the two dozen House races, where Democrats are hoping to pick up the seats and turn the tide on the Republican domination of the House, according to Raw.

The Democrats are hop-

ing that the unrest that can be seen in polls throughout the country reflect the need for change, and now is the perfect opportunity for women to rise up in the ranks.

I have been waiting for the 2008 elections since 2004, and unfortunately I was waiting for 2004 since 2000. So it essentially has been 6 extremely long and painful years, with only 2 more to go, until Bush is out of office. And I will celebrate with the rest of my Seattlites when he is. But until then, I have to wait.

Kelsey Field is a Junior International Relations and Spanish major in the School of Arts and Sciences



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How Easily We Forget: Our Memories Run Amuck

We augment our memories by remembering all of George Bush's mistakes but no positives.

Jami Furo
the sandspur



How easily we forget. In this country, it does not seem to take long. A year, maybe. Sometimes, not even. We forget things that should not be forgotten. But we remember things that should be forgiven.

Our memories of the Bush Administration are perhaps skewed because of this nation's strange memory. We remember things the way they were not. We remember things the way we want to remember them, though I cannot imagine why anyone would want to remember the last six years in the way that this country has chosen to remember them. But it goes something like this.

We remember a disaster when September 11 occurred. We remember a president who sat idly by reading to children as in-

nocent people were dying in New York and Washington. We remember not knowing where our president was or what he was doing in a time when we were terrified.

But on that day nearly five years ago, the story was painted much differently. We praised our president. We understood that his main objective was to not allow the country to panic. He landed all planes immediately to avoid further attacks. He made his decisions from his own plane flying somewhere unknown high in the air to make sure the terrorists could not get to our head of state and commander in chief. He took action immediately and intensely. We saw a strong leader. His approval rating in the ensuing months was through the roof because citizens of all parties agreed that the situation was handled well.

How easily we forget.

We remember the 2000 election. We remember the crisis of it. We remember how close it was. We remember that George W. Bush "stole" the presidency from the saintly Vice President Al Gore. We remember chads and recounts and the Supreme Court. We remember wondering whether or not we would decide on a president before inauguration day. Here in Florida, we remember being humiliated. We remember that slightly more than half the country was extremely disappointed with the outcome.

We remember 6 years ago, but a year and a half ago is fuzzy. We have forgotten that there has been another election since then. We have forgotten that we have, no matter how one chooses to look at it, a controversial president in office with low approval ratings. We for-

get that the Democratic Party had every chance in the world to oust the man they detest so much. We forget that they could have chosen practically anybody, and they would have one. But they chose an elitist from Massachusetts who had nothing concrete to say. Now, we hardly remember his name. But we remember every detail of the election from four years before.

How easily we forget.

We remember how many soldiers have died in Iraq, but we forget that both men and women are participating in democratic elections as a result of their battles.

We remember the 9/11 Commission Report that stated that they found no weapons of mass destruction in Iraq, but we forget that Saddam Hussein used them on his own people.

We remember how afraid we were on September 11, 2001, but we forget who it was that took action so we did not have to continue to fear.

How easily we forget.

The Bush Administration is not perfect by any stretch of the imagination. George W. Bush is not even close to being the best president that we have ever had.

But he is far better than we remember him. Our memories are both short and long. We remember the mistakes, but we quickly forget the triumphs.

I wonder what we will forget next.

Jami Furo is a Music Major in the School of Arts and Sciences.

An Exit Strategy to Save Bush's Last Years

Brett Heiney
the sandspur



With sagging approval ratings and a White House and Party surrounded by such controversies and political problems, George W. Bush needs to come up with an exit strategy so that he can leave office on some kind of good terms with the American people.

There has been a lot of talk lately about shaking up the Administration. Bush has taken a few steps already making slight changes, but I agree with some analysts who say he needs to make some major changes.

One change that has been suggested to which I agree is naming his heir so to speak. Some have suggested that Bush ask Vice President Dick Cheney to resign and place Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice in that position. This could be an effective political move on Bush's part to back his choice for the 2008 elections.

Secretary of State Rice has said she does not plan on

continuing in politics, but the lure of becoming the first female and the first African American President could sway her to take Bush's endorsement.

Cheney has been nothing but problematic for this presidency. A New York University's presidential historian, Paul Light, said, "Cheney is the de facto chief of staff. He's two steps down the hall. He's like a barnacle; he's not going anywhere."

The public image of Cheney is that he is a shady and secretive individual who makes deals in the back-alleys of the White House. His years of experience have placed him in a somewhat mentoring role for the President, and this has translated itself into the larger opinion of the Bush Administration in general keeping to the back-alleys.

I do not think Cheney is solely to blame for this, but he has been a major influence on how George W. has run this country. Cheney may be a good man at heart, but as a political figure he has always been seen as cold and distant.



Ridding himself of Cheney and bringing on board Condoleezza Rice as VP can only help alleviate the pressure that is being placed on the President by the GOP, Democrats, and the nation as a whole.

Changes should not stop at naming his preferred successor. Bush should try, in his last two years as president, to create an air of openness and honesty that has been lacking throughout his

presidency.

The Bush White House has done a lot of good thing, and has made a lot of mistakes. Bush is not our worst president, and is not, by far, our greatest. He needs to put forth the effort to show the American people that he truly considers what we say and will be open about mistakes, blunders, and even miscommunications.

To save Bush's presidency he needs to change the

culture of his Administration to create the image and substance of a caring Executive that is trying to run a country to the best of its ability. Bush must openly embrace his critics and his fellow Americans, own up to his mistakes, and take responsibility for his actions and the actions of his Administration. A more open White House with better personnel can only help to improve the Bush's last years in office.

Next Week's Topic: Humanity

How Bush Ruined U.S. Conservatism

John Ferreira
the sandspur



The year 2000 seems so far away. Not only has six years passed, but the events and the concerns of 2000 seem to be a distant land, a fairy tale past that existed between the Cold War and the War on Terror. It is important to recall the troubled election of 2000 and to remember precisely, why and how, George W. Bush was elected.

Many at the time questioned whether or not Bush was a true conservative; after all he was trying to move away from the angry and reactionary image the party had crafted for itself during the two presidential elections of the 1990s. He was different because he was a "compassionate conservative" which has become a euphemism for not believing in small government. He would use his compassion increase the size of the Department of Education, to give federal support to faith based initiative and has never used his veto pen to slash a spending bill. In 2000 George W. Bush said he was fed up with nation building, and that he would never use the American military to undertake the creation of a state from the ground up.

It is also imperative to recall what the nation was looking for in 2000. No one was worried about national security. Terrorism was not one of the hot button issues of 2000; the nation was looking for a peace time president. The nation yearned for an honest and competent president who would restore honor and dignity to the White House and the rowdy years of the Clinton administration. George W. Bush was a man prepared for the challenges of 2000, to deal with domestic concerns and America's changing role in world. He was going to attempt an approximation to Latin American countries so desperately in need of strong American leadership.

changed the challenges that the president had to face, and today in 2006 I am able to say with unequivocal certainty that George W. Bush has failed in meeting those challenges and that he was never prepared to deal them. We cannot blame those who elected him, because after all he was the right man in 2000, he is not the right man in 2006. With Republican gains in congress and the Senate, Bush's abrasive style and lack of conservative fortitude has led to a split in the Republican Party.

I have written in this publication before how I feel, after much reading, that neoconservatism is nothing more than a hijacking of conservative principles. Neocons are Dorian Gray, who believe that their mirror image is aging and failed but it is actually within their ideals that they are forging the demise of America.

The neocon exercise in Iraq has fragmented America and ballooned the federal deficit to astronomical proportions. George W. Bush is the only president in history to pass tax cuts while being at war, a move that has never made any sense. The president took the great victory in Afghanistan, and squandered it by diverting attention away from Al Qaeda and focusing on Iraq, a nation that had neither weapons of mass destruction or a significant Al Qaeda presence.

So now we are left with no friends in the world and a Republican party at home that is being torn apart by neo-conservative follies. George W. Bush is no conservative, and now we all anxiously wait for 2008, but until then we can only hope that damage is not worse.

John Ferreira is a Junior History and Political Science major in the School of Arts and Sciences. Ferreira is also Managing Editor of The Sandspur.

Contributing Voice

The Panhellenic Council wishes to highlight some of the great things that the sororities on campus are doing.

While NCM participants in several different philanthropies, Relay for Life is one event that we take part in every year. Since so many people we know have been affected by cancer, Relay for Life is something that is close to NCM's heart. We as an organization won a special community service award through the school for our dedication to finding a cure. This year was no exception. NCM set up a tropical themed tent where we sold punch and

fruit cups. We even provided hoola hoops and a limbo pole for kids to play with. We raised a lot of money to donate to the American Cancer Society. We had a lot of fun this year and are looking for to next year's Relay for Life!

Megan Hession
Vice President
Non Compis Mentis

During sorority recruitment the potential new members, along with the members of Kappa Kappa Gamma, made bookmarks to bring to the children at Fern Creek Elementary school to support our main charity;

Reading Is Fundamental. Also, in celebration of Valentine's Day, members got together and decorated home-made valentines with candy, stickers, and glitter to bring to the children at Fern Creek Elementary. In the upcoming weeks we will taking donations for our clothing drive, any donations would be greatly appreciated!

Alyssa Porrello
Philanthropy Chair
Kappa Kappa Gamma

Louise Hill,
Public Relations Chair
Panhellenic Council

Letter to the Editor

Dear Editor,

I wanted to express my extreme dismay at the utter lack of journalistic professionalism displayed in the April Fool's edition of this paper.

"The Slantspur" was a travesty that managed to fool many people into thinking that the staff of the paper had lost their minds. What is wrong with all of you? I know several people who were taken aback by the article about a student contract-

ing avian flu from a milkshake purchased from the Cornell Campus Center.

Avian flu is a serious problem that our country may face very soon, and to make light of the situation is unacceptable.

Also, Rollins puts in a lot of time, effort, and money to make and keep this campus beautiful. It is offensive to see such disregard for all Rollins does for its students by insulting the effort the college puts forth to maintain a beautiful atmosphere.

What makes this worse is that the two articles I have cited were written by Section Editors. These are the people responsible for making sure the newspaper is published every week and that journalistic integrity is maintained. I urge the newspaper to maintain their journalistic professionalism and integrity to ensure the paper does not become trashy tabloids.

Anonymous

Letter to the Editor

Dear Editor,

Please inform Mr. Richard M. Spalding Jr. that I look forward to seeing his name in the papers one day, mentioned in similar vein as was Mr. Kenneth Lay, Mr. Bernie Ebbers, Mr. Randy "Duke" Cunningham, Mr. Niccolo Machiavelli, Mr. Benedict Arnold, and Mr. S. Lucifer.

Also, please remind your readers that "real-world" employers (such as myself) do occasionally read your paper and quite enjoy when larcenous liabilities self-identify even before discovery of the fabrications on their resume. Mr. Spaulding Jr. just made a very selective list that we "real world" employers circulate amongst ourselves.

For Rollins sake, I hope few other of your students make that same list; nevertheless, I'll be sure to double-check their employment history—just in case.

Regards,

Allan
Burgess Jr.



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EDITOR: ANGELA GONZALEZ
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18

The Gators, known for football, take the NCAA title

Juan Bernal
the sandspur

Before the season, the Florida Gators were picked to finish fourth in the SEC East. The Gators had lost their three top scorers, David Lee, Matt Walsh and Anthony Roberson, two of who are in the NBA right now. Now, the Gators are national champions, after defeating George Mason and UCLA in the Final Four.

The Gators were on tap for the first of Saturday's two semifinal games on Saturday. The Gators were dominant from wire to wire, and George Mason had only one lead in the entire game, 2-0. The story of the game was from the three point line. Lee Humphrey, who was 5 for 7 from the three point line in the 2nd half and finished with 19 points. George Mason shot two for 11 from the line and did not make the three until five minutes left in the game. Joakim Noah who was the MVP of the Final Four also paced the Gators with 12 points, 8 rebounds and four blocks. Florida won 73-58. They would face UCLA, who was in making their 13th appearance in a national champi-

onship game.

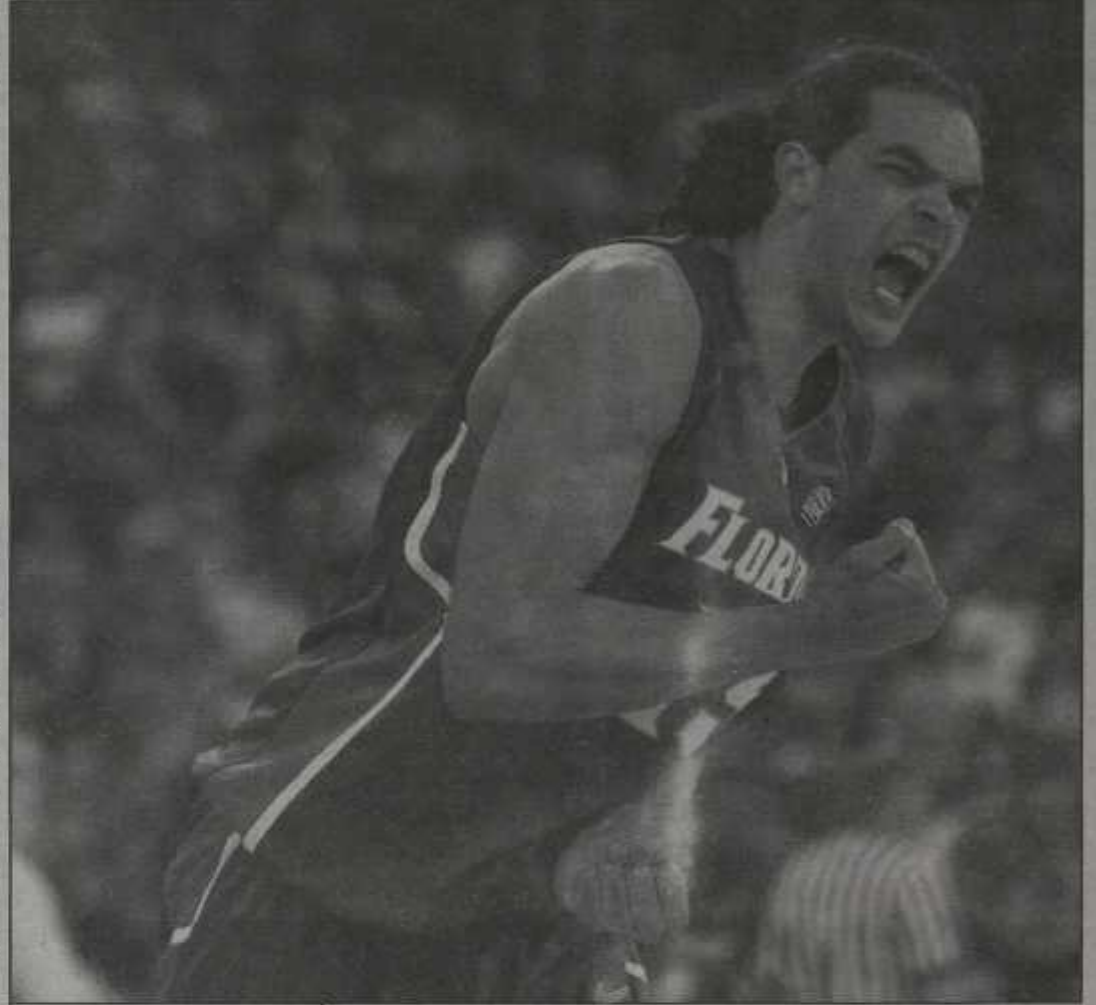
UCLA, who was the champion of the Oakland region played LSU, winner of the Atlanta region, in the other semifinal. The game was an ugly defensive battle, with the Bruins holding their third opponent in this tournament to 45 points or less. The held LSU standout forwards Glen "Big Baby" Davis and Tyrus Thomas to 7-21 and the Tigers shot 32% from the floor. UCLA was not that much better offensively, shooting 42% from the field. However, they outrebounded the Tigers 39-32 and got 10 assists to LSU's four. The Bruins coasted to a 59-45 victory in a game in which the score did not really signify the outset as UCLA held a comfortable 20 point advantage throughout the second half. UCLA was led by forward Luc Richard Mbah A Moute who had 17 points and nine rebounds.

Monday night it was the UCLA Bruins and the Florida Gators for the national title. They picked a good time to play their most flawless game of the season. Florida raced out to an 11-6 lead and would lead by as many as 11 in the first half. In the second half it was

more of the same. UCLA was more from Florida, as the Bruins could not display the defensive prowess that had put them in the national championship. They could not get going on the offensive end, shooting 36.1% from the field. Florida scored any way they wanted to in the second half breaking UCLA's full court presses and traps. They would lead by as many as 20 and go on to win 73-57.

Florida's whole run to the national final was as improbable as the Final Four itself. For only the second time in since 1987, the Final Four was without a number one seed as Duke was ousted in the Sweet 16 by LSU. Villanova, Connecticut and Memphis were all ousted in their respective regional finals.

Four Gators were named to the All Tournament Team for their efforts. Lee Humphrey hit ten three pointers in the tournament. Forward Al Horford averaged a double-double, 10 points and 10 rebounds in the Final Four. Corey Brewer made showed his versatility in the tournament averaging 15 points, and putting his shutdown defense on George Mason guard Lamar



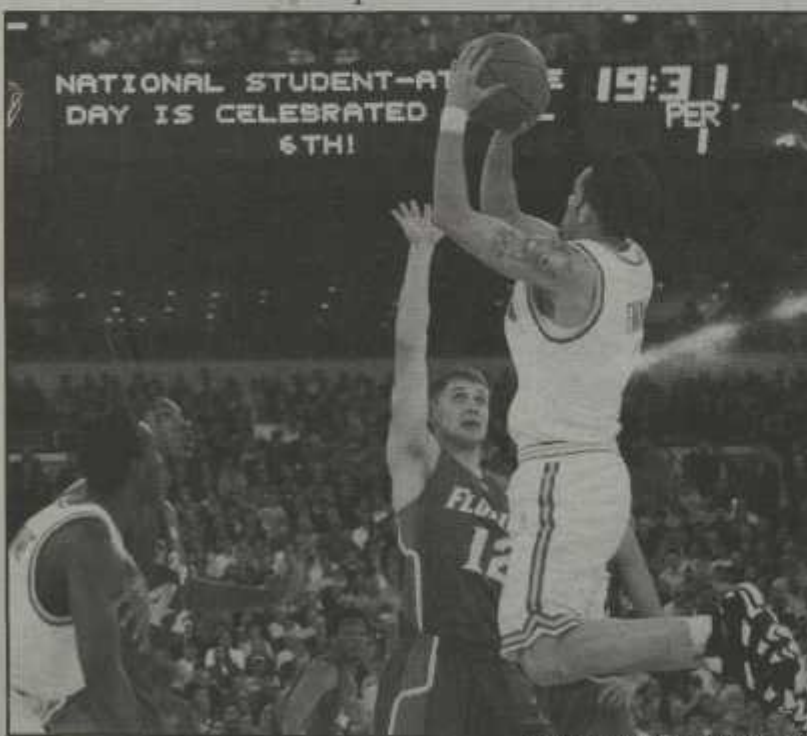
LOUIS DELUCA/KRT CAMPUS

O MY NOAH: UF's Joakim Noah celebrates as the Florida Gators win the championship game of the Final Four.

Butler and UCLA guard Aaron Afflalo. UCLA Jordan Farmar was the only Bruin to make the Final Four team as he averaged 15 points, four assists and three rebounds and was the key instrument to the Bruins successful tournament run. The MVP, Joakim Noah displayed his domination throughout the whole tournament as he averaged 14 points, 8.5 rebounds and five blocks during both of the games. It was truly an impressive performance by the sophomore who grew up in Paris and moved to Harlem in the seventh grade.

George Mason was a delegate in the Constitutional Convention, and was a big time advocate in the abolishment of slavery. The school of 27,000 students from Fairfax, Virginia played the role of Cinderella this tournament. They defeated Michigan State, North Carolina, Wichita State and Connecticut, schools that have won a

combined nine national titles in order to reach the Final Four. There were many people that embraced the George Mason style as they went on their run. Head coach Jim Larranaga was a fun first coach, that ran his program the right way. It was evident when he suspended star guard Tony Skinn for the first game of the tournament because he slugged a player in the groin during the Colonial Athletic Association conference tournament. At first, critics were saying that the Patriots had no business in the tournament, but George Mason will clearly serve as an inspiration for all tournament teams in years to come. The Patriots run ended with a 73-58 loss to Florida. As for Florida, the football gods at that school must be grumpy, because the basketball team has now caught up with the football team in the number of championships won. One.



THE FARMAR STANDS ALONE: UCLA's Jordan Farmar goes up for two as Florida's Lee Humphrey guards

TARS SPORTS SCHEDULE



FRI 7

Softball @ Ft Valley
State Tourney - 8amBaseball @ St. Leo -
7pm

SAT 8

Rowing @ FIRA - 8am
Sailing @ SAISA Champs - 8am
Softball @ Ft Valley State Tourney - 8am
W. Tennis vs Eckerd - 12:30pm
Baseball @ St. Leo(DH) - 1pm

MON 10

W. Golf @ SSC Championships - 8am

SUN 9

Sailing @ SAISA Champs - 8am
M. Tennis @ Valdosta State - 10am
Softball @ Albany State (DH) - 1pm

TUES 11

W. Golf @ SSC Championships - 8am
M. Tennis @ Eckerd - 3pm
W. Tennis vs FL Southern - 3:30pm
Baseball vs Embry-Riddle - 7pm

THURS 13

Baseball vs FL Southern - 7pm

America's Favorite Pastime Returns: Major League Baseball Season Starts

Juan Bernal
the sandspur

In anticipation of the most exciting baseball season ever, the Chicago White Sox opened up by beating their AL Central Division rival, the Cleveland Indians 10-4 on Sunday night. Can the White Sox defend their title? That is one of the many questions that will be answered during the 2006 MLB season.

In the winter meetings that followed the conclusion of the 2005 season, one thing the owners unanimously decided to do was tighten the steroid policy. Eleven players were caught during random steroid testing last season. They were all suspended from ten games, and there were no second time offenders. This season, the new policy calls for a 50 game ban for the first offense, a 100 game ban for the second transgression and the third ban results in a player receiving a lifetime ban.

Barry Bonds comes into the season with 708 home runs. He needs seven home runs to pass Babe Ruth, and 48 more home runs to pass Hank Aaron. However, do

not look for it to be the biggest home run chase since Sammy Sosa and Mark McGwire in 1998. Many baseball fans say that they will not support Bonds' chase of the all time home run record because of his alleged steroid use. Bonds claims that he will retire at the end of the season, whether or not he breaks any home run records. Bonds missed most of last season with a bum knee, and at the beginning of the season he claimed that he was just trying to "stay sane" with all the stress and steroid allegations that his name has been associated with since the end of last season.

Another streak on the line is Philadelphia Phillies shortstop Jimmy Rollins, who has a 36 game hit streak coming into this season. He needs to get a hit in 21 consecutive games to break the legendary Joe DiMaggio's streak of 56 consecutive games with a hit. Rollins goes into the season as the best non-steroid story in baseball, and his highly anticipated debut comes against the St. Louis Cardinals.

The American League's

Eastern division undergoes its second major overhaul in as many years. The Toronto Blue Jays spent \$107 million in picking up high profile free agents pitchers A.J. Burnett (from the Marlins) and B.J. Ryan (Orioles), catcher Bengie Molina (Angels) and Troy Glaus (Diamondbacks) in order to contend with the Red Sox and Yankees. The most regarded move of the off season came when Johnny Damon turned his back on the Red Sox and signed a four year \$52 million deal with the rival New York Yankees. Damon will patrol center field for the Yankees, and every starter for the Yankees has been an All Star at least once. As for the Red Sox, they filled the hole left in center field with former Cleveland Indians outfielder Coco Crisp. The Red Sox also added second baseman Mark Loretta and recently agreed to a four year contract extension with designated hitter David Ortiz, who is arguably the best hitter in baseball.

In the AL Central, the White Sox made a couple of changes that improved their pitching and hitting. They added Jim Thome, who has 430 career home runs, to be-

come their designated hitter. They also added Javier Vazquez as their number five starter. This is Vazquez' fourth team in four years, but this is clearly his best chance to win a championship. The Cleveland Indians serve as the most vehement threat to the White Sox in terms of winning the division. The Indians nearly overcame a 15 game lead in two months, but fell apart late in the season and ended up missing the playoffs all together.

In the AL West, the Mariners added catcher Kenji Jojima, an All Star in Japan for the last eleven years to become their new catcher. The Mariners have had recent success in plucking talent from Japan, as they have made All Stars out of outfielder Ichiro and pitcher Kaz Sasaki. The Angels are expected to win the division with the A's, who added former White Sox slugger Frank Thomas, expected to contend.

In the National League East, Mets general manager Omar Minaya has once again spent a chunk of change in order for the Mets to try to dethrone the Braves' 15 year run of divi-

sion champions. Minaya traded for Carlos Delgado (Marlins) and closer Billy Wagner (Phillies) to complement the Mets' nucleus of youth and veterans. The Mets have as good a chance of any team in the NL East in the last 15 years to dethrone Atlanta. The Braves, meanwhile, will look to Andruw Jones and their nucleus of young talent to win their 16 consecutive division title. The Nationals made a high profile, free agent move by signing Alfonso Soriano from the Rangers. The Marlins suffered a complete roster overhaul once again, as they cut at least \$50 million in salary for the second time in the last ten years.

The Cubs are the trendy pick to win the World Series, as well as the NL Central, but the Cardinals look like the obvious favorite. Last year's NL champion Houston Astros added outfielder Preston Wilson, but lost Jeff Bagwell, whose injuries forced him to retire.

The NL West is the most wide open division in baseball, with the Dodgers, Padres and Giants all expected to vie for the division title.

Tars Baseball Team Triumphs in Two of Three Against Florida Tech

Angela Gonzalez
the sandspur

The baseball team took on Florida Tech in a three game series over the week-end. On Friday, junior starting pitcher David Nathanson collected his fourth win of the season. The Tars had previously lost to Florida Tech in the non-conference season opener game by a devastating score of 8-0.

There was no scoring until the fourth inning, when Florida Tech collected one run off an RBI from Stone. Then in the bottom of the fourth, Rollins landed five runs, the first coming when junior Ryan McKenzie doubled to left center, sending freshman Anthony Soto home. McKenzie was brought home by sophomore Steve Mannenbach's ball to right field. Mannenbach, sophomore Stefano Foggi, and freshman Eugene Martinez all made it home

before the close of the fourth inning.

The Tars kept the Panthers from scoring in the fifth and went on to score two more runs in the bottom of the inning. The score stayed at 7-1 with Rollins up until the bottom of the seventh. Soto scored on a hit by McKenzie down the right field line. The Panthers tried to come back in the eighth, but only managed to secure three runs. Rollins collected one more run the bottom of the inning. The Panthers were unsuccessful in the ninth, ending the game with a score of 9-4.

On Saturday, the Tars took on the Panthers again in a double-header. The first game followed in the spirit of the previous game. There was no scoring early on in the match. Then in the fifth inning, Jesse More came home after Soto hit a single up the middle. Before the inning was up, Gene Howard hit a right field homerun

that sent Anthony Soto home and put Rollins up 3-0. Scoring again came to a halt until the Tars half of the seventh. This time Soto hit a homerun to right field. Howard again scored a run for the Tars after Mannenbach hit out to right field. The Panthers missed out on scoring in the eighth inning. Rollins half saw runs collected by Jesse More and Tyler

Hartman, sealing the win for the Tars by a score of 7-0.

But the Tars lost their offensive momentum in the second game of the day. Junior starting pitcher Mario Lombardo gave up some early runs. Florida Tech took down two runs straight away in the first, and scoring halted until senior Brent Magnuson came home on a ground ball to third base in

the fourth. But the Panthers closed out the scoring in the game in the fifth inning when they took down three runs, making the score 5-1, where it remained until the end.

The Tars will be back in action on Friday April 7, when they begin a three game series against Saint Leo in Saint Leo, Fla. First pitch is scheduled for 7 p.m.

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