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Rollins College

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The Sandspur

ROLLINS COLLEGE ■ WINTER PARK, FLORIDA

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

Carry A Difference

Interested in making your own unique handbag? The best place to go is Cris-Dees on Fairbanks.

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OPINIONS

Raised Tempers

The raised crosswalk has caused some anger across the Rollins campus. Here's a student's opinion!

PAGE 13

SPORTS

A Brief Look

Men's basketball is televised nationally for the first time and they win. Check this out on the back page!

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THE STUDENT VOICE OF ROLLINS COLLEGE SINCE 1894

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January 29, 2007

Greeks Open Doors

Megan Borkes
the sandspur

It's that time of year again: that time when sororities and fraternities get ready to open up their doors to select a few new members. Many may know it as "Rush Week," but the more PC term is "Recruitment," and it is going to be dominating campus for the next few weeks.

"During Rush Week, it is the student's opportunity to investigate which fraternities [or sororities] they might be interested in," says Daniel Tuegel of TKE or Tau Kappa Epsilon. "They will initially travel around to all of the Greek houses and meet the members. The proceeding days will be filled with lots of food, fun, and friendships that will be for life."

Even if one does not decide on pledging to a specific house, the whole process of recruitment has enough socializing that it is bound to forge some great friendships. "Choosing the right fraternity is a huge decision and a lifelong choice, so Rush gives students a chance to test the waters," Tuegel says. "And if they choose to pursue further, they have another long adventure ahead of them that will change their lives forever."

For those fresh people and transfer students who are new to campus, the sororities and fraternities dot the Rollins campus. There are so many that at least one can be seen from virtually any sidewalk. So, naturally, there should be no problem finding a brotherhood or sisterhood that one would want to join up with. But it is not always as easy as just picking a house. There is that little matter of actually getting pledged.

"So how will they get to know me?" Inquiring minds want to know, and each house has most likely already thought of ways. The first and most prominent introduction to new potential pledges actually happens on the first few nights. Students interested in recruitment - or "PNMs," Potential New Members - will, in groups, travel around to each house to meet the brothers - or sisters - of each of the houses on campus.

There are parties with food and a whole bunch of socializing at each house. This, in a nutshell, is how the PNMs will figure out which house they would like to pledge themselves to.

After all the socializing ends, the bidding begins. Students put

down which houses they will accept "bids" from. A bid is essentially an invitation back into the fraternity or sorority. It is much like an auction - hence, "bid," - in that multiple houses can show interest in the same person. Since a student can only join one house, they have to consider carefully which group they want to join up with.

"My advice to girls going through recruitment is to go where your heart tells you to," says Chelsea Stonerock of NCM or Non Compis Mentis. "Pick the sorority with the girls you want to spend your time with and create memories with."

Recruitment is something that definitely needs some thought put into it, and there are some people who find that it just isn't for them. "After going to school with all girls for the past eight years, I think I've had enough of the sisterhood," said freshman Emily Killian. "I think sororities - and fraternities for that matter - can potentially provide great opportunities for friendships, networking, and campus involvement, but they're just not for everybody."

Hannah Blakeman, also a freshman has the same mindset, but she is still undecided about whether to join up for recruitment or not. "On one hand I hear great things about finding similar interests with people and bonding with them. On the other hand I hear stories about how superficial it can be. Since I haven't actually experienced any of it, I might as well check it out to see for myself."

Some are a little more blunt about their reasons, however. Rob Yoho just does not think Greek Life will be beneficial for him. "I don't feel like forking out extra money to join one more organization," he said.

But then, there are those who feel like the recruitment process will be just what they need. "At first, I wasn't going to rush," said freshman Ashleigh Bauman, "but then I spoke to my RA who happens to be in a sorority and she told me all about what an awesome experience it is. I feel like it would be a great opportunity for me to meet new people."

What Did Rollins Do For Break?

My winter break was amazing. After a pretty tough semester I really needed some time to just sit around and relax.

Actually, most of my time was spent with my family. I love Christmas.

-Rochelle Siegel '07



I worked most of the break, but it was fun because I got to work with animals at a vets office. And then when I wasn't working I spent time with my friends.

-Samantha Schmid '10

This break I went to New York City with a bunch of family -- my parents, my aunt and uncle, and three of my cousins -- and my boyfriend of three years. We had an absolute blast seeing the city and enjoying the atmosphere. There's no place like NYC.

-Nicole Fluet '08



WELCOME BACK TO ROLLINS COLLEGE!

WORLD News



COURTESY OF CNN

ENGLAND: Three people were killed as snow and ice caused travel chaos across Europe, halting trains and planes and cutting off electricity to thousands of homes.

FRANCE: Lebanese Prime Minister Fuad Saniora won pledges of new international aid ahead of a major conference to raise funds for his war-scarred country.

SPAIN: Spanish police arrested a Moroccan man near Barcelona on suspicion of Islamic terrorist activities.

SPAIN: Spain's government has reached an agreement with major fashion designers, including the owner of the Zara chain, to standardize women's clothing sizes to promote healthy body images.

ISRAEL: Lashing out at the Israeli media for "letting my blood" and "brainwashing" the Israeli public, Israeli President Moshe Katsav vehemently denied impending sex abuse charges and refused to resign.

NATIONAL News



OKLAHOMA: Authorities captured two escaped inmates, including a convicted killer, who are suspected of tying up two women and taking their cars.

NEW YORK: As police searched for the killers of a couple whose young sons found them shot dead in their home, family friends and relatives said they were mystified by the slayings.

CALIFORNIA: Farmers trying to keep crops warm from the recent cold now face a propane shortage.

KANSAS: Money is missing from the bank account of a local Parents Teachers Association. According to a Shawnee police report, \$17,060.95 is missing from the Bluejacket-Flint Elementary School PTA fund.

OHIO: Investigators said a serial robber will spend the next 54 years in prison for robbing several area motels.

FLORIDA: A police officer and Good Samaritan helped rescue a 6-month-old boy and mother after her car flipped in a canal in Cocoa.

Two New Majors Added Come to Rollins

Stephanie Hanisak
the sandspur

Starting next fall Rollins College will be offering a long awaited Marine Biology major. Historically, the Rollins biology program has attracted students predominately interested in pursuing a career in medicine or dentistry. While there has been a marine biology course offered for numerous years, Rollins has never offered an in-depth path of study in this field. Numerous students, both current and prospective, have expressed their interest in marine biology, which lead the faculty to seriously consider adding a marine biology major.

"The marine biology major was a long time coming at Rollins because of where we are located," said Dr. Sutherland, who along with Dr. Harper were hired in the fall of 2005 into Rollins' biology department with the hopes of developing a marine biology program. Dr. Sutherland continued by explaining that it was a much needed and in demand area of study due to the close proximity of Rollins, being located in Central Florida, to the Atlantic Ocean, the Caribbean, and the Gulf of Mexico.

The marine biology major is comprised of eight core marine biology courses, three core chemistry courses, one biology elective course, and one approved field experience in marine biology. Students may choose between the following biology electives: Biology of Fishes, Marine Botany, Animal Physiology, Microbiology, Biostatistics, or and Independent Study in Biological Research. Students will be able to fulfill the field requirement by either participating in a field study trip or spending a semester at an approved marine station.

Over Winter Break, students travelled to Hawaii where they spent approximately three weeks studying various marine ecosystems, plants, and animals.

Field experience is an important part of Marine Research. "While we were in Hawaii we were reading papers regarding the green sea turtles, and the students were able to see what they were reading about," said Dr. Harper. "That is the best thing about field experience." Besides Hawaii, the Rollins Biology department has offered trips in previous years to Barbados, and is currently looking into developing marine research trips to Panama and Maine.

Current approved marine stations are the Duke University Marine Lab or the Woods Hole Oceanographic Institute. By choosing to spend a semester at one of these approved marine stations students have the opportunity to conduct independent research, attend more specific courses not offered in the Rollins program, or to fulfill the physics requirement that most graduate level biology programs have.

According to their website, the marine biology major at Rollins College will offer "students a broad understanding of basic biological and ecological principles and processes; exposes them to the discovery nature of science; and educates them in their roles as global citizens in preserving the health of the marine environment."

"I was originally a Biology major going the pre-med route, but then I heard that Rollins was opening up a Marine Bio major so I checked it out," said freshmen Kevin Caoceres. "I grew up around and have always loved the ocean and water. Plus I like biology, so I knew it would be a perfect fit."



COURTESY OF ROLLINS COLLEGE

Stephanie Hanisak
the sandspur

Communication is a significant part of daily life, especially in today's fast paced multimedia world. Studies show that by the time students are 18 they have spent twice as much time in front of the television than actually in school. Studies also show that people are bombarded by thousands of advertisements daily. How are people able to process all this information to get the most out of it?

"I really felt like this was a hole in our curriculum at Rollins," said Dr. Tillmann, who will be the department head of Critical Media and Cultural Studies. "Although courses were being offered across a multitude of disciplines that there was no systematic way to study mass media and culture."

Along with Marine Biology, starting next fall Rollins College (Arts and Sciences) will be offering a new interdisciplinary major that combines media and cultural studies. The Critical Media and Cultural Studies major will allow students to immerse themselves in the multimedia world and hone their skills within the following areas: critical thinking, written communication, oral communication, media literacies, and multicultural perspectives.

"I asked what it is in the discipline of communication that students in the 21st century most need," said Tillmann, who along with various other faculty members have spent a few years developing this new major. "I felt like because of the level of saturation in terms of media that having a systematic way of examining, analyzing, deconstructing media was what students most needed within the discipline of communication."

The core curriculum requires students to take ten courses (four of which are core courses) along with four credit hours of Information Technology courses. The core courses include Introduction to Media and Cultural Studies, Researching Media and Culture, Visual Rhetoric, and a theory course (students can choose from the following: Critical Frameworks for Contemporary Culture, Postmodernism, or Postmodern Society). Students are also required to take five courses within a specific area of study that interests them. The last requirement is a Senior Seminar and Research Practicum, which is equivalent to a senior capstone course. In this capstone, students will research, develop, and execute a multimedia project focusing in their area of concentration.

Due to the significant multimedia component, Information Technology courses are required to increase the student's skills and help them complete their senior seminar project. Information Technology offers a variety of courses including ones in video editing and web design.

This major is a truly interdisciplinary major with over 35 contributing faculty members in over 20 departments. Students are allowed to tailor their focus in one of the following concentrations that interests them most: international media, power and persuasion, media analysis, and critical analysis of culture. Students can choose from a variety of courses that compliment their concentration.

"I would say the central question of the major is how do media and culture contribute to our participation as citizens in a free democratic society and how do they undermine that," said Tillmann. "And we are very excited for this major."

Bookmark Cafe

Rochelle Siegel
the sandspur

The library staff would like to inform Rollins students of a change currently taking place in the Olin Library. Changes are being made to the Bookmark Café during the Spring Semester.

The hours of the café will be extended from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. and 6 p.m. to 10 p.m. on Monday

through Thursday and 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Fridays.

The selection of items for sale will be extended. Students will be able to choose from more drinks and food which will include cookies, pastries, prepackaged sandwiches and more.

The position of the cart itself will also be moved so that students will have a better view of the café and so that the staff can actually see and be seen.

Rollins Hosts 72nd Annual Bach Festival

Andres Lester-Coll
the sandspur

From February 17th to March 3, 2007 Rollins College is proud to host at memorial chapel the 72nd annual Bach Festival. The festival Choir and Orchestra are performing three different programs: Handel's Heroes and Heraldry, Music of the Moravians and Bach's the Passion According to St. John. Also the Bach Festival chamber singers and orchestra join the PDQ Bach - Professor Peter Schickele and Johann of all trades, for a program of whimsical classical music.

First starting the festival off on Saturday February 17 at 3 p.m. and 8 p.m. is the PDQ Bach: The

Vegas Years. This portion of the program is composed of hysterical performances of the invented "18th century composer whose time had never come or should never have come must not be missed". The festival chamber singers and orchestra join Peter Schickele in presenting the different pieces of P.D. Bach.

Next, on Sunday, February 18th at 3 p.m., begins the Handel's Heroes and Heraldry program. Handel is known to be the one and only composer in all of history to be as "successful as he is in writing music that dramatizes heroic and legendary figures". The concert itself includes music from Handel's "royal fireworks and coronation anthems, as well as the most famous choruses and

aria from his celebrated oratorios."

In addition to Handel's Heroes and Heraldry program on Saturday, February 24 at 8 p.m. Music of the Moravians will be performed. This artist is honorably known to have brought "a high sophisticated musical culture to America." It is thought to be that these early immigrants from what is now the Czech Republic presented us with music that has been likened to many different European masters. These masters included Haydn, Mozart and CPE Bach. The concert features the best of the late 18th Century and 10th Century Moravian music.

The second to last performance will be J.S. Bach's The Passion According to St. John on

Sunday, February 25 at 3 p.m. This performance is known to be one of the world's greatest choral masterworks. Completely based on the last days of Jesus Christ's life, told in the Gospel of St. John, the powerful musical drama comes to life.

To conclude the festival the final performance, Paul Jacobs' Organ Recital will be performed on Saturday at 3 p.m. The Winter Park Bach festival ends with Paul Jacobs the chairman of the organ department of the Juilliard School in New York. The show will perform their annual organ recital.

Rollins College and the Bach Festival Society invites anyone to take advantage of this amazing cultural experience offered right on your campus.

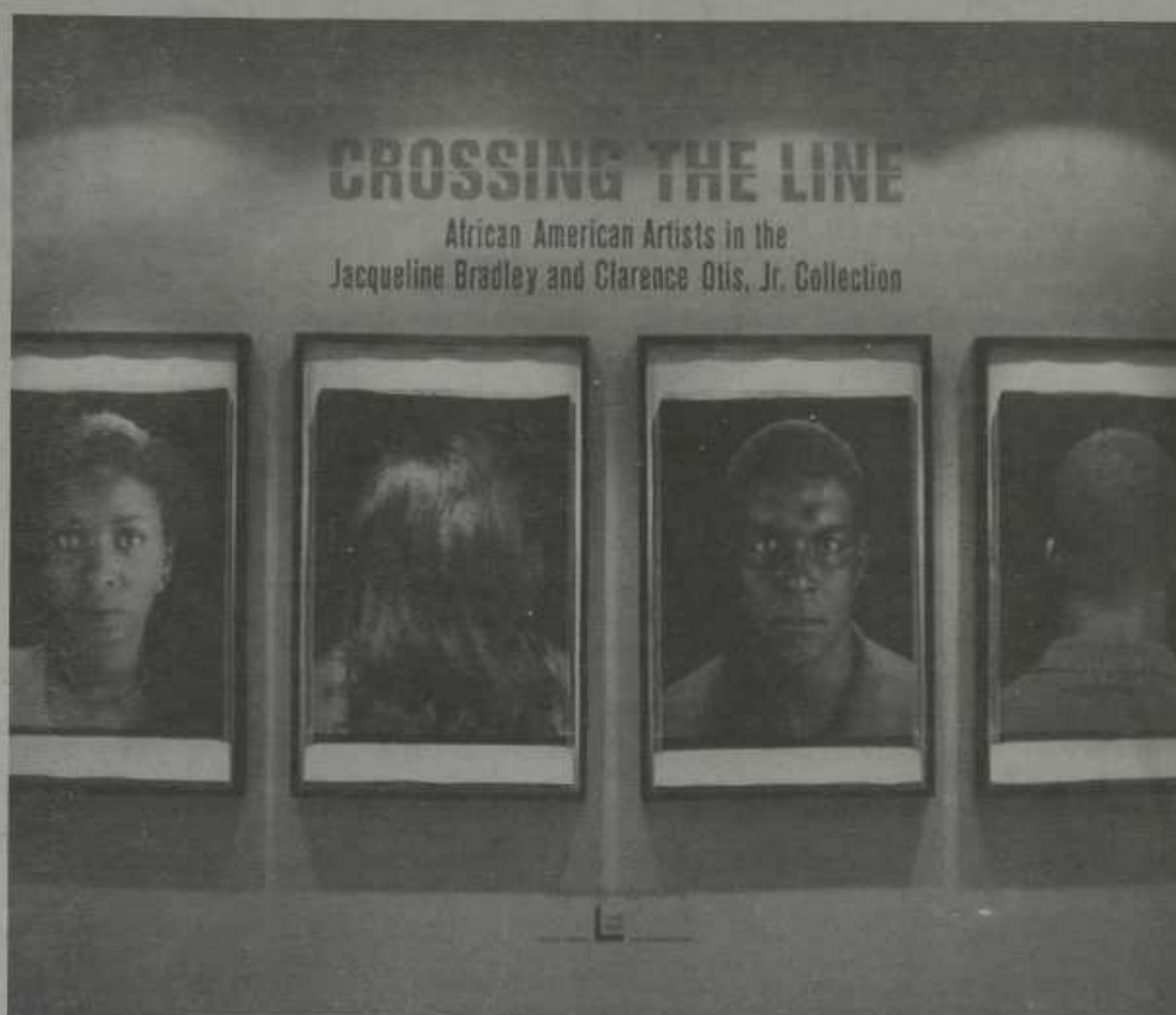
Cornell Fine Arts Museum Brings Culture

Andres Lester-Coll
the sandspur

On January 19, 2007, Rollins College's Cornell Fine Art Museum (CFAM) opened its 2007 spring season. It begins with four new exhibits, together with "Jazz" by Henri Matisse, a contemporary African American artist.

The opening "hosted its first ever African American Culture / visual arts symposium from 10 - 4pm." The conference was accompanied by four speakers from the community of contemporary art. Together, the exhibits collect amazingly advanced and culturally related works to Rollins campus. As stated by Luanne McKinnon, acting director and Curator of Exhibitions, "We are committed to present this community historically significant, culturally important and challenging works for nowhere else in Central Florida."

Without a doubt, one can see that each semester the CFAM hosts excellent works of art. But with the new season in particular the museum is proud to host two Central Florida collections: "Crossing the Line: African American Artists" in the Jacqueline Bradley and Clarence Otis, Jr. Collection and "Diverse Africa: The Ambassador and Mrs.



AFRICAN AMERICAN ART: The new exhibits bring cultural aspects to Rollins College. Nowhere else in Florida are there works of art so historically and culturally important.

ELIZABETH ROGERS/The Sandspur

Ulric Haynes, Jr., "Fred Wilson, who represented the U.S. in the 2003 Venice (Italy) Biennale, and Kehinde Wiley, profiled in Vanity Fair in December as one of the next wave of important artists".

Jacqueline Bradley, one of the members of the Rollins Board of Trustees, and Clarence Otis, Jr. have been known to collect the different pieces of African American artists for more than 20 years. The CFAM exhibit shows more than 50 pieces of their combined collection, including different photographs, paintings and media art by different practitioners.

Similarly, Rick and Yolande Haynes started collecting pieces over 30 years ago and were most diligent in doing so during the period in Algeria when Mr. Haynes worked as ambassador to President Carter. Ambassador Haynes has been an accessory professor in the Crummer Graduate School of Business here at Rollins. The CFAM comprised and organized, with some help, lots of pieces from all three of these collectors to comprise the exhibit of the new season.

The CFAM is open from Tuesday through Saturday, from 10am to 5pm and Sunday from 1pm to 5pm. Admission is free for faculty and students who present a valid Rollins ID.



TELLING HISTORY: The Cornell Fine Arts Museum welcomed African American speakers and art for both students and the public to enjoy.



ELIZABETH ROGERS/The Sandspur

Rare Books Find Their Way to the Morse Museum

Erica Tibbetts
the sandspur

The Morse Museum on Park Avenue is best known for its collection of Tiffany glass, stained glass and other slightly odd pieces. It is a small local museum that usually doesn't get too much press. But, at the end of January, it will be displaying a selection of pieces quite unlike anything it has now or has ever had before. On January 30th, the museum will be opening an exhibition of rare books, prints and other paper based art. Now, this may not sound too exciting, but it is more interesting than one might think. Among the artists and authors

to be included are Dickens, Cezanne, Manet and Whistler.

The Museum was founded by Hugh and Jeanette McKean who were responsible for assembling the large selection of Louis Comfort Tiffany items the museum usually holds. The McKeans were also interested in art and artists of the 19th and early to mid 20th Century, thus the book exhibit which encompasses a range of works from about 1840 to 1920. The time period encompassed was one of great changes in artistic styles and medium. Modernist art was emerging, literary norms were changing and artists were experimenting in ways that hadn't been seen before. The col-

lection captures a good part of this process due to its size and array of material.

Included in the collection are etchings that capture the Impressionist style of Renoir. His *Le Chapeau Epingle* (Pinning the Hat) was composed in 1894 and the etching in the show would have been made from an original he created that year. His delicate style enhanced with nature and adorned with two young girls starkly contrasts the more modern and stark style of Edward Hopper or the slightly less colorful style of James Abbott McNeill Whistler.

Along with the artistic prints and etchings are books, periodi-

cals and manuscripts. Charles Dickens' *Martin Chuzzlewit*, though not one of the author's better known books, is still a significant work, and the exhibit has the first edition of it, dated to 1844. Although none of the other authors included are quite as famous as Dickens, they still all contributed in some way to the artistic and cultural events of the time period. An 1881 copy of a book written by Mary Dow Brine, an American author, is included, along with a series of influential 19th Century periodicals, called *Yellow Books*. There are also a few books published in 1891 that copy the illuminated-manuscript style of the Middle Ages. These

would be interesting for their formal artistic qualities.

The entire exhibition, entitled *Dickens to Benton - Rare Books and Works* form the Morse Collection contains more than 70 books and over 35 prints and drawings. Many of the pieces will be worth seeing solely due to the fame of the men and women who created them, others will show the changing face of art and still others will have aesthetic elements that make them worth looking at. All in all, a trip to the Morse Museum before September 16, 2007 might be worthwhile.

Holt News

4 EDITOR: TANISHA MATHIS
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Writing Center Creates Holt Saturdays for Evening Program

Tanisha Mathis
the sandspur

There is a valuable resource on Rollins College not currently tapped by the students of the Hamilton Holt School. The Writing Center, located in the Thomas P. Johnson Center, also known as TJ's, assisted 601 students last semester. Students' concerns regarding their papers ranged from brainstorming ideas to the final editing process. Twenty-four percent of the Writing Center's clients were from the Holt School.

Last semester only 145 of the Holt School's approximately 1,000 students sought assistance from the Writing Center.

"I'm thankful for the Writing Center. Since I have been away from school and struggle with English grammar and punctuation I have found the Writing Center staff able to give me the guidance and assistance to do my required college level papers," says Holt Junior Michael Robinson. "It's good having a resource to help with the requirements of writing college level papers and the writing center is a valuable source for any Holt student returning to college."

Many students enter Holt after a long hiatus from college. The Writing Center, with its trained staff led by English professor Peter Ives, is a good choice for students who are not comfortable with academic prose, or writing in general. Writing is essential for numerous courses beyond English. History, Political Science, Environmental Science and Communication courses all, more than likely, will require a research paper.

The Writing Center has thirty writing consultants who go through training before the semester starts and meet once a week to reinforce their writing and consulting skills. They are not professors to be seen in a superior position. They are peers who take their jobs seriously.

This semester the Writing Center will focus on evening students by creating Holt Saturdays. Previously closed on Saturdays, the Writing Center will be strictly

available to Holt students the second Saturday of each month from noon to four p.m. These appointments can not be made online like other appointments. Students interested in obtaining an appointment on these select Saturdays should call the receptionist desk and make an appointment.

The Writing Center is not open to Holt students strictly as clients but also as writing consultants. The spring semester sees four Holt students join veterans Julie Waxman and Robbie Bushong as writing consultants who attend the Holt school.

Undergraduates Shaun Cricks, Ted Greenberg and Jamie Snead along with graduate student Christian Scholier begin their first semester as writing consultants.

Students are encouraged to visit the TJ's Web site or call the TJ's receptionist desk at (407) 646-2308 for more information on the Writing Center.



SEEK ASSISTANCE: Instead of going it alone, students should visit the Writing Center for help.

Writing: The Ticket to Success in Corporate America

Tanisha Mathis
the sandspur

Writing is a necessary skill that lasts a lifetime. It is not only a form of communication but also a valuable commodity, particularly in Corporate America. The National Commission on Writing, established by the College Board in 2002, attempts to bring national attention to the teaching and learning of writing.

In 2004 the Commission issued its second report to Congress, "Writing: A Ticket to Work...and a Ticket Out", in which it received information from the human resource directors of 64 corporations.

The survey revealed the importance of writing and the high regard in which many corporations hold the skill. Writing is considered a "threshold skill." Half of the companies who responded to the survey stated they take writing into consideration when hiring salaried (i.e. professional) employees.

"The bottom-line problem and opportunity remain the same: The correlation between career success and writing proficiency is extremely strong," declares Bon Kerrey, Writing Commission Chair and President of The New School. "Government and private sector employers alike have told us that those who can write well will advance in the workplace and those who cannot write well will struggle to be promoted or

even retained."

More than eighty percent of the companies in service and finance, insurance and real estate evaluate writing during the hiring process. Corporations in these sectors have the greatest employment growth potential. "Applicants who provided poorly written letters wouldn't likely get an interview," stated an insurance executive.

The assessment of one's writing skills does not end once a career position is secured. Half of all companies take writing into consideration when determining promotions.

Said one respondent, "In most cases, writing ability could be your ticket in...or it could be your ticket out."

More than half the companies surveyed stated they generate various reports, memos and correspondence frequently. With the increased use of e-mail and visual presentations like PowerPoint, the need for competent and clear written communication is in great demand. It appears that American corporations may spend in excess of 3.1 billion dollars to

remedy the writing deficiencies of their salaried employees. "We're likely to send out 200-300 people annually for skills-upgrade courses like 'business writing' or 'technical writing'," said a company executive.

Writing is a skill that is not essential solely for editors, journalists and public relations directors. Engineering, business and computer science majors often times do not hone their writing skills in favor of more technical based courses. It is a

mistake to think effective writing is not necessary in a particular career field. Many times, it can be the difference in key leadership positions.

"Writing is a fundamental professional skill. Most of the new jobs in the years ahead will emphasize writing," stated College Board president Gaston Caperton. "If students want professional work in service firms, in banking, finance, insurance, and real estate, they must know how to communicate on paper clearly and concisely."



HOT COMMODITY: Corporations applaud effective writing skills with jobs and promotions.

the CAREER COACH Marian Cacciatore

TYPOS SPELL THE END OF OPPORTUNITY

I need you to review my resume and cover letter. Although I have sent out over 30 resumes I have not gotten one call for an interview. I know that I have the skills and experience required and I am beginning to think that it may be something on my resume.

Answer:

First I want to commend you for taking the time to stop and review the effectiveness of your job search. Too many times, job seekers continue to use the same strategies even though they are not getting the results they want.

After reviewing your resume and cover letter, I know we can increase the effectiveness this part of your job search. We can work individually on these issues but, for the sake of our readers, I will identify the general areas we will tackle:

TYPOS AND GRAMMAR ERRORS

Although it may sound basic, it is critical that you carefully edit anything that is sent out during a job search. In your resume, there were several "run on sentences" and 2 misspelled words. Regardless of your qualifications, most employers would disqualify you for these types of errors. Typos suggest to an employer that you either have poor writing skills OR you do not pay attention to details.

FIRST PERSON

Your resume needs to be a

direct statement from you to the potential employer. All of your statements should be from the first person point-of-view and you will save space and prevent wordiness by removing the word "I" from your statements.

TENSE CHANGES

It is important that your past duties and achievements are listed in the past tense while your present duties and achievements are in the present tense. Your current resume shifts tenses throughout your current and previous roles.

READS LIKE JOB DESCRIPTION

Finally, many of your bullet points could have easily been on a job description. I recommend that you focus your resume on your achievements and accomplishments and not just job responsibilities. One way to capture these types of statements is to ask the question, "What am I proud of?" "What is different at the company because I was there?"

While we will work individually on these items, I want to encourage all Holt students to take advantage of the resume services through Career Services. By working together, I am confident that the finished product will more effectively represent your knowledge, skills and abilities.

Did you know that you could contact Marian via email at mcacciatore@rollins.edu to schedule an appointment?

Communication Majors and Minors LAMBDA PI ETA



National Communication Honor Society

Lambda Pi Eta is the national honor society for undergraduate communication majors and minors and membership reflects the attainment of high academic goals.

Lambda Pi Eta members are recognized at graduation by wearing the gold cords that signify academic achievement and success.

Lambda Pi Eta is a great networking opportunity for career possibilities and graduate studies after graduation.

Lambda Pi Eta at Rollins offers opportunities for leadership and participation in social and charitable events.

Lambda Pi Eta at Rollins let's you decide your level of involvement. There is no time commitment required to join.

Find out about membership requirements and get an application on the Rollins website at: <http://www.rollins.edu/holt/students/lph.shtml>

Reflection: When God Left New Orleans

Winston McDavid
contributing writer

Every time I taste aluminum and smell vomit I will always think of New Orleans (NOLA). Not quite sure what I am talking about? Let me explain. On January 7, 2007 more than sixty members of the Rollins Community went on an intersession trip to NOLA in the name of Rollins Relief. We arrived in NOLA early Sunday morning after many pulled an all-nighter out of fear for missing the four AM bus.

Upon arrival, we headed to Laura Plantation. Laura is the most recognized president from the plantation's slave era. The misty rain and overcast skies set the somber tone for our walk into Louisiana's past. The journey was followed by an authentic Creole lunch, which was welcomed by all, regardless of the alligator tail stew. At that point it was time to head to base camp. "Camp Hope" or bust. It really felt like home. Yeah right.

The gutted out elementary school was riddled with helmets, boots, and donated water. This was no ordinary donated water. It was grape Dasani and FEMA water. The Dasani was so graciously donated by the Coca-Cola Corporation by the hundreds. This grape elixir was a prototype that burned the tongue when consumed.

Against the advice of our friends at Charlie's Restaurant, we emptied the grape vessels and used tap water from the open bathrooms, regardless of the consequences. After all, these consequences would affect everyone since the twelve commodes for the 510 people staying at "Camp Hope" had no ceiling. The best water, however, was the FEMA water.

The few times I sipped on it I tasted aluminum in its purest form. The traditional canned beverage has a protective lining so that the metallic flavor does not marinate in the liquid. Not FEMA water. I would rather crack open a thermometer and drink the Mercury. Or even make a tin roof Margarita.

Thankfully, the faculty came through with bottled water that tasted just right. So with the whole hydration thing taken care of it was time to work.

On the first day of work we cleaned up debris and trash in a near by neighborhood. As a couple of my colleagues and I were cleaning, a man came by on his bicycle yelling to his buddies, who were sippin' beer in their white Escalade, "If they paid me, I'd be cleaning too!"

Nobody bothered to tell him that we were paying Habitat for Humanity for our work. I then wondered why he was not working. It was 11:00 in the morning and I am sure he does not have a night job because he seemed to enjoy Charlie's for dinner too.

So as we cleaned the trash, much of it fireworks and beer bottles from what was probably collected from this past New Year's Eve and not from Katrina, we swept the whole neighborhood. It felt great. The biggest man of our group rolled a 350 cubic inch engine about twenty feet to the

side of the road. He resembled a mountain mover. This day ended early and we headed back to Camp Hope for hot showers, TV, internet, and board games. The next day was when the real action began.

Gutting houses is something I wanted to do all along. Although the intent of our trip was to rebuild, they needed us to gut. So gut we did. I tell you what, if you

leans. It was awful, but it was my fault. I should have tied the doors shut. So, with the downstairs gutted we headed upstairs.

That is when we found Mickey. He was a cute little rat that ran like his mom was calling him home for dinner. My mistake was informing the girls of his presence. Their blood curdling screams reminded me of a scene in "The Texas Chainsaw Massacre".

I tried to calm them and help my little friend out by sparing his life, but Jenn and Steph insisted that he had to go and I understood. So I flushed him out, and like Flash Gordon on Crystal Meth, he bolted down the stairs.

The Flash made a beeline towards one of our team leaders, who was on the stairs acting as the middle man in the debris assembly line. Then all I heard were the screams of a ten year-old girl and all I could do was laugh. I then hear a THUMP! THUMP! THUMP! followed by a cluster

of "F-bombs."

I am then asked to act as pest control and I take the sleeping fur ball to the dumpster. It was sad he had to go but rats are not the cleanest animals. Ever heard of the Plague? This is what our days consisted of. Doing a great deal of good for the community through our volunteer work and still having a good laugh along the way. It truly was a bonding experience.

Nightlife was fun. The syllabus was well-constructed and it allowed everybody free-time in the French Quarter so we could taste some of the best food on the

planet, if you knew where to go. I recommend the Gumbo Shop.

We had the privilege of taking a tour from a crazy man who knew every bit of NOLA's history. It was informative to say the least. The trips into the French Quarter and new understanding of its history really gave our mission a clear and satisfying purpose.

This city needs to be revived. I compare it to a prize fighter who has just been knocked to the canvas by a devastating uppercut. The fighter is dazed but he must get back up because he is a champion. This city is the last free city in America.

The culture is rich and the tradition is strong. It will take time, but with the help of Rollins and other kind-hearted people in this world, this goal will be reached. And when it has, you won't be looking back at a neighborhood you just cleaned or a house you just gutted.

You will be looking at a city you helped rebuild. You will look at the faces of the 800,000 people who made their exodus from their childhood homes and you will say, "It was me who helped bring you back and I'm glad I did." This is an American city and as Americans we need to come together in all areas of life. But let us start with New Orleans.

I challenge every one of you reading this to take a step outside of your comfort zone and go to New Orleans. It may be uncomfortable and it may be dirty. You may taste aluminum and you may smell vomit. But I promise you, the rewards will burn in your chest years and years after your one week is over. New Orleans needs God and Godly people. And God and Godly people need New Orleans.



Courtesy of Winston McDavid
PERSONAL FULFILLMENT: Students' mission to rebuild New Orleans gave them satisfaction that will last a lifetime.

have anger or stress that needs to be vented productively, pass up the gym and go gut a house. You can go to town with sledge hammers, axes, and a cornucopia of other tools.

I had the honor of removing refrigerators, washer/dryers, and dishwashers, to name a few. The first time I picked up a washer and refrigerator, all of the liquid and organic mush pored all over my legs. Vomit. That is not what I did, although I could have, but what I smelt.

This stuff hadn't been touch since that day God left New Or-

Internship Creates Opportunities of a Lifetime

Antoniya Georgieva
contributing writer

I just finished an incredible semester with The International Council of Central Florida (ICCF). ICCF is a nonprofit 501(c)(3) organization which serves all of the metropolitan Orlando area, including Orange, Seminole, Volusia, Osceola, and Lake counties.

ICCF works under the Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs and the Office of International Visitors under the auspices of the U.S. Department of State. The Central Florida Council's mission is to expand opportunities for citizen diplomacy "one handshake at a time."

ICCF is a member of the National Council for International Visitors (NCIV), a national network of independent program agencies and community-based organizations. ICCF designs and implements professional programs, provides cultural activities and provides home hospitality opportunities for foreign leaders, specialists, and international scholars.

The events and the visitors are a magnificent experience for college students who are inter-



Courtesy of Antoniya Georgieva
HEAD OF THE CLASS: Georgieva not only toured the State Department but was able to witness a daily briefing thanks to her internship with ICCF.

ested in international diplomacy. I had an amazing opportunity to meet visitors from South America, Pakistan, Australia, France, Bermuda and the United Kingdom.

I had a chance to meet people many cultures in just four months, a chance I would not have had anywhere else. Working with ICCF has increased my English skills since we had to write number of press releases, newsletters

and invitations.

During my internship in ICCF, I had an opportunity to go to Washington, DC and meet professionals from NCIV, Meridian International Center as well tour the Department of State and witness a daily briefing.

Thanks to that experience, after my graduation in May 2007, I was accepted to complete an internship with the Bulgarian Embassy in Washington, DC.

In the October I had the amazing opportunity to meet a guest from France, Mr. Emmanuel Leon Pierre Vivet. Mr. Vivet was invited to the United States under the auspices of the Department of State's International Visitor Leadership Program.

His program was arranged by Institute of International Education (IIE). Mr. Vivet is Head of Unit of French Civil Aviation Authority. He specializes in Air Services Agreements and as a result of his visit there were negotiations for new direct flights between Orlando and Europe.

Another amazing experience for me was when the ICCF hosted a program featuring local government and community leaders from Pakistan. As a part of their four days tour, these Pakistani

leaders visited Orlando to gain a better understanding of the election process in the United States at the local level.

The visitor list includes professionals from the Daily Times in Islamabad, Daily Times in Lahore, Online Wire Service in Lahore, GEO Network in Islamabad, Gwadar Press Club and The News in Islamabad. They spent Sunday, October 29th through Wednesday, November 1st exploring and observing the elections process.

They had an opportunity to meet with Mr. Manning Pynn from Orlando Sentinel, Mr. Bill Bauman the CEO, General Manager WESH-TV Channel 2, as well as have a discussion with Republican Tico Perez and Democrat Dick Batchelor.



Courtesy of Antoniya Georgieva
INTERNATIONAL POLITICS: Georgieva worked with Pakistani leaders visiting Orlando in order to observe local American politics.

Interning at the International Council of Central Florida was rewarding. It gave me new knowledge about many cultures around the world and made me competent about many world issues.

I encourage everyone interested in international business, political studies and international affairs to take this journey with International Council of Central Florida.

Arts & Entertainment

6

EDITOR: JESSICA ESTES

AE@THESANDSPUR.ORG

Timberlake's Acting Debut in *Alpha Dog* Impresses Audiences

Stephanie Hanisak
the sandspur

While it is not a movie deserving of any type of awards, *Alpha Dog* was actually (despite my predictions) a rather entertaining film, which starred Justin Timberlake in his first acting role, Emile Hirsch, Bruce Willis, Sharon Stone, and Ben Foster. *Alpha Dog* was written and directed by Nick Cassavetes, who brought us films including *The Notebook*, *John Q.*, and *Blow*.

Alpha Dog tells the story of Johnny Truelove, played by Emile Hirsch (*The Girl Next Door* and *Lords of Dogtown*). Johnny Truelove was inspired by the real life Jesse James Hollywood, who was on the FBI's ten most wanted list for five years after kidnapping and murdering of a fifteen year old boy over a drug dealer debt. In *Alpha Dog*, Cassavetes takes the audience through the series of events leading up to the kidnapping and after the kidnapping happens.

Alpha Dog is an out of control ride in which most of the film's scenes included violence, sex, drugs, alcohol, and hard core rap music (so it is obviously not a family film). On the other hand, it is the type of film that would attract college students. Most of the actors are up and coming, and delivered good performances.

Overall the acting was much better than I expected. Justin Timberlake's portrayal of Frankie Ballenbacher, Truelove's right hand man, was one to be congratulated. In his first few scenes, he seemed as if he would only provide some comic relief to a rather intense cast of characters. Throughout the course of the movie, he (along



with Anton Yellen who played the kidnapped Zack Maurzursky) ended up providing the best on-screen interaction. Timberlake even pulled off a very realistic and emotional scene at the end of the film that includes believable

compared to some of his other roles, he played a organized crime entrepreneur rather well and his scenes were at times pretty humorous. The film opens with Willis being interviewed by a reporter about his son's lifestyle. To the interviewer's question, he responds "A drug dealer? No. Did he sell a little weed? Yeah." Soon the audience is introduced to the world of Johnny Truelove, in which he is a significant player in the drug business.

At times the pace of the film is slow. It was a little over two hours in length, but I feel that some of it could have been cut out. Despite including Sharon Stone in a fat suit, the ending proved to be the slowest part of the film. At times the film was a little too intense. One of Ben Foster's (*X-Men: The Last Stand*), who played Zack's older brother, scenes shows him walking into a party, demanding to know where Truelove

tears.

Bruce Willis plays/ Sonny Truelove (the father of Emile Hirsch's Johnny Truelove). While his performance was average

is, and then brutally beating up about seven party goers. Foster's character was definitely the most out of control character, but this specific scene was a little too far.



Photos Courtesy of Universal Studios

Design Your Own Unique Bag!

Megan Schuldz
the sandspur

Tired of carrying around the same Louis Vuitton or Chanel bag as every other girl at Rollins? Looking for a new, stylish one of a kind purse? Maybe its time you check out Cris-Dee's.

Cris-Dee's is a small shop located on Fairbanks with a big idea. Purses. Whether you're looking for a gift for one of your girls or just a treat for yourself, you'll find the perfect purse at Cris-Dee's, and if you don't, you can design your own. According to their website, they started off several years ago, in 2002. Business grew quickly and these two fabulous ladies started picking up famous clients such as Oprah and American Dreams star Brittany Snow.

When you walk into the shop, you're instantly surrounded by purses, accessories and gifts. The two large comfy couches in the middle of the shop have a table covered in fabric samples. These fabric samples are step one in the designing your own purse process and range from plaids and stripes to famous faces and classic pin up girls. After finding a fabric that suits your taste, you can choose from several hard handle designs, or simply request a fabric longer handle. With several sizes and shapes to choose from, its hard to find a style you don't like. Once

you've chosen all of those options, you can move onto the inside and choose a color as well as adding extra pockets. For a little extra, you can add rhinestones, eyelashes, monogramming or feathers to the exterior to give your purse a little more personality. The ladies offer their creative ideas to help make your bag perfect and the usual wait time for a custom purse is about four weeks or less, but it is well worth the wait.

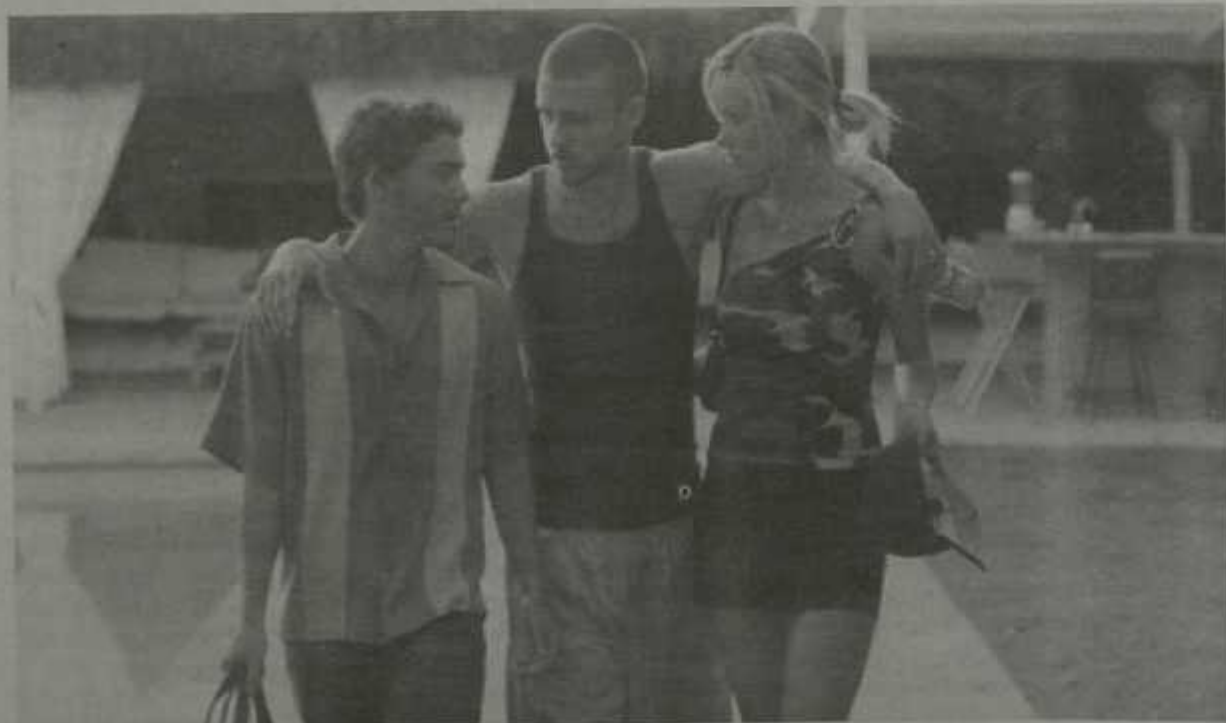
Prices for purses are reasonable, whether you pick one off the wall or design one on your own. For smaller handbags or clutches, the prices is about \$35, and increases with size and special additions. Cris and Dee also offer themed gift bags, which make for wonderful presents for any occasion from a girls night out to an Italian dinner. The themed bags are

filled with goodies set in a bag to match the idea, from being a diva to loving your pet. They also host Purse Parties, where you and several friends get an evening together of designing purses and a good time.

To find out more about Cris-Dee's, visit their store in person or online at www.crisdees.com. The hours are Tuesday through Saturday from 10:30am until 6:00pm and the ladies will be more than happy to help you out designing a perfect purse, selecting a gift or planning a purse party with your favorite friends. Cris-Dee's is located on Fairbanks east of I-4.



MEGAN SCHULDZ/The Sandspur



Movement at Sundance to Kick the Swag Habit

Marc Caro
mct campus

For independent film publicist Jeremy Walker, the final straw was seeing a movie star "hijack" one of his staffers for an entire afternoon at last year's Sundance Film Festival so he could score swag (i.e. freebies) at the various houses set up to lavish brand names upon celebrities.

Walker also didn't appreciate the filmmaker who "freaked out" because he might have missed the opportunity to snag a gift bag supposedly worth \$50,000 at some Sundance party.

When stars and filmmakers worry more about goodies than promoting their films, that's a problem for Walker, who runs the New York-based publicity firm Jeremy Walker + Associates. So he pulled a "Jerry Maguire" and wrote up his "Swagifesto," which he sent out last week to the stars and makers of the films he is representing at this year's Sundance festival, which kicked off Thursday.

Swag, Walker wrote, is "evil." "We've watched swag, like cocaine, turn nice, smart, humble, creative people into monsters. ... As with cocaine, once tasted, the

consumer of swag instantly wants more. When people see other people doing swag, they want to do it, too. And, like cocaine, once it's out in the open, swag permeates the culture, and it's all anyone can talk about. ...

"(A)t the risk of sounding like Nancy Reagan, we may just say no' to swag, and depending on the circumstances, we may even say no to swag on your behalf," Walker wrote.

At founder Robert Redford's behest, the Sundance Film Festival has taken up the war on swag as well. Every year, the quaint Main Street of Park City, Utah, increasingly resembles a corporate logo showcase as companies rent out storefronts to create "hospitality lounges" from which to "gift" celebrities.

None of this is done with Sundance's blessing, so Redford gave his staffers a mandate to do all they could to promote the festival's role as a place to celebrate filmmakers and their work, period.

As a result the Sundance Institute produced 25,000 buttons bearing the message, "Focus on Film." They're being given away at the festival with cards that read, "Visibly wearing this button during the 2007 Sundance Film

Festival means that:

"I want to see films that I know I'll never get to see anywhere else."

"My idea of 'celebrity' is the filmmaker who directed my favorite film at the festival."

"I'm willing to wait in the cold for two hours to see a hot documentary ..."

"The whole focusing-on-film idea is if you don't care about seeing these films and supporting these filmmakers, why would you be traveling to the mountains of Utah for 10 days in January?" said Elizabeth Daly, the Sundance Institute's director of strategic development.

The answer is so they can go to cool parties and get lots of expensive free stuff. Paris Hilton somehow manages to show up at Sundance each year without a film to push.

Swag already took a hit recently when the IRS announced that the pricey packages given to awards presenters, among others, must be reported as income. But that hasn't stopped companies from offering everything from jeans to Botox treatments at this year's festival.

Two years ago, film publicist Jim Dobson gave celebrities gift bags containing up to \$50,000

worth of, among other things, tropical vacation packages, diamond jewelry and an 18-karat gold vibrator. He said the reason was to keep his stars happy so they wouldn't skip their interviews to go swag hunting. But this year, "out of respect to the festival," he stopped. "It's just gotten out of hand," Dobson said.

Walker said Thursday his "Swagifesto" has generated "incredibly positive" feedback so far, though some filmmakers said they may try to snag freebies on their own time.

"If you look at it from the perspective of a truly independent filmmaker, free (stuff) can be life

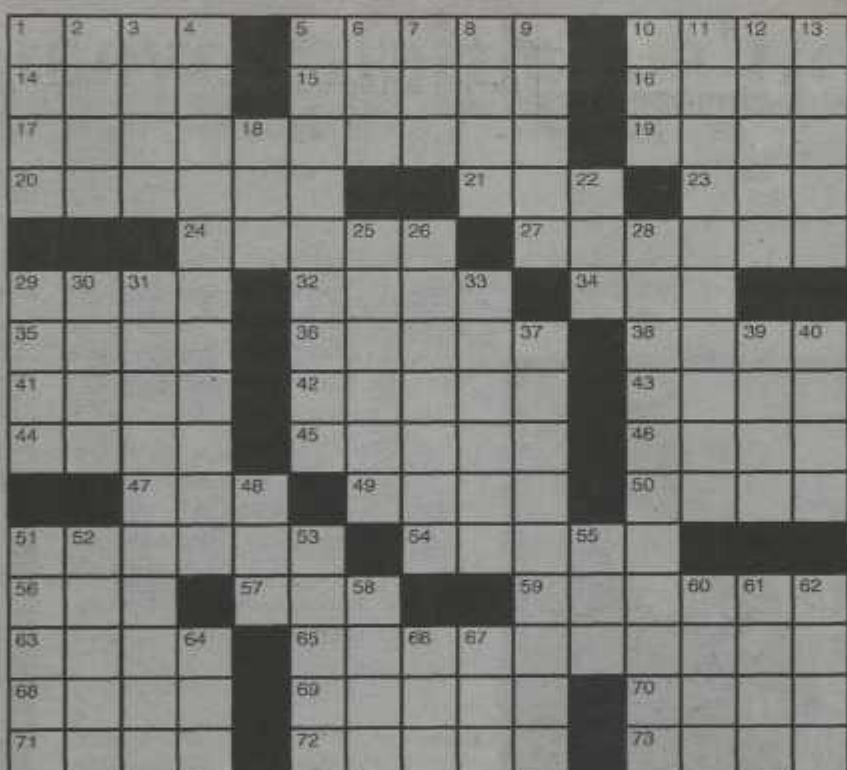


Photo Courtesy of MCT Campus sustaining in some way," Walker admitted.

Then again, swag houses tend to snub unknown filmmakers anyway.

Crossword

- ACROSS
1 Luxuriant
5 Part of MGM
10 Whip stroke
14 Zone
15 Despise
16 Austen novel
17 Noted muckraker
19 Bird of the Nile
20 Gesture of respect
21 Years and years
23 Swiss peak
24 Newton or Stern
27 Kissers
29 Togo's capital
32 Slovenly one
34 Municipal vehicle
35 Alibi (excuse makers)
36 More docile
38 Visibly drained
41 Part of UAE
42 Last in a series
43 Wield a blue pencil
44 Prego competitor
45 Pine product
46 Colorful horse
47 Mess up
49 Warbled
50 "My Friend ____"
51 Grandiloquent
54 Biblical poem
56 Hostelry
57 Tram cargo
59 Upright walkers
63 King beaters
65 1991 Traci Lords movie
68 Impetuous
69 Tag line from Aesop
70 In the mail
71 Church recess
72 Entangle
73 Seth's boy



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1/27/07

Solutions

S O N E T H V N S E S P V
I N E S T V H O W H S V R
E I D O T E M I T V S E O V
S O S I P E B I E O R N N I
W L V S P D I G U R T
V W R I G N N S H R E
N V O R N I S O H O G V R
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E T V P H E M V T S E K I
S U S B O R S E M O T
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S I B I T T E B R E V L V D I
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H S V T O H T E W H S U T

- DOWN
1 Not of the cloth
2 Pakistani tongue
3 Burn a bit
4 Location of Southern Miss
5 "The Maltese Falcon" co-star

- 6 Back flow
7 Definite article
8 Part to play
9 Ship's lowest deck
10 Aloha gift
11 Top diplomat
12 Photographer's prompt
13 Metal fasteners
18 Fool
22 Crux
25 Los ____, NM
26 Arises
28 Overlay
29 Tale spinner
30 Gumbo need
31 Lean condition
33 Commences
37 Sounded familiar
39 "Schindler's List" star Neeson
40 Sight from Messina
48 Roberto's river
51 Jeweled coronet

- 52 Remove the cover from
53 Apothecary weights
55 Burning
58 Type of collar
60 First garden

- 61 Pebbles Flintstone's pet
62 Hardens
64 Cow or hen
66 Novelist Levin
67 Deface

Start off the Semester with a Glimpse into your Future!

Linda Black
mct campus

Today's Birthday (01-29-07). A major task this year will be setting priorities. Your public life is important, of course, but that's not all there is. Have love along with fame and fortune.

To get the advantage, check the day's rating: 10 is the easiest day, 0 the most challenging.

Aries (March 21-April 19) Today is a 6. New information does not remove all speculation, yet. More likely, it raises new questions. Continue your research.

Taurus (April 20-May 20) Today is an 8. Don't tap into your own reserves. Let somebody else help out. There'll be enough for everybody, if everybody contributes.

Gemini (May 21-June 21) Today is an 8. Great wealth and countless other goodies can be yours, but not for a while. Don't pitch a fit; it's good for you to practice discipline.

Cancer (June 22-July 22) Today is a 7. It's a good idea not to rely completely on other people. Odds are good somebody will not be there for you, when expected.

Leo (July 23-Aug. 22) Today is an 8. Be patient, as the argument goes on. This is a good thing. You'll get to know everyone better, and see which side they're really on.

Virgo (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) Today is an 8. More work's coming in, which cuts into your private time. Don't be afraid. In a day or two, you can have a team organized. Get help. You'll need it.

Libra (Sept. 23-Oct. 22) Today is an 8. Don't rely on others to be there when they said they would. Travel conditions are complicated now. Telecommute.

Scorpio (Oct. 23-Nov. 21) Today is a 7. By tomorrow, you'll be able to cinch the deal, if you can be patient. You also want to wiggle around and get into position.

Sagittarius (Nov. 22-Dec. 21) Today is a 6. Direct your conversation to practical matters. Staying with pure theory doesn't produce results. It won't pay the rent, either.

Capricorn (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) Today is an 8. As you're racing from one responsibility to another, start training an assistant. You need a good support person so you don't run yourself ragged.

Aquarius (Jan. 20-Feb. 18) Today is a 7. Home isn't the only place you run into controversy. You're in a good position to help them reach a compromise. Teach them to be more objective.

Pisces (Feb. 19-March 20) Today is a 6. As you listen to all the arguments, you're forming an opinion. You will be asked about it, so give the matter some thought, and find a way to explain it. Don't worry; it can be fun.

The Grates: Garage Band Sound with Playful Lyrics

Natalie Wyatt
the sandspur

The Grates' *Gravity Won't Get You High* might not be the first time some of you have heard this poppy garage band-like group. Truth be told, they began at the absolute Antarctica of music, singing a rousing rendition of Disney's "A Whole New World" on a karaoke CD. But after that grand debut these childhood friends from Australia have put out a very catchy punk infused album just recently, in the summer of 2006.

Patience Hodgson, John Patterson, and Alana Skyring started out as a small garage band and quickly built a fan base in both Australia and the U.S. There is a carefree, whimsical feel to the vocals put forth by Patience, whose style is reminiscent of Karen O from the Yeah Yeah Yeah's. John and Alana back her up respectively with great skill on the guitar and keyboards (John) and the drums/percussion (Alana). This trio starts out strong with an album that on the whole is representative of their talents, though some of the songs lack ever so slightly.

The first track on the album is where the gravest mistake takes place; I won't survive sounds awkward and out of tune throughout. But if you do indeed survive that song, there are a great deal of energetic indie rock songs that await you. Among these are the highly praised 19-20-20, which shows off impressive lyrical style and stunning guitar riffs and the sexy-adorable Trampoline with its quirky wording, smart and nursery rhyme-like.

Overall, The Grates have gotten it right. If you like songs that are smart, funny, and musically intriguing then this is certainly a band that is at the very least worth a try.

Don't expect this to get onto MTV anytime in the near future but rest assured it will be spinning down in WPRK soon enough. If that's your style, a little bit more on the pop-side of things but still quirky enough to be a college radio favorite, give The Grates a chance.



Photos Courtesy of Tower Records

The Next Generation's British Invasion

Angela Gonzalez
the sandspur

alloy Rollins chaps. Welcome back to another lovely semester. As I'm sure nobody knows, I have just recently returned from a seven month hiatus in London. Apologies for not writing but fret not, I did bring you something back.

In this day and age of high speed technologies allowing us to spread information faster than it spills out of our mouths, you would assume music of all things wouldn't be constrained to mere distance. But it is. There's a world of music out there that will never reach your ears. So as my gift to you dear students, I have scoured the UK music scene to bring you some of what's hiding only an ocean away.

If you like Pink, it might interest you to listen to some Amy Winehouse, who's current album is positioned at number one in the charts. She has similar biting lyrics of personal

Keeping with the theme of sassy front-women, The Gossip and their entire album *Standing in the Way of Control* cannot be missed as well as *Joana and the Wolf*. All the songs on their Myspace are great but unfortunately, the live

which is posted in just about every Tube station in London, or take a listen to The Natives, your typical dirty Brit band of bad boys that spend their days and nights on endless benders and writing songs about it (i.e. "Soho" or

song "Let's Make Love" (I couldn't go to a club night without hearing these two).

They also have a lot of drum and bass nights all over and Pendulum's "Slam" always got me going. Panic! At the Disco was always on my iPod before I left but after time I replaced them for The Automatic's hit "Monster". I also liked to listen to a lot of Rufus Wainwright and John Mayer whilst on the subway in New York City, in transit to London, and before I left Ray Lamontagne's widely popular album, *Trouble*, was my soothing music on public transport.

Another gem of the London music scene I was fortunate to fall upon was the young, but incredibly profound stylings of one, Jim Earl. Also a

cupcakes for my birthday.

The last on my list of goodies has to be The Kooks. They were absolutely everywhere this year in Britain and they're just one of those bands everyone likes. A few good starter songs are "Naive", "She Moves in Her Own Way" and "Ooh La". It may not seem much but I hope you can take this opportunity to expand your music li-



show is

a mil-
lion
times
bet-
ter
Joan-

na's freaky
and she will com-
pletely blow you away.
For the more punk rock,
Green Day-esque fans, check out
The Fratellis' "Chelsea Dagger" off
their new album *Costello Music*,



new-
ly-found, close
friend of mine, Jim's ac-
tually from New York City but
recorded his work and played
shows around London. I make
an exception for him because he's
like a present-day Bob Dylan or
Springsteen and he baked me a
wicked cake and multinational

is, well,
you. Cheers, guys!

Photos Courtesy of MCT Campus

entertainment

The Last King of Scotland makes a Lasting Impression!

Erica Tibbets
the sandspur

When I tell people that I went to see this movie called "The Last King of Scotland", they look at me strangely. When I try to explain that the movie is neither set in Britain, nor does it involve a King, most people start to laugh. When I tell them it's by far the best movie I've seen in a long time, they pay a little more attention.

"The Last King of Scotland" is set in Uganda in the 1970's and it focuses on the ruthless dictator, Idi Amin, played by Forest Whitaker. Amin was a horrific figure in real life, responsible for over 300,000 deaths, and Whitaker manages to convey a terrifying and convincing portrait of the man. The action takes place through the eyes of a young Scottish doctor, Nicholas Garrigan, who has come to Uganda as part of medical mission. He catches the eye of the seemingly charming and upstanding Amin, and is invited to be the dictator's personal physician. After originally turning down the offer, Garrigan agrees, and the action takes off from there.

Even the viewer is lulled into a certain sense of empathy and agreement with Whitaker's character for the first half of the movie. This is the genius of the man who won this year's Golden Globe award for best actor in a drama. He plays "nice" and "charming" so well, but by the end of the movie he is becomes so mired with evil and hate that the viewer feels disgusted with themselves for not seeing through him from the start. Whitaker, who usually plays slightly friendlier roles in movies such as "Good Morning Vietnam" and "Phenomenon" shows a different side to himself and provides a truly stunning performance.

"The Last King Of Scotland" has it all: violence, sex, blood, alcohol, fast cars, pretty much all the characteristics that mark an action movie. But, it's not a classical action movie, it's a movie that messes with your head and emotions. The movie succeeds (or at least it did in my case) of suck-



THE CONTROVERSY CONTINUES

Woody Allen's Dark Comedy *Riverside Drive* Comes to the Fred Stone Theater this Month

Megan Borkes
the sandspur

Those who have already been to productions at the Fred Stone Theater (also known as the "second stage") know what to expect when they go see shows there. Whatever play it is probably has some coarse language, maybe a little violence, perhaps even some dark comedy thrown in to get a few uncomfortable chuckles out of the audience. Through all this, though, those who frequent the performances at the Fred know that whatever the play is, it is going to be something fresh and edgy - something that makes the audience go "Well, that was different." Woody Allen's "Riverside Drive," the newest second stage production, is no different.

Directed by senior Eli Green, "Riverside Drive" is what most people would expect out of a Woody Allen comedy: dark, dark, dark. It all starts with a problem: Jim Swain, a successful screenwriter, is looking to break off an extra-marital affair with a woman named Barbara. While waiting for her to show up so he can finally "do the deed," as it were, he meets a homeless man, Fred, who seems to know Jim's entire life story. What ensues is a plot laden with confessions and plot twists. To

reveal anything more about the story would take away from the experience of actually seeing it.

"What originally drew me to this piece was simply Woody Allen himself," Green said. "I've been a big fan of Woody Allen since I first heard one of his stand-up records when I was about six years old. He has such an amazing way of making a big deal out of everyday life, but at the same time creating characters and situations that aren't meant to be taken seriously at all. This is the neurotic mindset from which 'Riverside Drive' comes."

Finding themselves thrust into this "neurotic mindset" are Max Hilend as Jim, Michael Mastry as Fred, and Ana Eligio as Barbara. "Casting for the second stage is always an adventure," said Green. "Because we share such a large part of our talent pool with the shows produced on the Annie [Russell], many times the second stage directors need to be flexible in their casting decisions. But...I found I was very surprised by a lot of people."

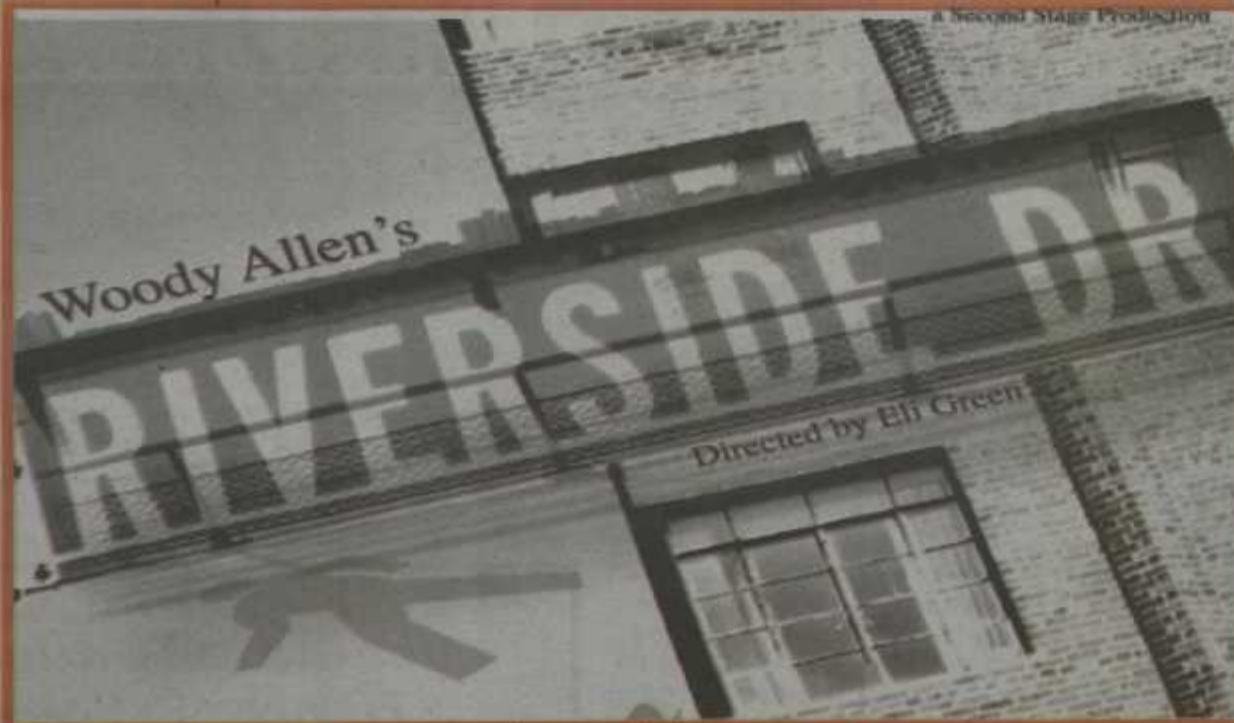
Initially I was stunned because I hadn't even been called back for a part in the show," Hilend said. "The role took a little getting used to, but I think it fits."

In Michael Mastry's case, the role of Fred seemed to be written

for him. "I had originally thought that Mike Mastry would be a good choice to play Jim, but when I saw him read the two parts it became very clear that he was meant to play Fred," said Green.

Ana Eligio seemed to have more stretching to do for her character. "My initial reaction to Barbara was that she's very different than any character I've ever played before. I'm used to playing the wholesome ingénue, and Barbara is a more sensual and sultry character," said Eligio. "The hardest part was really trying to adjust my voice and my natural way of moving to adapt to how Barbara would speak and how she would move."

When the doors to the Fred Stone open on February 1st, it will be up to the actors to create Woody Allen's sense of reality and convey it to an audience who has probably never experienced anything like it before. Hopefully Green's direction has helped the actors with that heavy task. "I just hope people will feel something... anything. If we can make a third of the audience laugh, a third cringe, and absolutely offend the sensibilities of the remaining third, then I feel we've done our job."



ing you in and making you go through things at the same time as the main character. As Garrigan gets sucked deeper and deeper into the darkness that is Ugandan politics in the 1970's he learns more and more about the lies, murders and massacres that Amin is committing, and so does the viewer. By the time he realizes he should get out, it is too late and he finds himself trapped as the dictator's number one advisor and most dangerous adversary. The viewer can almost feel the noose tightening around the doctor's neck. The bodies be-

gin piling up, Garrigan has no one to turn to, and no where to go, after Amin takes his passport and sends someone out to follow him. The situation is terrifying. And, although it was Whitaker who received all the recognition, James McAvoy, plays his part convincingly. He comes off as innocent and naïve, not wanting to believe what he is told about his employer's underhanded dealings. Eventually when the truth dawns upon him, he makes the right moves and his performance shows real emotion and strength.

This movie made me cringe; it made me want to cry, it almost made me want to throw up. I didn't go into expecting anything like the emotional response it produced in me, but the convincing acting, directing and production make it hard to avoid a guttural response. The movie is quite reasonably rated R and I wouldn't recommend it to anyone who doesn't like drama, but to everyone else I would say that this is by far the best movie I've seen in a long time, and it deserves a viewing.

The Holiday Brings Romantic Comedy Back onto the Big Screen

the use of the house-switch, uncharted territory for a romantic flick. It was enjoyable and interesting.

The character/actor match-up was ideal. Jude Law was a perfect fit, while Jack Black played the romantic role surprisingly well as compared to his usual funny-man role on screen.

The scene setting was good and the addition of the old man added a heartwarming characteristic that all good films need. Kate Winslet played the heartbroken, classic woman perfectly while Cameron Diaz nailed the role of the workaholic.

The only odd part of the movie that slowly grew on me was the constant addition of background movie-trailer narration during Diaz's character's thoughts. At first I thought the theater had messed up and started-replaying the trailers. When I figured out how it fit into the movie, however, it made sense.

The Holiday could possibly turn into a classic holiday flick, such as A Christmas Story or It's a Wonderful Life. It had absolutely everything needed to be a classic romance, comedy, joy, twists, sorrow, and a very, very happy ending.

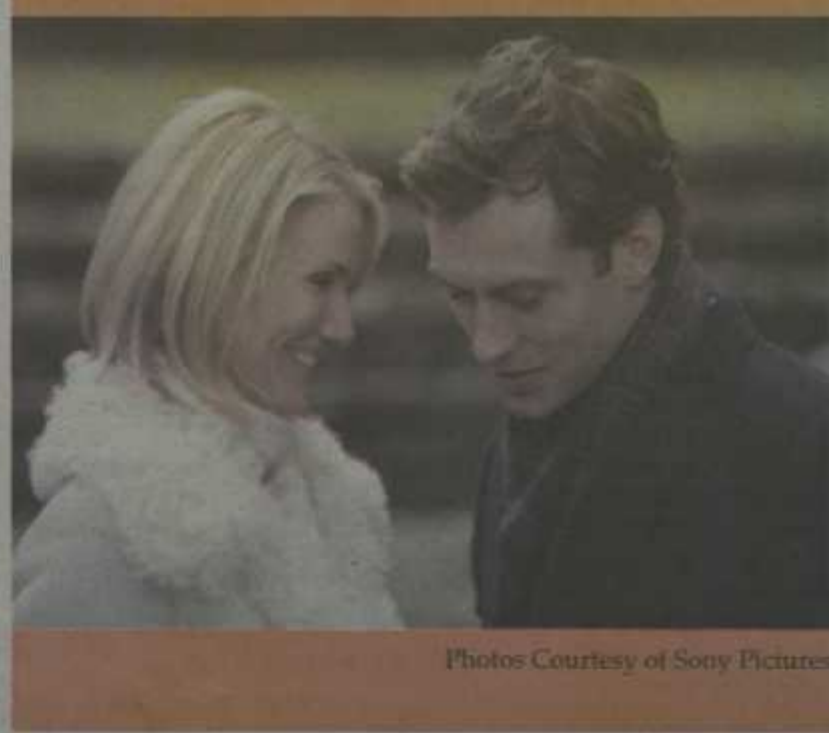
I enjoyed watching the entire movie, from start to finish. Most movies have a good ending with a rough beginning, or the other way around. The Holiday kept my attention and focus throughout the whole film.

It was a little long, but worth it. Watching it will definitely take up the entire night. It is a great "girl's night out" film, though, and highly recommended for romantics and idealists.

Overall, I thought it was an excellent film. I would not recommend it, however, for any males looking for a comedy. It is definitely a chick flick!

Nicole Fluet
the sandspur

Romantic comedy anyone? The Holiday was Love Actually with a twist. The plot was predictable and unpredictable at the same time. I was impressed with



Life & Times

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10

The Senior Column

Stephanie Hanisak
the sandspur

On December 15, I mailed in my graduate school application to the Communications department of the University of Georgia, and since that day I have not given any thought to life after Rollins. Yeah, right!

May 14 (the day after graduation) consumes about seventy five percent of my thoughts each day, and being home for five weeks did not help much. It seemed like every where I went I ran into some one that I knew from way back when or a friend of my parents. Every person asked me the same question, "What are you doing after graduation?" And despite all my planning and thinking, I still had no idea how to answer this question.

It is hard to explain to some that I only applied to only one grad school - especially one where there is some question of if I will be accepted or not. Most people's response to that would be "Why did you only apply to one school?" To which I respond, "I don't want to go anywhere else". Then they would ask me what my other plans were if I was rejected. My other plans are just as complicated, if not more. I do not really know how to explain what I want to do with my life, because it is very confusing even to me! So, rather than telling people the long story of what I want to do, I just began making things up.

I told some people that I was going to throw a dart at a map of the United States, and where ever it landed I move to and get a job. I told other people that I was going to move to

the keys and work on a fishing boat. I had some rather erroneous stories thought up, because I was really exhausted from even thinking about graduation and the real world. I am not sure if I am ready to leave the bubble of Rollins to enter the unpredictable world that exists beyond the marble gates.

But alas, there is no way getting around graduation. I have accepted that I will be constantly thinking about graduation and my future for quite sometime. I have embraced it, and have begun the searching for the perfect job - in case I am rejected from UGA.

While it is rather cliché to say, it truly is the beginning of the end for the class of 2007.

The Beginning of The End... The Last Semester

Seniors, we have only one semester left to complete our majors, experience Rollins, and prepare for life after May 13. Whether you are thinking of applying to graduate school or searching for a job, it's time to get in gear. Seniors who have not begun to prepare for the 'real world' should start as soon as possible. There is still plenty of time to get a plan for the future.

I would advise anyone who has not yet attended a Senior Success workshop at Career Services to do so as soon as possible. Take advantage of all the resources that Rollins has to offer, from monstertrak.com to alumni.

And to my fellow seniors, remember: This is the beginning of the end, and we should all try to make the most of our last semester at Rollins. Let us face it, what grad school or company will cancel the day's proceedings and head on over to the beach?



GRAPHIC COURTESY OF MCT CAMPUS



GRAPHIC COURTESY OF MCT CAMPUS

Valentines In Full Bloom

Kathy Van Mullekom
daily press

Roses are not the only flowers that match the definition of "romance" for Valentine's Day.

Calla lilies, tulips, Gerbera daisies, Stargazer lilies, sunflowers and even houseplants - they keep living and giving - are nice choices.

If you give or get fresh-cut flowers, here are some tips on how to care for and use them.

The suggestions come from Bridget Behe, known as the "flower doctor" at www.flowermd.com; she's a professor in the department of horticulture at Michigan State University and is a Michigan-certified florist. (The Flower Promotion Organization, a nonprofit group that promotes the use of cut flowers, sponsors the flower doctor, who can also be reached by phone toll free at (888) FLOW-RMD (356-9763).)

Pick your petals. When you select loose flowers, look for upright, firm petals and buds beginning to open, not fully open. Yellow, spotted or drooping leaves are signs of age.

Do the nose test. Smell the water; it should smell fresh and clean, not like a fish aquarium.

Check for slime. Look at, and feel, the flower stems; they should be clean and not slimy.

Watch for breaks. Avoid flowers with stems that have cracks or weak points in them.

Give your pretty petals some extra care to prolong their good looks, including:

Cool 'em off. Before arranging cut flowers, store the blooms in a cool place.

Leaf 'em out. If the leaves on stems fall below the water line, remove them. Leaves in water promote bacterial microbial growth that limits the water a flower takes up.

Keep 'em clean. Vases, flo-

ral clippers and knives should be clean. Wash them with a detergent or antibacterial cleaning agent and rinse thoroughly.

Put 'em under the knife. To keep flowers fresher, re-cut the stems by removing one to two inches with a sharp knife under running warm water.

Control 'em. Keep fresh flowers out of direct sunlight and away

blooms and float them in a bowl of water, maybe accompanied by floating candles, stones or marbles.

Lay bloom on a plate with some candles or in a bed of potpourri to let them dry naturally for continued enjoyment.

Stumped for suggestions? Wonder what flowers to get for the person you just met or the person you're really serious about? Floral designers with www.ftd.com and 1-800-Send-FTD (736-3383) offer these suggestions.

First date. You know little about the person's taste or style, so go bold, but simple. Choose a flower with a large blossom in vibrant colors. A small grouping of two or three Stargazer lilies or sunflowers makes a sexy statement to your date.

New relationship. Enjoy the exhilaration of a new romance by choosing fun, colorful flowers such as daisies. A handful of Gerbera daisies in red, orange or pink are sure to create a connection.

"I love you." You've been dating a while and have just said "I love you." This is the perfect time to send that gorgeous bouquet of rich red roses, or choose the shade that's her favorite - something like yellow, coral, peach or white mixed with a color.

Serious, long term. You've been together for many years and red roses have said it all. Something meaningfully fresh is needed. Try a new shade of roses, like the deep-orange red that's trendy and popular this year.

Or, contact your favorite floral designer and ask for a specially mixed bouquet she won't forget. Then tuck in a surprise - maybe those diamond earrings she's always wanted.

"I love You"
Albanian: Te dua.
French: Je t'aime.
German: Ich liebe Dich.
Greek: S'ayapo (pronounced "S'agapo.")
Irish: Taim i' ngra leat.
Italian: Ti amo.
Korean: Joahaeyo.
Latin: Te amo.
Polish: Kocham Cie.

Happy Valentine's Day

GRAPHIC COURTESY OF MCT CAMPUS

GREEK CULTURE MEETS REAL LIFE

Ryan Wyatt
the sandspur

munity. When does the line between normal American kid and worldly traveler get crossed? Well, that is easy, when one least expects it.

The act of understanding those people whom one interacts with on a daily basis can be a difficult task for even the most observant and open minded person of their day. When one ventures to move outside of their zone of comfort, a familiarity which they have, at least to some extent, come to a vague conclusion about, it can seem too much to even begin feigning at an attempt to accept all of the available knowledge of the second outside society. If any knowledge can be transferred between the two cultures in any way, one must decide how this exchange can take place. Such an event occurred in front of my eyes as I was studying abroad in Greece.

During my time on the Greek island of Crete I did not run into any outstanding situations that allowed me to question my knowledge when directly applied to a certain conversation or interaction with a certain person of a different culture. To say that I wasted my time with fellow students from the program is not quite right to say either. But the extent to which I explored the cityscape and landscape of Crete was largely ruled by the plans made by the program.

The only times that I endeavored to walk outside of the lines of C.Y.A. was when I went to explore the cities looking for someplace to eat. There is one event that stands out in my mind as being a genuine crossroads of my understanding of a situation and the actual situation that was at hand, an event that, with more information about the specific way of life of the community that I was moving through, would have been more intimately understood by me personally.

had someone sat down and explained all of the background information to me.

This particular situation occurred at the first café on the first night. I was with a group of girls from the program and we had found a wonderful place on the outskirts of the main square of the town. Its central location was cause for a display of some sort of seemingly political statements to be made. This was quite confusing to us because the situation that we saw unfolding before us looked more like a celebration than anything else, but the words that were being spoken from time to time were in the tone of someone fighting for a cause.

From what we could see, there were lights set up and loud

People were gathering in the square and dancing traditional dances in big and excited groups. But every once in a while a man would come up to his microphone and speak in very exact and somewhat angry terms, which were in Greek that none of us could understand.

We asked the waiter what was happening, he told us that it was a group of teachers who were on strike until their demands of higher pay and less work hours were met. I was still confused. He said that they were speaking out to the community in hopes of being noticed by the local government, that this sort of thing was happening all over Greece.

When I think back to this story and how perplexed I was as it was happening I realize the most important nugget of knowledge that I brought back from studying abroad wasn't necessarily all found in the classroom.

I saw this protest at the beginning of my semester in a place that was completely alien to me so I assumed that what the people were doing was ridiculous.

What I learned is that we all imagine foreign cultures to be more exotic than they are when they are really very similar to our own. Many protests include large groups of dancing freedom fighters of some sort in the United States.

Had I forgotten about the 60's and 70's? Hippies? College students through the years? Feminists?

Studying abroad isn't all

ening one's vision of what is and isn't normal, traditional, good.

College Year in Athens, a Rollins affiliate program does just what it is supposed to—get kids out to explore and be independent while also teaching them about the rich history, art, religion, and everything in between about Greek culture.

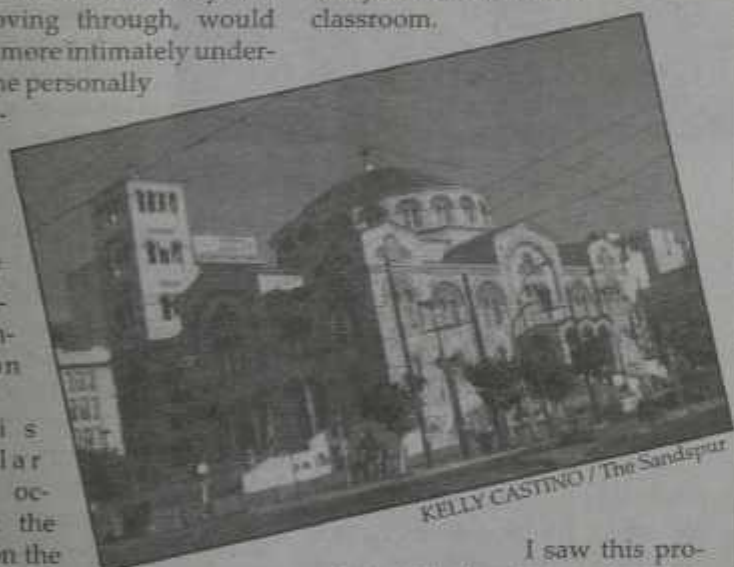


RYAN WYATT / The Sandspur



RYAN WYATT / The Sandspur

ZEUS' TEMPLE: Ryan Wyatt visited what remains of Hadrian's Arch in Athens during her semester in Greece.



KELLY CASTINO / The Sandspur

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A GREEK VOYAGE

Kelly Castino
the sandspur

Attention... Attention... Those are the words that my fellow travelers and I will never forget. On December 28, 2006, I and sixteen other people journeyed to Greece to start our discovery of the ancient world. Before we left for the airport a team picture was taken of Team VI. It was a long journey but the experience was definitely worth it.

Brian LeMay, a sophomore who went on the trip with me, said, "traveling to Greece and London was an amazing experience. We were so lucky to be able to visit all the sites of the ancient Olympic Games. Gordie was such a great leader and he did so much for our class. I recommend this trip to everyone and can't wait to go back to London some day!" Our two weeks in Greece were amazing and here it just a little glimpse of everything that we did.

It was a long journey but I am glad that I did it. I was out of my comfort zone and was ready to learn and experience the splendor of a different country. It took about eight hours to fly from Orlando to Gatwick Airport in London. Then we took a bus from Gatwick Airport to Heathrow Airport where we waited for a few hours before boarding our plane to Athens, Greece. It took about three hours to fly from Heathrow to Athens. By the time we arrived at our destination, the Divani Palace Acropolis in Athens, we had traveled for thirty hours. That same night we walked to the Acropolis in Athens and performed a tradition which prior groups have done. Each person held arms and shared something.

The first day we started our visit of Athens, met our bus driver Minos and our guide Marisol. We went to the Acropolis, Parthenon, Agora museum and Syntagma Square. Syntagma Square was near the Parliament House where the changing of the guard occurred. In Syntagma Square there are little shops and restaurants. The next day, New Year's Eve, we had a Classic City tour. We visited the Stadium, Hadrian's Gate, Old Parliament, Jupiter's Temple and the National Archeological Museum. That night people did different things because it was New Year's Eve and we had a free day tomorrow. At midnight, though, everyone was on the top of Gordie's "secret spot" to see the fireworks. At Gordie's "secret spot" a person is able to see beautiful, panoramic views of Athens. I couldn't believe how cool it was to see fireworks from a different perspective. After that we had a free day, but no museums were open due to the holidays, so Gordie recommended visiting the Port of Piraeus. In order to get there we had to take the train from Athens to Piraeus which was about a twenty min-



GROUP VI: Rollins students who traveled to Greece and London over winter break.

ute ride. At the Port there were cruise ships, and freighters. My colleagues and I then decided to venture further and walked to a smaller port. At the smaller port we were able to see rows of huge yachts and the sea. It was so beautiful I wished I owned a yacht. I wondered if anyone famous that we knew owned a lot where we were standing. We were able to sit on the edge of the barrier and look out into the sea. The only thing we could see for miles was the Greek Coast Guard. The next day was just as exciting because we were going to meet a world renowned archeologist named Dr. Stephen Miller. Dr. Miller had met Gordie on previous trips and had kept in touch even though Dr. Miller worked at California Berkeley half the year and the other half in Nemea, Greece. Before we drove to Nemea we stopped at the Corinth Canal and Isthmia. Unfortunately for

distance there was a tiny island we could see. It was very serene and peaceful. I could have stayed there forever. At Nauplia we also did one of my other favorite activities. Gordie challenged us to climb to the Castle Palamida. He told us that to the Castle there are 999 steps. After all the walking we had been doing so far on the trip, which was a lot, 999 steps did not seem easy to accomplish. But he said that the journey was breathtaking. I am proud to say that the majority of Team VI accomplished Gordie's challenge. After hard work and determination, I was able to make it to the top. Gordie was right, the views were stunning. I could not believe how high up I was or what I had just done. It was an amazing experience that I hope others get to feel.

So far we had had a fantastic trip but we did not know what Gordie had in store for us. In

One summer Gordie took classes at the IOA that dealt with sports, and how to improve and maintain the Olympics. Without a letter approving our request, we would have not been able to go. Each summer about eighty people from all over the world are able to study. Gordie was privileged to be one of the few. We saw the room where Gordie stayed, the conference room where discussion takes place, and the library full of many different books, in various languages about athletics. Then the subsequent day we drove to Delphia through Patras.

In Patras there were beautiful churches, and the drive was beautiful I did not know where to look with the sea on one side and snow capped mountains on the other. Instead of driving over a bridge on the way to Delphia, we took a ferry and were able to see the sights from the water for

and looked like she could be from the movies. There lives are based on what they make, so they are very simple. Then we drove to the monastery where we saw intricate and delicate mosaics. We were lucky and saw a monk. He was dressed in all black, had a black hat, a black hat and a black beard.

After that we went back to Athens to view the Interactive Olympic Museum where we were able to see Olympia in Virtual reality. Then we went to Vvrarona and Brauron and saw where the women's Olympic Games took place. It was very small and in the middle of nowhere because women were treated inferior. There was just one temple at that site.

Our last day in Greece was amazing too. Everyday of the trip was something amazing. We were able to see the modern Olympic stadium where the 2004 Athens summer games took place. We were able to go inside the stadium and walk to see the swimming pools and other buildings. It is our last day with our guide. As one student, Abida Marajh, a sophomore told me after the trip, "attention...attention...our lovely guide would always say when she wanted to let us know something fascinating, which it usually was." To this day we still tease each other and go "attention...attention..." and they know what we are talking about. That same day we had the opportunity to see the Athens Olympic Stadium we drove to see Cape Sounion which has the Temple of Poseidon. It was stunning. I loved seeing the Aegean

Sea from up top and having the seagulls below us. The water was so amazingly blue. Unfortunately we were unable to see the Cape at sunset but it was still eye-catching. According to Gordie, Cape Sounion and Key West are the two most famous places known for a beautiful sunset. Gordie also told us that he planned it this way so that we would have a hard time picking out our favorite place in Greece. He

was right—it was hard after all the places we had seen. After two weeks in Greece, we were ready to leave for London. In London, we looked at the Greek and Roman artifacts in the British Museum. A lot of the artifacts we saw were copies or the original of the copies we saw, but we also saw some new things. The rest of the time was free. Some people went to shows, others walked around and looked at the sites, and others did a wide variety of things. Even though it was a long journey I am glad that I went on it and hope others will take Gordie's trip. It is an experience that I will have forever. Gordie encourages student to go on this life altering experience that "interweaves many disciplinary perspectives."

If you talk to any student that has gone on this amazing trip with Gordie he or she will recommend it, and show and share his or her experiences.



KELLY CASTINO / The Sandspur

our team, Isthmia was closed because of the holidays so we had to see the ruins from a distance. At the Corinth museum, we saw The Temple of Apollo, St. Paul the Apostle's altar, and Roman baths and fountains. At Nemea Professor Miller gave our team a personal tour of what he and his team had discovered. It was amazing because we were talking to the same man who was in the videos that we had to watch before we left and he was one of the people who first discovered the ruins. Professor Miller showed us the Temple of Zeus, Roman baths and the Stadium. That night we were at Hotel Rex in Nauplia.

Everyone agreed after the trip that Nauplia was one of our favorite places. In Nauplia Gordie had another "secret spot" for us. It was beautiful. We followed Gordie to a beach overlooking the sea. We were able to sit on the beach or the rocks and look out to the sea. In the

Epidarius we were able to sit in the theatre which is pretty much intact. The theatre has amazing acoustics even without microphones a person is able to hear all the way from the top perfectly. Our guide demonstrated and we were dumbfounded. In Epidarius we also saw the archeological site and the museum. From Epidarius we went to the Sparta museum and saw the statue of Leonidas, the first patriot of Greece. The next day was filled with an Olympic agenda. First, we went to the International Olympic Museum where we were able to see many of the torches from the previous Olympic Games. My favorite thing there was an exhibit on the 1980 Winter Games in Lake Placid, NY where the US Hockey Team beat the USSR to win the gold. If you have seen the movie Miracle you know what I am talking about. Next we, with special permission that Gordie requested, were able to visit the International Olympic Academy.

a change of pace. We then made a stop in Galaxedi, a city which is right on the water. An exciting thing happened there. A few students even saw Martha Stewart walking to her yacht! In Delphia from our hotel we could see the beautiful sunset because we were on top of a huge hill. The colors of the sunset were gorgeous against the mountains. At Delphia we saw the treasuries, the Temple of Apollo, the Theatre and the Stadium. We also saw the fountain and Temple of Athena.

One of the most interesting places we visited occurred on January 8, 2007. We visited a nunnery and a monastery. When we first entered the Nunnery, all the girls were told to put on a skirt. A nun showed us her sanctuary and her workshop where everything is handmade. Many of us bought handmade necklaces that the nuns made. All the profits made from their sales go to the nuns because they need money. The Nun was dressed in all black

Opinions

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13

The Local

"Caution: Raised Crosswalk," Indeed!

Megan Borkes
the sandspur

It's about 1:30 in the morning and I'm just settling down in my dorm room, ready to go to sleep.

Beach Hall know the sound well, and as it happens again minutes later, I mumble quietly to myself, "Someone bottomed out on that freakin' speed bump again."

I suppose the correct term is

Students and their parents have been rocked - quite literally - by this new addition to Holt Avenue since Winter Intercession started and the dorms started to fill up again. "Happy Holidays," indeed.

Ever since, there have been nothing but complaints about the crosswalk. Heck, even the Dominos Pizza deliveryman had something to say about it.

So why did this addition even need to happen? Safety? I doubt it. Sure, the argument could be made that it forces drivers to slow down before they end up speeding around the cul-de-sac that rounds out in front of Lake Virginia, but let's think about this hypothetically for a moment, shall we?

It's late on a Friday night and someone had a little too much to drink. Despite the various warnings against drunk driving, that person decides to drive himself or herself back on to campus. As they head down Holt, the darkness - plus the skewed perception that comes with drinking - sets in and takes a toll on the person's vision.

As they approach the "speed bump," despite the huge, eyesore of a sign that reads in big, red letters "RAISED CROSSWALK," it does not register with this individual that there is a reason to slow down. Perhaps the person fails to even notice the sign in the first place.

Suddenly, the car is vaulting over Mt. Rollins and the driver loses control due to the shock of being thrown about by such an obstruction. In the worst case scenario, the car goes careening



Courtesy of Megan Borkes

Tackling the Mount

onto the patio of Rex Beach, or even into the line of parked cars on the other side.

Of course, this is a very rare scenario, but it is also a very plausible idea that has been brought up by several peers that I've spoken with about the raised crosswalk. I'm not saying that the idea of a sidewalk across that stretch of road is a bad idea.

There is a lot of foot traffic there, so of course it would be nice to have a safe place to walk. But there were so many other, less obstructive options. For example,

"Someone bottomed out on that freakin' speed bump again"

even constructing the crosswalk with a little less width and height would have helped lessen the frequency of cars that bottom out.

Recently, there was an email sent out to the student body about the crosswalk. It appears

that they're going to try to have it fixed (it may even be happening by the time this paper is put into print). Their excuse is that with the strain on time to have the thing built and paved before intercession, there simply wasn't time to measure correctly. Um... what?

That's absolutely no excuse. No offense, but if the people installing this crosswalk had ever done anything like that before, they should know how to measure out correct proportions, even if the time frame was short. Now Holt Avenue is going to be blocked off for who-knows-how-long until it's fixed.

I suppose there's no real use in whining about it now that it's going to be fixed anyway, but the fact that all this trouble could have been avoided from the beginning really "grinds my gears," if you get my meaning.



Courtesy of Megan Borkes

Angered Rollins Student

Just as I start to drift away into "dreamland," as it were, I hear a noise outside my window that sounds very similar to the sound of someone driving up onto the sidewalk right in front of my building. But I know that this is not the case. All of us in Rex

"raised crosswalk," and it really is the more appropriate term. A speed bump is just a simple line of raised curved pavement, relatively small to the veritable "Mt. Rollins" that the massive obstruction outside of Rex Beach has so lovingly been nicknamed.

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Someone say something incredibly funny in class. Here's your chance to let us in on it. Did you wave to a friend and they ignored you? Call them out. No names, just the opportunity to share an interesting experience. e-mail it to smard@rollins.edu

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The National

Vick: pot, Bonds: Amphetamines and Steroids, Brady: Super Bowl Rings.

Justin Dottavio
the sandspur

With Barry Bonds under fire for amphetamines and steroids (along with 99.9% of the MLBPA from 1992-2003), and Michael Vick getting busted for having pot 'residue' in his water bottle's secret compartment, it makes you wonder what goes through the minds of these athletes before they make the decisions they make. It's not like Bonds didn't know last year that the Feds were looking to get him on any charge they could. And it's not like Vick couldn't just throw away a little pot and buy more pot with his gigantic contract when he landed back in Atlanta.

So why do these guys make these decisions? Is it the Friday Night Lights cliché that's come

back to haunt these guys? And by this I mean the preferential treatment they've received since high school. Is it a feeling of invincibility? They obviously haven't read a single news report about Mike Tyson over the last 15 years. Or witnessed Doc Gooden and Darryl Strawberry's careers fall to cocaine. And beyond all of that, the most interesting part is, it's highly probable that guys like Vick and Bonds will strike again.

My old Criminal Justice book from undergrad at UCF states that in a study done in Kansas City in 1990, they found that while only 2.7% of the population was arrested more than once, those arrests accounted for 60% of the arrests that year.* This proves first time offenders to be an even greater liability to the organizations than previously thought.

It's an even greater liability to an organization like the San Francisco Giants who have watched Bonds bring their organization bad press with his many digressions (adultery, tax evasion, steroids, speed, and being a jerk to the media to name a few). So knowing that Bonds will strike again, why did the Giants verbally offer him sixteen (yes, 16) million dollars to play next season? He hit .270 with 26 HR's and 77 RBI's last season, not exactly a sixteen million dollar man.

Bonds makes more money than Joe Mauer and Miguel Cabrera. Mauer hit .347 and was the first catcher to win the AL batting title. He's looking at a raise that hikes his salary from \$400,000 to \$4.5 million. Cabrera is set for a raise from \$400K to about \$7 million after hitting .339 with 26

home runs and 114 runs batted in. You could have Mauer and Cabrera with money left over. I really wish someone would invest sixteen million dollars in me when my chance of being suspended is about as likely as a Bob Dylan play about a failing circus... well... failing.

Guns N' Roses front man Axl Rose once sang the line, "They're out to get me," which leads me to the question... are the media and the Feds just out to get a guy like Bonds? I don't think that they were until they caught him lying to a grand jury. (One double standard the federal government will have forever is that we can't lie to them, while they lie to us on a daily basis. Insert any WMD, "I did not sleep with that intern," and moon landing joke here.)

However, if you do the crime,

you should do the time. No one planted autograph signing money on Bonds and gave it over to his mistress pretending to be him while not claiming it to the IRS all at the same time. No one shot speed or steroids into him either. No one told Vick to try to sneak a bottle with a hidden pot compartment onto a plane. Maybe the media is looking for the next big story, or the Federal Government is looking for a one-man scapegoat for the 'steroids era,' but it doesn't matter, because they did what they did.

While Vick is off smoking pot and Bonds is off doing a list of things I can't re-type... Tom Brady is two more wins away from his fourth Super Bowl ring.

George W. vs. Al Gore: Alternative Energy and Renewable Resources

Samantha Marsh
the sandspur

On Tuesday night President Bush began his 2007 State of the Union address with historic words: Madame Speaker. Yet words that will have an even greater impact on history came much later in the fifty minute speech. After offering several new proposals regarding health care and addressing immigration with largely unimpressive language the President moved onto alternative energy.

He introduced this crucial topic with an objective that combines what at most times seem like two irreconcilable goals. "Extending hope and opportunity depends on a stable supply of energy that keeps America's economy running and America's environment clean" claimed the President. But when it comes to energy sources, the environment and the economy are more often at odds.

The Bush administration has not always welcomed attempts to reduce the emission of harmful greenhouse gases and curtail ensuing climate change, such as the Kyoto Protocol. In fact, the President stressed overcoming our reliance on foreign oil in the speech, an ambition that has in the past led to huge tax breaks for oil companies. On Tuesday the President did not fail to tackle this discrepancy, noting that increasing domestic oil production to reduce reliance on foreign oil must be done in an "environmentally sensitive" manner.

As the public has grown

more and more aware of climate changes, it has become much more difficult for the President to discount it. Offenders, including electric companies which produce the most greenhouse gases have themselves been calling for regulations, perhaps thinking that it is better to be part of change than to be left behind. Now it seems that the President is playing the same game with respect to reducing foreign oil dependence.

The long term tactic of alternative energy, long lauded by

"They're called non-renewable resources for a reason."

environmentalists, was a key part of the President's proposals for diversifying our energy supply. Most promising seem to be a hydrogen fuel initiative and promoting the development of renewable resources like ethanol. The most interesting proposals were the ideas for wind energy and clean coal technology.

Overall though, it was an encouraging point in the speech, especially for those of us who have viewed Al Gore's documentary blockbuster "An Inconvenient Truth". It meant that the President hasn't forgotten the commitment he made in last year's State of the Union with the introduction of Advanced Energy Initiative. Indeed, most of the goals President Bush alluded to in this year's speech were part of that initiative.

And despite this reiteration,

recent legislation has appeared much less promising. A recent bill passed in the Democratic controlled House that, if passed in the Senate, will reduce tax breaks given to domestic oil companies, impose certain fees, and attempt to recoup royalties based in high gas prices lost because of an internal error. The bill is hailed as an attempt to encourage renewable resources, but some critics only see the short term effects: what they describe as merely punishing the oil industry and increasing dependence on foreign oil. The Bush administration is a critic.

There is obviously a conflict here. Do we look to the long term and seek out alternative fuel and renewable resources. This would undoubtedly reduce our dependence on foreign oil, even if in the interim certain domestic oil production doesn't enjoy the immense profits it has the past few years. It probably seems obvious from the way I phrased that last two sentences that I believe the answer to that question is yes.

But what really matters is not what the President said last Thursday, or what the electric companies and other big business "intend" to do. Ultimately, they are all responding to one thing, the public. If the American public can be spurred into caring about the kind of fuels our economy runs on and what kind of environment that is creating, then it can put even more pressure on Congress and businesses to address those issues.

They're called non-renewable resources for a reason.

Straight to the Moon; The Necessity of Space Travel

Jon Tietz
contributing writer

When was the last time you really thought about the fact that a man has walked on the moon? Which begs the question, what ever happened to Bush's campaign of putting a man on the moon once again?

No longer do Americans watch anxiously as we explore space. Instead we worry about tax cuts and terrorism.

President Bush's 2004 speech at NASA headquarters, where he drafted goals such as establishing an operations center on the moon and developing the Crew Exploration Vehicle (CEV) to replace the aging shuttle, has been forgotten by many due to the domination of public policy by the war in Iraq and the amount of money spent to carry it out.

The problem remains that as a nation we have largely given up on our endeavors in space which include so many of the scientific opportunities the Bush administration has sacrificed to continue their investment in obsolete technology. Instead of funding these new projects for the CEV and the moon with new money, NASA has instead sidelined other important projects such as the Mars missions in order to keep the shuttle aloft.

It may seem like a mimic of President Kennedy's famous goals, but in reality Bush introduced what should have been a bright spot in his presidency. Man's need to know of his origins is what initially drove the discoveries of the 1960s, and we have

lapsed from a sprint to a stroll. In ten years we put a man on the moon, and yet in 30 years we have been unable to put one on Mars.

I support the idea of renewing space exploration, but we need to continue it on a whole new level and while Bush's goals are a start, they are not nearly on target. We need to scuttle the shuttle, abandon the space station, and head for the moon while keeping our other scientific explorations open.

My challenge to myself, to our leaders, and to all of us is to push into space, the last great frontier and possibly the defining aspect of our species. There are literally trillions of possibilities awaiting us in the endless vacuum which we have been ignoring in favor of our petty crises.

In the long run there is nothing to lose from exploring space and a lot to gain. Not many people know how much we have derived from our explorations, such as Velcro, Teflon, and computers. This is not just the push of scientific bounds, this is the foundation of legends and from which we will ultimately discover our own capabilities.

With all the problems we face daily, it is tough to focus on something so abstract. The next time you are walking to class take a look at the deep blue sky at which we have been looking for thousands of years and imagine the wonder awaiting us beyond. We can no longer afford to dally in our pursuit, and it is up to our nation and its people to lead the effort.

Sports

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Rollins Basketball Rolls Through Winter Break

Juan Bernal
the sandspur

The Rollins Men continued their quest towards their fourth conference championship in five years by winning six out of seven games during the Winter Holidays. Those games included splitting a pair of games in the High Desert Classic in Las Vegas, Nevada and winning the Winter Park Rotary Tangerine Tournament, which was played at the Alford Sports Center.

On Monday December 11th, the Tars would try to recover from a devastating conference loss at Tampa. The Tars would host the NAIA Webber Warriors out of Lake Wales.

From the opening tip, the contest was never in doubt as the Tars quickly jumped out to a 25-9 lead in the first seven minutes. The Tars would continue to build their lead by hitting 13 out of 22 free throws and shooting an

outstanding 64% from the field to take a 53-38 advantage into the halftime locker room.

In the second half it was more of the same from the Tars who would hit 27 out of 38 free throws for the game and shoot 60% in route to a 105-79 rout of the Warriors.

Kevin Hogan lead five Tars in double figures with 24 points and four assists including a shot that gave free smoothies to the crowd of 274. Johnny Reibel continued his stellar play with 18 points and 10 assists. Isaac Codrey added 19 points and five assists, John Thinnies contributed 17 points and Jordan Kolosey notched a season high 10 points and four blocks.

After the win against the Warriors the Tars would head to Las Vegas, Nevada and the High Desert Classic.

On Saturday December 16th the Tars would face the fourth ranked Seattle Pacific Falcons. From the outset, the Tars looked like the better team as John

Thinnies hit three consecutive treys from downtown. Thinnies would add a lay-up and Deon Troupe would nail two threes of his own to give the Tars a 17-8 advantage. The onslaught continued as the Falcons man to man defense was no match for the Tars' high powered Princeton offense.

The Tars would use their 65% shooting mark to take a 44-29 advantage into the locker room. In the second half it was more of the same, as the Falcons failed to make adjustments defensively. The Tars would lead by as many as 26 before Seattle Pacific made a 17-7 run to end the game. However, by then it was way to late as the Tars had a relatively easy 88-75 victory. Craig Reichel led the Tars with 23 points and John Thinnies added 21. Jonny Reibel added 12 points and 9 assists along with Isaac Codrey who contributed seven points and seven assists.

Less than 20 hours after

their big victory over the fourth ranked Falcons, the Tars would have to turn around and face the Central Missouri Mules, who came into the game ranked third in the country and undefeated. Unlike the past two games the Tars struggled out of the gate this time.

In the first ten minutes the Tars managed to score only eight points in the first ten minutes. Despite their struggles on the offensive end, the Tars only trailed by six, 14-8.

The latter part of the first half would treat the Tars better as Jonny Reibel's eleven first half points, including a half court buzzer beater sent the Tars into the locker room trailing the Mules by four, 30-26.

In the second half, the Mules would storm out of the gate with a 23-11 run in the first ten minutes to lead by 16, 53-37. The Mules would continue to have the momentum until 3:57.

With the Mules holding a 63-

46, they turned the ball over and drew a technical foul. After a five point play that cut the Mules lead to 12, the Tars would go on a 13-8 run to cut the Mules lead to 71-64 with 1:19 to go.

However, it was a little too late for the Tars. The Mules would hit 10 out of 14 free throws to seal the deal and send the Tars to an 81-74 defeat.

Johnny Reibel lead the Tars with 25 points and 11 assists. Craig Reichel added 15 points, Deon Troupe contributed 12 and John Thinnies chipped in 10. Wadale Williams led the Mules, who shot 47 free throws, with 22 points.

Despite the loss to the Mules, many players and coaches got a very positive experience out of the trip to Vegas. "It was a great experience for our kids. I thought we played well against two of the best teams in the country," said assistant coach Brad Ash.

Super Bowl XLI America's Past-time Returns to Rollins

Erica Tibbetts
the sandspur

The Super Bowl is coming up in 2 weeks and the country is already getting ready. Chips are being bought, big screen t.v.'s are being readied, giant foam fingers are being sold by the dozen and, two teams are getting prepared for what could arguably be the biggest day of their lives.

On February 4th, in Miami, Florida, the Chicago Bears, winners of the NFC championship game, will be taking on the Indianapolis Colts in the NFL's biggest game, and there will be some big names on the field and some important statements being named. The biggest possibly being that Lovie Smith, the Bear's coach, will be the first black coach to lead a team to the Super Bowl. When asked about this milestone for the sport he replied with, "I hope for a day when it is unnoticed. But that day isn't here." So, while acknowledging that this is a momentous occasion, the coach just hopes that his Bears can make a good showing and maybe end the day with a trophy. And, even if they don't, another black coach will take the trophy home. Tony Dungy, of the Indianapolis colts, the only other black coach in the NFL will be facing Lovie in the championship game. No matter what happens, the outcome will be momentous.

The Bears had a slightly inconsistent championship against the New Orleans Saints. Quarterback Rex Grossman had an abysmal first half, an abysmal first 3 quarters even, throwing for only 64 yards and completing only 5 of 20 passes. Throughout the season, Grossman has been less than fantastic; critics have derided him constantly for his inconsistency and high rate of

turnovers. This day though, the Bears gave up no turnovers and only committed one foul (for 5 yards). New Orleans has never won a playoff game away from home, where they play in a climate controlled dome. The score came close after half time, with the Saints pulling the deficit to 16-14, but they gave up a safety soon after, and then 21 in the final quarter. The Saints fell apart in the end, but the Bears weren't exactly dominant. So, it may have been less than a stellar performance, but it still got them a ticket to the Super Bowl.

The score in the AFC championship game was a little closer, the Colts beat the New England Patriots 38-34. This was slightly a change in fate for the Colts who have succumbed twice to the Patriots during the play offs. Both times, the Patriots went on to win the Super Bowl. But, this time, Peyton Manning broke his post season curse, completing 27 of 47 passes for 349 yards and a touchdown and reaching the first Super Bowl of his career. Things didn't start well for the Colts though. They were down 18 in the first half, a deficit never before overcome in championship game history. Asante Samuel, the Patriots cornerback returned an interception in the first half to make the score 18-3, but the Colts managed to rally behind Manning and the Indianapolis defense, who held the Patriots to three and out on their first possession of the second half. They teams traded touchdowns until the end, and the Colts barely eked out a victory.

The teams look set to create quite a spectacle on the 4th, but if Manning has a good game and Grossman continues with his inconsistency, my money would be on the Colts to win the big game.

Justin Dottavio
the sandspur

The smell of freshly cut grass and crackerjacks is in the air. No, it's not my dad watching my mom cut the lawn from his hammock. I'm talkin' baseball! And the best baseball there is, college baseball. Last season, Coach Jon Sjogren's first at Rollins, the team finished with an overall record of 28-27, with a 23-14 home record. The Tars finished 7-17 in the Sunshine State Conference. The Tars have won the SSC Championship once, back in 2004, and Coach Sjogren definitely has a chance to bring home another SSC title this season.

Rollins has a solid core of players returning beginning with team Triple Crown winner Gary Howard. With Howard's return the Tars will likely improve upon their 2006 record. Howard hit .384 with 5 Homeruns and 49 RBIs. The team's second leading hitter also returns in infielder Gary Martoccio. Martoccio hit .313 last year and totaled 45 walks and fourteen steals.

The pitching staff returns star reliever Michael Eppich who posted a 1.53 ERA and 4-0 record in 20 appearances. On the downside, only one of three starters return from the rotation. That one player is David Nathanson, a senior from Maitland who has a lot of promise after going 5-5 with a 3.65 ERA in 15 starts. Jon Wano looked good in his 8 starts last season and could move into a starting role full-time. Howard not only led the team in batting, but also in saves after recording 4 in 2006. Eppich and Howard will be called upon to help the young rotation.

Coach Sjogren has to be excited that the Tars four leading hitters return for 2007, along with the team's top starter. Excitement should also be there for Tars fans, students and alumni. The Tars were a winning team at home last year, and see 23 of the first 24 games at home. Home games are played in Alford Stadium at Harper-Shepherd Field one mile from the Rollins campus on the corner of Orange Avenue and Aragon Avenue in Winter Park.

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Men's Basketball Wins First Ever Game on National TV

Juan Bernal
the sandspur

In the first ever nationally televised game in Rollins basketball history, Rollins was looking to put on a performance that would be remembered for the ages. Rollins came into the game on a seven game winning streak and 4-1 in conference, which was good for first in the Sunshine State Conference with Lynn and Barry.

Rollins would face the Eckerd Tritons who came into the game at 13-3 with a 3-2 conference mark and a three game winning streak. Rollins and Eckerd have had a fierce rivalry, with Rollins winning two out of the previous three meetings.

In the first half, the Tars would come out in style for CSTV. After Eckerd's Andre King-Holland opened the game with a mid-range jumper to put Eckerd on the scoreboard, Rollins' John Thinnies would begin the Tars'

barrage from the three point land, which would lead them to a 70 percent mark from behind the arc in the half. Rollins' zone defense would also prove effective against the Tritons holding them to just five points in the first five minutes and forcing 12 turnovers in the first half.

After the Tars built a 17-5 advantage in the first five minutes with the potent combination of the Princeton offense and the aforementioned zone defense, Rollins would continue the first half onslaught by leading by as much as 23 points. Going into the halftime locker room the Tars lead the Tritons 53-30 and shot 71 percent from the field, 90 percent from the free throw line and only committing five turnovers.

Coming out of the locker room, the second half would prove to be as much of a struggle as the first half was a success for the Tars. The shooting woes for the Tars started in the first two and a half minutes, in which

they missed their first four shots. Meanwhile Eckerd went on a 6-0 run and forced the Tars to call a 30 second timeout. After the timeout, Rollins managed to slow the tempo down a bit, but aside from two lay-ups from point guard Johnny Reibel and a turnaround hook by Jordan Kolosey, nobody could buy a basket.

With ten minutes to go in the game, the Tritons managed to cut a 23 point halftime deficit to 13, trailing 59-46. For the next five minutes the Tars and Tritons would trade baskets. After Eckerd's Josh King hit a three pointer to cut the Tars' lead to 65-55, Rollins' Craig Reichel would hit the most important of his four three pointers to put the Tars up 13 with 4:19 left. Eckerd would come back and go on a 7-0 run in the next 3:40 capped by a Matt Cenatus three pointer. All of a sudden with 39 seconds left, the Tars were only up six. With Eckerd forced to foul in the last 39 seconds, the Tars' Johnny Reibel

and Kevin Hogan would hit five out of six free throws to seal the deal for Rollins.

The Tars would overcome a couple of by the way baskets by the Tritons to win the game 73-66 and improve to 14-3 and 6-1 in conference. Eckerd dropped to 13-4 and 3-3 in conference. Rollins was lead by Craig Reichel who scored 20 points and added four rebounds and four assists. Johnny Reibel totaled 19 points and 9 assists and Kevin Hogan added 17 points for the Tars who ended up shooting 48 percent.

"Basically, it was a big game, big conference game with our rival Eckerd. We were very prepared. We wanted to control the game; we didn't want them to dictate the tempo. We wanted to play our game and that is what we did. In the first half, we wanted to make a statement and our intensity level was high. In the second half we just got way too comfortable. Their intensity level in the second half was higher than ours. But

when you are in a close game, the better team will win the close game," added Reibel.

For Eckerd, they were lead by Josh King who had 21 points on 5 of 14 from three point range. Matt Cenatus added 17 points and 12 rebounds for the Tritons who out-rebounded the Tars 45-21. "The first half was an example of how great preparation can overcome mediocre players. The second half shows how great coaching can be screwed up by bad players," said Brad Ash.

The Tars will continue their quest towards their fourth Sunshine State Conference title in five years by traveling on the road to Florida Tech on January 24th. They come back to the confines of the Alford Sports Center on Saturday, January 27th to face the Barry Buccaneers. Two days later on January 29th they will host their arch-rival, the Florida Southern Mocs at 7:30 p.m.

Riding the Wind: UF Conquers Ohio State

Ryan Wyatt
the sandspur

On Monday, Jan. 8, 2007 the UF Gators took the BCS championship in Arizona with a striking 41-14 victory, and there was much more to be celebrated than merely the rings and the trophy and the parties that would ensue. For some players, like UF's quarterback Chris Leak, the game was a great addition to his repertoire but for others, such as Heisman trophy winner Troy Smith, the game was less than fabulous.

It is very true that the futures of collegiate level players are often defined by single games, glories, losses and this particular day will be important for many of the University of Florida's players. In a post celebration covered by the Orlando Sentinel Coach Urban Meyer was congratulating his boys and discussing their futures with reporters. Many top collegiate varsity players across the country will be deciding whether or not to enter into the NFL draft before the end of their spring semester is over.

It is always a hotly debated subject between academics and athletes, and those that fall into both categories are often torn. When asked how she would make her decision about whether or not to go pro after a big win similar to the Gator's recent win, Danielle Babcock, 20, the captain of the women's varsity lacrosse team at

Mt. Holyoke said, sure she would go pro if she had that opportunity, "because I could always go back to college if things didn't work out, but I guess it would depend what my life would be like as an athlete like; if I was going to be really good or if I was just going to be some minor player."

Five of the University of Florida's juniors will be faced with this decision soon. But is it really right to leave one's education for a game? This is a question that has been asked over the years and has never been solidly answered. Linebacker Brandon Siler, safety Reggie Nelson, defensive Jarvis Moss, receiver Andre Caldwell and cornerback Ryan Smith will be toiling over the pros and cons of going into the NFL early and they will certainly be hailed as heroes by some and given much flack by others.

"If I had the opportunity to go pro after a game like that or wait a year to go into the draft I'm not sure what I would do," said Erica Tibbetts, 20, a rower on the Rollins crew team, "the idea of riding that win to a big pro deal would be a big draw but finishing school is much more important to me as an individual."

The timing is perfect for UF quarterback Chris Leak, with his college career coming to a close, naturally it is expected of him to go into the draft. But is it in these players' best interests as athletes to go ahead and take what is offered to them while they are still in the spotlight? Technically

they could go back to school if something didn't work out, like Babcock said. And for Heisman winner Troy Smith maybe this loss is the time to rework some of his plans. Could this single game be a reason to take whichever deal is offered to him first or is his career still intact?

Rachel Almengual, 21, a varsity softball player at Rollins College doesn't agree with "players who leave school early to go pro, "I don't think I would go pro, no, especially not if I hadn't finished college." To some it's just plain crazy and to some it's the best option. If a player goes to college just play a sport, like many do, and doesn't perform academically then it only seems logical to many for them to leave school just to go play. Then they can be financially sound for some time and can be normal functioning citizens.



CHEERING THEM ON: UF and Rollins students alike cheer on the Gators throughout the season. NICOLE FLUET / The Sandspur

The thing is, so we want uneducated people to be praised for their athletic prowess? Many say that these kids are role models and that they should finish school before being allowed into the NFL draft. "I understand that sports are played better when you're young but if you are playing in college then you should go through with all of your classes before you can go pro; there should be some rule set in place to make that happen," said Gordon Hirsch, 22, a recent

Rollins College grad.

According to the Gators coach, the decision to go into the NFL draft isn't necessarily a bad one he was quoted in an interview after the game by the Orlando Sentinel as saying, "At this moment, I do not know. Our feeling is if it is for the right reasons, God bless you, go get it. We are supporting you."

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