



University of Central Florida
STARS

The Rollins Sandspur

Newspapers and Weeklies of Central Florida

3-5-2007

Sandspur, Vol 113, No 20, March 05, 2007

Rollins College

Find similar works at: <https://stars.library.ucf.edu/cfm-sandspur>
University of Central Florida Libraries <http://library.ucf.edu>

This Newspaper is brought to you for free and open access by the Newspapers and Weeklies of Central Florida at STARS. It has been accepted for inclusion in The Rollins Sandspur by an authorized administrator of STARS. For more information, please contact STARS@ucf.edu.

STARS Citation

Rollins College, "Sandspur, Vol 113, No 20, March 05, 2007" (2007). *The Rollins Sandspur*. 1831.
<https://stars.library.ucf.edu/cfm-sandspur/1831>

The Sandspur

ROLLINS COLLEGE ■ WINTER PARK, FLORIDA

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

GOING BLUE

The Blue Man Group is coming to Orlando and one Rollins student got a sneak peek.

PAGES 6-9

OPINIONS

DISASTER STRIKES

Check out the opinion's section for an editorial on the tornados that devastated Central Florida.

PAGE 13

SPORTS

STRIKE-OUT

Get a first look at east-coast baseball for this upcoming season.

PAGE 16

THE STUDENT VOICE OF ROLLINS COLLEGE SINCE 1894

VOL. 113 ISSUE 20

www.thesandspur.org

March 05, 2007

Rollins Has Been Transformed Into: Southern Atlantic University

Megan Schutz
the sandspur

All of last week, Rollins was a tad bit more exciting, and the students were a little bit more star-struck than normal; a major motion picture called Sydney White was being filmed on campus. The movie, which stars Amanda Bynes, Sara Paxton and Matt Long, is a modern day telling of Snow White about the Greek life in colleges today. The plot, according to www.imdb.com, follows Sydney's life long dream of pledging to her mom's sorority, but after finding that Greek life is not what it used to be, finds herself hanging out with seven nobodies. While fighting for the title of queen of the school, Sydney ends up dating the popular sorority sister's would be boyfriend.

Since Rollins students were invited to be part of the filming, even more buzz was going around campus about the movie. Students who were cast as extras were exclaiming "I got a scene with Amanda!" loud enough for everyone within 20 feet to hear. Rollins students were cast as moving scenery for the scenes shot in front of both the Campus Center and Mills, and as well as scenes down at Dinky Dock Park.

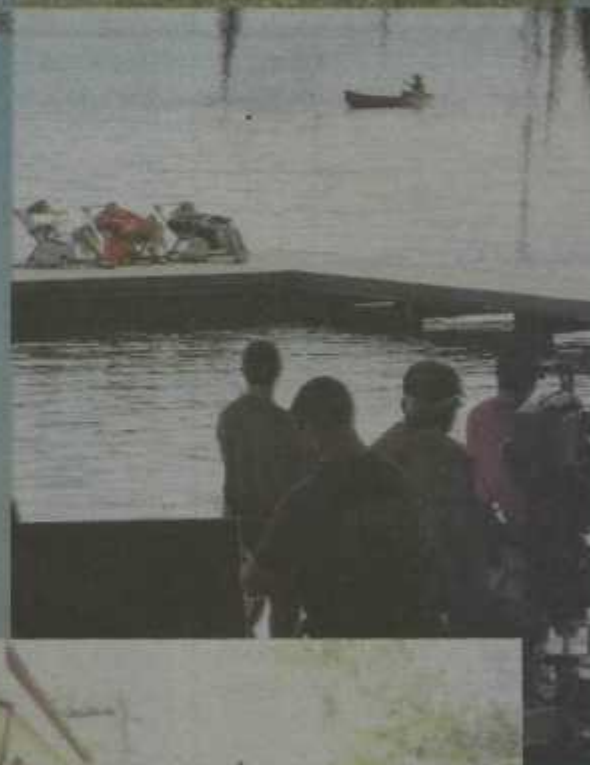
Amanda Bynes was everywhere too. She could be seen walking along the walkways, with her new acquired entourage of extras and those who were just so star-struck they followed the movie crew around. Students were snapping pictures with the stars as well as of the crew. I, personally, even

saw Amanda in Publix one night.

A freshman who saw Amanda up close revealed, "She's much hotter on TV than she is in person," a statement I heard most from a lot of the males around campus. "I love Amanda Bynes. It was so cool to see her walking around on campus," Lizzie Lovern told me. Even students who were not part of the filming and were not very interested in the plot of the movie still told me "I'll probably still go see it, just because it was shot at Rollins and I saw part of it happening."

However, not all was fun and games in our week long movie set. Not everyone was quite as happy or excited about the film crew on campus. Students were forced to take alternative routes to get to where they needed to be. The security people were constantly telling people to go around or "Hey, I need you to walk down that path instead of this one," which often resulted in disgruntled looks from students, as well as faculty and staff. A UCF student, Christina, told me "I'm not looking forward to it being shot here [at UCF]. I'm already late enough to classes and they'll probably end up in my way."

Filming for Sydney White is scheduled to continue both here at Rollins and at UCF until the middle or end of March, including during Spring Break when less students will be around. No release date has been set yet for Sydney White and the Seven Dorks, the movie's working title, but Rollins students - whether involved in the filming or not - will be sure to catch it once it hits theaters.



Photos by Danika Tanzini

WORLD NEWS



COURTESY OF CNN

ENGLAND: Another suspect has been arrested in connection with a planned attack on U.S.-bound passenger jets using liquid explosives.

LIBERIA: The former president has been charged with stealing more than \$1 million from Liberia's coffers while in office.

ITALY: Italian Prime Minister Romano Prodi won a confidence vote in the Senate, ensuring the survival of his center-left government.

GERMANY: Airbus confirmed that it will cut 10,000 jobs across its European operations as it struggled against a weak dollar and costly delays to its flagship A380 superjumbo.

SOUTH AFRICA: South Africa on Wednesday unveiled a new policy to manage its swelling elephant population, including resuming a cull of the animals if needed.

IRAQ: A car bomb exploded near a market in southwestern Baghdad, killing at least 10 people and wounding 21 others, an Iraqi emergency police official said.

NATIONAL NEWS



GEORGIA: Georgia authorities were searching for two young women, possibly teenagers, who robbed a supermarket bank branch, laughing as they held up a teller with nothing but sunglasses to disguise their faces.

FLORIDA: The City Commission voted to begin the process of firing a top official less than a week after he announced plans to pursue a sex-change operation.

PENNSYLVANIA: A middle school principal was charged with dealing crystal methamphetamine after police found the drug in his school office.

FLORIDA: Investigators are trying to determine exactly what took place when a 5-year-old girl died after she was run over by the Union County school bus she had just stepped off, the Florida Highway Patrol said.

COLORADO: A transgendered woman has filed suit against the University of Colorado, its Board of Regents and a health plan, alleging she was unlawfully dismissed from a much-needed internship.

Spring Break Anyone?

What Some Rollins Students are Doing for Spring Break

"I am going on a cruise for spring break with my family. We're sailing to Belize, Mexico and Grand Caymen. I can't wait. The best way to relax is to go on a cruise and I am even more excited that I get to go to places I haven't been to before."

-Rochelle Siegel, '07



"This is the first spring break my boyfriend and I will be able to spend together in the three years we've been dating. UF and Rollins finally have the same week off! We're going to spend four days in Disney and go to Kennedy Space Center and Daytona Beach. I can't wait!"

-Nicole Fluet, '08

"For spring break I am going to surf. Well actually I am probably going to go camping at the Sebastian Inlet, always fun. And then I am going to work at Starbucks. That will be my spring break."

-Justin Braun '10



Are Today's Children More Narcissistic

Megan Borkes
the sandspur

Ever since we – using “we” in the general sense, of course – were little, we have been told how special we are. It would be hard pressed to find someone on campus who could not remember a “motivational” poster on the wall of an elementary school classroom. Of course there are exceptions, but for the most part, our generation, now college students, were coddled at a young age.

During what could arguably be thought of as the years when brain development is at its peak, we were being told that even though we got the answer wrong, “it was still a good effort.” Now, a recent study is saying that this may be the cause of our generation’s unnatural narcissism or self-centeredness when it comes to things like talent and intelligence.

“We need to stop endlessly repeating ‘You’re special’ and having children repeat that back,” said the study’s lead author, professor Jean Twenge of San Diego State University in an article by the Wisconsin State Journal. “Kids are self-centered enough already.” Could it be true? Could the positive rein-

forcement theory be a bad idea?

Those involved in the study seem to think so. Since 1982, 16,475 college students from all over the nation were invited to complete a sort of personality test called the Narcissistic Personality Inventory. Some of the responses on the evaluation were things that, surprisingly, could be found on the walls of

scores,” the article reported.

There is something to be said about how often kids are drilled with praise about how wonderful they are, whether that praise is coming from parents or the shows they watch.

College students today grew up with shows like Mr. Rogers’ Neighborhood, which taught kids that they could do anything they wanted, as long as it made them happy. Today, children’s shows mirror that example and are continuing – perhaps more than ever before – to make sure that kids know how special and fantastic they are. Sure, it is a huge self-esteem boost, but this study suggests that there is certainly a thing as “too much” self-esteem.

“Unfortunately, narcissism can also have very negative consequences for society, including the breakdown of close relationships with others,” said the study’s co-author W. Keith Campbell. Narcissists, according to

the study, “are more likely to have romantic relationships that are short-lived, at risk for infidelity, lack emotional warmth... and over-controlling and violent behaviors.”

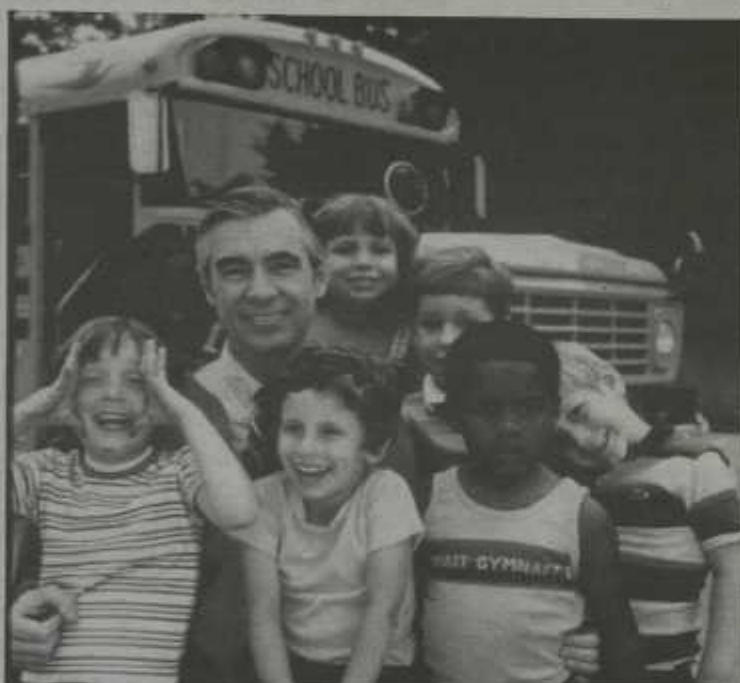
Some people assert that this could be the reason so many people are attracted to reality show auditions like “So You Think You Can Dance” and “American Idol,” which is well-known for its “wannabe showcase” dur-

ing the audition episodes. What could compel people – who obviously have little or no talent – to knowingly embarrass themselves on National television? Other than those few who are attention-seekers looking for their 15 minutes of fame, there are also those who genuinely believe that they have great talent. Perhaps they had just a little too much self-confidence instilled in them during their childhoods.

According to Twenge, current technology is fueling the increase in narcissism. “By its very name, MySpace encourages attention-seeking, as does YouTube.” What an absurd idea! There are attention-seekers on MySpace? Never! Every coherent high school and college student knows that websites like MySpace, Facebook and YouTube are filled with those people who post a new picture and expect thousands of comments immediately. The sites are a way of showcasing yourself, and are very rarely used only for communication and commiseration between old friends anymore. It is always about who has the most friends and who has the most picture comments.

So what should be done about this rising issue? Should teachers and parents be harsh with their children and raise their expectations? Not necessarily. Should they be more careful about how often the words “You’re the greatest” come out of their mouths? According to the study, the answer is absolutely.

Cited article from The Wisconsin State Journal



MCT CAMPUS

WAS MR. ROGERS WRONG: He wanted everyone to feel special, himself included, but has that made today’s youth narcissistic?

many different grade school teachers; things like “I can live my life any way I want to,” and “If I ruled the world, it would be a better place.” Even Mr. Rogers’ favorite mantra “I think I am a special person,” was one of the responses. The scores were high enough in 1982, but the researchers say that they have been rising steadily ever since then. “By 2006, they said, two-thirds of the students had above-average

Rollins Alum Returns With Success Story

Stephanie Allison
contributing writer

Almost sixteen years after graduating from Rollins College, the award-winning journalist, Babita Persaud, re-entered the old, familiar doors of Orlando Hall. While there were no exams scheduled for Persaud on her visit, she probably experienced some feelings of déjà vu as she was about to enter into a different kind of test: Sharing what she had learned thus far in her successful career with the students in Philip Singerman’s Journalistic Writing class.

“This is where I got my start as a reporter,” explained Persaud. “I was in Dr. Nordstrom’s class, Personal Writing, and in order to get an A in the class we had to write an essay and get it published. I sent it to the Sandspur and they didn’t publish it. But the Orlando Sentinel did publish it on their op-ed page, and they gave me my very first newspaper job which was answering the phones. You’ve got to start somewhere.”

Persaud came to Rollins because she wanted a liberal arts

education, and actually was not an English major, but a music major studying the flute when she graduated in 1991. “I loved being a music major,” she said. “They always say to major in something you love, so that’s what I did. I couldn’t get a job afterwards and just kind of fell into journalism.”

In fact, Persaud actually had not even considered a career in journalism. “At one point I wanted to be a flight attendant because I love to travel,” she explained. “My parents wanted me to be a doctor. I never really considered a newspaper career until I saw my name in print in the Orlando Sentinel.”

Now, at age 40, Persaud has returned to central Florida to write for the Orlando Sentinel, after writing for other periodicals such as The News and Observer in Raleigh and the Chapel Hill Herald, as well as the St. Petersburg Times. It was during her time at the St. Petersburg Times that Persaud wrote her three-part story “A Husband for Vibha” which earned her numerous awards including the ASNE (American Society of Newspaper Editors) Award for Distinguished Writing on Diversity in

2005.

Born in Guyana, and of Indian descent, Persaud had originally wanted to avoid just writing stories about “her” people. However, she eventually realized that experiences from her own life could inspire topics for her stories. One such event was when she began dating a non-Indian man who is now her husband, and her father refused to speak for her for a year. It was because of this experience that she became interested in the idea of modern day arranged marriages, which led her to write “A Husband for Vibha.” In writing the story, she followed an Indian family in their three-year pursuit to find a husband for their willing, college age daughter. It was through the writing of this story that Persaud learned a valuable lesson which she shares with aspiring writers: “Come from your own personal life.”

Now Persaud has found her “beat” (writers’ slang for an area of interest for a journalist) and is part of the Diversity Team at the Orlando Sentinel. “I think of my beat as trying to put faces and voices [into the paper] that don’t normally get in the paper, and I use a lot of my own heritage

for that,” she added. “It’s not just stories we are telling – that’s just a vehicle. These are people’s lives.”

As for the future, Persaud plans to expand the field of diversity writing. “I kind of want to write a story that is about a minority group that doesn’t have anything to do with what you would think the stereotype is,” she said. “Kind of take diversity writing to another level.”

To her fellow Rollins students who may feel as she did when her time at Rollins was coming to an end and her future seemed unclear, she offers this advice: “Just kind of allow things to fall into place and be conscious of what you like to do. I would think it would be the worst thing to go to a job every day that you absolutely hated, but there are people like that and I wouldn’t want to be one of them.”

Stephanie Allison is a member of Dr. Singerman’s Journalism class.

Club Spotlight

FORKS Fellowship of Rollins Karaoke Singers

A casual organization for students looking to meet new people and have fun singing.

FORKS is an organization free from all burden meant for students to join in order to relieve their stress from a hard days work.

WHAT'S TO COME

“I am trying to come up with an even bigger even than Iron Karaoke, so watch out.”
Oral Frier.

More Music Heading Your Way!

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS ON CAMPUS

MONDAY, MARCH 5

3:30 PM - 7:00 PM - Cornell
Café Patio
Relay for Life Bake Sale

5:00 PM - 6:00 PM - Bush
Auditorium
Commuter Rail Forum

7:00 PM - 9:00 PM - Galloway
Room
Priam’s Gold: The Straightforward Story of a Controversial Treasure

TUESDAY, MARCH 6

12:00 PM - 2:00 PM - Bieberbach Reed
Scholarship and Internship
Information Session

12:30 PM - 1:45 PM - Faculty
Club
Sexual Misconduct Task Force

6:00 PM - 7:00 PM - Cornell
Fine Arts Museum
The Circus and the Clown in French Modernism

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 7

2:00 PM - 7:30 PM - Mills
Lawn
Purim Carnival

5:30 PM - 10:00 PM - Warden
Arena
Lip Sync 2007

THURSDAY, MARCH 8

7:00 PM - 9:00 PM - Tiedtke
Hall
Morse Museum Public Lecture

Holt News

4

EDITOR: TANISHA MATHIS
EDITOR@THESANDSPUR.ORG

The More Education the More...What Was That Again?

Tanisha Mathis
the sandspur

College is the means to a better future. That is easy, a no-brainer if you will. But does higher education cost you more than money and time? A recent study published in the Research on Aging journal, and reported by MSNBC, says college students pay even more, in the form of memory.

Between 1993 and 2000 participants, all over the age of 70 years, were tested up to four times on their ability to recall 10 common words called out to them. The results? Over the years those with more education were found to have a steeper decline in their ability to recall the words.

What does that mean? Well, it seems somewhat damning of education; the perfect excuse for why one should not go to college. Who can be sure. Many studies can be explained arbitrarily.

Participants with more education tend to have a higher starting point in their word memory,

indicated study director Eileen Crimmins of the University of Southern California, so they may start out remembering more words than their less educated counterparts.

Speaking to LiveScience, a Web site with original content for

you have to lose. The more educated participants lost their word-recall ability at a faster at a proportionately faster rate. Both groups completed the study with almost the same capabilities.

Well, why does this seem to be the case? The more educated may have been unable to perform the memory tricks they once depended on. As far as the less educated participants, they may have started their cognitive decline earlier. The study did not follow the participants over their lifespan.

The relationship between higher education and memory loss opposes the purported relationship between higher education and the development dementia. "Even though we find in this research that those with higher education do better on mental-status tests that look for dementia-like symptoms, education does not protect better against more normal, age-related declines, like those seen on memory tests," said Dawn Alley of the University of Pennsylvania, a co-author of the study.

cused on science and technology, Crimmins stated, "The more education you have, the more words you'll know to begin with."

The more you have the more



Courtesy of MCT Campus

THE COST OF EDUCATION: A seven-year study concluded those with more education have a steeper decline in memory.

NINE WAYS TO IMPROVE YOUR MEMORY

1. Be flexible. Experiment with many learning procedures. Be willing to abandon outmoded and faulty learning procedures so you will be free to acquire new and more efficient methods.
2. Overlearn. In order to retain anything learned, you must practice and reorganize it into your current ongoing activity. One way to do this is to incorporate the learned material as part of your present habit system. Use it in speaking and writing. Act out the material as a rehearsal of a part in a play—a process known as role-playing. This is especially helpful in learning a foreign language.
3. Schedule. Schedule your study time so that the time at which something is learned or relearned is close to the time at which it will be used.
4. Rephrase and explain. Try a little role-playing. Take the point of view of the teacher, for a change. Rephrase and explain the material, in your own words, to a classmate. Allow your classmate to criticize your presentation. Then let the classmate be the teacher, while you criticize. If you can't explain something, you don't really know it.
5. Eliminate accidental and unrelated associations. A study situation in which a phone is constantly jangling produces breaks in the mental association process. Remove the receiver. The only suggestion that can be made for the elimination of television during the study period is to donate the set to a family that is not involved in higher education.
6. Eliminate previous mistakes. Take note of all previous mistakes and make every effort to eliminate them from future practice. It has been shown experimentally that consciously reviewing mistakes, making note of exactly why they were incorrect, helps to reinforce the correct response. This process is sometimes referred to as negative practice.
7. Decide on an order of importance. Some things are more important than others. In a particular study unit, decide what these are and organize the important material into an outline or framework. "Overlearn" this particular framework.
8. Become emotionally involved. Assume the attitude that you fully believe the viewpoint of the author. Strive for perfection. You may never achieve it, but you will most certainly improve your performance. Learn to discuss your current beliefs calmly with people holding different attitudes. Cite authorities to back up your position.
9. Use mechanical memory aids. When material is complicated, it may be necessary to use mechanical memory aids. For example, suppose you had reason to believe that a certain table showing all of the endocrine glands of the body with their secretions and functions would be called for in an examination. In order to be sure that you would be able to recall all of the glands, you memorized the first letter or syllable of each gland, and organized them into three very strange words: Anpothy Paramed Adcorpan, the novelty of which aided recall. This could be deciphered as follows: An=anterior pituitary, po=posterior pituitary, thy=thyroid, par=parathyroid, amed=adrenal medulla, adcor=adrenal cortex, pan=pancreas, etc.

Dartmouth College

the CAREER COACH
Marian Cacciatore

FROM STUDENT TO PROFESSIONAL

This week, I would like to focus on one of our recent Master's in Human Resources (MHR) grads, Tom Trasente. Tom has been working with Career Services over the last two years and has recently completed a successful career transition. I wanted to share how, over the last several years he has consistently demonstrated the elements necessary to succeed.

When Tom began in the MHR program, he had an eclectic background in accounting, customer service and teaching English abroad. However, he decided to go to grad school knowing that HR Compensation and Benefits was the direction that he wanted to pursue.

Recently, after completing several internships and an extensive job search, Tom was selected as a Senior Compensation Analyst. Below, I have highlighted some of his thoughts about his career transition.

What was the toughest part of your career transition?

"Everything moved so slowly. It took three years from the time when I began to look at schools to my full time job in Compensation. During this period, I applied for and was accepted to Rollins, relocated, began classes, temped, obtained a full time 'survival' job so I could live, completed two internships and then finally found my career position.

It was a long process, and it required patience and hard work. I can't even begin to tell you how many interviews I attended, resumes I mailed, and jobs I applied to online. Several hundred, easily."

What two or three things would you recommend to other Holt students who are considering transitioning to a new career?

Utilize Career Services, they are a great help. Marian worked a lot with me on resume devel-

opment and mock interviewing. Also, I encourage you to seek advice from professionals who are currently in the field. It may take awhile to find a mentor, but once you do, their help is tremendous.

One of my mentors was a classmate here at Holt, another was a professor, and a third was a consultant I met through my internship. They can provide specific understanding and guidance in your field. I would also suggest that you join a professional association.

I decided to join a more specialized, and hence smaller and more intimate group. This meant that when I kept going to the meetings, people remembered me. I also used the group's membership list to send out my resume and introductory letter. This is how I uncovered my internship and contractor positions, neither of which were advertised anywhere.

What was the most important "lesson learned" from this experience?

Networking is key. Take the time to talk to people, ask for their advice and follow-up with them.

How did you stay motivated?

"I wanted what I wanted and no one was going to stop me. A career transition begins with a tough mental attitude and a strong work ethic. It may take time but if you want it bad enough and work hard enough it will happen! Because looking for a job can be a heart-wrenching experience you need to stick with it, and tough it out. Prepare yourself mentally for the fact that it will be tough."

Do you have a question regarding your job search? Email Marian at mcacciatore@rollins.edu. Hamilton Holt students are also encouraged to take advantage of Career Services by contacting Marian via phone 407.646.2232 or the email address listed above.

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>

Write for the Holt News Section and gain and wealth of experience that will last beyond Rollins College. See your own byline. Earn a few extra dollars. For more information about writing for the Holt News Section contact editor@thesanspur.org

Holt to Increase Tuition By 26%

Tanisha Mathis
the sandspur

On October 26, 2006 the Rollins College Board of Trustees was presented with the Proposed Operating and Capital Budget Assumption Report. The report is for the fiscal year June 1, 2007 through May 31, 2008.

Among other issues, the report detailed the next tuition increase for the Hamilton Holt School. Usually Holt students expect an approximate \$100 increase per course.

The upcoming year the expected total may change significantly. The budget states "increases in Hamilton Holt tuition rates will be raised by 26% for the undergraduate and between 19% and 26% for graduate programs."

The graduate tuition rates differ depending on the respective program. Human Resources will see the smallest increase at 19.4% and is followed by Counseling at 20.2%, Education at 22.1% and Liberal Studies with a 26% tuition increase.

Throughout the semester there will be more articles detailing the process and considerations that went into the tuition increase decision as well as how it will benefit the Holt community as a whole.

Undergraduate Tuition Market Comparison:

College	Fall of:	2003	2004	2005	2006
UCF (non-Florida residents)		462	516	542	567
DeVry		370	440	460	485
Nat'l Louis		360	360	375	393
Barry		320	340	360	390
Nova		305	325	325	350
Phoenix		295	308	325	342
Webster		290	300	310	325
FLA Metro		235	250	270	285
Ana G. Mendez Metro Orlando Univ Ctr (Bilingual)		275	275	275	275
Valencia (non-Florida resident)		216	227	248	262
Rollins		178	200	221	245
Troy St.		125	135	150	180
UCF (Florida resident)		94	99	105	116
Valencia (Florida resident)		58	60	66	70

Holt Undergraduate Tuition Per Credit Hour

Fiscal Year	Rate	Increase (%)
2007-2008	309	26.1%
2006-2007	245	10.9%
2005-2006	221	10.8%
2004-2005	200	12.1%
2003-2004	178	5.3%

*Holt classes are 4 credit hours

Could the tuition rates cause a detour for students seeking to earn their degree?

Is the Hamilton Holt School underpriced compared to other institutions in the area?

Will the tuition increase benefit the Holt students in the long run?

*All figures are from the Rollins College Proposed Operating & Capital Budget Assumptions Report

CALENDAR

Relay For Life Bake Sale
March 5
3:30pm -7:00pm
Cornell Campus Center.

Barden Award Voting Begins
March 5
Vote Online. Go to www.rollins.edu/holt for more information.

Marriott Vacation Club International Resume Deadline
March 7
For more information go to www.rollins.edu/careerservices

Spring Break
March 12 thru March 18
No classes

CBS Sports 2007 Summer Internship Program Application Deadline
March 15
Visit www.rollins.edu/careerservices for more information

Winter Park Sidewalk Arts Festival
March 17-March 18
This is the Hamilton Holt Scholarship Fundraiser

Withdrawal w/o Penalty
March 23
Withdrawals must be submitted in writing at the Holt Office.

Women Outnumber Men at College Campuses

Jodi S. Cohen
mct campus

Women are increasingly outnumbering men at America's colleges, a gap that is widest — and most troublesome — among low-income and minority students, researchers said in a report released Tuesday.

The share of males age 24 and younger dropped to 45 percent in 2003-04 from 48 percent in 1995-96. The gap is even wider for students older than 25, and among African-Americans and Latinos, particularly those from low-income families.

"Yes, this is a matter of concern, but let's put it in context," said Jacqueline King, the author of the study by the American Council on Education, a group that represents more than 1,600 colleges and universities. "Gaps by gender are still much smaller than gaps in higher education participation by race and by income."

The picture is similar in Illinois, where last fall, 57 percent of college students — from those in community colleges to professional schools — were women. The gaps are widest at community colleges and private universities, where an average 58 percent are women.

"When there is this overwhelming imbalance, that to me means that maybe the women seem to be a little more ambitious," said Steve Adams, vice

president of student affairs at Illinois State University, where 59 percent of all students were women in fall 2005.

Illinois State, known for its

registered last fall, 57 percent were women. For African-Americans, 71 percent were female. Hispanic women also made up a greater share of that low-income group's

69 percent of graduate students are women, according to state data. Loyola has no engineering school, but has strong programs in nursing and education. "We

would always like to have more gender balance. It is simply good for the learning environment, but we don't have any proactive strategies to try to bring in more males," said Vice Provost John Pelissero.

At Morton College in Cicero, 60 percent of the students are women. Its president, Brent Knight, said he plans to add automotive and

construction classes to attract more men.

Researchers cautioned that the study does not suggest that fewer men are going to college or getting college degrees. The number of men entering and graduating from college continues to rise, although the number of women is rising more rapidly. Women began earning the majority of bachelor's degrees in 1985 — 58 percent

in 2003-04 — buoyed by a rise in the degrees earned by minority women. Hispanic men have made the least progress.

"This is not a situation of lower levels of achievement for men compared to some time in the past. Both groups are doing better, but women are succeeding at even higher rates," King said.

She added that men are not getting short-changed by the gains made by women. "Every time there is an additional woman in college, it doesn't mean there is one less space for a man," she said.

Among upper-income students, men and women attend college at nearly equal rates. But men are less likely to complete their bachelor's degrees within five years. King attributed the gaps among low-income students in part to salary differences between men and women who don't have college degrees. The median income of women ages 25 to 34 with only a high school diploma was \$24,166 in 2004, compared with a median income of \$30,366 for men in a similar situation, according to the U.S. Census Bureau.

"The economy is such that women figure out quickly that they aren't going to make it," King said. "We definitely need more research to understand why this is occurring."



Courtesy of MCT Campus

GENDER GAP: The number of men attending and graduating from college continues to rise. The number of women is rising more rapidly.

teacher preparation programs, has historically attracted more women. "Men and minority students are the two areas that we put extra recruiting efforts into," Adams said.

At Northwestern University, where about 53 percent of undergraduates are women, the gender gap is more pronounced among low-income and minority students. Of low-income students

enrollment, at 60 percent.

"If it's that imbalanced, it definitely warrants scrutiny," said Mike Mills, Northwestern's associate provost for university enrollment. The proportion of women would be even higher, he said, if it weren't for the School of Engineering, which overwhelmingly attracts men.

At Loyola University, about 65 percent of undergraduates and

Arts & Entertainment

6

EDITOR: JESSICA ESTES

AE@THESANDSPUR.ORG

'Idol' time

Look back at the people and music that have made 'American Idol' one of TV's guilty pleasures

By RICKY SHER
McClatchy/Dallas

"As TV," "American Idol" is cruditely entertaining, as music, it's almost inconsequential. That was Entertainment Weekly TV critic Ken Tucker's assessment when Fox first introduced viewers to its primetime talent show in the summer of 2002.

The show is in its sixth iteration this year, and the first part of Tucker's critique hasn't changed — for millions of Americans, "Idol" is still mini-see TV. They tune in once, twice, even three times a week to see regular joes sing everything from "Mandy" to "We Are the Champions" in sometimes spectacular, sometimes humiliating fashion. Even after all these years, the show is consistently top-rated, and its water-cooler status remains almost unwavering.

Tucker's other observation hasn't proven quite as true. "Idol" has hatched several bona fide stars whose contributions to the music industry have been more than a bit consequential. The first "Idol" winner, Kelly Clarkson, has won two Grammys and a slew of other awards. Season 4 winner Carrie Underwood has garnered praise in the form of awards and nominations as well. And several "Idol" alumni have seen their albums and singles rocket to the tops of the charts. Of course, many, many other contestants have been nothing more than blips on the musical landscape, mere dust motes, to use Tucker's term.

At least for the foreseeable future, "Idol" is still a force in American pop culture. So why not look back at both the stunning and silly moments of America's favorite talent show? Here, we present trivia in its purest form — trivia that might stump even the most loyal fans. How closely did you really pay attention during the show's early seasons? Quiz yourself on these head-scratching details, and find out.

Former "American Idol" winners, clockwise from top, Kelly Clarkson, Carrie Underwood, Ruben Studdard, Fantasia and Taylor Hicks.

SIMON SAYS



Simon Cowell

He's known for his harsh critiques of contestants, but many fans agree, most of the time, Judge Simon Cowell is right on the money. Match his assessments with the contestant who was forced to withstand it.

1. "I think everybody's thinking the same thing. So what?"
2. "If you win this competition, we sell three failed."
3. "I actually don't know what to say. I couldn't remember you from the previous round."
4. "Karaoke with a capital K."
5. "The song was terrible, but I understand why people voted for her."
6. "I didn't think you should be here. However, based on that performance, you were fantastic."

- A. Kelly Clarkson
B. Jim Verraros
C. Ryan Star
D. Jamarille Trias
E. RJ Helton
F. Taylor Hicks

ANSWERS: 1. D; 2. B; 3. A; 4. F; 5. C; 6. E

PHOTO ILLUSTRATION BY ERIC SCHWARTZ

SINGULAR SENSATIONS

Even the "Idol" contestants who get booted long before the show's finale often land a recording contract. Some — like winners Kelly Clarkson and Carrie Underwood — become sensations. Others, not so much.

Can you match each former contestant with the name of the single he or she recorded?

1. Justin Guarini
2. Carrie Underwood
3. Josh Gracin
4. Kelly Clarkson
5. Kimberley Locke
6. RJ Helton
7. Fantasia
8. Ruben Studdard
9. William Hung
10. Jon Peter Lewis

- A. "Sorry 2004"
B. "Stay With Me (Brain Red)"
C. "My Devotion"
D. "Be a Heartbreaker"
E. "She Bumps"
F. "Hit World Wonder"
G. "Jesus, Take the Wheel"
H. "Baby Mama"
I. "Gypsy Queen"
J. "Because of You"

ANSWERS: 1. D; 2. G; 3. H; 4. E; 5. F; 6. C; 7. H; 8. A; 9. I; 10. J



Kimberley Locke

THE IDOLS' IDOLS

Every season, "American Idol" asks its contestants to name their favorite pop artists. Their answers — posted for all the world to mock on the "Idol" Web site, www.americanidol.com — sometimes offer a glimpse at the inspiration for their performances.

Can you match these "Idol" performers with their favorite artist?

1. Ashlee Robinson
2. Scott Savol
3. Bo Hoo
4. Kevin Covatta
5. Bucky Covington
6. Ricky Smith
7. John Stevens
8. Carmen Rasmusen
9. Janet Jackson
10. Sheryl Crow
11. Eminem
12. Stevie Wonder
13. John Mayer
14. Justin Timberlake
15. Kelly Clarkson
16. Usher

ANSWERS: 1. D; 2. H; 3. B; 4. G; 5. C; 6. A; 7. E; 8. F

'IDOL' TRUTHS

OK, "Idol" fans, see if you can keep your seasons straight. Decide if each of these statements is true or false.

1. Fantasia got high marks for her rendition of "Summer Lovin'" from "Grease."
2. Josh Gracin was in active military service when he was an "Idol" contestant.
3. Mark McGrath, Olivia Newton-John and John Mayer have all been guest judges on "Idol."
4. Judge Simon Cowell penned a book called "I Don't Mean to Be Rude, But..."
5. During an early audition round, Kimberley Locke and Frenchie Davis sang "Chain of Fools" as a duet.
6. After appearing on "Idol," guest judge Barry Manilow alleged racism on the show.
7. Season 4 winner Carrie Underwood graduated from college after her "Idol" run.
8. Britney Spears has performed on "American Idol."

ANSWERS:

1. False. The eventual winner wowed the judges and audience with "Summertime" from "Porgy & Bess."
2. True.
3. False. Mayer has not appeared on the show.
4. True.
5. False. They sang "Band of Gold."
6. False. It was Elton John, who called Jennifer Hudson's outing racist.
7. True. She graduated from Northeastern State University in Oklahoma in May 2006.
8. False.



Josh Gracin

AFTER 'IDOL'

For better or worse, many "Idol" contestants fade back into anonymity after the finale (occasional guest appearances at local malls notwithstanding). But some manage to catapult their "Idol" experience into another 15 minutes of fame. See if you can match these former contestants — and one host — with their post-"Idol" experiences.

1. Kimberly Caldwell
2. Clay Aiken
3. Constantine Maroulis
4. Jennifer Pines
5. Kimberley Locke
6. Jennifer Hudson
7. Tanyara Gray
8. Diana DeGarmo
9. Ryan Seacrest
10. Frenchie Davis



Diana DeGarmo

- A. Supporting role in Broadway's "The Wedding Singer"
B. Entree in VH1's "Celebrity Fit Club"
C. Recurring role on Fox's "Boston Public"
D. Role in Broadway's "Rent"
E. "Dreamgirls" star
F. "TV Guide" correspondent
G. Supporting role in Broadway's "Hairspray"
H. Guest star on NBC's "Scrubs"
I. Singing mistress of ceremonies for Ringling Bros.
J. Co-host of "Dick Clark's New Year's Rockin' Eve"

ANSWERS: 1. F; 2. H; 3. A; 4. I; 5. B; 6. E; 7. C; 8. G; 9. J; 10. D

SOURCES: WWW.AMERICANIDOL.COM; EW.COM

The Ansa Man: Seeking truth is no trivial pursuit

Charles Storch
met campus

Why would a British man travel to Chicago, sit in an office swivel chair in front of the Millennium Park "Bean" on a cold and dreary winter day, and utter some arcane factoid about the women of ancient Greece?

"Easy-peasy," James Black might reply. Black is the host of "AnsaThat," an Internet video show that debuted Jan. 1 in which viewers "ask the questions and we find the answers." From the library in his home in Shropshire, England, or on his travels abroad, this trivia pursuer aims to run the truth, or its nearest relation, to ground.

It was Black himself in that Bean-side swivel chair, bought at a nearby Staples. During a cross-country tour of the United States with his cameraman/brother-in-law Bernard Hutton, Black stopped in Chicago to film one of the occasional "chair" segments for "AnsaThat."

Those who have discovered the videocast—seen weekdays on AnsaThat.com or on the video-

sharing site Dailymotion.com, where each of its episodes log about 90,000 to 100,000 views—may have witnessed Black and chair at such locales as the Eiffel Tower or London's Trafalgar Square. He spouts a single bit of trivia—as he did here: "Women in ancient Greece dated their ages from when they were married, not from when they were born." The line is delivered with a goofy earnestness that is the show's tone.

"We wanted people to see that we were in places with great landmarks. Why not be there in a chair?" he said as though that made all the sense in the world.

But making sense to people doesn't always concern this 43-year-old Manchester native. He gave up a cushy job working for London's Daily Mail for this Web venture, whose costs, though not yet extravagant, he is picking up himself.

"I don't care who mocks us," he said. "It must seem bizarre to some people."

Black had worked for the Daily Mail since the early 1990s under an increasingly lucrative freelance contract to compile its popular daily column "Answers to the

Correspondents." For "Answers," which is not unlike the "Straight Dope" column that has been running in the Chicago Reader since 1973, Black had to solicit experts and pore through reference material to reply to unexpected, even loopy, queries from readers.

Though his current contract runs through this spring, Black stopped contributing to the column last June. He turned it over to his assistant, Charles Legge—an arrangement sanctioned by the paper.

"James left the Mail last year in a dispute over intellectual property," wrote Legge in an e-mail. He added, "He has always had big ideas, and he felt working with the Daily Mail for so long stultifying."

Black's immediate editor, Andy Simpson, declined to comment.

Black acknowledged being frustrated that the paper wouldn't support some of his ideas for new print or Web-based features. But he said his principal reason for leaving was the re-examination he made of his life some two years ago after his wife, Julia, was diagnosed with breast cancer.

"If you get to a point where you think the life you have with your wife and (four) children might disappear, you reassess," Black said.

His wife survived the treatment and has become a breast-cancer activist in Shropshire, a West Midlands county near the border with Wales. Black said he then felt secure, emotionally and financially, to pursue plans he had been hatching for a Web show.

With the help of Hutton and other friends, all unpaid, Black began filming trips across the United Kingdom, Ireland, the European continent and the United States video that ultimately would be used for "AnsaThat."

The vidcast show's episodes are brief, from four to seven minutes long. Each opens with Black, in shirtsleeves, behind a desk in his book-lined library. He reads a question submitted by a viewer for example, "Why are there no gravestones at the site of the Battle of Waterloo?"

Then comes a cut to him on location, say, at Waterloo, Belgium, explaining that tens of thousands of fallen soldiers were left behind on the battlefield when victors

pursued the vanquished. Roaming looters picked the corpses clean, taking everything from trinkets to teeth (dentures featuring human teeth—were costly and prized.) Eventually bones from the battlefield were plowed up, crushed and sold as fertilizer. "That was scary," says Black, back in his home.

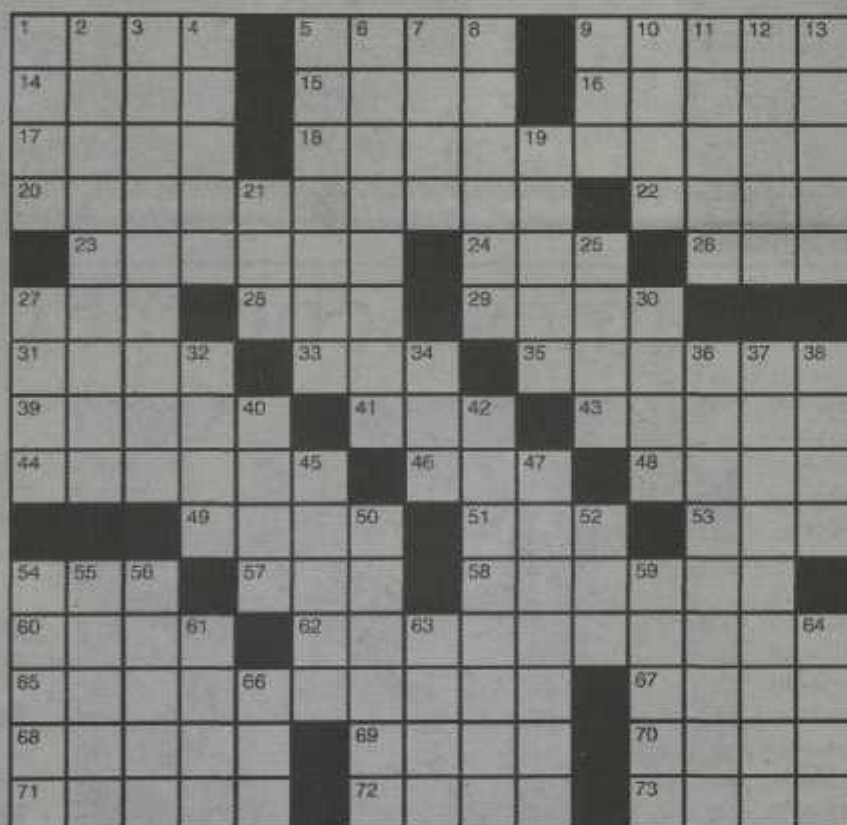
Viewers are invited to send him questions "with the magic of e-mail." Or, the Web site states, "If you would like to pose your question through the medium of video or modern dance you can send us a home movie of you asking the question. It could be included in the show."

Trivia is a principal currency of the Internet, which abounds in places to seek obscure information or make off-the-wall inquiries. But Black is hopeful the quirky "AnsaThat" can rise above the clutter.

"Anyone can do trivia," he said. "Sometimes trivia is more interesting than the image of (the know-it-all bore) Cliff Clavin from 'Cheers.' I think it's time to change that image."

Crossword

- ACROSS
- 1 Bronco prodder
 - 5 Wound reminder
 - 9 Put to shame
 - 14 Johnnycake
 - 15 Plus
 - 16 "Fame" singer
 - 17 Curving courses
 - 18 Certain military officer
 - 20 Ecdysiast's act
 - 22 Jacob's twin
 - 23 Assign to a feedlot
 - 24 Fraction of a joule
 - 26 Part of a pelvis
 - 27 Tyke
 - 28 Knack
 - 29 Stalemate
 - 31 Landed
 - 33 Houston or Rayburn
 - 35 Faces the day
 - 39 Drama dialogue
 - 41 Cut back
 - 43 Haircare tool
 - 44 French brandy
 - 46 AEC's replacement
 - 48 Mrs. Peel of "The Avengers"
 - 49 Tap problem
 - 51 The Greatest
 - 53 Ryan or Foster
 - 54 Actress Novak
 - 57 JFK notice
 - 58 Nextel Cup org.
 - 60 Operatic song
 - 62 Ran like blood
 - 65 Antagonistic reactions
 - 67 Incite anger
 - 68 Tear open
 - 69 Trifling
 - 70 Ore deposit
 - 71 Serengeti cats
 - 72 Give guff to
 - 73 Ginger cookie



© 2007 Tribune Media Services, Inc.
All rights reserved.

3/1/07

- DOWN
- 1 Health resorts
 - 2 Paper tote
 - 3 Doing a mailroom job
 - 4 Go back to committee
 - 5 Preservers of a sort
 - 6 Of customers
 - 7 On the Aegean
 - 8 Stirred up
 - 9 Homer's dad
 - 10 Marrow container
 - 11 Flooded
 - 12 Biblical mount
 - 13 Overly excited
 - 19 firma
 - 21 After-sch. grp.
 - 25 Characteristic clothes
 - 27 Body powder
 - 30 Finish line
 - 32 Watch over
 - 34 Calendar abbr.
 - 36 Concluding remarks
 - 37 Alice Ghostley on "Bewitched"
 - 38 Uneven hairdo
 - 40 Poet Teasdale
 - 42 Springing horses
 - 45 Approximately

Solutions

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

- 47 Contract provisions
- 50 Spectrum makers
- 52 Small pc. of land
- 54 Capital of Afghanistan
- 55 Shiraz resident
- 56 Computer classification
- 59 Reiner and Jung
- 61 Related (to)
- 63 Ostrichlike bird
- 64 Profound
- 66 CDs' ancestors

Word on the Street

By: Ariel Krieger

Ever wonder what the favorite flavor is on the Rollins College campus? Have you ever been told that your favorite flavor can reveal a lot about your personality? Everyone likes ice cream (well I hope!). According to www.conefactory.com and www.angelfire.com there are general traits which correlate with being a chocolate, strawberry, or vanilla child.

So I walked around and asked students are you chocolate, Vanilla or Strawberry? As I ventured around campus, it seemed to be a toss up between Chocolate and Strawberry... Some people are very passionate about their responses, they might say well "obviously chocolate," or "are you kidding me! Strawberry is the best." Which flavor would win this battle?

Well here are the results...
17 people said Strawberry
24 people said Chocolate
9 people said Vanilla

It appears that hands down the winning flavor of the campus is... Chocolate!

WHAT FLAVOR ARE YOU?!

THE KEY:

Vanilla: According to various personality and compatibility tests they claim that if you love vanilla, then you tend to be a major risk taker. You are very social and love to have fun. You also are usually an overachiever, setting tremendous goals for yourself. You are very driven and tend to succeed. Also, when it comes to relationships you tend to like steadier and romantic relationships. You are compatible the most with other Vanillas or Rocky Roads. Who ever told you that vanillas were plain? They are apparently wrong!

Chocolate: If you love chocolate, then you tend to be lively, want to be the life of the party, you are charming and tend to be really enthusiastic. When it comes to relationships, you definitely want to be the spotlight; you are needier with attention and want a little more spontaneity. It is important for you to be social and friendly and prefer this to a more introspective look on life. You are the most compatible with butter pecan and chocolate chip.

Strawberry: If you are a strawberry child, then you are the dreamer! You tend to be more logical. You are not usually rash in your decisions. You tend to be a little more shy and introverted, but you think things through in a methodical manner. You tend to have wonderful ideas and are quite opinionated. The most compatible ice cream flavors are mint chocolate chip, and chocolate chip.

Blue Man Group Joins Orlando Theme Park

Rochelle Siegel
the sandspur

The Blue Man Group is known for their popular shows which combine music, comedy and multimedia. Their shows are completely unique and entertaining. The Blue Man Group is currently touring the United States on their How to be a Megastar Tour 2.0.

Their tour stopped in Orlando to entertain audiences at the TD Waterhouse. Even though they are touring more than 105 cities in the United States, Orlando will soon be home to the Blue Man Group. The Blue Man Group recently announced that in June 2007 they will be opening their brand new theatrical production at Universal Orlando Re-

sort. The Blue Man Group will permanently occupy a newly created live performance venue. The venue will be accessible from both Universal CityWalk and Universal Studios.

Theme park guests and Florida residents will be able to enjoy the live entertainment show performed by The Blue Man Group. More than 10 million people worldwide have experienced the unique show, either in Las Vegas or in other various cities around the United States.

The Universal show will include some of the elements of the existing shows, but will also feature a more creative side. Audiences will also be able to hear to story behind the Blue Man Group. The building in which the Blue Man Group will be performing was once the Nickelodeon Studios. The

building is being re-designed as a 1,000-seat theater which will also have its own box office.

The recent show in Orlando opened with Mike Relm, who joined the Blue Man Group for the tour. He is a DJ, turntablist and video scratcher. He involved audiences by playing popular songs and movie clips.

Once the Blue Man Group came out onto the stage they began with their unique musical arrangements. Playing pipes with spoons, swinging a stick back and forth to make a swish noise and drumming on drums with paint were some of the ways they made their music.

The show was structured around teaching the Blue Men how to be rock stars. Between each act they would play an instructional video displaying information on how to be a rock star.

The Group involved the audience throughout their act. Several audience members were brought up onto the stage by the Blue Man Group themselves to participate in the act.

Besides the lively and entertaining show, the Blue Man Group



has also ventured into the toy business, film, TV scoring, commercial campaigns, television programs such as Scrubs and Arrested Development and a children's museum exhibit, which is currently touring the country.



ROCHELLE SIEGEL / The Sandspur

Marie Antoinette's Costumes Score at Oscars!

Nikki Fiedler
the sandspur

Sofia Coppola unfolds her version of Marie Antoinette in a modern and delectable manner that delights the senses and at the same time displays the high court's decadence which leads ultimately to its own destruction. This classically timeless story of a young Austrian teenager, Marie Antoinette, who is married to Louis XVI as an attempt to dispel Austrian and French quarrels, expands upon the life of a young king and queen thrown into the whirlwind of catalytic and fatal decisions during the revolutionary period in France.

Marie Antoinette is played profoundly by Kirsten Dunst. Dunst's Germanic physical attributes promote a very believ-

able physique for the well-known Marie Antoinette. Dunst offers her character a child-like sense of playfulness and a young woman's naïve diligence to her family and her newfound responsibilities – that of producing a male heir to the throne of France and consummating a marriage founded on the ideal of diplomatic peace between allies. Jason Schwartzman is the aloof yet well-meaning King Louis XVI. Molly Shannon also makes an appearance as a gossiping lady in waiting for the Queen.

The film is lush with exquisite costumes, elaborate dishes, fancy furniture, fashionable hair and high society culture that are reminiscent of the time period but teeming with a modernity that makes this historically based movie relatable to current viewers. Certainly the language is set in the present time period, even if the environment around such

speech is not. While some characters speak with accents, little French is used and the main characters, King Louis and Marie Antoinette employ dialect of the 21st century. The film is a reverse of the modern Leonardo DiCaprio and Claire Danes "Romeo and Juliet" – the latter kept the time period's language but chose a very modern setting while "Marie Antoinette" maintains the historical background yet includes modernity within the characters' speech patterns.

The choice of music in the film fluctuates from classic to modern much like the musical story told throughout "A Knight's Tale." This time piece incorporates upbeat musical selections more appropriately described in today's world than Marie Antoinette's. However, this decision serves to modernize the movie and infuse it with a fun feel.

The cinematography is expertly shot and provides for a smooth ride for the viewer. The camera angles and shots include the palace's decadence in a splendid and awe invoking way.



While Coppola does not go into great detail of the historical events that catapulted Louis XVI and his young bride to their ultimate fate, she utilizes brief film glimpses into the King's meetings with his advisors and the Queen's conversations with her waiting ladies to procure the ending destruction and ruin brought on by the French Revolution.

Although the film runs a little slow, think a hair faster than Coppola's previous "Lost in Translation," the film is visually engaging and creatively stimulating. The film has a very romantic, transcendentalist feeling and portrays the antics of Marie Antoinette in a varying style that is intriguing, memorable and offers her more credit and sympathy than history has previously provided.

Oscar gold

2007 Academy Award winners in major categories:

Best picture	"The Departed"
Best director	Martin Scorsese "The Departed"
Best actor	Forest Whitaker "The Last King of Scotland"
Best actress	Helen Mirren "The Queen"
Best supporting actor	Alan Arkin "Little Miss Sunshine"
Best supporting actress	Jennifer Hudson "Dreamgirls"
Best foreign language film	"The Lives of Others" Germany
Best animated feature film	"Happy Feet"

© 2007 MCT
Source: Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences
Graphic: Jutta Scheibe, Morten Lytne



Photos Courtesy of MCT Campus

Timberlake Concert: Justin Thrills Tampa Audience with Songs from New

Nikki Fiedler
the sandspur

The St. Pete Times Forum was a welcome sight to behold after a tumultuous journey attempting to get there. Despite a harrowing experience of a car breakdown, wrong directions from people that actually worked at the venue, getting lost numerous times, finding myself across the bridge in Clearwater instead of Tampa and being an hour late – therefore missing Pink's opening performance – the concert was a solid good time.

I found the arena, which was comprised of approximately 99 percent females, to be an inordinate place to have a concert. While the site accommodated those in attendance, its vastness engulfed much of the music. Although the sound system was loud, the acoustics were not well amplified by this setting. However, Justin Timberlake's vocals were impressively intact and his initial exuberance made up for the location's inadequacy. The stage set-up also provided maximum visual observance for the venue's circular seating.

Timberlake opened the show with "My Love" and

danced his way through many of the upbeat dance songs from his latest CD "Future Sex/Love Sounds" including "Chop Me Up," "Damn Girl," and "What Goes Around..." During slower songs, such as "Until the End of Time" and "Losing My Way", large transparent screens enclosed the center stage where

Timberlake played the piano or guitar. Projected on these large screens was a close up view of the singer for those sitting in the nose bleed seats.

Halfway through the show, Timberlake took a break and Timbaland performed a mix of popular songs, including many Nelly Furtado releases, while images of these songs' videos were projected on a screen. Despite the long intermission, the crowd's energy was high when Timberlake returned to the stage.

The second half of the show danced to quite a slower tune. Much of the energy apparent in

the first half had disappeared. Timberlake performed slower songs from his previous album "Justified," such as "Cry Me a River" and "Take it From Here." While the beat slowed down for a bit, Timberlake brought the crowd back to their feet with a varying rendition of "Sexyback."

Timberlake was accompanied by an array of back-up dancers who were scantily clad in "Sexy Ladies." While Timberlake's fancy foot work cast a spell on the audience, a few particular moves were definitely too mature for some of the ten year olds I saw in attendance. Timberlake and the dancers' performance were particularly good for the songs "Summer Love" and "Love-Stoned." Unfortunately my personal favorite song, the title track off of the newest album, "Future



vocal execution made for a memorable experience and successful concert performance. Timberlake's show included a variety of tracks from both of his albums, showcasing his talent in a variety of rhythms and melodies.

For improvement purposes, however, incorporating higher energy into the second half of the show could have created a more lasting impression for fans.

Justin Timberlake will be playing in other cities across the nation, so if you missed the one in Tampa, we highly recommend you check ticketmaster now for additional shows!

Photos Courtesy of MCT Campus

Year of the Pig

A pig by birth

Those born in a pig year are usually honest, straightforward, patient and tolerant; when others despair, they offer support; they are conservative people of habit; family-oriented; compatible with Rabbit or Sheep

Traditions

- Before New Year, houses are cleaned; it is believed that cleaning sweeps away bad luck and makes house ready for good luck to enter
- New Year's Eve supper is a family feast; popular food is "jiaozi" (dumplings boiled in water)
- Traditionally celebrations last 15 days, but today it may last only three
- Fireworks at midnight

Feb. 18, 2007, will begin the year of the pig, according to the ancient Asian 12-year cycle that describes each year's personality as an animal

Chinese papercuts and lucky red envelopes containing money given to children for New Year



No Mystery to Actor Jack Coleman's Success!

Ethan Sacks
the sandspur

Despite playing the leader of a shadowy government organization steeped in skullduggery on NBC's "Heroes," actor Jack Coleman swears he doesn't know much more about what his horned-rimmed glasses-wearing character is up to than the average fan.

"There are certain scenes, where you go, 'OK, I really don't know what I'm alluding to here'... But in general, I don't spend too much time worrying about what's coming on five episodes down the road," said Coleman, during a conference call for reporters.

"Speculation only gets so far and you're going to be wrong anyway, so you might as well go for the ride."

What Coleman does know is that 25 years after striking it rich as Steven Carrington, the openly gay son of an oil tycoon on "Dynasty," the actor has notched his second big television hit. Catching "lightning in a bottle" twice is how Coleman describes it – an ironic choice of words for the direct descendant of Benjamin Franklin. And he did so by embodying a character that threatens to become an iconic pop culture villain: equal parts merciless schemer and loving father.

He certainly looks the part of a man of mystery: To unearth the right glasses, Coleman said the show's prop department went

through "probably a hundred pairs."

Fans, though, won't have to wait much longer to get a look at the man behind the signature eyewear, said Coleman. In Monday's episode 17, entitled "Company Man," a series of flashbacks illuminates how Mr. Bennett, aka H.R.G. – named for his distinctive eyewear – got his start as an operative, came to adopt his indestructible daughter Claire (Hayden Panettiere) and what actions will come back to haunt his family in the present.

"He's been able to separate the personal and professional for a long time and that is about to end," hinted Coleman.

But Coleman's own role was also supposed to have ended by now – he didn't get a regular cast credit until episode 11, after his chemistry with his onscreen daughter caught the attention of the writers and producers.

"As an actor, Jack has tremendous range," said series creator Tim Kring by e-mail. "The part called for someone who could play both a delicious villain and a loving and caring father equally with pure, unprejudiced conviction."

It didn't hurt that Coleman has his own relationship with real-life daughter, 7-year-old Tess, to draw upon for inspiration.

"Generally, on television, parents tend to be a lot more patient and a lot more interested in every utterance their darling child makes than in real life," said Cole-

man, who turned 49 on Wednesday. "So there's a kind of idealization of my parenting skill."

"But you bring your own experience of parenting to it and I have a daughter that I dote on, so the whole thing with Claire makes sense to me."

Not that Mr. Bennett – as a running joke, writers have refused to reveal his character's first name – is likely to win Father of the Year anytime soon, especially after brainwashing his family in previous episodes.

Coleman can take heart that the actor who defined the archetypal government schemer for television, William B. Davis, who portrayed Cigarette-Smoking Man on "The X-Files," was kept in the dark even more than his counterpart on "Heroes."

From his production company office in Vancouver, B.C., Davis revealed that during his cryptic allusions to a far-reaching conspiracy that involved a secret alien invasion – the linchpin of the show's mythology – he had no idea what his character was talking about. (Judging by the last few seasons of the show, the writers didn't have much of an idea, either.)

"As you know, the X-Files had no bible, and it was very much developed as it went along," said Davis. "So as an actor, one kind of fills in the blanks. We invent whatever we need to make the scene work."

Life & Times

EDITOR: KARINA MC CABE
FEATURES@THESANDSPUR.ORG

International Learning and Leadership

Georgi Georgiev
the sandspur

The First Florida International Leadership Conference took place at Camp Ocala 4-H Center in Ocala, FL on February 9-11, 2007. The conference brought together 160 international and study abroad students from the United States and over 80 countries around the world, all of whom are pursuing their college education in the state of Florida. It was a great opportunity for students to learn from one another, to share educational experiences, and to promote international education.



GEORGI GEORGIEV / The Sandspur

INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS ORGANIZATION: Rollins students participated in a successful statewide conference in Ocala this month.

the International Student Organization I realized how important for my school and community is to have students involved on campus. Being involved gave me the opportunity to attend this event. There I met students who are doing awesome job in their schools. Many international student organizations in Florida are organizing fundraiser events and auctions to raise money for scholarships for qualified international students. I believe this kind of events would work really well for our school and they would even attract more international student to come to our school. Rollins is a small learning institution and it is very important students to be active. I want to encourage everyone to get more involved because the people you will meet and the experience you will get being involved is priceless.

"This project is unique in its ability to bring together international and U.S. students from public and private institutions throughout the state for a weekend of leadership activities and cross-culture encounters."

- Kristen Hagen
Chair of the Florida Association for International Educators

Student participants were chosen by the international student advisor or study abroad advisor at their home institution. In order the students to be able to apply, they should be involved in some sort of student organization

on campus and have at least one year left to complete their studies. Registration fee was \$45 and was paid by the office of international student services which coordinator is currently Jennifer Leon. The application fee covered all meals, lodging, sessions, entertainment, and registration materials.

The conference provided a unique opportunity for students to build leadership skills, share educational and cultural experiences and learn how to promote international education on their respective campuses.

"This project is unique in its ability to bring together international and U.S. students from public and private institutions throughout the state for a weekend of leadership activities and cross-culture encounters," said Kristen Hagen, Chair of the Florida Association for International

Educators.

The main goal of the conference was to improve the leadership abilities of international and U.S. study abroad students; facilitate a cross-cultural exchange of ideas and foster international relationships; challenge students to see themselves as global leaders; energize and enable students to take back what they learn and apply on their respective college campuses; and acknowledge student leaders who promote international understanding on campus.

Twenty-one schools throughout Florida were represented at the conference. Participating schools include: Barry University, Brevard Community College, Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University, Florida A&M University, Florida Atlantic University, Florida International Uni-

versity, Florida State University, Florida Technical University, Gulf Coast University, Hillsborough Community College, Jacksonville University, Miami-Dade College, Rollins College, Stetson University, University of Florida, University of Central Florida, University of North Florida, University of South Florida, University of West Florida, and Valencia Community College.

As a current vice-president of



GEORGI GEORGIEV / The Sandspur

YouTube And The Self-Made Celebs

April Bethea

mclatchy newspapers, mct

It used to be couples broke No, the electronically infamous breakup in UNC Chapel Hill's Pit was not real.

UNC senior Ryan Burke admitted Monday it was just a scripted experiment he thought up to show the power of Internet communities.

He and a roommate also wanted to get attention for a company they would like to start to promote musicians.

In fact, Burke, of Charlotte, never dated Mindy Moorman, the N.C. State University sophomore who grew up in Charlotte and who appears in the Valentine's Day video that has become a hit on video-sharing site You-

Tube. She's been dating someone else for two years.

During the past week, neither Burke nor Moorman would say for sure whether the breakup was real. What was not an illusion were the more than 747,000 hits on YouTube, plus coverage from local and national media.

But on Monday, both said it was all staged.

They were acting out characters, Burke said. In fact, Burke said, he and other friends have staged fake breakups in local bars before to get people's reactions.

The two told the Observer they were supposed to come clean during an interview on ABC's "Good Morning America" today but the segment was cancelled.

"The fact that actual news agencies are interested was a surprise," Burke said. "We did think it would get some media atten-

tion but not from those outlets (like newspapers)."

The whole thing began when Burke advertised the "breakup" on the online social network Facebook. More than 1,300 people said they planned to watch him dump Moorman, whom he said in interviews he'd dated for four months. On Facebook, he said Moorman had cheated on him.

Burke said he and his friends tried to contact Comedy Central's "The Daily Show" to see if the TV show would film the segment. The show's "fake news" is popular among college students. But he never

heard from producers, he said.

In the video, hundreds of people could be seen crowding around

Burke and Moorman in the Pit, a popular UNC gathering spot.

Burke said Monday that he thought a video of the event might end up on the Internet but had no idea it would generate such interest.

So far, he said, reaction demonstrates how popular Web communities such as Facebook have become.

Burke, 22, said he wanted to show that the media "don't always accurately gauge what teenage and college kids are interested in."

Moorman, who got involved about a month ago through Burke's roommate, described Burke as a "genius person."

She also said she didn't expect such a big reaction.

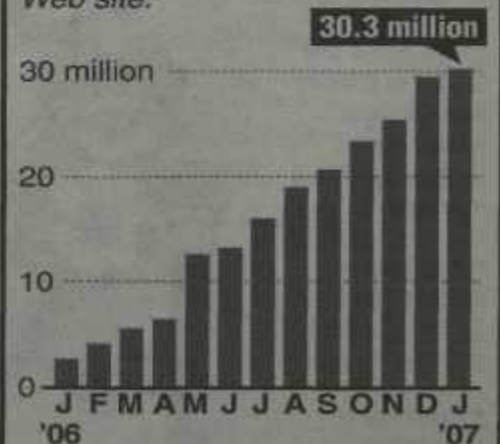
"No, never, never, ever," the 21-year-old said.

Neither regrets doing it, though Moorman said Monday that if she had to do it again, she wouldn't curse so much.

"I would do it again in a heartbeat," she said.

YouTube growth

Monthly visitors to the video Web site:



© 2007 MCT

Source: comScore Media Matrix

Revolutionizing the Curriculum

Kelly Castino
the sandspur

"This is a rare event. There have only been a few of these in the last seventy-five years. It is an exceptionally interesting opportunity with exceptionally interesting people. The purpose of the colloquy is to re-think the curriculum for the twenty-first century." Dr. Tom Lairson, Professor of Political Science and International Business at Rollins College. Starting on Monday, March 26, many world renowned speakers will be coming to Rollins to speak for the colloquy.

a cultured and refined citizen." The Classical Curriculum consisting of Greek and Latin literature and history including the memorization and recitation of each, of what it is commonly known as the Seven Liberal Arts lasted until the first colloquy in 1896. The first colloquy discussed updating the curriculum because the aforementioned course of study was outdated in a continually growing industrial and urban society with a growing job market. The past curriculum was not intended for a career driven society instead of a character building society.

The 1896 curriculum was called Elective and focused on building a career candidate. The course of study included four main areas: science, social science, literature and art divisions. The Elective Curriculum's purpose was to "allow students to order their own program of study to fit their tastes and to choose their professions."

The next colloquy took place in 1931 when the progressive ideas of philosopher John Dewey were introduced into American Society. John Dewey introduced the idea of developing problem solving skills and critical thinking and the concept as learning as doing as a substitute for memorizing and reciting. He also presented the idea of student's being responsible for their own education and that faculty should serve as the facilitators of a student's education. During the 1931 colloquy, Hamilton Holt was the President of Rollins was an advocate of Dewey's and in the mid 1920s introduced the Conference Plan.

"This is a rare event. There have only been a few of these in the last seventy-five years...The purpose of the colloquy is to rethink the curriculum for the twenty-first century."

- Dr. Tom Lairson
Professor of Political Science
and International Business

The key note speakers include Maya Angelou, Salman Rushdie, and Francis Fukuyama who will lecture on the general theme of the colloquy which is "of liberal education's responsibility to prepare student for socially conscious roles in a global society" in addition to topics developed by faculty teams. The other speakers consist of Duane Ackerman, Sally Ride, Anna Deavere Smith, Carol Christ, E.O. Wilson, Jaron Lanier and Steven Pinker. Each panelist will address both the general theme of the colloquy and the specific topics developed by the presenters' faculty teams.

This is not the first time Rollins College has hosted a colloquy, though, as there was a colloquy in 1896, 1931, 1997, 1983, and now it is returning again in 2007. Each colloquy has changed the manner in which students learn.

Students are advised to not take this opportunity for granted and go hear the speakers that appeal to your certain interests.

The first colloquy at Rollins College occurred in 1896 to address the Classical Curriculum. When Rollins College was founded in 1885, it encompassed a Classical Curriculum containing a typical nineteenth century course of study intended to "build character and produce



MAYA ANGELOU: Renowned poet, educator, and human rights activist, and the first key-note speaker scheduled to appear at the colloquy in March.

The Conference Plan was a workshop where for two hour classes, students and faculty would study and learn together. Dewey's opinions on education influenced the Rollins curriculum.

For the first time ever, Rollins College, introduced a progressive education, making it one of the first in the nation. The new

progressive education was headed by Dewey would led a conference of educators in 1932, called "Individualization in Education." The new program called students and faculty working together to move through the divisions at their own pace. In order to move up to the higher divisions and in turn graduate, students were required to submit evidence of achievement. Because of its groundbreaking educational curriculum, Rollins gained national recognition. The new curriculum focused on students concentrating on one topic of study in the Junior year and in the earlier years comprising of a general education in the Humanities, Social Sciences, and Arts and Sciences. There was also a J-term or a four week Winter Term Program where professors offered short experimental courses much like Winter Intersession but longer. According to Former President Rita Bornstein, "the 1997 Rollins Colloquy was titled "Toward a Pragmatic Liberal Education: The Curriculum of the Twenty-First Century." We modeled the colloquy on the 1931 Dewey Conference at Rollins, and were able to attract the nation's top educational leaders and scholars to make presentations and participate in a continuing conversation. The focus of the 1997 colloquy was on how to use the American philosopher John Dewey's ideas about Pragmatism to create a uniquely American curriculum. The curriculum reforms proposed focused on applying classroom learning to real-world problems.

We had 200 people from 50 colleges and education associations, as well as Rollins students and faculty. Participants called the conference "a feast for the mind."

A book of the colloquy presentations was later published and is available in the Olin Library. It is titled: Education and Democracy: Re-imagining Liberal Learning in America." And in 1980, the college introduced the present curriculum which centers on the constructs of the Bloom Edu-



GEORGE BRIDGES / Metcampus
SALMAN RUSHDIE: Booker prize-winning author and a key-note speaker scheduled to appear at the colloquy in March.

We had 200 people from 50 colleges and education associations, as well as Rollins students and faculty. Participants called the conference "a feast for the mind."

A book of the colloquy presentations was later published and is available in the Olin Library. It is titled: Education and Democracy: Re-imagining Liberal Learning in America." And in 1980, the college introduced the present curriculum which centers on the constructs of the Bloom Edu-

Topics Planned For The Colloquy

Most of us would agree that students should graduate from college with a set of questions rather than answers. What are some of the important questions that we should be cultivating with our students?

Is there a single, particularly profound moment in your experience as a student that opened your perspective on the world -- something you could share with us that would provide some insights as we begin the process of reshaping our curriculum?

Thinking creatively about our current structures in higher education (semester length, majors, curriculum, credit hours, etc.)... How can we re-envision these structures to more effectively address the challenges of the 21st century?

How can institutions of higher learning remain relevant in our 21st-century world in which there are a number of alternative forms of education (e.g., online learning, corporate education)? In what important ways will we have to change to remain relevant?

cational Taxonomy. The Bloom Educational Taxonomy focuses on three main domains: affective, psychomotor, and cognitive. Over the course of Rollins curriculum, there has been a need about every two decades to revise of the course of study that responds to the changes of the American Society and educational philosophy.

In addition, Rollins has continually tried to improve its educational tradition of seeking new ways of fostering student learning. The Rollins ever changing curriculum has given Rollins College its identity and uniqueness. Take advantage of the rare opportunity to hear these speakers influence future generations. If you would like more information on the colloquy or the schedule of speakers, look on Rollins' website.

Special thanks go to Professor Jack C. Lane, a historian and former Rollins professor who organized the second colloquy in 1983, for his contributions to this article.



PHOTO COURTESY OF ROLLINS COLLEGE COLLOQUY
FRANCIS FUKUYAMA: Author of America at the Crossroads: Democracy, Power, and the Neoconservative Legacy.

Word Wisdom



How to spell like a champ

Did you feel a little tingle the first time you got a perfect score on a spelling test? Let's extrapolate (defined in "Webster's Third New International Dictionary of the English Language, Unabridged": "predict by projecting past experience or known data") and imagine that that perfect score had earned you a big cash prize, a guest spot on a hot late-night talk show, and your picture in every major newspaper in the country. Now we're talking more than a tingle. Most spelling bee champions would call it a pretty big buzz!

The National Spelling Bee, held each spring, is really just a more public, more difficult, but much cooler spelling test, where a huge audience applauds every time you get a word right.

But even if you'll never be the last one standing — or rather, spelling — at the National Spelling Bee, there are still plenty of cool things to learn about how to spell words. Here, we've gathered some tips, tricks, lists and games to have you spelling like a pro in no time.

— Text and illustrations excerpted with permission from "How to Spell Like a Champ," by Barrie Trinkle, Carolyn Andrews and Paige Kimble, illustrated by Robert Zimmerman (Workman, \$10.95)

VERY GENERAL RULES

Let's begin with the rules that apply across the board to words from every part of speech.

RULE 1: Deleting the silent "e"

Drop the final "e" before a suffix beginning with a vowel, unless all the following three criteria are met: (1) the word ends in "ge" or "ce," (2) the suffix begins with "a" or "o," and (3) the "soft" sound of "g" or "c" is to be retained. Examples: affecting, annoying, advantageous, noticeable.

RULE 2: Doubling the final consonant

Double the final consonant before adding a suffix beginning with a vowel if the word has one syllable or an accent on the last syllable. If the accent shifts with the addition of the suffix, do not double the final consonant. Examples: abetting, beginning, rapped, conference, reference.

RULE 3: Changing "y" to "i"

Words that end in y usually change the "y" to "i" before a suffix, unless the "y" is the second of two vowels at the end of the word or the suffix begins with "i." Examples: happiness, silliest, grayness, boyish, flying.

RULE 4: Adding a prefix

Whenever a prefix is added to a word, the spelling of the word itself remains the same. Examples: mis- + shape = mishap; im- + mutable = immutable. This is one of the simplest rules to follow because it has no exceptions!

RULE 5: Placing "i" before "e"

It may be what we call a "chestnut," but the "i" before "e" spelling rule really does work most of the time. In this two-vowel combination (linguists call it a digraph when the two letters make a single sound), put the "i" first unless the combination immediately follows a "c," or has a long "a" sound. Examples: believe, perceive, ceiling, vein, faint. If the two vowels are pronounced separately, as in science, concierge, and deity, they should be spelled as pronounced rather than according to the rule. This rule also does not include nouns ending in "cy" that form a plural by changing "y" to "i" and adding "es," like vacancy/vacancies.

Most of the remaining common exceptions are:

caffeine	neither
codeine	glabrous
counterfeit	protein
either	reville
feisty	seismic
foreign	seize
forfeit	sleight
heifer	sovereign
height	stein
hair	surfer
hairst	their
kaleidoscope	veil
leisure	weird

THE LONELY Q

There are just a very few words in English that use "q" without its friend "u":

qatib	Qatari	qiyas
inupiaq	qirari	taqlid
nastaliq	qivut	zindiq



MAGIC SQUARE



C	A	L	M
A	R	I	A
L	I	A	R
M	A	R	E

A magic square is a square of letters that reads the same across (along the rows) and down (along the columns).

← In the first puzzle, choose three of the contributing forms shown below left to form a magic square.

→ If that's too easy, try the game with four rows of squares. You might think it would only be a little harder, but you may be surprised. Good luck!

axi-	axis	nas-	nose
epi-	upon	gyr-	circle
zen-	guest;	syn-	together
	foreigner	myc-	fungus
pre-	earlier	mal-	bad
	than	ino-	liber
tri-	three	uni-	one



zygo-	yoke	oste-	bone
sten-	close;	tera-	trillion
	narrow	phos-	light
goni-	corner	kino-	motion;
cyan-	dark blue		action
hyps-	height	pter-	wing
meli-	honey	hist-	tissue

NEOLOGISMS

"Neologism" is defined in "Webster's Third" as "a new word, usage or expression." How new a word has to be in order to be considered a neologism is open to debate, but at some point in time, every word in the dictionary has been a neologism! Many neologisms start out as slang, but widespread and frequent use eventually gains them acceptance among linguistic traditionalists.

Note: The words below may not all be listed in "Webster's Third."

appler	latte
bioterror	megaplex
cocooning	netiquette
defragmenter	olestra
emoticon	psychobabble
fashionista	spinmeister
gangsta	tatsoi
hoodie	velociraptor
hyperlink	wakeboard
intranet	yortosecond
jihadist	yottabyte
kazillion	zouk

TRICKY WORDS

The words that most people misspell generally fall into four categories: exceptions to well-known spelling rules, like seize; words with double letters, like accommodate; words with silent letters, like subpoena; and words containing a schwa (the usually unstressed vowel sound "uh"), like separate ("SEP-uh-reeh"). Outside those main categories, a few words, like fiery, change the root spelling when a suffix is added; and some words, like hypocrisy, are just plain hard!

LANGUAGE TIDBITS

These languages don't commonly lend words to English, and the words we do have from them tend to be somewhat unfamiliar. However — hint, hint — they're often good spelling bee words!

In words of Afrikaans origin:

■ Familiarize yourself with letter combinations in words such as tuintje, Uitsander, nyspan, vialhoai, volksraad, uniair, nardvark, bobbejaan, geeldkloep, wikkbeest, verhoorde. Make a list of unusual spellings for various sounds.

In words of Arabic origin:

■ Long "e" is sometimes spelled "ih": mihrah, ihram, fiqh, has-bih, Lahyanic.

■ Many words are spelled more or less as they sound: maulala, masjidi, kemancha, albetad, azoth, bejel.

In words of Hindi origin:

■ A "k" sound is almost always spelled "k": Eskima, kumuk, murek, kooletih, maktuk, unruk, kamuk, maktuk, kashim.

■ A "k" sound is sometimes spelled "q": qivat.

In words of Hawaiian origin:

■ There are no silent letters such as the "e" in hole.

WEIRD WORDS

It gets a lot weirder than the rule-breaker word "weird." What could be odder than a word that seemingly comes from nowhere? The words below have no known origin. Some are familiar but others leave you stranded without even a root word to hang on to.

askare	lobecouse
bamboozle	marrowsky
burriky	mumblebee
flabbergast	quandary
gyascutus	scrivello
huckaback	shenanigan
jiney	wingding
kentledge	yegg

HOW THE BIRDIES SING

Some onomatopoeically named birds talk about themselves all the time! Listen to the bobwhite, cuckoo, cuckoo, dick-cissel, kiwi, mezzot, siskin, towhee, whippoorwill and willet.

Opinions

EDITOR: SAMANTHA MARSH
OPINIONS@THESANDSPUR.ORG

13

The Next Level

Dr. Alan Nordstrom
contributing writer

"There are only two kinds of people: those who think there are only two kinds of people, and all the others," goes an old joke. I'm among the others. But if I had to imagine just two basic categories in which to group all humankind, I'd say: the Progressives and the Regressives.

Either you think that people, over the long trajectory of history, are improving, both individually and societally; or you think that things have gone downhill for us since Adam and Eve screwed up, and that we're doomed to apocalyptic perdition, probably quite soon, in which case the best that might be said of us would be that though we were a foolish species, we were smart. The poet John Hall Wheelock imagined this rueful epitaph for us:

A planet doesn't explode of itself, said dryly
The Martian astronomer, gazing off into the air—
That they were able to do it is
proof that highly
Intelligent beings must have
existed there.

While I do see self-inflicted, cataclysmic doom as our likely fate, given our present violent

propensities, I still commend the progress we've achieved as a species, at least in intellect, if not in wisdom. I am neither an optimist nor a perfectionist, but I do believe in betterment. I'm a meliorist. That old word comes from the Latin words for good, better and best: bonus, melior, optimus. Over his-story, we humans have bettered the living conditions of millions, have bettered our health and longevity, have bettered our knowledge and skills and technologies. I'd argue that we have bettered our social and political institutions generally, though not universally.

Best of all, more and more people have learned and are learning to better themselves personally. No one ever becomes perfect, of course, but some people do discover how to grow better in many ways, which is what a progressive liberal education should be about: the development of wiser and more capable human beings who will contribute to the improvement of life on this planet in ways both great and small.

Thing is, we'd better be quick about it. That Martian astronomer or that UFO observer about to see Earth self-destruct might be spared their laments if only we take the long stride upward to the next level of human evolution where we actually become humane. Let our higher education raise us there.

Editorial:
Central Florida TornadoesShaun Cricks
the sandspur

The Orlando Sentinel recently conducted an investigation into the February 2 tornadoes. These twisters ravaged parts of Central Florida. The Sentinel highlighted the vulnerability of older mobile homes and manufactured homes to these storms. While I applaud their attention to this safety concern, it was not until I went to the Lake Mack neighborhood to film a documentary for the Campus Movie Fest that I realized this story goes deeper. There is the story of a low-income country community, full of folks trying to get back to a quiet and natural life, left reeling and picking up the pieces.

When I picked up the front page of The Sentinel last week I was, as the editors clearly intended, outraged at the inadequacy of a mobile home in resisting nature's fury. After all, Florida is fourth in the nation in tornadoes, and about a fourth of Central Florida residents live in manufactured or mobile homes. I've heard the buzz: why don't they know better? Why don't these people move into regular homes—for their kids' sake at least?

After spending a day with them, I can answer that they don't because they can't—in most cases.

The cost of housing in Central Florida is growing at one of the fastest rates in the country. Real estate prices are so high at this point, my fiancé and I plan on moving from the area so we can afford a home after graduation. Others, like many in the Lake Mack community, have called Central Florida home for generations, and although real estate prices are too high for them here, they choose to stay close to family. To them this is a no-brainer. They obviously do care about their kids.

Many who live in these homes are on fixed-incomes. Some are elderly. In our society, quick to cast aside our elderly—these folks are faced with the choice of two evils: retirement homes or trailers.

When my partner and I arrived, unannounced, to the Lake Mack community relief effort, they embraced us—literally. Simple and down-home, they granted us interviews—allowing us access into their personal hells. When we asked where we could go to eat, they insisted on feeding us themselves. One man took us on a tour of his property and showed us pictures of what he had lost. He was so inspiring. At one point he turned, pointed to the Winnebago his family is now living in, and said, "I Mean, tell me I'm not blessed." The people of this community are compas-

sionate, resourceful, and intelligent. They are just—dare I say it—poor.

By the end of filming, the picture was beginning to congeal in my mind of Levees breaking and sweeping all the trailers away. If you have read The Sentinel, you have been exposed to the most gory and sensational details of the catastrophe, so I will not repeat them. The sites simply reminded me of New Orleans—all the talk that the levees might break—and the failure of the Feds to prevent the obviously inevitable disaster. The cleanup costs alone from Katrina far outweigh any preemptory costs to the Feds or community. In the same manner, by neglecting the needs of our lower-level income community members—those forced to live in older trailers, mobile homes, RVs—we are leaving them open to disaster. As a compassionate and democratic society, it is our responsibility to enable citizens like those of the Lake Mack neighborhood to affording safer housing. It is up to us to help prevent needless pain, suffering and death. It is up to us to rally, write, and petition the state—not only for tighter regulations on building codes, but also, for access to safe and affordable housing—for all of the people.

Write a Letter to the Editor
and get published!

Criticize, Praise, Rant and
Raise Your Voice. Get Your
Thoughts Out About Local
and National Issues.

Comment on Anything You
Read in the Paper.

Send to
editor@thesandspur.org.



CARTOON BY NATE BEELER OF MCTCAMPUS

DISCLAIMER: THE VIEWS EXPRESSED WITHIN THE OPINIONS SECTION ARE ENTIRELY THE OPINIONS OF THE INDIVIDUAL AUTHORS, AND DO NOT NECESSARILY REFLECT THE VIEWS OF THE SANDSPUR STAFF OR ROLLINS COLLEGE. PLEASE ADDRESS ANY COMMENTS, OPINIONS, RANTS, OR RAVES TO OPINIONS@THESANDSPUR.ORG.

THE STUDENT VOICE OF ROLLINS COLLEGE SINCE 1894

MARCH 05, 2007
VOLUME 113, ISSUE 20

Nicole Fluet
Editor-in-Chief

Kelly Russ
Advisor

Rochelle Siegel
Managing Editor

CONTACT US

1000 Holt Avenue - 2742
Winter Park, FL 32789
Phone: (407) 646-2696
Fax: (407) 628-6349
e-mail:
editor@thesandspur.org
ISSN: 0035-7936

SECTION EDITORS

News.....OPEN
Holt News.....TANISHA MATTHEW
LIFE/TIME.....KARINA MCCABE
A&E.....JESSICA ESTES
Opinions.....SAMANTHA MARSH
Sports.....JUSTIN BRAUN

ESTABLISHED IN 1894 WITH THE FOLLOWING EDITORIAL:

"Unassuming yet almighty, sharp, and pointed, well rounded yet many-sided, assiduously tenacious, victorious in single combat and therefore without a peer, wonderfully attractive and extensive in circulation; all these will be found upon investigation to be among the extraordinary qualities of *The Sandspur*."

Can I Take Your Disorder?

Samantha Marsh
the sandspur

Last week Dr. Christine E. Kiesinger, a professor at George Washington University was on campus in honor of National Eating Disorder Awareness week to give a talk about her research into anorexia and bulimia in women. It was a powerful presentation, anchored by personal narratives from different women affected by eating disorders. Through the life stories of her research subjects, Dr. Kiesinger was able to reveal the true emotional complexity that lies behind a person's struggle with an eating disorder. Anorexia and bulimia are not just about an extreme desire to be thin; they are

a compelling and expressive act, intertwined with many emotional issues.

However, this does not mean that having an eating disorder has nothing to do with the social pressure to be thin. In fact, the recent focus on models and low body mass indexes shows just how ubiquitous unhealthy relationships between women and their bodies really are. In addition, a second wave of anorexia was mentioned in Dr. Kiesinger's lecture, a wave inspired and propagated by "pro-ana" websites. These communities, which are actually support groups that see anorexia as a lifestyle choice, provide resources and approval for anyone who pursues an eating disorder. As counter intuitive as it may seem, these

sites treat anorexia and bulimia as legitimate and desirable behaviors. It seems that all the research and all the efforts to understand and combat eating disorders are falling far short of truly affecting the problem.

Part of the reason for this is because our culture facilitates eating disorders, and not just in the way you think. As a society we have an unhealthy relationship with food and our bodies based in ignorance. But not everyone abuses their body in the same way, because obesity and overeating are also results of an abusive relationship with one's body. Just as our culture is inundated with images of thin women and rewards those who aspire to this ideal, it also promotes overeating.

It is no secret that obesity is an epidemic in the United States. Restaurants and other businesses related to food consumption have promoted oversized portions and unbalanced eating habits. The Center for Science in the Public Interest recently published a study noting that some items offered by sit-down restaurants like Uno's and Ruby Tuesdays can pack 2,000 calories each, enough to just about satisfy one's daily need. So, there is a problem at both extremes.

Unhealthy relationships with food and our bodies are not the sole reason behind eating disorders. But these distorted views allow people to express trauma and other negative emotions in damaging actions. In order to help

people recover from eating disorders, one needs to understand the personal life story of the person affected. But in order to better combat eating disorders as a social phenomena, we as a society need to examine our understanding of our bodies and the way we view food. We need to take direct steps to stop rewarding women for being too thin, perhaps following Spain in better regulating the modeling industry. We need to promote food as a path towards a healthy body and a healthy life, not as a source of pleasure or control. Proper portion sizes in restaurants, or at least labeling all menu items with health information is an essential first step in this regard.

Giuliani Moves From Long Shot to Top Tier

Daniel Weintraub
mct campus

Only a few months ago, conventional wisdom throughout much of the political world was that former New York Mayor Rudy Giuliani might make a competitive Republican candidate for president in a general election, but he could never win his party's primary voters would reject him.

Now, suddenly, that wisdom seems to have shifted, and as Giuliani tramped through California this week, he was wowing conservatives with his charisma, his gift for sounding spontaneous on the stump and his call for bold national leadership.

"Rudy" — as he is known everywhere — has already been accepted as one of three top-tier Republican candidates, along with Arizona Sen. John McCain and former Massachusetts Gov. Mitt Romney. With California and several other large industrial states set to move their primaries up to early February, Giuliani might be more formidable than ever.

"All three candidates have challenges when it comes to prov-

ing themselves to conservatives," said Jon Fleischman, a party activist whose Flashreport.org Web site is considered by insiders to be the voice of conservative Republicans in the state. "Giuliani has just as good a shot as the other two of trying to articulate to conservatives why, as they compromise to pick a candidate, it should be him."

Romney, though seemingly a favorite of social conservatives, has a shifting record on some hot-button issues, including abortion. McCain frustrated grass-roots types with his sponsorship of a federal campaign finance measure that has meant restrictions on campaign activity — and free speech — that hardly qualify as limited government. Giuliani, meanwhile, has his familiar record in favor of abortion rights, gay rights and some restrictions on gun ownership, not to mention an interesting personal past that includes a very public divorce.

Dan Schnur, a Republican communications expert who worked for McCain in 2000, says the field so far reminds him of the old joke about two guys who are out camping in the woods and see a bear approaching. As one of

them puts on his shoes, the other one says, "You're crazy, you can't outrun a bear." To which the first one replies: "I know, but I can outrun you."

"These three candidates don't have to convince conservatives to trust them completely," Schnur said. "One of them just has to convince conservatives to trust him more than the other guys."

On that score, Giuliani has had a mixed performance in California. At the state Republican convention in Sacramento, he failed to show for a scheduled visit with the California Republican Assembly, a conservative grass-roots group, ticking off some activists who probably would not have supported him anyway, at least in the primary. But convention delegates responded warmly to his speech, which included a strong defense of President Bush's conduct of the war on Islamic terrorism. And his presence created a buzz in the hall that Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger, who has something of a love-hate relationship with party regulars, could not match.

From the convention Giuliani went to the Silicon Valley, where he attracted a crowd of 500 on

short notice for a speech that was well received. And then it was on to Fresno for a fundraiser hosted by former state Sen. Chuck Poochigian, who is just one of many prominent California conservatives who have already joined the campaign.

Bill Simon, the Los Angeles financier who was the Republican candidate for governor in 2002 and is a former colleague of Giuliani in the U.S. attorney's office in New York, is supporting him. So are Curt Pringle, the mayor of Anaheim, and Los Angeles County Supervisor Mike Antonovich. The not-so-conservative former mayor of Los Angeles, Richard Riordan, is also on board.

Giuliani clearly benefits from the aura surrounding his performance in the wake of the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks in New York, when he was seen as a strong leader in a crisis.

"I think he has broad appeal in California," said Kevin Spillane, a Republican political consultant who has been talking to the campaign about joining the effort. "Even people who disagree with him on social issues respect him and see him as a strong leader and believe he is an effective and

competent and very substantive political figure. I think that's what people are looking for."

The plans of California, Florida, New Jersey and perhaps Illinois to shift their primaries to the first Tuesday in February should also help Giuliani because the front-loaded schedule would put a premium on political celebrity, which he certainly has. The schedule would also give an advantage to the candidates who can raise the most money to pay for television advertising in those media-heavy states. While the man some call "America's mayor" has not built a huge war chest yet, he is capable of doing so with most of the year still ahead of him.

It still seems difficult to believe that Republicans, even in California, will nominate a candidate for president who supports abortion rights and is comfortable around homosexuals. But these are strange political times. Maybe, like the gallows, the fear of another President Clinton will concentrate the collective Republican mind.

Want Some Extra Spending Money? Interested in Writing or Taking Photographs?

Join the Sandspur!

Our Meetings are EVERY Tuesday at 6:30 PM in The Sandspur Room!

Contact editor@thesandspur.org with Questions, Concerns, or Interest!

The Sandspur Room is located on the third floor of the Mills Building.

Sports

EDITOR: JUSTIN JB BRAUN
SPORTS@THESANDSPUR.ORG

15

Women's Hoops Regular Season Recap

Justin Dottavio
the sandspur

With the Women's Basketball season coming to an end this Saturday, the Sandspur wanted to take a look back at an extremely successful season for the ladies hoops team. Coach Glenn Wilkes Jr. finished his 21st season with 21-straight winning records. The Tars had only had two winning seasons in fifteen seasons prior to Wilkes arrival in 1986.

Senior Forward Larissa McDonough, who has started every game this season, led the team in points per game (14.3), rebounds per game (6.4), blocks (20), 3-pointers made (34% from 3-point range too), and minutes per game. McDonough should be able to continue this success in the SSC Tournament.

Only two other Tars started every game, those being Guards Jennifer Dyer and Musgrove. Dyer, a sophomore, scored 9.6 points per game with 2.5 assists per game. Musgrove, a junior, score 8.3 ppg, 6.9 rpg, 10 blocks and 3.3 apg. Forwards Ines Teuma and Jennifer Catti started the bulk of the games, scoring 5.2 points and 5.3 points per game respectively.

The Tars have dominated the SSC in the 2006-2007 season finishing 12-3. McDonough's 14.3 ppg will be greatly needed to come out of the SSC tournament victorious. Her leadership has shone through in the clutch, scoring 30 points combined in Rollins two overtime wins. Rollins last regular season game is at Barry on Saturday February 24th at 4pm.

SSC Tournament

The SSC Tournament is February 28 through March 4 at Lynn University. Lynn is located in Boca Raton, Florida. The Tars have won the SSC tournament six times, the last time being 2004-2005. The Tars 2005-2006 team finished the regular season 26-0, but failed to win the SSC tourney. McDonough didn't play in either of the Tars losses to end the 2005-2006 season.

2006-2007 By The Numbers

594 Highest home attendance
(OT thriller over Florida Tech on 2/21)

64.2 points per game for RC
(opponents: 52.2)

21 wins this season

12 wins in the SSC conference
11 straight wins from Nov 29-Jan 20

6 SSC Conference Tournament
wins 2-0 in OT



DANIKA TANZINI/the sandspur

Rollins' Best Class Sent Out On High Senior Night 2007

Juan Bernal
the sandspur

The Rollins Tars Basketball Team went into the final week of the season with three goals. The first one was to win their final two games, second was to win its fourth Sunshine State Conference crown in five seasons and the final goal was to send the Class of 2007 out on a high note. On Wednesday February 21st against Florida Tech, Rollins could find itself a step close to all three of those goals.

In a game a little too close for anyone's comfort Wednesday night, Rollins found itself on the brink of having its quest for its fourth conference title in five years ruined by the eight place team in the conference when the Panthers' E.J. Murray hit a three of an offensive rebound with 30 seconds left to put the Panthers up 68-67. On the ensuing possession the Tars' Johnny Reibel would draw a foul and hit one of two free throws. Off the miss of the second free throw, senior Jordan Kolosey grabbed an offensive rebound which would set Rollins up for its last possession. In its final possession, Kevin Hogan would miss a three point attempt, but Craig Reichel jumped out of the air and put back Hogan's miss with 0.5 seconds left. The Panthers' desperation attempt at the buzzer was for not and gave Rollins a victory on senior

night and an opportunity to go down to Miami Shores on Saturday afternoon and clinch the league title. Craig Reichel led the Tars with 20 points and John Thinnies was the only other Tar in double figures with 12 points. Johnny Reibel had 8 points and 12 assists.

Saturday February 24th in Miami Shores the Tars would face the first place Barry Buccaneers for the league title. The game was all Rollins as they raced out to a 13-0 lead and they never looked back. The Tars' variety of zone defenses would give Barry problems all day as the Bucs shot 27% from the field. Rollins took a 21 point lead into the halftime locker room. After halftime, the closest the Bucs would get is 15 points, as Rollins would cruise to a 76-47 rout and their fourth conference title in five seasons. Johnny Reibel had a double-double with 17 points and 10 assists. Craig Reichel added 15 points, Kevin Hogan had 13 and John Thinnies contributed ten.

The Tars will likely travel to Montevallo, Alabama or host the South Region Tournament that goes on March 10, 11 and 13th. Johnny Reibel was named Sunshine State Conference player of the year by conference coaches. Isaac Codrey and Craig Reichel were selected to the second team.

"I thought I had a good career even though I was injured all year. Senior Night was fun; it was great to be out there with everyone again.

Thanks to all of the coaches, fans, for making my career here a success and thanks to the fans for coming out and showing support." - Jon Smith #25

"Senior Night was great. I was able to acknowledge all the support I got from the fans, and I was able to play with the seniors at home. Special Thanks to every fan that is a loyal Rollins Tar, I appreciate them screaming at the top of their lungs." - Deon Troupe #4

"I really enjoyed my career through all the good times. Special thanks to all my teammates for winning these three championships and to all the coaches for supporting me throughout my four years here." - John "JT" Thinnies #11

"It's been a fantastic voyage, it's had its ups and downs, mostly up. I'm really glad I had the opportunity to play for Rollins. I'd like to thank the coaching staff for giving me the opportunity to play here, my teammates for being great friends and winners. I'd also like to thank Juan Bernal for being the best manager I've ever had and everything that. I'd also like to thank Nate Rusbosin, graduate assistant for being there through all the rough times and has gotten me through this long journey. Also, the fans were great and I'd like to thank them for their never-ending support. I'd also like to thank my parents for creating me." - Isaac Codrey #33

"My career had to lots of hi's and some lo's but I'm



DANIKA TANZINI/the sandspur

Boom Goes the Dynamite: The Tars get pumped before their championship game.

glad that I could be there for my teammates for creating friendships that will last a lifetime. I know that they could always count on me, and that I could always count on them, that is what friends are for. My career was like a new pair of underpants, at first it was tight and constricting, but then it became a part of me. I'd like to thank P.D from Chi Psi for giving me a reason to work hard, Brad Ash for recruiting me and teaching me the way of the world. Also, Tom Klusman for all the advantages that he has given to me and the position he's put me in to help me start the rest of my life." Jordan Kolosey #21

CLASSIFIEDS

FOR RENT

HOMES FOR RENT

1127 Pennsylvania Ave. (3/2) and 1137 Pennsylvania Ave (2/2) Each are 1250 sqft. totally renovated, wood floors, new appliances, washer/dryer. Both have garage and patio's. Must see! \$2,300 mo. each 407-448-1031 Walk to Rollins and Park Ave.

Would you like to place an announcement or classified? Call (407) 646-2696 or e-mail advertising@thesandspur.org.

East Coast Baseball Preview

A Look at the American League East

Daniel Paulling
the sandspur

For much of the recent past, the American League's Eastern division has been home to the best offenses and the most offensive spending. However, in this millennium, the division has produced only one World Series champion; furthermore, in the past two years, none of the five teams have escaped the first round of the playoffs. That may change in 2007. The New York Yankees and Boston Red Sox have loaded up on pitching, bringing in Andy Pettitte and Daisuke Matsuzaka, respectively. Both of these teams — as well as the Toronto Blue Jays — have legitimate chances to win 90-plus games next season and play deep into the postseason. Here's a close look at the beasts in the east.

New York Yankees

The Reason for Hope: The 2007 Yankees are going to redefine the term "Bronx Bombers." The projected lineup for next season features nine players who should achieve double-digit home run totals, and many of their hitters rank among the best in the game in getting on base and/or seeing pitches per plate appearance.

The Cause for Concern: Each member of the starting rotation

has question marks. Can Chien-Ming Wang continue to get away with giving up so many hits? Can Kei Igawa avoid giving up the walks that his Japanese statistics say he does? Can Mike Mussina, Carl Pavano, and Pettitte stay healthy?

Prediction: First place, with 98 wins

Boston Red Sox

The Reason for Hope: The starting rotation runs six deep with Matsuzaka, Curt Schilling, Jonathan Papelbon, Josh Beckett, Tim Wakefield, and Jon Lester. All of these pitchers can last deep into games and have been successful starters throughout their careers.

The Cause for Concern: Manager Terry Francona has a lot of arms to go to in his bullpen, but when push comes to shove, just who is going to get the call? It doesn't seem like that question has a good answer at the time.

Prediction: Second place, with 95 wins

Toronto Blue Jays

The Reason for Hope: This offense, while it won't compete with the other two teams listed above, has a chance to be very productive. Center fielder Vernon Wells is becoming the best player no one's heard of, while Alex Rios, Lyle Overbay, and Troy Glaus are all strong complements.

The Cause for Concern: After the powerful duo of Roy Halladay and AJ Burnett, there isn't much in the starting rotation for the Blue

Jays. In fact, of the three starters coming after them, only one — Tomo Ohka — had an ERA below 5.00 last year, and that came in the National League. Injuries have sidelined Halladay and Burnett in the past, and if either one goes down for an extended period of time next year, that effectively ends the chances the Blue Jays will make the postseason.

Prediction: Third place, with 90 wins

Baltimore Orioles

The Reason for Hope: Talented, young arms abound for the Baltimore Orioles. Erik Bedard took his first step toward becoming an ace, while Daniel Cabrera has the ability to stifle any offense on any night due to the quality of his stuff. A second year under the tutelage of wunderkind Leo Mazzone will do these youngsters a lot of good.

The Cause for Concern: The projected lineup for this ballclub doesn't feature one player who exceeded 25 home runs last year: Miguel Tejada (24), Melvin Mora (21), and Aubrey Huff (21) came close, but the Orioles need a huge middle-of-the-order presence to make up for the deficiencies at the back of their rotation.

Prediction: Fourth place, with 75 wins

Tampa Bay Devil Rays

The Reason for Hope: The upcoming 2007 season won't be a good one for Devil Ray fans everywhere, but Scott Kazmir



COURTESY OF MCT CAMPUS

CRACK: Bernie Williams pinch hits a double in the ninth

is one of the better left handed pitchers in the major leagues, while Rocco Baldelli, Carl Crawford, and Delmon Young form what will be the best outfield in 2009 and beyond.

The Cause for Concern: The Devil Rays, a team obviously in the rebuilding phase, just don't have

enough veterans on their ballclub. With so many "troublesome" players — like Young and Elijah Dukes, for example — there needs to be a few older players on the ballclub to help these youngsters adjust to life in the major leagues.

Prediction: Fifth place, with 66 wins

A Look at the National League East



COURTESY OF MCT CAMPUS

STRIKE: Atlanta Braves pitcher John Smoltz puts on the heat

division promises to be a little more difficult this year. Jimmy Rollins, a shortstop with the Philadelphia Phillies, proclaimed his team was the one to beat a few weeks ago. A shrewd trade for Freddy Garcia this offseason makes his words seem true. The Florida Marlins' rebuilding program is way ahead of schedule, while the Braves are looking strong with a pair of new arms at the end of games.

Atlanta Braves

The Reason for Hope: General Manager John Schuerholz knew the weakness of

his ballclub and did everything he could to fix it. The bullpen that blew 29 saves last year added a full season of Bob Wickman (18 of 19 in save opportunities after coming over from Cleveland), as well as Mike Gonzalez (24 of 24) and Rafael Soriano. They combine to create what may be the best bullpen in the National League.

The Cause for Concern:

There are a lot of questions revolving around the pitching staff. Tim Hudson spent the offseason following his old offseason program, which might help him re-gain the velocity and stamina he lost over the previous two years. Mike Hampton is coming back from Tommy John surgery and hasn't pitched in 18 months. Both Kyle Davies and Chuck James are young pitchers, and those types of players are extremely unpredictable.

Prediction: First place, with 94 wins

Philadelphia Phillies

The Reason for Hope: Their lineup finished first in the National League in runs scored last year, and the chance for them to do it again remains. Chase Utley, Ryan Howard, and Pat Burrell may be the most powerful 3-4-5 combo in their division, and that's saying a lot. Expect 115 home runs and nearly 320 runs driven in right here.

The Cause for Concern: While there's a lot to admire on the Phillies' pitching staff, it's difficult to find much to like about their bullpen. Tom Gordon, 39 this upcoming season, got hit by injuries late last year, missing a month with a shoulder strain. If that happens again, there really isn't anyone else to go to.

Prediction: Second place, with 91 wins

New York Mets

The Reason for Hope: From top to bottom, this may be the most potent lineup outside of

the Bronx. Jose Reyes and Paul LoDuca get on base enough for the power bats of Carlos Beltran, Carlos Delgado, David Wright, and Moises Alou to drive them in. The only trouble will be getting future star Lastings Milledge enough playing time to develop.

The Cause for Concern: When constructing his team, General Manager Omar Minaya must have not remembered the phrase about pitching winning champions. Going into next season, Minaya's rotation consists of the venerable Tom Glavine, the ancient Orlando Hernandez, and reclamation projects named Aaron Sele, Chan Ho Park, Oliver Perez, Dave Williams, and Jorge Sosa.

Prediction: Third place, with 90 wins

Florida Marlins

The Reason for Hope: There's plenty to like about this young Marlins team. Josh Johnson would've tied Cy Young winner Brandon Webb in ERA had Johnson pitched enough innings; Anibal Sanchez threw a no-hitter against the Arizona Diamondbacks; and Dontrelle Willis was still the staff ace. On the offensive side, Miguel Cabrera lost 15 pounds this offseason and remains the least talked about superstar in baseball, while Jeremy Hermida is going to put a season full of injuries behind.

The Cause for Concern: Youth, however, has its drawbacks. A percentage of players experience a decline in their second seasons,

whether caused by a backing off of offseason workouts or opposing players making the proper adjustments. Dan Uggla, in particular, is someone to keep an eye on. The second baseman somehow set a career high (including minor league statistics) in home runs and struck out 2.56 times for every walk.

Prediction: Fourth place, with 80 wins

Washington Nationals

The Reason for Hope: There really isn't one, but the most optimistic Nationals fan could point to the bullpen. Closer Chad Cordero saved 29 games and won 7, while Jon Rauch and Luis Ayala are excellent setup men. Reliever Emiliano Fruto, stolen from the Seattle Mariners this offseason in the Jose Vidro deal, is a big name to watch, with his blistering fastball. Should the Nationals ever have a lead, it will be secure.

The Cause for Concern: General Manager Jim Bowden assembled a pitching staff that would make a Triple A team cringe. John Patterson is the ace, but he's never won more than 10 games in one year. From there, it gets worse. The remaining candidates for the starting rotation are journeymen who couldn't hold down even the lowliest job with their former teams: Tim Lincecum (Astros), Colby Lewis (Rangers), Jason Simontacchi (Cardinals), Mike Bacsik (Mets), and Brandon Claussen (Reds).

Prediction: Fifth place, with 65 wins

For years, the eventual division champion in the National League East stopped playing serious baseball in mid-September. Last season was more of the same, with the exception of the cast. The New York Mets dethroned the Atlanta Braves atop the NL East and cruised to an easy postseason berth. Winning the