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The Sandspur

ROLLINS COLLEGE ■ WINTER PARK, FLORIDA

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

Students participate in Olympics of Music. Read more about it in the Arts & Entertainment section of this week.

PAGES 8-9

LIFE & TIMES

Read horror stories of students who were locked out throughout their college years.

PAGE 10

SPORTS

Rollins cheerleaders face a terrible injustice. To learn more about the story, turn to the Sports section.

PAGE 11

THE STUDENT VOICE OF ROLLINS COLLEGE SINCE 1894

VOL. 114 Issue 04

www.thesandspur.org

October 8, 2007

Equus Amazes the Rollins Community

Lindsay Siegel
the sandspur

The Annie Russell theatre this past week brought a Tony Award winning play "Equus" to its stage. However, this is not the first time the Annie brought this horse packed show into her theatre; it was first performed in 1979. The opening night was as good as expected with a bunch of spectators arriving early to settle in their seats.

Thomas Ouellette, Equus director, and Theatre's department head chair was very pleased with the outcome. There were many wonderful strong and talented actors that really showed their presence on stage. The lighting and set design really added a dramatic appeal to the play. Stage manager Ana Eligio showed organization and got the show running smoothly.

The play takes place in the present time in Southern England. The location is set at Rokesby Psychiatric Hospital. This play by Peter Shaffer is about a psychiatrist (Eric Zivot) who is just trying to help a young man (Michael Nardelli) after he blinded six horses.

The show spewed a lot of controversy due to the fact that there is nudity and adult situations. However, after watching the play it changed a lot of people's minds and those parts didn't even

Eric Zivot played the psychiatrist, Martin Dysart; he portrayed good character and stayed focused the whole time. Zivot got into character well and that's what kept the audience entertained.

Alan Strang (Michael Nardelli) really took chances playing his part and he was praised for that. His character reached higher limits and it did come out successful. The connection between Zivot and Nardelli was a great casting choice, they worked really well together.

The chemistry with Alan and Jill Mason (Alea Figueroa) was another great match; their presence on stage was enlightening.

This play was very dramatic yet they still managed to add some comedy to it.

The horses onstage were very realistic as they bopped their heads up and down the whole time.

The lighting made the horse heads glow in the background which showed that they are the primary characters and the play is based around them.

The play really gives a sense of understanding and it really makes you think if Alan (Nardelli) was really insane or if he had other motives behind his actions. This play really captivates people's attention and all in all is a really good storyline.

by Peter Shaffer

September 28 - October 6

ANNIE RUSSELL THEATRE ROLLINS COLLEGE

YONI BINSTOCK/The Sandspur

Molding Young Minds

Stephanie Ellenburg
the sandspur

Near campus, just off of Park Avenue, a group of Rollins students volunteer their time at the Winter Park Community Center. Rollins College collaborated with the City of Winter Park two years ago and developed a mentor program that has been beneficial to the community. Many young kids in first through fifth grade gather together at the center to attend an after-school program similar to an extended day care atmosphere. What takes place at the community center is something that becomes a special experience for both the children involved and the men-

tors catering to the children's specific needs. These kids come from local low-income elementary schools and are supported by the Rollins' mentor program to help with their homework assignments, model good behavior, promote self responsibility; among so many other teaching tools the kids learn from.

Evyn Garner, program coordinator and a Rollins College graduate says "The most amazing thing about the program for me is to see it go from an idea to a sustainable program that has actually made a difference in people's lives and our community. It is so exciting when you are working with a child for three weeks on long division

and then all of a sudden they get it!" Evyn has not only been a big part of this mentor program of Rollins College but also oversees a student organization funding system, co-teach INT 260 Foundations of Leadership and Citizenship, advise two student organizations (Phi Beta Lambda and Rollins Conservatives), and sits in on the Social Event Policy Committee and the Administrative Hearing Panel on campus. Along with her credited work throughout Rollins College, Evyn has definitely become a leader in making this amazing mentor program into what it is today at the community center.



STEPHANIE ELLENBURG/The Sandspur

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

Rollins Students Tutor Winter Park Community Children

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Five days during the week mentors meet with the children Monday through Friday (3:30 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.) and plan ed-

ucational and cultural events during these days of visitation. Usually Fridays include presentations of arts and crafts, science experiments, and career days. There is a book club on Wednesdays, and sometimes the children go on field trips to

the Orlando Science Center, the Rollins College campus, and the Morse Museum. After they finish homework assignments, some girls attend girl scouts or boys go to boy scouts. There are multiple activities presented to the kids, and they are able to

learn through hands on experiences within the program. What Rollins offers in this mentor program is making sure these kids understand the value of getting an education, a future in college, and the looking up to Rollins mentors as their role models

for positive support that the kids need to receive on a daily basis.

If interested in being apart of this mentor program and helping

mold young minds then contact Evyn Garner at egarner@rollins.edu or call her office at (407) 646-2624. It is a big responsibility to lead these children to focus positively on their future, but the reward of their smiling faces is worth every moment. As the inspiring quote by Cadet Maxim displayed on Evyn's email states, "Risk more than others think is safe. Care more than others think is wise. Dream more than others think is practical. Expect more than others think is possible."



STEPHANIE ELLENBURG/The Sandspur



STEPHANIE ELLENBURG/The Sandspur

Laila Lalami Speaks on Illegal Immigration

In lieu of the Rio Grande, the same problem is discussed by visiting author Dr. Lalami as she promotes her book on Moroccan immigrants crossing the Straits of Gibraltar.

Omar Rachid
the sandspur

Moroccan author Laila Lalami visited Rollins recently. She spent nearly a week at the College to promote her new book "Hope and Other Dangerous Pursuits." The event was hosted by the Departments of Anthropology and English.

On Tuesday, October 2, she held a lecture at Tiedke Hall to discuss her new book on four Moroccans who risked their lives by crossing the perilous and heavily-guarded straits of Gibraltar in order to illegally enter Spain. This narrative is released while Congress is trying to pass new laws on illegal immigration, a problem shared by both Spain and the United States.

A native from Rabat, Morocco, she is truly an international figure having earned her BA in English from the Mohammed V

University in Rabat, her Masters in London, and her Ph.D. in Linguistics from the University of Southern California.

Dr. Lalami's book was published in the fall of 2005 and has since been translated into French, Spanish, Italian, Dutch, and Portuguese. She has published works in The New York Times, The Washington Post, The Boston Globe, and the Los Angeles Times. It was from these same newspapers which inspired her to write her first fiction book about four illegal immigrants.

After having read the news of a capsized lifeboat holding fifteen Moroccans two miles away from the Spanish coast, "I was immediately drawn to these immigrants' stories, even though they were seemingly so different from my own," said Lalami. They were trying to cross the Mediterranean Sea through the closest points between Spain and Morocco which is a little under ten miles.

During the lecture she offered an interesting perspective on language and of her passion for linguistics, in which she received a doctorate degree.

She explained how in Morocco French and Arabic are taught simultaneously up to high school but always with the colonial baggage of French as the superior language.

A member of the audience asked about the translation of her works and that opened up a whole other debate. She quoted Dr. Roger Allen from the University of Pennsylvania in say-

ing that there are only around 20 people in the world qualified to do a near-perfect Arabic-English translation. Written in English, her book has been translated to many European languages without her consent, so some of the content has been lost and she cited specifically the gender ambiguity in the title of one of her chapters "The Fanatic" where in French it was translated as "La Fanatique," clearly indicating a feminine fanatic—not her original intention in the English version.

Having spent a decade living in the US, Laila Lalami has been fully acclimatized to the American culture. After having had lunch with her, she admitted that when she first crossed the Atlantic, she was often sick due to the change in her lifestyle and diet. We discussed how in the US, people are shifting away from unhealthy habits—while in Morocco, Latin America, and for most of the developing world it is a sign of status to have processed American food. Peace and tranquility seemed to emanate from her vibrant personality. A very interesting person to converse with and listen to, Dr. Lalami's lecture had invaluable insight on the issue of illegal immigration. Although published and recorded in to her book, the characters she conceived are very much alive in her and she claims that "Sometimes, I can still hear them whisper in my ear."

Social Justice

Julio Carrion
the sandspur

Student involvement is an important facet in any college career, and even more important to a Rollins college students. Students will have the opportunity to get involved in the world, ranging from humanitarian missions to study abroad programs, however coming this October many of us will get a chance to get an early feel for that type of involvement.

I am talking about Social Justice Week and its many events are designed to bring many key social issues into the limelight as well as instilling the drive for involvement in students.

The whole event is being put together by a coalition of clubs, departments, student organizations, and professors. Also outside organizations such as Acorn political activists and others are taking part and lending support to the event.

However despite all the input from these large organizations the most crucial parts that make such an endeavor work are in the hands of students, above all this is an event

created by student and for students. It is hoped that by taking distant topics, topics that may not necessarily be of concern to ourselves, and putting them in a student's perspective one can gain a better understanding of how the issue has impact on our lives as a whole and thus we can have a greater appreciation for it.

Over the course of the coming weeks you should be able to find more information on the events planned as the SJW planners start to promote the event.

They are also looking for more volunteers and other clubs who wish to take part and help. For those interested in helping or simply want more info you can E-mail the Rollins student coordinator Fay Pappas at fpappas@rollins.edu. So when the permits from the busy college life, students are encouraged to participate in Social Justice Week and find out what it means to get involved with the world around them on a deeper scale, who knows what you learn during that week will help you greatly in the long run.

Outside Rollins

USF Student Dies of Meningitis

Brittany Fornof
the sandspur

Sadly, Rachel Futterman, a student at University of Florida, died on Monday after contracting bacterial meningitis. Futterman, who was a member of the Delta Gamma sorority, was feeling ill late this week. After suffering a seizure at the sorority house on Saturday, she was admitted to the hospital where she was placed on life support. Futterman was given a strong antibiotic by Sunday but tragically died on Monday.

Since the news of her death, University of Florida health officials have been answering telephone calls from nervous parents and students who are asking about the causes and risks of meningitis. While calming nerves, officials have also made the effort to properly handle the situation. Students who were recently in close contact with Rachel Futterman were given strong antibiotics. Also, any students who are worried that they may have been around Futterman when she was contagious can get one of the 200 doses of vaccines that are currently available at the school (costing \$90 each.)

Meningitis, sometimes referred to as spinal meningitis, can be caused by two types of infections (viral and bacterial.) It can be defined as the infection of the fluid of the spinal cord and the fluid that surrounds the brain. Meningitis is the inflammation of the meninges, which are protective membranes that cover the central nervous system. Whether the infection is viral or bacterial is significant, because a viral infection, which is the most common form, is generally less severe and don't necessarily need specific treatment, whereas a bacterial infection, which is the second most common form (and what Futterman contracted) needs to be treated by certain antibiotics. Bacterial meningitis tends to be more dangerous and can result in hearing loss, brain damage, a learning disability, and even death.

Bacterial meningitis is contagious. However, it is only spread through coughing, kissing, living with an infected person, or prolonged contact with an infected person. Luckily, unlike the flu, it isn't simply spread through breathing the same air or touching the same household objects.

The symptoms of meningitis (for anyone over two years old) are fever, vomiting, severe headache, rash on body, stiff neck, dislike of bright lights, extreme sleepiness, confusion/delirium, and seizures.

Although meningitis has been contracted by an average of 3,000 people per year and has claimed the lives of about 300 per year, immunization shots have now been widely available to the public. Doctors all over the country as well as the Meningitis Research Foundation are strongly urging teenagers to get a vaccination. Freshmen living in dormitories are more than highly encouraged (if not required) to get a vaccination since they are living in close proximity of each other. Most college health centers have meningitis vaccinations on-hand, and it would be more than wise for college students to take this precaution that is available to them.

For more information on meningitis, visit www.meningitis.org

For scheduling an appointment to receive your meningitis vaccination at Rollins call:
the Dubois Health Center
at (407) 646- 2235.

Why Am I so Tired? The College Culture of Sleep Deprivation

Nicole Fluet
the sandspur

The focus of many college studies tends to be on topics such as drugs, alcohol use and depression, creating the impression that these issues are the biggest problems on college campuses today. However, sleep deprivation causes problems for most college students, making it one of the top issues facing young adults immersed in the college culture today.

"[L]ack of sleep, I think, is a huge issue," says Dr. Richard Kadison of Harvard University, in an interview with Campus Calm. "College students are sleeping an average of 6 1/2 hours each night and they definitely experience symptoms of sleep deprivation, which screws up their immune systems, impairs their academic functioning and makes them more susceptible to depression and bipolar disorder."

According to Dr. Mark Freeman of the Counseling Center at Rollins College, sleep deprivation can cause many problems for students. Freeman says many students get into a cycle, starting by simply staying up too late and not getting to bed or waking up at a consistent time every day.

"In the first two weeks of school, students are often rested and not sleep deprived," says Freeman, who has spoken to organizations on campus about

sleep deprivation. "They are motivated to perform well. Then the college culture of staying up late and not getting enough sleep begins. Students' resilience is compromised and they begin to make mistakes, like missing classes, taking long naps, and feeling tired frequently. This new pattern of sleep deprivation ensues throughout the term and students are constantly fatigued and exhausted until they crash—usually over the weekend."

Many students either suffer from sleep deprivation or know someone who does. "A lot of times, I'll ask how my friends are doing and the most common response is 'I'm tired' or 'I'm exhausted,'" says Lindsay Siegel, a junior, Theater major. "And I feel the same way, too."

Studies show students are more productive when they're busy. Freeman says when teams are in season, players get better grades because they are focused. Finding a balance, he says, is the trick.

"The major downfall of losing sleep is not being tired; it is being exhausted," says Hilary Serra, a senior, English major. "The lack of sleep takes a toll on your body that getting sleep the next night does not always fix."

The fix, however, lies not in getting more sleep the night after loss of sleep, but regulating the sleep cycle. Freeman says going to bed at the same time every night and waking up at the same time every morning is the most important way to solve

sleep deprivation and insomnia. Most important, however, is waking up at the same time every morning, whether a student pulls an all-nighter or not.

In order to fix the sleep cycle, there are key issues to remember. According to Freeman, students should not eat chocolate, drink caffeine or do rigorous exercise after six o'clock in the evening. Naps after four o'clock in the afternoon are also detrimental to sleeping soundly at night. Freeman recommends Sleepy Time Tea, Chamomile Tea, or warm milk before bed to help fall asleep.

Saint Joseph's University's Counseling Center provides a list of ways to solve sleeping problems. Like Freeman, Saint Joseph's recommends waking at the same time in the morning. "Don't panic if you can't sleep," the counseling center says. "Worrying about losing sleep will only keep you awake. Remember that for a short while, the loss of sleep is not dangerous."

Sleep deprivation can cause many problems for students if not addressed and controlled. Chronic sleep deprivation can compromise the immune system. "Get a handle on sleep deprivation," says Freeman. "Better decisions can be made with adequate sleep rather than fatigue."

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Holt News

4

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Finding Scholarship Dollars

Mark Oleson

mct campus

For those that have been successful finding scholarships ("free money") to assist in funding their education, the overriding theme mentioned is persistence.

When searching for scholarships, use all of the resources at your disposal: the Internet, family and friends, the library, your school/potential school, as well as basing your search on different "levels."

LOCAL:

Numerous scholarship opportunities are available within the community in which you reside.

Kiwanis, Elks, Church Groups, and Rotary Clubs are common examples

SPECIFIC SCHOOL:

The notion of conducting 'levels of searches' also holds true at Universities/Colleges.

available for particular fields of study such as teaching, nursing, social work, etc.

SCHOLARSHIP SUGGESTIONS:

- Start early!
- Pay close attention to deadlines
- Read [and follow] the directions closely
- Look outside the box.

Everyone knows about scholarships awarded on academic performance or financial need, but don't overlook scholarships offered by professional or trade organizations. Healthcare, engineering, education, computer science, and social work are all examples.

The military offers scholarships if you're willing to serve ...

There are also plenty of "oddball" scholarships, awards for left-handed students; graduates of specific high schools. Heck, you and your prom date can enter the scholarship fray if you're willing to wear outfits or accessories made out of duct tape to the prom!

Don't believe me? Check it out, www.stuckatprom.com/contests/prom.

When searching for scholarships, be cautious, as



Courtesy of MCT Campus

Free Money: There are numerous scholarship resources available to you at the national, state, local and school level. Be cautious in your search not to fall for one of the many scholarship scams.

Your search should be done at the national, state and local level, as well as by school.

NATIONAL:

There are LOTS of FREE national scholarship search tools, no need to pay the \$50+ that many agencies charge. FastWeb (<http://fastweb.com>) is one of the most popular (it is the largest, most frequently updated database) scholarship searches, other free search sites/tools are listed at:

<http://sfa.missouri.edu/sch-free.php>

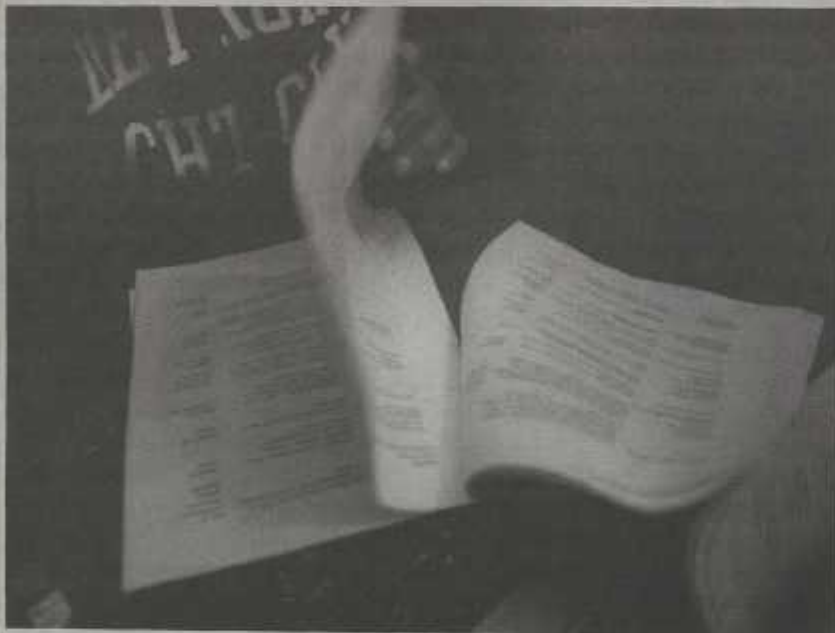
<http://www.finaid.org/scholarships/other.phtml>

<http://www.mapping-your-future.org/features/schrlshp.htm>

STATE:

Your State Department of Higher Education is a great place to start (for example: State of Missouri, www.dhe.mo.gov) as is your State Loan Guarantee Agency (MOHELA in Missouri, www.mohela.com).

There are likely others [depending on your State's educational resources], but these are two offices I'd suggest starting with to find money regardless of where you reside.



There will normally be school-wide options (i.e., <http://sfa.missouri.edu/sch-index.php>).

In addition to applying at the University level, seek out money offered by your college and department of interest. For example, if you were interested in Personal Financial Planning (great idea!), talk to the PFP department about scholarship possibilities, I'd also look at scholarship opportunities within the College of Human Environmental Sciences [in that example].

I'd approach things similarly with any department/college I was applying to.

Something else to consider is if you're interested in a specific field of study. Many "special programs" (loan forgiveness, scholarships, etc.) are

NUMEROUS scams abound.

COMMON SCHOLARSHIP SCAMS:

- (1) Guaranteed scholarship or your money back ...
- (2) This information isn't available anywhere else ...
- (3) "You're a finalist" but never entered the competition ...
- (4) I'll need a card/bank information to hold the scholarship for you ...
- (5) A scholarship search service will do the work for you [hefty fee] ...

the CAREER COACH

Marian Cacciatore

BEST JOB SEARCH SITES

Question:

I am looking for a new job. I want to identify the best job search sites since I will be spending the majority of my time searching electronic job boards.

What are the best job search websites to use?

Answer:

With advances in technology and the number of job search engines there have certainly been changes in how people look for jobs.

Several years ago the National Association of Colleges and Employers (NACE) conducted a survey with employers to determine the effect of technology on the recruiting process.

The survey results pointed to a few key observations:

- Traditional recruiting methods still work well and should not be ignored by prospects.

These non technical approaches including referrals, networking, internships, informational interviewing, job fairs and newspaper ads.

- Most recruiters surveyed admit that Internet web sites had not become a magic bullet or a replacement for more traditional methods.

However, results show that Web sites remain valuable for attracting candidates and for their research value for pre-interview preparation.

- Finally, there is some indication that the use of technology in recruiting depends on the size of company.

In the survey, the company size was based on the number of employees and type of industry.

This survey data supports my recommendation that a

job search should include both electronic and traditional search methods. These electronic search methods include:

- Registering for Rollins College Monster Trak. Registered students and alumni receive email notices of open positions.

- Visit/register for job postings sites that are associated with professional associations.

For example, if a student was interested in human resources I would recommend that targeted sites would include Society of Human Resource Managers (SRHM), Association of Training and Development (ASTD) and the Central Florida Human Resource Association (Central Florida SHRM chapter).

- Identify "companies of interest" and regularly visit the career posting section within the website.

- Major job boards including Monster.com and Indeed.com often result in leads. Indeed.com includes all the job listings from major job boards, newspapers, associations and company career pages.

I want to stress that your job search needs to include both electronic and traditional search methods. While electronic searches may seem "easier and less threatening" an effective search will require you to seek ways to interact with potential employers face to face.

Do you have a question for Marian? Simply email her at mcacciatore@rollins.edu.

Tip of The Week

"As we begin to meet expectations created by our families, schools, and environment, the motivation of our early years shifts from our goals to pleasing others, and often our desire to learn suffers." -Joe Landsberger, Instructor on Keys to Effective Learner

How can YOU motivate yourself?

1. recognize your sense of discovery
2. take responsibility for your learning
3. accept the risks inherent in learning with confidence, competence, and autonomy
4. recognize that "failure" is success: learning what doesn't work is on the same path as learning what does work
5. celebrate your achievement in meeting your goals

Courtesy of: www.studygs.net

'Grammar Girl' Helps Us Speak and Write Better

Lisa Gutierrez
mct campus

We just had to ask.

Grammar Girl, oh goddess of syntax, have you ever corrected graffiti in a bathroom or the language on a restaurant menu?

"No," said Mignon Fogarty, the 40-year-old writer and editor who has launched a campaign to make grammar - dare we say it? - fun.

"But I've just started a (flickr.com) group where people can post bad signs they've seen in the world. I was hesitant to set it up because I felt like it had some of that 'gotcha' feel. But it's fun, and it's a great discussion starter."



Courtesy of MCT Campus
Grammar Girl: Mignon Fogarty has launched a campaign to make grammar fun

Like this crime against grammar found in a job ad posted on mcfloida.com: "My friend's and I love working at McDonald's."

"My friend's WHAT? and I love working at McDonald's?" Fogarty said in a phone interview from her home outside Phoenix. "My friend's vegetarian sister and I love working at McDonald's?"

She's not mocking. Really. That's just not Grammar Girl's style.

Thanks to her popular weekly podcasts with titles such as "The Asterisk (Trust Me About Grammar, Not About Baseball)," Fogarty in just one year has become the country's go-to gal on grammar.

She knows to lie down for a nap and lay a book on a table.

She would never split an infinitive or effect change just for affect.

Armed with a stack of trusty reference books in her home office, she rushes fearlessly into the thorny thickets of language, which vs. that, bad vs. badly, and solves the public's grammar dilemmas at her Web site, grammar.quickanddirtytips.com.

Last month alone her podcasts, that's a kind of Internet radio show you can listen to on an MP3 player or computer, were downloaded more than 600,000 times.

"I knew that there were people out there who cared about grammar, but I honestly didn't know there were so many of them," she said. "And I didn't

know they were online."

Within months of its July 2006 launch, the Grammar Girl podcast was the most popular educational download



on iTunes. It's been downloaded nearly 7 million times in its first year.

Fogarty's new "Grammar Girl's Quick and Dirty Tips to Clean up Your Writing" audio book is already one of the top five of 2007 on iTunes.

And oh, yeah, she's been on "Oprah," too.

Notice that the previous sentence began with the word "and."

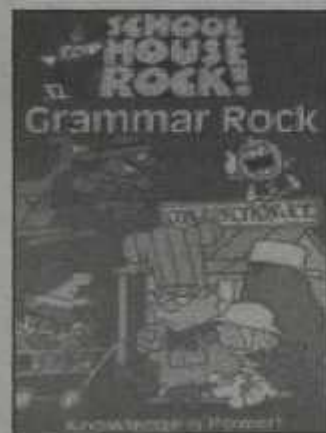
Grammar Girl said we could do it.

(We don't know what she would say about the "yeah.")

"I think of grammar as rules. Think of your 10-year-old nephew and how he will pore over the rules to some game," she said. "Grammar can be like that. It's just rules to the game of writing."

In cyberspace, Grammar Girl has cultivated fans all over the globe, most between the ages of 18 and 45, truck drivers, seamstresses, genealogy buffs in Minnesota, soldiers in Iraq and, not surprisingly, a lot of teachers.

Fans have blessed her with reviews such as this one from a blog run by librarians at Kansas State University:



"Schoolhouse Rock might have gotten you through many a rough patch in middle-school English classes as you hummed the lyrics of Conjunction Junction ... but Schoolhouse Rock could only take us so far. Fortunately, we can all turn to Grammar Girl!"

Fogarty chalks up this clamor for grammar to e-mail.

"We're writing a lot more than we used to," she said. "About 50 percent of the messages I get are from people ask-

ing questions, and 50 percent are from people complaining about something they've seen other people do wrong."

Americans are no grammar clods, though, Fogarty said. "You'll hear people saying, 'Oh, kids today and their bad grammar.' I honestly don't think it's any worse than it used to be."

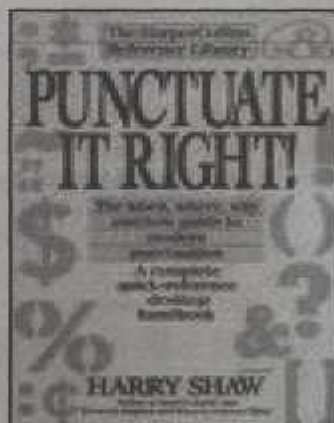
She could wag her finger, but Fogarty is no school marm, which probably accounts for her popularity.

"I think that what people like about my show is that it's fun and friendly and non judgmental," she said.

She has street cred, a bachelor's degree in English from the University of Washington in Seattle and a master's degree in biology from Stanford University.

She was a student journalist, that's where she learned how to use the AP Stylebook, the journalist's bible, and worked for her hometown newspaper outside of Seattle.

After college she wrote magazine articles and technical documents for biotech compa-



nies and produced health and science Web sites. She launched her first podcast, Absolute Science, in October 2005.

Absolute Science attracted listeners and even picked up a podcasting award, but "it wasn't a runaway success," Fogarty said. "Even though it was successful, it became clear that it was never going to take off."

For one thing, it took more than 10 hours a week to produce, and at nearly an hour it was too long, unlike other, shorter podcasts she liked to listen to. She needed a tighter, snappier show, something scripted, something she could do by herself.

"And I had been considering different topics. I had thought about financial tips, I had thought about green living tips, exercise tips, things that I'm kind of interested in," she said. "All were things floating around in my mind."

Her light bulb moment came one day while editing technical documents.

"I had gotten back a draft, and someone had changed a perfectly good 'that' to a 'which' she said. 'And I had changed it in the draft that went to them, so they had undone my edit. And it was wrong."



"I thought, 'This is such a simple rule, and people aren't taught these rules.' I was an English major at the University of Washington, and I never took grammar classes. How is that? I thought, 'Gosh, I must not be the only one.'"

She still had the laptop, software and microphone she'd used for the Absolute Science podcast, and in spite of her husband's initial concern, "You're launching another podcast?", she whipped out three Grammar Girl podcasts in about a week.

The format is simple. Each episode deals with one grammar dilemma, typically spawned by a fan question. The podcasts last only a few minutes, and Fogarty posts the transcripts of each on the Web site.

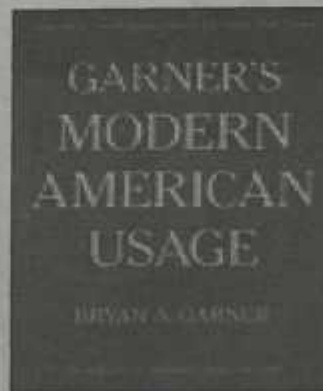
The most popular episodes have been about the things that tripped us up in school and obviously still do. Between or among? Who or whom? What's a comma splice?

Some of the questions are tied to current events.

Was Saddam Hussein hung or hanged, Grammar Girl?

He was hanged, she answered, offering, as she often does, a memory trick: Curtains are hung, people are hanged.

Miguel M. Morales likes Fogarty's quick-and-dirty style.



"I think she's a great resource for student journalists," said Morales, a Johnson County Community College student who links to the Grammar Girl site on his blog, latinoreporter.blogspot.com.

"As students we're constantly listening to lectures, and her podcast episodes are more like a quick mentoring session than a classroom lecture."

Helpful. Smart. Funny. Fans find Grammar Girl to be all those things. And yet, some of them get sweaty-palmed when they send e-mails to her. "People often end their e-mails with 'Please forgive me if I've made any errors,'" she said.

She suspects many people have been burned by those obnoxious grammar mavens skulking around on the Internet.

Yeah, you know who you are.



"A lot of times you'll see, in forums or discussion boards or comments on blogs, that someone will leave a message that has a typo or they've used a word incorrectly," Fogarty said.

"They're making a point about whatever the topic is ... and someone will jump in and discount their entire comment because they've made a grammar error. There's that mentality out there, this 'gotcha' mentality, that makes people afraid."

"That makes people afraid to ask questions, to admit that they don't know something," she said. "And I'm not like that. I'm not going to wave my finger and say you're a bad person."

GRAMMAR GIRL'S FAVORITE RESOURCES

"Punctuate it Right!" Harry Shaw

"Common Errors in English Usage," Paul Brians

"Garner's Modern American Usage," Bryan A. Garner

"The Chicago Manual of Style," University of Chicago Press staff

And the No. 1 grammatical error is ...

"By far, the most common mistake is misusing the apostrophe 's' to make a plural," says Mignon Fogarty, aka Grammar Girl.

"In Britain they call it the green grocer's apostrophe. You'll see the signs in the produce section - 'bananas \$1.50.' I would say that is the No. 1 error that I see out in the world."

Tragic Loss of the Last Great Mime

Brittany Fornof
the sandspur

On Sept. 22, the world said goodbye to one of its most beloved artists. Marcel Marceau, the master of pantomime who created the infamous character named Bip, died at the age of 84. He is to be buried at the Pere-Lachaise cemetery in Paris.

Marcel Marceau, whose original name is Marcel Mangel, was born on March 22, 1923 in Strasbourg, France. Since he and his family were French Jews, they had to flee from eastern France as the Germans began to invade the country. Once his family arrived in southwestern France, they changed their name to Marceau so that the Germans wouldn't be able to identify their heritage. Although he managed to survive the Holocaust, his father was sent to Auschwitz in 1944 and died there. He and his brother, Alain, worked with the French resistance to protect Jewish children by changing children's identity cards so that the Germans would think that they were too young to deport

to concentration camps. Marceau was also recruited as a liaison officer in George S. Patton's army because he spoke English fluently.

Once the war ended, Marceau enrolled in Dullin's School of Dramatic Art, where he studied under Etienne Decraux. When he was a young boy, his father, who sang as a baritone, introduced him to the world of music and theatre. In 1947, Marceau debuted his now world famous Bip, the white-faced clown-like character who was known for his striped sailor suit and humble hat with a red flower placed on top. In 1949, Marceau and his mime troupe were the only performers of their kind in the world. They spent the next 10 years traveling around the world putting on performances and it is because of this fact that Marceau is recognized for single-handedly reviving the art of mime after World War II.

Marceau's various other accomplishments include directing the Ecole de Internationale de Mime from 1969-1971 as well as in 1978, founding the Ecole International de Mimodrama in Paris. He also featured in Mel Brooke's "Silent Movie", where he had the only speaking part, which he uttered "Non!" as well

as various other films. In 2002, Marceau was chosen as a UN goodwill ambassador for a conference on aging.

"Bip" has traveled the world and become a favorite in places such as the United States, Japan, Mexico, Australia and China. Although he may not be present anymore, his influence and memory will always live on, especially as people recollect this sad and pale-faced character hopping around the stage performing such famous acts as "Youth, Maturity, Old Age, Death", when he silently depicted the various phases of life. Today, even the younger generations who have never heard of Marceau have been impacted by his work. For instance, they may have seen Michael Jackson's infamous moonwalk, which originated from one of Marceau's sketches, "Walking against the Wind."

Marcel Marceau has had an inexplicable impact on the world of pantomime. If it weren't for his persistent efforts, it might have become just another extinct art form. So to Marceau, we say thank you. Thank you for touching the hearts of thousands throughout the world with your silent art.



COURTESY OF MCT CAMPUS

Can You Hear Me Now? With the recent loss of the man who brought the silent art of pantomime to the masses, we now begin our search for The World's Next Top Mime, premiering on FOX.

Halo 3: Time to Finish the Fight?



COURTESY OF MCT CAMPUS

HEAD SHOT! Pausing in mid-battle, Julio Carrion poses for a sandspur photo shoot.

Julio Carrion
the sandspur

The day has come and gone,

the tent cities have vanished, Store owners are rebuilding their trashed stores, and Microsoft announces they are pulling out of the red into green for the first time in months. All is quiet and calm on the outside, so it

seems.

For those who do not know (albeit for supposedly rational reasons) about the significance of 09/25/07 simply turn the page now for you probably want nothing to do with what has become the greatest one day video game release in history, something that brought in \$170 million dollars in one day in the U.S. alone.

Halo 3.

It deserves its own sentence unobstructed by any flashy words or proper grammar. Halo 3 brings to an end the climactic story of everybody's favorite Spartan whose name is not Leonidas, Master Chief and those fun, alien killing, smart allecking Marines as they stand with their backs against the wall as humanity begins to fall to the fanatical Covenant ("the alien bad guys") invasion, all while an even greater threat simply bides its time to finish its insidious plot. Let there be no mistake this game is about alien shooting, blasting, crushing, ramming, slicing, killing, stomping, smashing, eviscerating, sticking, "needling," frying/flame-broiling, bashing, fragging, sniping, trip mining, flying, falling, "lasering" (yes, they do use this term), splatting, assassinating, grinding, plus any other conceivable way to put A) Grunt to B) alien ver-

sion of the afterlife! When you put Master Chief plus the Arbiter together you get many a dead xenos. Having finally beat the game myself (now working on Legendary) don't worry about the cliffhangers that came with the last game, the story will have you on the edge of your seat increasingly to the end.

The game mixes the old with the new in a satisfying combination with all that you know and love being added too by whole new set of goodies.

The new items of equipment, which are nifty little gadgets that can be fun and useful at the same time, Heavy weapons like chain guns, rocket pods, and flamethrowers, and new vehicles (watch out Banshee lovers for the skies will have a new bird stalking it, the Hornet) adding to an already excellent gaming experience. Multiplayer is as intense as ever as people take their heavily customized Spartans and Elites into the maelstrom of battle for honor, glory, and the right to gloat over those prepubescent noobs. The administering of bragging rights is made easier with the new combat camera that lets you tape your matches from every angle, allowing you to save your most glorious moments for posterity. Also the game ships with the "Forge" map editor, while not a true map editor (you can't really

make your own maps, you have to use an existing "level" to customize it), it truly opens up the possibilities for some interesting scenarios.

The only critiques I have heard come from this department and the issues that rise from the camera not working, right or the forge not living up to its full potential.

All this guarantees many a late night arguing with thirteen year olds over who got the most headshots or with the bunny hopping jerk that can't drive to save his life or for that matter yours, ah the fun!

All in all Halo 3 hits the mark marvelously by bringing to culmination the perfect balance of amazing story, insanely solid game play, gorgeous graphics (when you stop fighting the 10-foot tall monster with a beam cannon for an arm just so you can watch the serene scenery and pretty water that's good graphics) and ultimately the promises kept by its creators.

It is a game trilogy for a generation, having set the bar so high one wonders what could surpass it. So once more into the fray! Grab your rifle, check your shields, and in the timeless words of Sgt. Avery Johnson "blast through any inhuman sea of a %&? that is dumb enough to get in your way!" Time to finish the fight!

SEASON OF CONFLICT

Fall films take on serious issues, most noticeably the war in Iraq



BY CARLA MEYER
McClatchy-Tribune

F or film lovers, the start of the fall season represents the equivalent of going back to school. And this fall, moviegoers' major will be political science.

Iraq and the Middle East figure heavily in fall and holiday films, starting this month with "In the Valley of Elah," inspired by a true story of a tragedy involving an Iraq war veteran, and "The Kingdom," an action drama centered on a terrorist act in Saudi Arabia.

Other films will look at the reverberations of past actions. "Charlie Wilson's War" depicts a real-life lawmaker's (Tom Hanks) efforts to arm Afghan rebels during the 1980s. Because it stars Hanks and Julia Roberts, and because the events in question seem to have occurred safely in the past, "Charlie" is a safe bet at the box office. "The Kingdom," starring Jamie Foxx, can draw from the action crowd.

But the Iraq-specific films could face an uphill battle. Moviegoers didn't exactly line up for "United 93" or "World Trade Center."

Still, it's heartening to see filmmakers take on challenging subject matter, especially after a summer season when the liveliest discussions involved the societal implications of "Knocked Up."

Here is a selective list of fall's more serious-minded films. (Release dates are subject to change.)

SEPT. 21

"Eastern Promises": The death of a young mother leads a midwife (Naomi Watts) to seek out her baby's family — and to trouble within a London criminal syndicate.

"In the Valley of Elah": In this picture from director Paul Haggis ("Crash"), a crime involving an Iraq war veteran who has returned to the U.S. prompts his father (Tommy Lee Jones) to investigate with the help of a local police detective (Charlize Theron).



Jamie Foxx stars in "The Kingdom," set in Saudi Arabia.

SEPT. 28

"The Kingdom": Foxx plays an FBI agent who gathers a special team to find the man responsible for a deadly attack on a housing compound in Saudi Arabia.

OCT. 5

"Into the Wild": Directed by Sean Penn and based on the Jon Krakauer book about real-life wanderer Christopher McCandless, the film explores the young man's (Emile Hirsch) decision to chuck all he had and live in the Alaskan wilderness.

"Grace Is Gone": John Cusack plays an Iraq war widower who takes his daughters on a road trip, partly so he can avoid telling them their mother is dead.

OCT. 12

"Michael Clayton": George Clooney plays a fixer of messes at a law firm who encounters a fine one when a top litigator (Tom Wilkinson) goes haywire.

OCT. 19

"Gone Baby Gone": In Denzel Washington's directorial debut, based on a book by Dennis Lehane ("Mystic River"), Affleck's brother Casey plays a Boston private investigator in search of a missing 4-year-old girl.

"Lust, Caution": Ang Lee's first film since "Brokeback Mountain," set in World War II Shanghai and starring Hong Kong

superstar Tony Leung ("Hero"), Joan Chen and young Chinese actress Tang Wei, is an espionage thriller with strong erotic content.

"Rendition": In this thriller, an American woman's (Reese Witherspoon) Egyptian-born husband vanishes after taking a flight from South Africa to the United States. Jake Gyllenhaal plays a CIA analyst unsettled by the manner in which the husband is interrogated at a secret facility.

OCT. 26

"Reservation Road": Terry George ("Hotel Rwanda") directs this drama, featuring the intense trio of Mark Ruffalo, Joaquin Phoenix and Jennifer Connelly, in which the lives of two families intersect after a tragedy.

"Things We Lost in the Fire": Halle Berry plays a recent widow who turns to her husband's troubled friend (Benicio Del Toro) in her grief.

NOV. 2

"The Kite Runner": Marc Forster ("Finding Neverland") directs this adaptation of Khaled Hosseini's sweeping tale of two Afghan boys from very different backgrounds.

"American Gangster": Russell Crowe is a cop and Denzel Washington is a drug lord in 1970s Harlem. Ridley Scott ("Gladiator") directs.

NOV. 9

"Lions for Lambs": Interweaving story lines from Washington, Afghanistan and California academia, this film stars Tom Cruise as a presidential hopeful, Meryl Streep as a journalist and Robert Redford as an idealistic college professor.

"No Country for Old Men": In the Coen brothers' ("Fargo") adaptation of the Cormac McCarthy novel, Javier Bardem plays a single-minded killer and Josh Brackin a hunter who makes an ill-advised choice.

NOV. 16

"Love in the Time of Cholera": Expect magical realism in director Mike Newell's ("Harry Potter and the Goblet of Fire") adaptation of Gabriel Garcia Marquez's masterpiece about a man (Javier Bardem) who holds a torch for half a century.

NOV. 21

"I'm Not There": Christian Bale, Heath Ledger and Cate Blanchett (17) are among the actors playing Bob Dylan in Todd Haynes' ("Far From Heaven") musical biopic.

NOV. 30

"Cassandra's Dream": This Woody Allen crime drama focuses on brothers played by Ewan McGregor and Colin Farrell.

DEC. 14

"I Am Legend": Will Smith is a scientist who finds he's the last man on Earth.

DEC. 21

"Atonement": In this adaptation of the 2002 Ian McEwan novel, a girl's false accusation about her sister's (Keira Knightley) lover changes lives.

DEC. 25

"Charlie Wilson's War": A congressman (Tom Hanks) assists the Afghan mujahideen in battling the Soviets — with the help of a Texas socialite (Julia Roberts). Aaron Sorkin ("The West Wing") wrote the screenplay. Mike Nichols directs.

On the lighter side

Not all of the fall and holiday films contain serious messages. Here's a roundup of some humorous (we hope) alternatives.

Amanda Dynes goes to college in **"Sydney White"** (Sept. 21), a reworking of "Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs" set in the Greek system. ... **"The Heartbreak Kid"** (Oct. 5) reunites "There's Something About Mary" star Ben Stiller with the Farrelly brothers. In the remake of the 1972 film starring Charles Grodin, Stiller is a groom who falls for someone else on his honeymoon. ... **"The Comebacks"** (Oct. 19) sports inspirational sports movies. Ben Brady directs. But not that Tom Brady. In **"Don in Real Life"** (Oct. 26), Silvio Chelid is an advice columnist attracted to a stranger (Juliette Binoche) who turns out to be his brother's (Dane Cook) new girlfriend.

In **"Flirt, Fat Boy, Run"** (Oct. 26), Simon Pegg from "Shaun of the Dead" and "Hot Fuzz" plays a guy who wants to compete in a marathon to impress the fiancée (Thandie Newton) he abandoned. ... George Clooney directs and stars in **"Leatherheads"** (Dec. 7). He plays a 1920s football captain vying with the team's new star (John Krasinski) of "The Office" for the affections of a local journalist (Renée Zellweger).



Jason Schwartzman, Owen Wilson and Adrien Brody play brothers trying to bond in India in October's "The Darjeeling Limited."

Jason Schwartzman, Owen Wilson and Adrien Brody play brothers trying to bond in India in October's **"The Darjeeling Limited,"** directed by Wes Anderson ("The Royal Tenenbaums"). ... Noah Baumbach ("The Squid and the Whale") showcases Nicole Kidman as the difficult sister of bride-to-be Jennifer Jason Leigh in December's **"Margot at the Wedding."**

Jack Nicholson and Morgan Freeman play cancer patients embarking on a series of adventures in **"The Bucket List"** (December or early 2008). Rob Reiner directs. ... The Nicolas Cage sequel **"National Treasure: Book of Secrets"** (Dec. 21) is not a comedy. But Helen Mirren following her Oscar-winning turn in "The Queen" with a role as Cage's mother is kind of funny.

And finally, **"Walk Hard: The Dewey Cox Story"** (Dec. 21) calls out musical biopics on their clichés. Co-written by Judd Apatow ("Knocked Up"), the film stars John C. Reilly as a hard-drinking musician from a tough background.

AIMED AT THE TOTS

Jerry Seinfeld lends his voice to Barry B. Benson, a recent college graduate who dreams of a life beyond the hive, in **"Bee Movie"** (Nov. 2). Seinfeld also produced and co-wrote the animated comedy. ... Vince Vaughn plays Sam's (Paul Giamatti) resentful older brother in **"Fred Claus"** (Nov. 9). In the "Charlie and the Chocolate Factory" sequel **"Mr. Magorium's Wonder Emporium"** (Nov. 16), Dustin Hoffman is owner of a magical toy store and Natalie Portman the store manager to whom he bequeaths the business.



"Bee Movie"

In Disney's **"Enchanted"** (Nov. 21), Amy Adams ("Junebug") portrays Giselle, a princess who emerges from animated form into present-day Manhattan and the apartment of a divorce lawyer (Patrick Dempsey). ... In **"The Perfect Holiday"** (Dec. 14), a little girl asks a department-store Santa (Morris Chestnut) to help find her divorced mother (Gabrielle Union) a new husband.

BLOODY BUSINESS

That rip in the air means chills on the screen in these thrillers and horror films.

Milla Jovovich continues her campaign to be America's foremost B actress with **"Resident Evil: Extinction"** (Sept. 21). Jigsaw is dead but his legacy of creative torture lives on in **"Saw IV"** (Oct. 26). ... **"The Mist"** (Nov. 21) holds creepiness in Frank Darabont's ("The Shawshank Redemption") third adaptation of a Stephen King tale. ... The vampire's natural enemy, daylight, unfortunately doesn't factor in the Alaska set **"30 Days of Night"** (Oct. 19), based on the graphic novel. ... What's that under the Christmas tree? Why, it's **"Aliens vs. Predator"** (Dec. 25). Don't forget the air holes.

Kid Nation: Too Good to be True

Calby Loetz
the sandspur

Kid Nation airs Wednesdays on CBS and features forty kids ages 8-15 who are expected to live for forty days without adult intervention. The children have elected their own town council with one representative from each of the four color divisions. Every week the four divisions compete in a physical challenge to determine what their jobs and salaries will be for the week. The team that finishes first becomes the upper class while the team that finishes last becomes the laborers. No matter what their job status, the kids are encouraged to work hard and cooperate because the town council votes for one kid to receive a gold star worth \$20,000 at the end of each episode.

The children didn't have to build the actual town, but instead inhabited an old western ghost town called Bonanza. Bonanza even holds a journal written by a past settler which tells the children the secrets they will need to know to survive. On



COURTESY OF MCT CAMPUS

YIPPEE! Grinning with anticipation, two little girls prepare to kill, pluck, and cook an innocent little chicken on the set of Kid Nation, a new reality TV show which closely resembles today's American political system.

this week's episode the journal suggested that the kids eat one or two of the chickens that they had. Predictably this created a divide in the town over whether or not the kids should kill and eat their chickens or not.

One of the kids, Emily, 9,

was very against this idea and commented "I don't want to eat the chickens because it's cruel... animals are our friends." Emily even threatened to go home and leave the show if the other kids killed the chickens, and when

that didn't work she lead a small gathering into the chicken coop and attempted to lock everyone in by tying knots around the gate with a few leather straps. Eventually the town council held a vote and ruled that

chicken noodle soup was on the menu for dinner.

While the kids appeared to be mature in figuring out important problems such as voting on how to handle the chicken crisis, the kids also demonstrated why they were still in fact a kid nation. The week's episode featured a few girls that had decided to open a business as pet babysitters where they watched, changed, and brushed other kids' stuffed animals. Some of the kids also decided that it was too early and too cold for them to go to the kitchen and cook for everyone so they decided to sleep in and make the whole group wait for their breakfast.

Kid Nation may seem to focus on the efforts of forty kids who have successfully formed a functioning town, but behind this façade is really just a town built, organized, and facilitated by adults. The only thing that remains "kid" about Kid Nation is the relationships between the kids and their youthful ambitions.

Blissful Class on Church Street

Jessie Benson
the sandspur

You may have walked past it going to your favorite Church Street hang-out, but next time make a stop into Bliss, Orlando's Premier Ultra Lounge. Right down the street from Antigua and Latitudes, Bliss caters to a chic clientele. The super-lounge is like a dance club, only with less dancing. Bliss opened at the beginning of the summer and is located at 123 West Church Street.

The red ropes and bouncers in black suits give a little hint of the scene inside. Seeing as the dress code is strictly enforced, the bar and dance floor are filled with well-dressed men and women mostly in their mid to late twenties. Amid the Citizen jeans and Chanel purses the bartenders seemed rather strangely dressed. They were wearing boy shirts and button-downs with hideous boots. Other than these girls the atmosphere was extremely classy.

This cosmopolitan venue was designed with intoxication of the senses in mind. Each

room is distinguished by a particular hue and above each VIP table is an inset promotional television. For a more exclusive milieu there is a VIP lounge upstairs where seven private balconies allow you to see the entire venue, including the dancers on stage.

It is rare to find a reasonably priced drink at an ultra lounge like this, but surprisingly you can find one at Bliss. Mixed drinks start at \$5 and if you want to splurge, the martinis are between \$11 and \$14.

Wednesday is Ladies Night, where every group of four ladies receives a complimentary bottle of champagne and free drinks until midnight.

The service was impressive. As soon as we entered we were lead to a VIP table where the manager brought over our bottle of champagne and strawberries to go with it. Since we were there early it was fairly empty at first. But the crowd steadily began to arrive around 12:00. The dance floor remained empty for the majority of the night but the music was DJ-mixed house and hip hop. So if you are looking for a little change of pace from the usual Fiddler's crowd, head to Bliss to see and be seen.

Foo Fighters: Echoes, Silence, Patience, and Grace

James Colston
the sandspur

The Foo Fighters' latest studio album *Echoes, Silence, Patience, and Grace* just hit stores a couple weeks ago on Tuesday, September 25th. Their sixth album has a lot to live up to as it is coming from currently one of the most respected mainstream rock bands around. The Fighters returned to work with Gil Norton, the producer who worked with them on their masterpiece second studio album *The Colour and the Shape*. In the end, this album might not seem like it lives up to expectations due to a slightly different style and direction that traditional Foo Fighters' fans are not used to, but after a few listens it should definitely grow on you.

"The Pretender"- An obvious choice for both an opening song and leadoff single. Grohl wastes no time in 9/10

"Let it Die"- Starts out slow like "The Pretender" did, but takes a lot longer to pick up steam for a vocally explosive ending. The acoustic makes brief appearances throughout the song. Also features a cameo by former guitarist Pat Smear. 8/10

"Erase/Replace"- One of my favorite songs on the album. The bombastic guitar that per-

meated the first two songs continues throughout the entirety of this one, also lending to 10/10

"Long Road to Ruin"- Although not as rock-heavy or brash as "Erase/Replace," this song remains upbeat and continues the brief non-acoustic guitar streak of the album. It also has one of the better guitar solos of the album. 9/10

"Come Alive"- The beginning acoustics of the song simmers down the pace of the album and heads into another vocally brash ending. 7/10

"Stranger Things Have Happened"- The first entirely acoustic song of the album, "Stranger Things Have Happened" displays the Fighter's new musical direction at its best. 9/10

"Cheer Up Boys (Your Make Up is Running)"- More melodic than many of the other songs, this song evokes faint memories of the Fighter's debut single "This is a Call," which is certainly not a bad thing. 8/10

"Summer's End"- Keeping with the melodic overtones, "Summer's End" has a slightly slower pace than the previous song, but has another great guitar solo that can't be missed. 8/10

"Ballad of the Beaconsfield's Miners"- Definitely the curveball of the album, this non-lyrical acoustic duet features Kaki King and is a tribute to the miners from the Beaconsfield mine collapse. Very nice relaxing instrumentals. 7.5/10

"Statues"- The most musi-

cally different song of the album other than "Beaconsfield's Miners" features a piano throughout that plays into Grohl's melodic voice very well. 9/10

"But, Honestly"- Definitely the best song on the album for lead guitarist Chris Shiflett, this song begins acoustically like many of the others but this time leads into a musically explosive ending rather than a vocal one. 9/10

"Home"- The last track definitely the most lyrical of the album, seeming to evoke Grohl's emotions as a songwriter, musician, and now family man. Wallflower's Rami Jaffe's piano plays into the words extremely well. 8/10

Overall- 9/10

The Foo Fighters have solidified themselves as staples of rock culture, and this album only reiterates Dave Grohl's musical prowess. The lyrical value of the CD might not be the best, but the between Grohl's brash vocals and the acoustic guitars this album lives up to hype and expectations. I'm not sure if this album is the Fighter's best yet as Dave professes, as *The Colour and the Shape* is still a little better, but this album is certainly a step up from *In Your Honor* and places a close second to *The Colour and the Shape*. While it may be labeled as a "transitional" album by some, it stands as an amazingly choreographed CD in its own right.

Students Spend Summer Participating in the Olympics of Music

During the summer of 2007, three Rollins music students traveled the country competing in the Drum and Bugle Corps International Competitions (DCI). DCI is considered the "Olympics" of music.

Beth and Danny Gottlieb
artists in residence

Students go through a competitive audition process for the various Drum and Bugle Corps, located throughout the United States. The auditions are extremely vigorous, lasting several months. The auditions start in November and continue through March, during which a student can get "cut" at any time. After passing the final cuts, students become members of a group, move in May, and travel the United States throughout the summer.

Rollins senior Jose Eslava, sophomore Justin Braun, and freshman Scott Radock are three students who endured the vigorous audition process and became "stars" in the music field this summer. Eslava and Braun are members of the Boston Crusaders corp from Boston, MA, and Radock was a member

of the Glassmen from Toledo, OH.

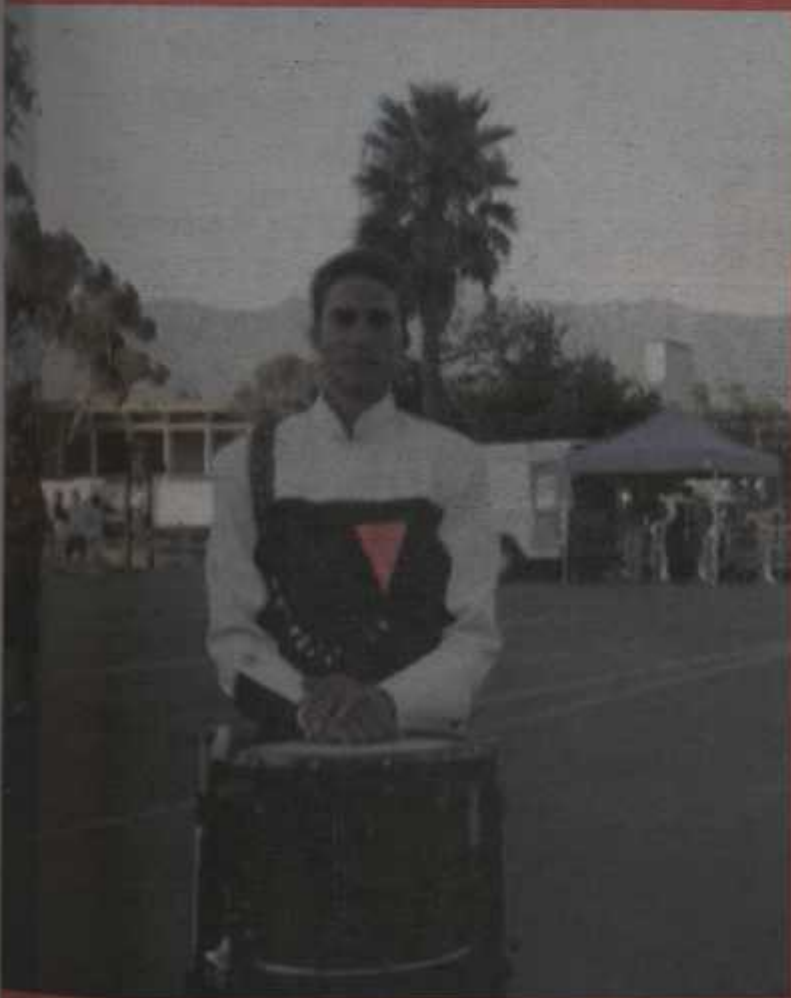
During the school year, each corp has "camps" that last Friday through Sunday, where the rehearsal schedule can last up to 17 hours a day. In the middle of May, members fly to their respective corps and go through "everydays," which are like boot camp - some former DCI members who have gone on to the Marines say DCI was tougher. Members follow a rigorous schedule during the everydays. They wake at 7 a.m. and follow a grueling schedule of stretching, practice drills, rehearsals and more until midnight.

After three to four weeks of "everydays," corps leave to go on the road. This past summer all the corps (about 50 in the U.S.) traveled to 40 different states and Canada. Performances took place in some of the biggest stadium venues in the country, including the Atlanta Georgia Dome, Mile High Stadium in Denver and Giant stadium. Performances were also held at major universities such as Stanford,



COURTESY OF JOSE ESLAVA

WE MADE IT: The Boston Crusaders Drum and Bugle Corps received 9th place in the DCI World Championship at the Rose Bowl in Pasadena, CA. Justin JB Braun and Jose Eslava stand tall on the finals field.



COURTESY OF BETH GOTTLIEB

SET! Completely focussed, Scotty Radock mentally prepares for the performance of his lifetime. Which corps will he march next summer?

Louisville and Houston, culminating with the DCI Finals at the Rose Bowl in Pasadena, CA. The road trip lasted from the beginning of June to August 11.

Where do they sleep, eat, rest, and rehearse? Well, the corps don't stay in hotels. The 135 members and 25 staff drive all night in buses after a competition. If they arrive at a destination in the middle of the night, everyone pulls out their sleeping bags and finds a spot on a school gym floor. While on the road, the corp members usually wake up at 7 a.m. and spend the day practicing and getting ready for that night's show.

Getting ready for the show means cleaning and polishing their instruments, getting into uniforms and preparing mentally to perform. At 5 p.m., most corps leave for the stadium, arrive, unload, warm up, rehearse and compete. Corps usually leave the venue well after midnight and drive to the next destination to do it all again!

The summer culminated with the DCI finals week in Pasadena where 50,000 people jammed the Rose Bowl for three nights straight to watch and support the participants in the quarter finals, semi finals and

finals. Out of the 50 or so corps in the U.S., only 12 make finals. It's a grueling, heart wrenching week. The difference in scores, just like the Olympics, can be measured in very minute intervals. There are judges on and off the field for brass, percussion, marching, flag waving, rifle twirling, dancing, general effect and musicality. The total number of points awarded are subject to the judges views, and they are very tough. ESPN broadcast the finals on national television, and all three Rollins students made the finals and were featured in the broadcast!

As Rollins music faculty members and parents, we are so proud of what these three students have accomplished in DCI activity. This summer participation is no easy task, and it is an adjustment musically and socially. Members are under constant pressure to perform at their highest level. Physically, participants are subject to repeated practices, often in 100 degree heat. Participants come back in the best shape they've ever been in and have developed friendships for life. Corps members have to function as a family 24/7.

We were personally able to

attend performances in Jacksonville, Alabama, Louisville, Kentucky, Stanford, Clovis and Pasadena. As parents we delivered much needed extra food to the students; as music educators we provided the musical support and love. It was an amazing experience for all and a summer not to be forgotten. The Rollins community should be proud of the accomplishments of these three amazingly dedicated students.

Life & Times

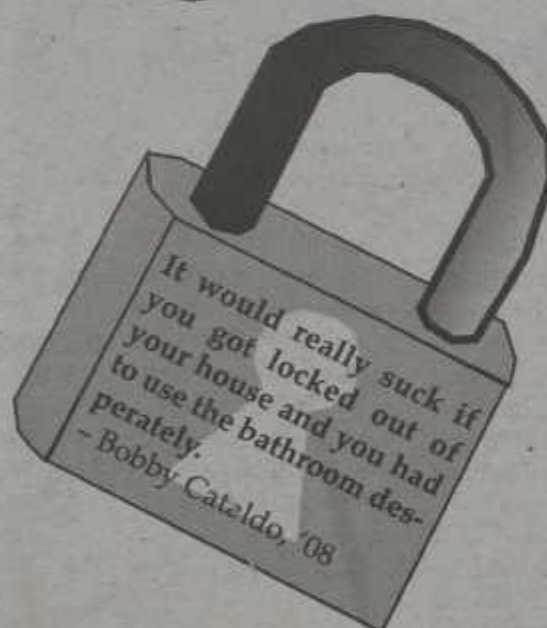
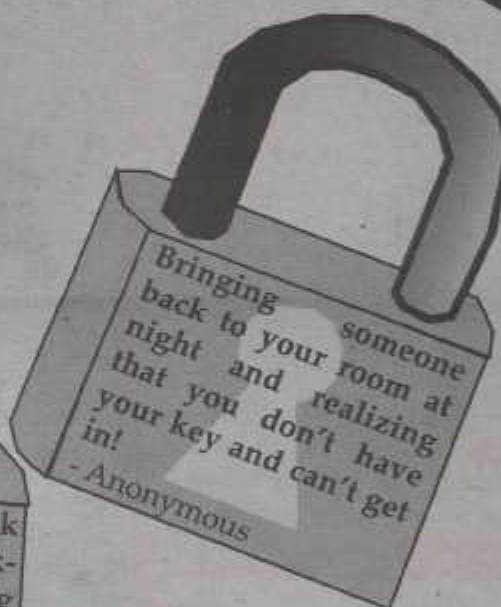
EDITOR: AMY IARROBINO
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WHAT IS THE WORST POSSIBLE SITUATION YOU COULD BE IN WHEN YOU GET LOCKED OUT OF YOUR ROOM?

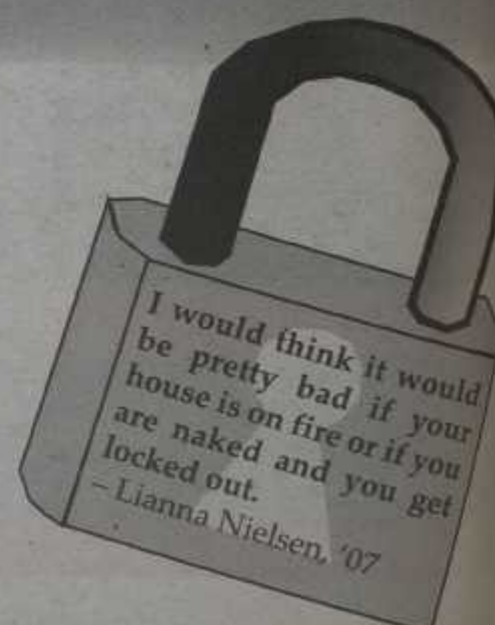
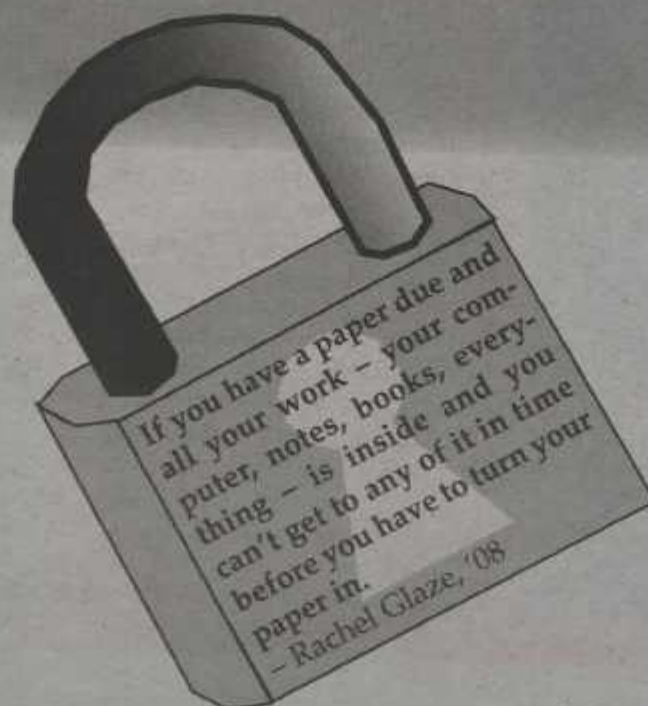
It happens to the best of us – we all sometimes experience a premature “senior moment.” No one, or at least no one that I know, has been able to escape at least one forgetful incidence. Granted, some are a little luckier than others, it still happens to us all. Be it locking your keys in your car, leaving your homework at home, putting the cereal in the fridge and the milk in the pantry, absent-minded situations prey on people of all ages. One common scenario is getting yourself locked out – either out of your dorm room, apartment or house. The somewhat upside of locking yourself out of a dorm room is the fact that campus safety can come unlock your room in a matter of moments. Living in a house or apartment is not quite so easy, or forgiving, in these kinds of situations. Here’s what Rollins students had to say about what they imagined the worst possible situation to be in when getting locked out:

Nikki Fiedler
the sandspur



TRUE STORY

One Sunday, after a rather eventful 21st birthday party, my roommates and I all went for a drive in search of some quick and easy breakfast/lunch. Needless to say, we were all very lethargic and had a lot of homework to catch up on. Upon our tired return, my roommate that had been driving announced she did not have the house key. Of course, we all thought this was some sort of twisted, not so funny joke until we realized she really didn't have the house key. We ended up having to drive to a friend's house who called her dad to come break down our door.
- Meredith Walsh, '08



One Time At...

One time during my freshman year of high school, we had to wear uniforms that were kilts and blazers. In winter there was this sheet of ice that always formed on the ground outside the auditorium but I didn't know about it yet. One morning I was running out of morning meeting and I slipped and fell on my back, with my legs in the air, and everyone saw my underwear and chanted "freshman, freshman."

-Kit Kimmerle

One time in preschool I had a crush on this kid named Bryan Stapanic. At recess we decided to have a contest to see who could hang upside-down on the monkey bars the longest. I started peeing though, and the pee went up my pants and got all over me because we were upside-down. My teacher found me crying in the bathroom and called home.

-Kit Kimmerle

One time when my family went to Colorado for a family ski trip, my brother figured he would teach me

how to snowboard. As we came down the bunny slope I noticed I was headed for these padded poles in front of the concession stand. I couldn't stop and plowed through all four of them, and everyone that was outside drinking their hot cocoa started laughing and pointing at me on the ground.

-Katie Starling

One time my roommate found this beetle in my hair and we both went running into the hallway screaming hysterically. I started shaking my head to get the bug out, and everyone came out into the hallway to see what we were screaming about. I started running down the hallway screaming about the bug in my hair and no one would help. We suddenly realized we had gotten locked out and my roommate was just in her bra!

-Lauren Smilanich

One time last year during a basketball game, I wore XXL shorts because the team shorts were so short that unless I did they looked ridiculous. During a game my coach saw that my pants were sagging every time I ran down the court and took me out of the game to talk to me. When I told him my pants were too big he pulled up my shirt in front of everyone and taped my pants to my body so that they wouldn't fall down.

-Walker Holloway



Desiree Masucci

Nicole Fiedler
the sandspur

What are your extracurricular activities?

Rollins Dancers and Rollins Players

What do you like to do in your spare time?

I enjoy hanging out with friends, especially the people from my study-abroad trip to Australia! I also love to shop. I like to read a good book in my room or at Starbucks, relax, listen to music or draw. I do like to party. Another fun thing I like to do is visit the puppy store on Colonel Drive! Also, I am trying to spend as much time with my friends from Rollins before we all start to go our separate ways.

What do you plan on doing upon graduation?

I am hoping to qualify for an assistantship position at a graduate school of my preference to pursue a career path in costume/make-up design for stage and film and continue my education - or I will have to get a job. I hope to find one in my field and move to Los Angeles or New York, or maybe even London.

Your favorite class at Rollins and why?

I really enjoy the various dance classes offered at Rollins. It is a good way to relax, do some cardio, and forget about your other outside worries or stresses. We concentrate on focused breathing and that is very relaxing.

Favorite thing about Rollins:

The location in comparison to Park Ave. and other establishments in Winter Park! It comes in handy that you do not have to drive everywhere if you just need one or two things from a drug store or want to just have a nice bite to eat with some friends. And most off-campus events or get-togethers/parties are in walking distance, which lowers reckless or drunk driving. It's a nice little secluded community. And I love our college's campus. It's very lush and beautiful.

Least favorite thing about Rollins:

I don't particularly like is the number of student parking slots there are in ratio to teachers' parking spaces. Also, maybe the number of washers/dryers in the dormitories could be expanded. I live in McKean, and we only have 1 floor with 6 washers and 6 dryers for a building of 5 floors with a lot of students; there really should be washers and dryers on every floor! I also don't like the one printer/copier we have in the Olin library. It is not efficient for all the students printing in the library and one always gets the printing materials mixed in with someone else's.

What is a random fact people might not know about you?

I've lived in the campus dorms (excluding Sutton apartments) all 4 years with no desire to move off campus.

Share a funny/interesting story that happened to you at Rollins:

Many say the Annie Russell is haunted. I know for a fact it is. In my years constantly working in the theatre for long hours, with some very late evenings, I have had 2 ghost encounters with one of the many ghosts that is said to haunt the Annie Russell Theatre. Theatre majors believe that Annie Russell herself haunts the theatre but that she looks after her students and protects them. I was paint crew head for the play "12th Night" and I was in charge of making sure the entire set was painted. I was painting underneath the stage set putting criss-cross line cables underneath it for support. I remember no one was around and it was dark and uncomfortable. All of a sudden, I felt a hand run down my back as if it was trying to calm me and immediately I felt better. I thought it was my old Technical Director, Adam, who would sometimes drop in from his office and check on my work. But when I turned around, no one was there! Another time, for "Pack of Lies," I was painting a kitchen door that had a window. All of a sudden, in the reflection of the plexi-glass, I saw an older woman behind me walking across the stage and shooting me a smile. When I turned around, no one was there.

What advice would you give underclassmen?

Be nice, respectful, and make friends with the people who work on campus: the lunch ladies in the Cafe like Fatima and Cho, Sanita and Kelly in Diane's, Chris and Ivan, Robert and all the wonderful people in Campus Security, the ladies in the Olin Library and Student Records, all the cleaning ladies especially Natasha and Jackie, and the gardeners who keep your campus so nice and clean constantly - because it's these people, aside from your teachers, who really make the difference on campus. They will help you out in more ways than you will ever know, especially if you are nice to them and they remember who you are. Say hello to all these types of people when you see them around campus. Smile in the morning on your way to class and say good morning. Make conversation if a security officer gives you an escort across campus. And always say thank you; it's polite and the least you can do for



Name: Desiree Masucci
Major/Minor: Theatre Art/Dance
Hometown: Miami, Florida

Dessert in Your Dorm?

A prelude to the Cooking Show for College Students coming soon to R-TV

Ariel Krieger
the sandspur

Dilemma: You want to cook for your sweetheart, or rather make them some scrumptious desert. Only one problem; you live in a dorm room. A quintessential dorm room has a microwave, toaster, fridge, oh and that's it! How can you impress your man or lady? I'll tell you the answer is quite simple... a microwave! Here is a delicious dessert that you can make in the comfort of your dorm room, all of the ingredients can be found at the C-STORE. It will seem like you have slaved away in cooking class... don't let the microwave fool you!

INGREDIENTS:

- 3 2/3 cups confectioners' sugar (THEY HAVE THIS IN THE C-STORE!)
- 1/2 cup cocoa
- 1/4 cup milk
- 1/2 cup butter
- 1 tablespoon vanilla
- 1/2 cup chopped pecans, (optional)

Then at the C-Store get a microwave safe bowl and a foil pan

PREPARATION:

Combine and cook confectioners' sugar, cocoa, milk, and butter on high power until butter is melted, about 2 to 3 minutes. Stir until smooth. Blend in vanilla and pecans. Spread into a buttered 8-inch square pan. Then you cut the fudge into squares for presentation and serving. VOILA! You are finished... you can store this by putting plastic wrap over it and putting it in your mini fridge. Stay tuned for more dating tips and cooking spectacular for the college student...

Opinions

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 EDITOR: TANISHA MATHIS
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Ultimate Repentance or Punishment?

 Louisa Gibbs
 the sandspur

North Charleston, S.C. 1985. Having already served a 10 year life sentence, Joe Atkins cut the Patterson's phone line and broke into their home armed with a machete, a shotgun and a pistol. Joe Atkins entered 13 year-old Karen Patterson's bedroom where she lay fast asleep dreaming of performing her debut album in front of millions of adoring fans. Joe Atkins, her neighbour, shot Karen Patterson and her dreams as she sleep peacefully in her bed. Later that evening, Joe Atkins murdered his adopted father, Benjamin Atkins, 75, who helped persuade the parole officers to let Joe out of prison early from his life sentence for murdering his half-brother Charles 5 years previously. He was later convicted and executed.

That is only one distressing and disturbing story.

Statistics from the Death Penalty Information Centre show that 38 states currently have the Death Penalty as a law in their state, whether it is in enforced regularly or not. Florida allows the death penalty, although they provide it as an option in cases of murder or sexual battery of a female eleven years old or younger by males 18 or older. Our state uses the method of electrocution to ensure that the murderers feel little pain. This method has been used on 202 people between the years of 1930 and 1976.

People may assume the courts over use this penalty; however it is only reserved for the worst of the worst. Many murderers have been given life sentences for countless murders committed before the 'death-decision' is decided, and even

then there are many procedures carried out to insure that they are not killing an innocent man, ultimately meaning that they would be murderers. For example, many court cases are won due to 'legal' innocence rather than 'actual' innocence; therefore these factors are studied to insure the execution of a guilty and sick individual. Via these investigations, over 120 people have been released from death row since 1973.

As stated previously, this law is only carried out for the 'worst of the worst'; for those people who are unable to cooperate with others in society peacefully even though they have been given numerous chances too. The ultimate punishment is the only way for these people to stop being haunted by their buried conscience deep in their soul, constantly reminding them of their unforgivable acts on the

innocence and unaware.

The May Gallup Poll found that on average 65% of the American population support the penalty, although many may not believe this as anti-penalty acts are being spread like butter on bread via the internet and general over-exploitation of the matter. Supports do not feel as though they have to publicize their campaign, as they are letting the state do their job.

Professor John McAdams of the Marquette University states that "if we execute murderers and there is no deterrent effect, we have killed a bunch of murderers. If we fail to execute murderers, and doing so would in fact have deterred other murderers, we have allowed the killing of a bunch of innocent people". This statement conveys the primary purpose of this particular law; to prevent others from killing to maintain a secure

society. So long as the ultimate punishment deters others from murdering, it's fulfilling its purpose and will most likely remain.

There is one thing that we have not taken into consideration yet, and that is the victims. The murderers have ended the lives of innocent people, meaning that those victims will never be able to fulfil their dreams of being successful in finance, successful in academics or successful in love. As well as the victims, we have to take into consideration the lives that the murdered victims have affected, such as family, friends and co-workers. The murderer may be able to pay for the lives that they've taken; they will never be able to pay for the lives that they have severely affected as it's the victims families and friends who have to live without the ones they love.

Viva La Revolucion

 Omar Rachid
 the sandspur

The resuscitator of left-wing socialism in Latin America hosts several Hollywood actors despite decrepit relations with the US.

As a proud Venezuelan who has lived in his country until a little over a month ago, you can trust that the truth about Hugo Chávez. Elected in 1998 with over a 10 point lead over the opposition candidate, Chávez's government has been nothing but democratic. Why democratic?

Democracy means the citizenry has to accept the will of the majority; Chávez has resulted victorious in four contests on his presidency within the last eight years. On average, he won 60 percent of the vote, but this does not reflect

in the media nor the people of Venezuela.

There is a large and widening gap between the rich and the poor in the country as a direct result from Chávez's policy. In a country where 80 percent of the populace is considered either below or borderline poverty, a small but immensely powerful 20 percent control most of the economy.

According to the 2007 World Fact book, the poorest ten percent of Venezuelans control less than one percent of the economy while the richest ten percent control 37 percent of the economy.

This powerful elite owns most of the media, private educational institutions, corporations, businesses and are allied with the opposition. The better question is why does President Chávez have such a

strong and solid support of the poor? He is the first president to even pay attention to the poor. Previous presidents "swept the poor under the rug in hopes of forgetting the problem."

Through the missions he has created, he has established 'scholarship funds' which are not enough to get by with but nonetheless is extra cash for someone already struggling to survive. Out of the 16 million electorate population in Venezuela, seven million of them are direct beneficiaries of this scholarship fund. Some would label this is an indirect way of buying votes.

Kevin Spacey is the most recent delegate from Hollywood to have his passport sealed at the Simón Bolívar airport in the outskirts of Caracas. John Gibson, a reporter of Fox News, complains, "Has Hollywood

suddenly gotten not leftist enough?"

This comes as his outrage of the series of American celebrities who are visiting Venezuela. Established by Harry Belafonte in January of 2006, this tradition of visiting President Chávez has been followed by Danny Glover, Sean Penn and Spacey.

Belafonte ended his visit by shouting in Spanish "Viva la Revolución!" (Long live the revolution). Glover received \$20 million for two movies depicting independence movements of Simón Bolívar in South America and Toussaint Louverture in Haiti. Penn was lucky enough to visit the gorgeous Llanos in central Venezuela accompanied by Chávez. Now Spacey started his research on the growing film industry in Venezuela after hearing the news of a \$13 million film studio built by the

government this past year.

Is it ethical for American actors to travel to meet with a man who has labeled the president of their own country as the "devil," "donkey" and "terrorist"? I follow one of the most notable sayings of former English premier Winston Churchill. "When I am abroad, I always make it a rule never to criticize or attack the government of my own country. I make up for lost time when I come home." I may not be aligned with my government's political policies, but when I visit a foreign country, I do not bash the President of my country, I leave that for when I get back. This should be a guiding principle American actors should abide by when abroad, regardless of their political affiliation or who is in power.

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In the End Ahmadinejad Gets What He Wants

Julio Carrion
the sandspur

"All that it takes for Evil to triumph is for good men to do nothing," said many of the posters and shirts of the hundreds of protesters that surrounded the Columbia University campus early last week.

One of the most controversial world leaders, Iranian president Mahmoud Ahmadinejad, entered the auditorium. It was an event that sparked controversy on many levels, ranging from freedom of speech and academia, to world affairs, terrorism, and human rights.

Both sides of the issue swarmed onto campus the day before he arrived. Supporters of the open debate felt by inviting the man (whom both sides describe as a dictator) they would "show the world" that American freedom and openness extends to all, even our self-described enemies. "We can show freedom by being an example," one said.

Detractors of the event cite the much checkered and devious track record of Ahmadinejad. To include his support and funding of terrorism, his human rights violations, and his repeated calls for the extermination of Israel.

The hundreds of protesters

made sure to prove their point even though they could not gain access inside the building. If on the outside he was greeted with a vibrant opposition, Ahmadinejad entered with a substantially better welcome, a standing ovation.

The president of the university, Lee Bollinger, gave a stinging introduction to Ahmadinejad, saying "You are either brazenly provocative or astonishingly uneducated," and finally calling him "a petty and cruel dictator."

Upon taking the stage Ahmadinejad began his presentation with several minutes of Koranic verse reciting and religious invocations before lashing back at the college president, calling him rude and personally insulting.

His speech covered a wide range of issues, many of them hotly debated and at times booed by the students. The student question-and-answer session. Many student organizations who wanted him on campus saw this as their moment to pin him down and grill him under the weight of their piercing inquiries.

This was the moment to show the world what he "truly" he is and many people, including those who opposed his visit, hoped for some success in this regard.

Did their great plan work? Did they succeed in grilling and

exposing him for the man he truly is? Well it appears to be yes and no, a mixed bag. On one hand they did ask many tough questions and many of his responses were borderline idiotic if not hysterical.

For example when he was asked about Iran's policies toward homosexuals he replied that "we don't have homosexuals, like in your country, and I don't know where you got that from." In truth they don't have "much of a problem" with homosexuals because anyone caught in such an act is promptly dragged out to the nearest tree or low lying beam after a sham trial and hanged.

When presented with the question "do you want Israel destroyed, yes or no," he responded, after much back tracking and word warping, essentially yes.

Ahmadinejad was able to work his way around most of the questions, being such a sly politician. Many students, even seasoned debaters, found it almost impossible to pin his slippery hide down. Most questions remained unanswered; many of his responses carried little or no real impact, and worst of all he was able to send home a highly edited propaganda that showed him standing as the honored guest in a prestigious place of learning spouting the "truth" of the world

around him.

At the end of the day many of the students attending could only say they were "satisfied" with the event and many of the detractors were angered by the use of the event as propaganda for his regime. Who benefited most from this whole thing? Who came out on top? That, just like the views on his coming, depends on your perspective.

In some of our eyes he looked like a joke unable to put up what we could have considered a strong rebuttal. To others he is as scheming and manipulative as he has ever been, unable to be pinned down or put to the fire regarding his actions and even

more puzzling his intentions.

And yet when you take a look from his perspective you come to a different conclusion. Sure, things did not go smoothly for him that is sure. And yes some news must be manipulated to prevent these "bumps" from showing to his constituents, but that's ok.

He got what he wanted, he got his "Hey look Ma, I'm at Columbia University!" pictures as well as yet another form of "validity" for his rhetoric. Regardless of what we think we cannot shake the fact that that President Ahmadinejad got what he wanted.



COURTESY OF MCT CAMPUS

No Benefit to Stifling Artistic Expression

Daniel Paulling
the sandspur

The debate of whether something risqué is worth being called art may have been summarized perfectly in the Simpsons episode called "Itchy and Scratchy and Marge." Marge, after seeing Maggie hurt Homer several times, realizes that the television show that Bart and Lisa watch, "The Itchy and Scratchy Show," is violent. She goes on to watch an episode, lists all of the violent images, and tries to put an end to the show. It isn't until she gathers the support of many fellow citizens that she is successful in ending the show of violence.

Marge is then faced with a dilemma. The town's art museum is scheduled to exhibit Michelangelo's David. She goes onto a local television news program in Springfield expressing her belief in the artistic value of David. A fellow panelist points out the inconsistency in her logic: arguing against the freedom of expression of Itchy and Scratchy, but not against Michelangelo's freedom of expression. Marge dejectedly agrees.

A similar discussion raged on campus recently due to the production of the play *Equus*. There was a debate amongst four panelists — Thaddeus Seymour, former president of Rollins College; Thomas Ouellette,

Theater, Arts, and Dance Department; Tom Cook, Philosophy and Religion Department; and Elizabeth Maupin, *Orlando Sentinel* Theater critic — concerning freedom of expression, community responsibility, and the educational mission of a campus theater. For those who are unfamiliar with the play, *Equus* is about a psychiatrist's attempts to help a boy who becomes sexually fixated upon a horse and also features nudity.

It seems difficult to argue that the theater department is failing to properly serve both the community and its students by putting on this play. What is considered good art has just changed so much in the recent past. JD Salinger was the first au-

thor to use the phrase "f--- you" in his book *Catcher in the Rye*, published in 1951. We definitely consider it to be good literature despite the use of graphic language. And modern literature has gotten even racier. The same could be said about visual arts, film, and, yes, theater.

Trying to limit what a theater can produce does not seem right. Theater is an art form, just like literature or paintings. The manner in which it's presented to an audience is just different.

In 1957, Paul Sweezy, a socialist, made comments that later had him investigated by the US government. When the case Sweezy v. New Hampshire reached the Supreme Court, it was ruled that "[T]he essential-

ity of freedom in the community of American universities is almost self-evident" and "[T]o impose any strait jacket upon the intellectual leaders in our colleges and universities would imperil the future of our Nation...and...our civilization will stagnate and die."

While I don't think anything that big will happen should plays like *Equus* be removed from future showings, it is a terrible idea that there should be some sort of cap upon what the theater department can produce. For those who wish to boycott this Rollins' production, there's a different show, *Gypsy*, starting Nov. 9.

MMMBop Invades Rollins Cafeteria

Katie Jones
the sandspur

It may have seemed like a good plan to raise money for the dance marathon, but more students were seen eating outside and taking their meals to go when the continual play of MMMBop was too much to handle. The single from Hanson is catchy—rather, it was in the 90's.

Though it was harsh on the ears, all of the money contributed went solely to the Children's Miracle Network. This will benefit the children receiving treatment at CMN hospitals such as the Shands

Children's Hospital at the University of Florida and Arnold Palmer Hospital for Children in Orlando. Rollins will be hosting its first ever Dance Marathon on Nov. 10 to raise money for this cause.

Dancers will be kept active for twelve hours from 2 PM until 2 AM. Games, entertainment, food, dancing and music will be used to entertain the participants. DJs, comedians and bands will also be performing for the crowd.

The dancer registration fee is typically \$25, but on Sept. 25 through Sept. 27 the price was lowered to \$15 in order to get more participants and ultimately raise more money. Dancers will also be required to

earn at least \$250 by Nov. 3 to donate to CMN.

There were many differing opinions when it came to how effective the "Stop the Bop" actually was for students. Many students felt that the playing of song was unnecessary because they felt that many students would donate to the CMN without an ulterior motive.

"I signed up because I wanted to participate," Paige Sherwood said.

Other students such as David Celis claimed that they "would not donate just because it was so annoying." Despite all of the harsh feelings, "Stop the Bop" earned \$222 and signed up 105 dancers over three consecutive days of non-stop

music.

What song would have been worse than MMMBop? Students had many answers to this question, but some even refused to answer because they did not want their song to be used in the next fundraiser.

Many people believed that other songs from the 90's such as Hit Me Baby One More Time by Britney Spears, Barbie Girl by Aqua, any Spice Girls or Backstreet Boys song and Ricky Martin would have been worse than Hanson.

Honorable mentions in the "worst song" category include Lip Gloss by Lil Mama, the Macarena by Los Del Rio, the YMCA, Blue (Da Ba Dee) by Eiffel 65, It's a Small World, and

The Oompa Loompa song from Willy Wonka.

Many students started to get used to the incessant play of MMMBop. They either blocked it out or found ways to avoid going into the cafeteria for long periods of time. All around campus during "Stop the Bop" students could be heard humming or singing the familiar chorus.

Everyone seems to feel the most sympathy for the staff in the cafeteria who had to endure countless hours of MMMBop each day. "Stop the Bop" ended up being very successful, but it was definitely not the most popular fundraiser on campus.

Sports

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EDITOR: DANNY TRAVIS
SPORTS@THESANDSPUR.ORGAqua Tars Hold High
Expectations for 2007-2008Daniel Paulling
the sandspur

The Rollins College men's and women's swimming teams placed second at the Sunshine State Conference championship meet last year. Don't be surprised if head coach Richard Morris is looking more toward this season than remembering the last one.

"This is the strongest freshman class the men's team has ever seen," Morris said. "We should build on our national ranking of 24th from last season."

The quality of the incoming class is unquestioned, but the quantity has given the team depth it has never experienced. The men's team lost Trevor Hughes, Ish DeSaram, and Paul Wahbe to graduation, but the eight incoming freshman gives the team a total of 15, the largest ever.

Headlining the newcomers is distance swimmer Kamel Tejada. A resident of the Dominican Republic, Tejada has competed in and won several open-water swim around the United States. He is joined by Floridians Jimmy Colston (breaststroke), Paul Hoffman (distance freestyle), and Billy Shugart (sprint

freestyle).

Returning are seven members from last season's team. Sophomore Jackson Nicholson, the 2006-7 MVP, returns to his familiar spot as a middle distance freestyler, while junior Jeff Mueller, who holds multiple team records, continues his role as a workhorse. Junior Tom Alexander should solidify an already strong sprinting corps.

"With the incoming first year swimmers aiding an already stellar team, sending a relay to nationals is a goal in sight," said men's team captain and junior Carson Nicely.

The women's team graduated eight members from last year's runner-up finish to the University of Tampa, but is only adding four. That leaves the team with a total of 14.

"We got some great new swimmers for the women's team," Morris said. "But we will be struggling a little as we graduated 8 swimmers and have two abroad this semester."

The incoming first-years are led by distance swimmer Allyson Best, who figures to replace 500 yard freestyle record holder Andrea Bartman, who gradu-

ated. Transfer Kelly Cuddihy and freshman Stephanie Posner solidify the breaststroke, while freshman Kelsey Broadmeadow swims backstroke.

Ten upperclassmen are returning. Last season's MVP and butterflyer, Corie Kelly, is abroad this semester, but sophomore Meghan Mattingly and senior Brighton Springer should contribute in that stroke. Lauren Griesser and Tayler Marx, two sophomores, figure strongly into the team's sprints and relay events.

"We are looking forward to our first meet against Florida Southern," said women's team captain and junior Kylene Dey. "The rivalry between our two teams has been the main force of motivation behind our pre-season training."

"I think I speak for all the women's team when I say I can't wait to beat them in their own pool."

Morris believes great things are in store for his teams.

"We just need to stay strong through the fall and then we should have a successful second half after the Holidays," said Morris.

Marnie Mahler:
Athlete of the
WeekAmy Barlow
the sandspur

Senior athlete Marnie Mahler leads the tennis team this season with her high potential and All-American status. Mahler's last season records in singles are 21-4, and doubles 22-3 with partner Tasi Purcell. Purcell and Mahler played together as doubles partners for three years, both with All-American titles. Freshman Roshni Luthra now takes Purcell's place as Mahler's partner for the upcoming season.

Mahler's potential was not subtle when she first began playing tennis for the school. She was heavily recruited and made an immediate impact on the team as soon as she arrived, and also now has offers to play professionally.

Mahler plays with thirteen other teammates, seven of which are new to the team as freshmen. All play well together,

which was shown in the Varner Memorial Invitational Sept. 23. There was also another meet in Lakeland this past weekend.

Out of all her experiences throughout college so far, Mahler has most enjoyed having a perfect doubles season with Purcell her freshman year, the regional tournaments this past fall, and triumphing over Barry University in the post-season by one point. She hopes that the team continues to come together as well as it has the last few years.

Mahler's personal life is just as exciting. She became engaged this summer to boyfriend Isaac Corddry, a former basketball player for the Tars. They are to be married in Oct. 2008 in Naples, Florida. After graduation, both plan to continue in education, Mahler in real estate and Corddry in his 3-2 degree this May.

NCAA Football Mid Season RoundUP!

Jimmy Colston
the sandspur

From the beginning of the season to the current day, the college football rankings and expectations have shifted dramatically.

Conference outlooks have moved previously unmentioned teams into their respective 'championships' limelight in five short weeks. Teams such as Michigan, Penn State and UCLA have seen their brief top ten appearances end in disappointing upsets that have left them outside of the top 25 looking in. Here is a conference by conference rundown of what has happened so far this year.

Reiterating their return to BCS level competition from last year, The Big East has proven that the ACC missed quite a few powerhouses a few years back. Although Louisville and QB Graham have had better starts to their season, emerging teams South Florida and Cincinnati could not beg to differ more. The Bulls made two decidedly explosive statements with their wins at Auburn and at

home against the then-ranked #5 Mountaineers. Although Cincinnati's schedule has proven to be less tough than that of USC, they have established themselves as the conference's sleeper team and are looking to move into the spotlight that nearby Ohio State has been hogging.

Biggest Disappointment: Louisville

Predicted Winner(s): South Florida

The Big Ten: With Ohio State's sudden return to power only due to Michigan and Penn State's respective demises, the league's legitimacy as a premier football conference has been thrown into question with incredibly easy non-conference schedules. Michigan's loss to Appalachian State, Ohio State allowing a safety against Akron, and Wisconsin's scare at UNLV have undermined the Big Ten's professed superiority, but sleeper teams Indiana, Illinois, and Purdue have attempted to

cover up these blemishes.

Biggest Disappointment: Michigan's drop from the rankings the first week

Predicted Winner(s): Ohio State

Atlantic Coast Conference: After a largely disappointing 2006 season that saw 11-2 Wake Forest earn the conference's BCS bid, the ACC have returned this year with the hopes to prove that they are a top football conference. Although this plan has only been met with mixed results, the ACC are certainly having a better season than they did last year, with perennial powerhouse Miami (FL)'s new coach reestablishing that program, Boston College returning to the top ten for the first time since 1992, and Clemson and Georgia Tech also battling for the league title. The preseason favorite, Virginia Tech, has hung on so far, but not without near losses to weak

teams such as Eastern Carolina and an actual loss to then-#2 LSU.

Biggest Disappointment: Virginia Tech

Predicted Winner(s): Boston College

Southeastern Conference: The perennial powerhouse conference continues to dominate, but with a slightly different outlook than that of the beginning of the season. Although LSU has been living up to performance expectations, Kentucky is the team that has gone above and beyond what they had set out to do this year.

Biggest Disappointment: Arkansas

Predicted Winner(s): LSU

The Big Twelve: With previously predicted BCS hopefuls Texas and Oklahoma falling to conference foes, The Big Twelve is proving to be one of the hardest conferences to pick a solid winner and BCS contender. Oklahoma still sits at the highest spot of any of the

conference's teams in national polls, but it's the teams of the North side of the league that have the unblemished records with Missouri, Nebraska, and Kansas State all winning their first conference games.

Biggest Disappointment: Texas

Predicted Winner(s): Missouri

Pac-10: With the highest expectations in quite some time, the Pac-10 has had its share of conference ups and downs. Early on, there were wins across the board even with one week where all but one team (Oregon St.) won their non-conference game for the week. But teams such as UCLA and Washington have risen and fallen back down since then, with their losses to Utah and Ohio State respectively. The power of the conference still lies in Cal and USC.

Biggest Disappointment: UCLA

Predicted Winner(s): USC

Rollins Cheerleaders Face Grave Injustices and Prevail

Danny Travis
the sandspur

Flashforward a few months. You are sitting at a basketball game. Half time rolls around. What do you typically expect on the court at this time? Graciously arousing dances brought to you by the cheerleaders. The danger of this ritual's absence could be looming.

The Rollins Cheerleading team has become a victim of the athletic department's careless management. They are no longer recognized as a team, but as a club, having to come up with their own funding. The following recounts the tragic downfall of the cheerin' Tars.

Last year, the squad started with eleven highly conditioned athletes, great chemistry, and two apparently prepared coaches. They started off the season providing us with much needed spirit and enthusiasm, lead by head coach Joy Buendia and assistant coach Bethany Gerber, both of whom were paid by the school. Then, they stopped being polite, and things started to get real, leading to disaster.

As the season progressed, some of the girls became disillusioned by the lack of leadership their head coach was providing, so more than half of the squad quit over Christmas break. To make matters worse, their head

coach quit and their assistant coach had a baby. Those cheerin' Tars were caught in troubled waters, but they kept their heads about them and stayed the course, navigating through the season by recruiting three new members. Practices were put to a halt as they did not have coach supervision, so they were just showing up at games and winging it.

Over the summer, the Athletic Department decided to put the varsity cheer team under review, canceling their 2007-2008 season and pulling all funding. But this would not stop two dedicated women whose blood runs blue and gold.

Sophomores Monique Comeau and Suzanne Wilbarger were not going to let a lack of funds stop them from bringing the spirit to a otherwise soulless campus. They banded together, consulted with the Office of Student Involvement and Leadership, and formed a club. They held tryouts all by themselves and assembled a talented team of fourteen girls.

They are going to have to fund everything themselves, from uniforms to pom-poms to shoes. This is a terrible injustice. Any school with a respectable basketball team should have a

funded cheerleading team, it's just science. Each girl has to pay \$200 in dues, but that leaves the team \$700 in the hole, and that is just to cover the cost of uniforms, hiring a coach would be financially impossible, and going to cheer camp, which I was assured is a must for any successful cheerleading team, is out of the question.

To make up the difference, the cheerin' Tars are instituting various fundraisers such as donut sales, a cheerleading camp for local children, and of course, regular bikini car washes.

I recently attended a practice, to delve even deeper into the collective psyche of the cheerin' Tars, and although the merits of cheerleading as an athletic sport are widely debated, what I witnessed was far from powder-puff playtime. The cheerleaders left their blood, sweat and tears on the mat, as they attempted stunts like the deadly scorpion, and the gravity defying super split. I even witnessed a heated argument over the merits of long socks versus those of short socks.

So please, support these girls in their quest to bring spirit and excitement back to the campus, you know your car is getting a bit dirty.



PHOTO COURTESY OF ROLLINS CHEERLEADING
OMG! THE SCORPION! Ryan Orobello nails the death-defying scorpion. Lesser cheerleaders have literally torn their pelvises apart just attempting the stunt.



PHOTO COURTESY OF ROLLINS CHEERLEADING
BOOM BABY! Co-captain Suzanne Wilbarger straddles her teammates as she sticks the elevated super lateral leg lift.

A Miracle Recovery

Brittany Fornof
the sandspur

Six foot four inch Kevin Everett, was born in Texas and attended Texas' Kilgore College for two years until he transferred to the University of Miami and played as a Miami Hurricane. He was then drafted during the third round of the 2005 NFL Draft by the Buffalo Bills. However, his professional football career didn't start out so smoothly. He suffered a torn knee ligament on the first day of minicamp in 2005 and was put on the injured reserve for the remainder of the 2005 season. However, in 2006, he was able to make his first break into the NFL world. Unfortunately, this first game of the 2007 season didn't prove to be the best for him.

It was the season opening game between the Buffalo Bills and Denver Broncos when twenty-five year old Kevin Everett sustained a spinal cord injury on September 9th of this year. Apparently, Everett, who plays as a tight end for the Buffalo Bills in the NFL, was attempting to tackle Domenik Hixon of the Denver Broncos when he fractured and dislocated part of his cervical spine.

Dr. Andrew Cappuccino (of Buffalo

Spine Surgery and a member of the Buffalo Bills medical staff) was the surgeon who performed a bonegraft on Everett and who inserted a plate and four screws into his spinal column.

Even though Everett had been given a dismal prediction of the future, and his case was first labeled as life-threatening- only four days after the injury, Dr. Gibbons, who is a supporting neurosurgeon of Cappuccino, noted that Everett had slight voluntary movement in his legs, arms, and toes. Also, Everett was able to breathe smoothly after being taken off of the respirator. Therefore, doctors, family, friends, and fans are hopeful that Everett, who came into the hospital as a quadriplegic, will be able to walk out of the hospital eventually and lead a normal life.

According to various other articles, Rashied Davis of the Chicago Bears has said, "I believe a lot of prayer made the difference here. Everett, his family members and friends got to praying real hard. Now he's coming around. I participate regularly in a pregame chapel worship and prayer. Even though we may be competing hard against each other, we always pray that every player is able to walk off the field healthy, regardless of who wins."

Note: At the time of press, Dr. Barth Green, a chairman of the department of neurological surgery at the University of Miami School of Medicine and who was also a consultant to Everett's medical team, stated that Kevin Everett had experienced some slight movement in his fingers of his right hand. Let us all hope that this will mark the beginning of a quick and successful recovery.

MLB Season Awards

Daniel Paulling
the sandspur

Now that the 2007 regular season is officially done, it's time for journalists to turn in their annual postseason awards. With that comes the annual postseason awards article from those who have no vote. Here are the best (and worst) from the 2007 season.

American League Most Valuable Player

3B Alex Rodriguez - Rodriguez ranked amongst the best hitters in the American League in nearly every pertinent offense category. To give anyone but him the award with be an act of lunacy. He leads the AL in Win Shares with 35, which means he contributed 11.67 wins to the New York Yankees because of his offense. American League Cy Young
SP CC Sabathia - Even though CC stands for Carsten Charles and not Cy Cy, Sabathia deserves this award. Boston Red Sox starter Josh Beckett may have had more wins, but Sabathia threw 40 more innings and had only four more starts. Los

Angeles Angels of Anaheim starter John Lackey may have had a lower ERA, but Sabathia had 30 more strikeouts. The Indians left hander vaulted himself into the elite pitchers of the AL by outdueling Johan Santana three times this year.

National League Most Valuable Player

SS Hanley Ramirez - While Jose Reyes and Jimmy Rollins have drawn more attention, Ramirez is quietly becoming the best player in the major leagues not caught pictured with a busty stripper. Ramirez hit 29 home runs and drove in 81 runs predominantly from the lead-off position.

National League Cy Young

SP Jake Peavy - Peavy did just about everything a team needs out of its staff ace. He won 19 games with a 2.36 ERA and 1.03 baserunners per inning allowed. Opponents finished with a near .200 batting average against him and struck out nearly four times as often as they walked.

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