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Rollins College

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The Sandspur

ROLLINS COLLEGE ■ WINTER PARK, FLORIDA

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

Rollins Fine Arts Museum hosts Louise Nevelson, who has her modern artwork featured on the Rollins campus.

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LIFE & TIMES

Get advice on the best places to do holiday shopping from Rollins students.

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SPORTS

Special Hanukkah edition of Danny's eight suggests one for each night.

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THE STUDENT VOICE OF ROLLINS COLLEGE SINCE 1894

www.thesandspur.org

December 10, 2007

114 ISSUE 11

Happy Graduation

December Class of 2007

Nicole Fluet
the sandspur

The President of Rollins Democrats walks into the Campus Center. There are no signs scaling the steps to Dave's Down Under, the popular hangout for students at Rollins College, saying "Happy Graduation." Yet, Shannon Post will be considered a graduate of Rollins College in a little over a week.

"I'm pretty much graduating because I'm an overachiever," says Post, a Tampa native. "I transferred to Rollins, almost caught up on my credits to graduate, and then decided to do a thesis to graduate with honors in the major."

According to Toni Strollo Holbrook, Associate Dean for Academic Administration, there are 16 candidates for December graduation, though not all of those students will complete their requirements and be awarded degrees. "We allow students to complete degree requirements at the end of August and December," says Dean Holbrook. "Over the last 10 years, there have usually been between 35-45 December graduates a year, some years more or less than others, but we're usually in that range."

However, some December graduates feel they are being left out. "I feel so alone," says Post. "I would like some more information about graduating in December, like when I get the piece of paper."

Rochelle Siegel, currently Managing Editor of the Sandspur and an active member of the Rollins community, feels the campus could have done more to celebrate her graduation and hard work. "I haven't heard of anything happening," says Siegel, an English major and writing minor. "I remember last semester they had banquets and parties for the May graduates, but they seem to forget about those graduating in December."

Siegel, who plans on taking a year off to work at a local magazine before attending graduate school, says she could stay at Rollins forever, but knows she must leave. "I'm graduating late

because my first year here was a complete waste," says Siegel, who was born in Orlando. "I had a really hard time adjusting and being away from home. Another reason is because my major changed its curriculum which got me all messed up."

December graduates, according to Dean Holbrook, are invited to participate in the May commencement ceremony. "There are a very small number of students graduating in December," says Holbrook. "And the single, May commencement originates in the College Bylaws."

As for the "piece of paper," Post and most other graduates are so eager to receive, Dean Holbrook has the answer. "Julia Hatton, our graduation compliance officer, orders the diplomas for December graduates in mid-January, once all compliance checks issues are fully complete and student's records are sealed," says Holbrook. "It takes eight to 12 weeks for the diplomas to arrive, at which point Ms. Hatton adds Latin honors as required, and the President signs each. We hold diplomas for any students who have told us they will participate in the May commencement ceremony, so that they can receive their 'culminating' document when they march at commencement, just the same as for all other students. Those who do not choose to return in May for the ceremonies, receive their diplomas by mail."

December graduates, along with those from last August and the May graduates, will participate together in the May commencement ceremony. "All students who graduate each year, whether in August, December, or May, receive consideration for academic honors and awards at the May commencement," says Holbrook.

According to Peggy Bedford, the Manager of the Rice Family Bookstore, December graduates can purchase their cap and gown before May commencement, just as May graduates can. "The bookstore will have a Herff Jones rep-

resentative here either in February or March to help with class ring orders, diploma frames (although we carry them in the store at all times), and cap and gown orders," says Bedford. "Also if you are going to the May commencement, you will be able to order personalized graduation announcements either in the store or online."

Career Services also offers a variety of services for December graduates. "Career Services staff is available to meet with students/alumni to discuss resume writing, practice interviewing skills, search for job opportunities locally and around the country, and much more," says Jennifer Browning, Associate Director of Career Services. "Our online job posting system, Jobs for Tars, is updated weekly with new career opportunities for graduating seniors and alumni. All students and alumni are welcome to use our Career Resource Library and especially to attend the annual Career Expo, scheduled for March 27, 2008 in the Alford Sports Center."

Therefore, Rollins offers an array of assistance for December graduates, even though they may not be advertised as much as some students would like. "They could have had a meeting on what we need to know as December grads," says Siegel. "And a celebration would have been nice."

Still, Siegel offers words of advice to remaining Rollins students. "Good luck!" says Siegel. "The last few weeks are the hardest, but just think soon you will never have to write a paper for Rollins again."

Post, who advises students to start filling out applications and working on cover letters as soon as possible, plans on making the most of her time after Rollins. "I'm going to take the GRE and finish job applications," says Post. "Then I'm going to backpack around Europe until I have to be back for job interviews."

Congratulations December 2007 Graduates. We did it!



CONGRATS!: December graduates Nicole Fluet, Rochelle Siegel, and Shannon Post are ready to face the next chapter in their lives away from Rollins.

Spring Semester 2008

Check out exhibits at the Cornell Fine Arts Museum!

Rachel Simmons' *Wonders* will be showing until December 30th, along with European and American Portraits exhibit.

JANUARY

January 7th-11th
Intercession Classes

January 15th
First Day of Classes

January 21st
Martin Luther King Jr. Day
No Classes

January 1st
HAPPY NEW YEARS!!
Start off the new year with a positive beginning and get ready for Spring Semester!!

Winter with the Writers:

Four authors come to campus attending master classes at 4 pm and readings that are followed by interviews and signing at 8pm.

Among the four writers, Michael Cunningham will be attending Jan. 31st.

Basketball Schedule

Home Games:

Jan. 2nd Tampa (7:30 pm)
Jan. 12th Palm Beach Atlantic (2 pm)
Jan. 16th Nova Southeastern (7:30 pm)
Jan. 19th Lynn (4 pm)
Jan. 30 Eckerd (7:30 pm)
Feb. Saint Leo (7:30 pm)
Feb. 13 Florida Tech (7:30 pm)
Feb. 23 Florida Southern (4 pm)
Feb. 27 Barry (7:30 pm)

For more information on sporting events go to rollinssports.athletic-site.com

FEBRUARY

Greek Rush Week starts near the second week in February!

February 14th
Valentines Day
Celebrate with that special someone!

MARCH

March 23rd
Easter Sunday

March 17th
St. Patrick's Day

March 10th-16th
SPRING BREAK!!

APRIL & MAY

April 28th-May 2
Final Exam Week!

April 22nd
EARTH DAY!

May 11th
Senior Graduation!
Congratulations!!

Tribute to Harold Alfond

Steve Schwartz
the sandspur

Harold Alfond, the hard working entrepreneur, driven philanthropist, and passionate father passed away on November 16th. Rollins College will be forever grateful for his dedication and generosity.

Harold's name is proudly posted on many of Rollins' gorgeous sports facilities including the Harold Alfond Boathouse, the Ted & Harold Alfond Sports Center, the Harold Alfond Stadium, and of course, the Harold Alfond Swimming Pool. His commitment to benevolent donations extends far beyond the facilities, however, as he is responsible for many student-athlete scholarships.

Well known for his work ethic in the business world, Harold Alfond founded the Dexter Shoe Company and is part owner of the Boston Red Sox.

He attributed powerful life lessons about dedication and success to sports, particularly from his phenomenal high school athletic talent. His passion for athletics and extraordinary competitive character is noticeably evident in his donations for Rollins' scholarships to determined student-athletes.

The Alfond Award of Excellence, named in his honor, pays respect to admirable Rollins affiliates of great integrity, service and character—three words synonymous with Harold's disposition.

Throughout his career, he was awarded five honorary doctorates without a college education. Among these doctorates was the honorary doctorate from Rollins College in 1997.

Harold took heavy interest in the shoe manufacturing business, much like his father. His success was unmistakable as Dexter Shoe Company's annual sales surpassed \$250 million in 1993 before its sale to Berkshire Hathaway.

Harold's generosity has contributed to healthcare, education and youth facilities and programs in Maine. Among his numerous praiseworthy recognitions were the National Football Foundation & Hall of Fame's Gold Medal award and the Ted Williams Distinguished American Award.

He will always be remembered not only as a great family man but also a true inspiration for success—a model for those passionate about seeking excellence through dedication.

Students Brings South Africa to Rollins

Daniel Paulling
the sandspur

The adjustment to college life is a big one, no matter where you come from. Just imagine how much more difficult that transition was made for freshman Lindinhlanhla "Lindi" Siphukuthula Mngadi, who flew 23 hours from his native South Africa to attend Rollins.

Mngadi left his home town of Durbin, South Africa, for Orlando, Fla. Both are considered appealing cities to visit for tourists. The similarities between his old home and his new one end there, however.

"Before I came to the United States, I was around missionaries a lot," Mngadi said. "I didn't expect to notice the differences."

But he did. The biggest change he noticed was how people here treat one another.

"People don't really make time for each other," he says. "They talk to someone else usually because they want something. I talk to everybody to make friends."

Talking is something that Rollins president Lewis Duncan is expecting of Mngadi. Mngadi receives a full scholarship—one that covers both tuition and room and board—from the school. There is one condition, however. Duncan

hopes that Mngadi not only learns here at Rollins, but also teaches those at Rollins.

"We'd love to have every student here visit the world and experience the cultures," Duncan said. "However, we can't afford that. So if we can't send the students to South Africa, hopefully Lindi can teach us some things about it."

Duncan said Mngadi can do that by speaking at discussions involving foreign students, and hopes that, should one ever arise, Mngadi will speak at one that involves South Africa.

"One of the rules was that he had to help educate other students," Duncan said. "He's here to get an education, but hopefully also give one, too."

A lot of effort went into making it possible for Mngadi to attend Rollins. Three years ago, the First Congregational Church, the very one that founded the College in 1885, approached newly elected Rollins President Lewis Duncan. They wanted to help a student attend Rollins and receive an education that could help that student return home a better leader.

Two of the church's missionaries, Scott Couper and Susan Valiquette, settled upon Mngadi, who spent his high school years in boarding school. "We wanted to be careful to not create a situation where a student wouldn't

be well-equipped to succeed," said Bryan Fulwider, the senior minister at First Congregational Church. "We had earlier candidates rejected because of their test scores, but it would be tragic for a student to come and not be successful."

As of now, Mngadi is a pre-engineering major, but says that he may add political science as another major. The latter may come in handy.

"I think I might like to be president of South Africa," he said of his plans for after college. "I made this decision after my first few weeks here. There's a lot of corruption [in South Africa] and it rubs me the wrong way."

To make Mngadi's education possible, several people are contributing to his expenses. The First Congregational Church supplies money for incidental items like soap and shampoo, while also providing emotional support. Several members of the church are helping as well. A doctor, dentist and an optometrist give Mngadi free use of their services.

Global Ministries, an organization of missionaries spread across the world that represents the United Church of Christ, will pay for three round trip flights from Orlando to Durban. In addition, they also provide a stipend for Mngadi.

Do You Like to Write?

Take Pictures?

Join the Sandspur!!

We will be accepting applications beginning Spring 2008.

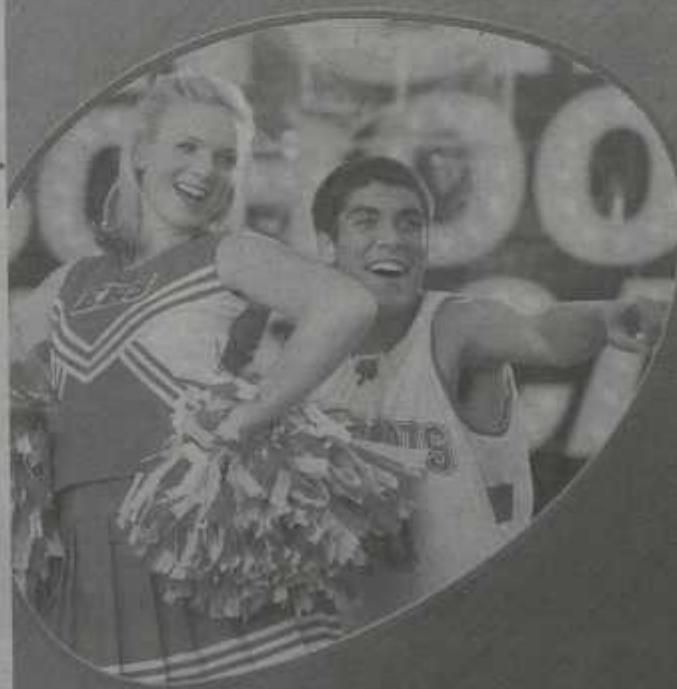
Email with Questions:

editor@thesandspur.org

AUDITION

Walt Disney Entertainment is auditioning for male and female skilled parade dance performers for shows and parades throughout Walt Disney World® Resort including

High School Musical 2: School's Out!
based on the hit Disney Channel Original Movie.



Disney
HIGH SCHOOL MUSICAL 2
SCHOOL'S OUT!

Thursday, Dec. 13

Registration: 3 p.m. / Audition: 4 p.m.

Disney Audition Facility

3271 Sherberth Road, Kissimmee, FL 34747

Applicants must be at least 18 years old and should wear comfortable attire for a movement exercise. Applicants who have auditioned in the past six months are not eligible.

Disney
AUDITIONS.COM



Julio Carrion
the sandspur

CAMPUS MOVIEFEST



Lights, Camera and Action! Time to take out your cameras, brush up on some monologues, call that oh so gullible friend and make him a stuntman for the CMF's are around the corner!

For those new to the concept a brief explanation should be adequate. Campus MovieFest is considered the world's largest student film festival where college students across the globe can submit their own films to compete in one of the largest media groups around. Starting in January students will be able to receive digital camcorders, Apple laptops, and AT&T cell-phones free of charge to help equip them to make their own short movies and films. No ex-

perience necessary as there will be technical assistance available to help in the process. Again this is not just for people aspiring to become the next Steven Spielberg or Peter Jackson but it is open to anyone willing to participate in the competition. The main guidelines are that the submissions must be five minutes or less and created during Campus MovieFest week and more details will become available as they come. So if you are really interested in the competition you have all of Christmas break to put together a story and screen play to prepare for that filmmaking week.

Starting in January CMF staff and volunteers will start

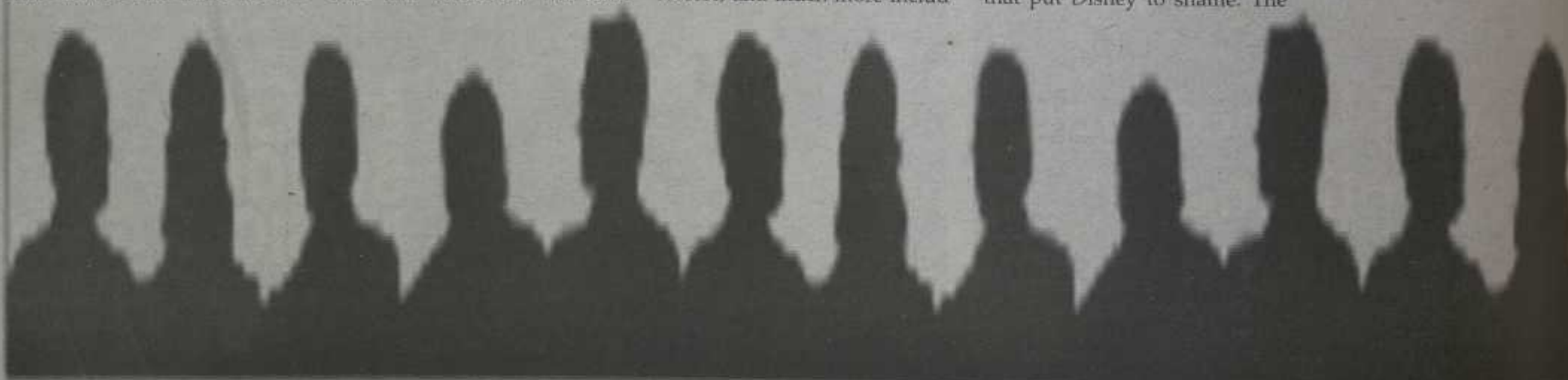
promotion of the event campus wide that will include the many different categories and genres available and the many awards and prizes for the top scoring films. Categories include best picture, best comedy, best screen play and so on (basically the major categories we see in all major awards shows) and special contests like TBS's Very Funny Film award (think the TBS commercials) and TCM Classic Short film Award (for the best re-imagination of a classic scene in movie history) Prizes can include iPods, prize packs from TCM or TBS, Zifty.com gift certificates, year memberships to Blockbuster Total Access, and much more includ-

ing a moment in the spotlight for you and your film and really shiny trophies. And if your piece of work puts Jackson, Moore, Spielberg, and Lucas to shame you and your team will be eligible to compete nationally for up to \$10,000 in winnings!

What to film you may ask? Well it's up to you to decide, the week of filmmaking is scheduled to be for February 19-25 and the best films submitted will be put on display during the massive CMF Finale on the 28th of February. This is a red carpet deal folks, complete with tuxedos and ballroom gowns, the flashing lights of the media, and last year a fireworks show that put Disney to shame. The

top 16 movies will then go on to compete against the best that the University of Central Florida, Jacksonville University, and the University of Tampa has to offer at Florida's Campus MovieFest Grand Finale in Orlando.

So stop putting all your movies on YouTube and start concocting your plans, make a list of friends you can coax to join you in your mighty filmmaking enterprise, think of how to turn five-minutes of digital recording into pure gold (or bragging rights) and get ready for the biggest award night on campus, the CMF's are coming!



Holt News

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5

How To Mind Your Manners During the Holidays

Kim Hone-McMahan
met campus

The pair barges into the party, late and half-looped. Loud and obnoxious, they inform everyone who is sipping fine wine that they intend to "liven up the joint."

With disheveled hair and a shirttail partially hanging out of his britches, cousin Billy-Bob

people in the house is not to kill yourself, or your guests," Curtis said with a chuckle. "That means, if you don't know how to cook, don't try to become a gourmet chef the night you throw a party. That's what caterers and takeout are for."

Being a terrific host begins even before the guests arrive. Unless your dinner guests are people you know very well, tell them in advance what you plan to serve for dinner, in the event someone has a food allergy. And if you send invitations to your holiday gathering, include a dress code.

"There's nothing worse as you're getting ready to go (to the party) than wondering what you should wear," Curtis explained. "Make people feel comfortable, not just as they're walking through the door, but as they're getting ready to come to the party."

"Three weeks after a party, people probably aren't going to remember what they ate, but they are going to remember if they had a good time and if you were a good host."

It's a nice idea to take a small gift for the host or hostess to the affair, but stay clear of taking food to a formal dinner.

"Take something like flowers or a bottle of wine," Curtis said. "Don't walk into somebody's dinner party with a big old casserole."

The cost of entertaining can occasionally be a broken trinket or two. So if you know that Billy-Bob and his rowdy young'uns are accident-prone, it's wise to put your precious keepsakes away.

If you're the one who did the breaking, don't reach for your checkbook and offer to pay for it. Instead, Curtis said, apologize and do a little research to find out, for example, the china pattern. Following the party, purchase a replacement.



Many family and friends exchange gifts during the holidays, but finding the right pres-

ent can be tricky. Avoid purchasing things that are personal preferences, such as art, unless you know exactly what they want.

"We've all received albatrosses, things we would never put out or use," Simpson-Giles said. "When in doubt, give a gift card."

But suppose that Billy-Bob gives you an atrocious velvet painting for your den. Simpson-Giles says you're not obligated to hang it.

Still, even though the gift is the last thing on earth you would have picked out for yourself, it's bad manners to say as much.

"Say thank you...even if you hate it," Curtis said. "But don't feel you need to elaborate."

A gift is just that, a gift. It's the thought that counts. Even Billy-Bob has feelings.

TIPS AND REMINDERS

Here are some hints from Candace Simpson-Giles' book "How to be a Lady" and John Bridges' "How to be a Gentleman" (both Rutledge Hill, \$14.99) that you might want to consider using as a resource during the holidays.

While some suggestions will make you laugh, this is a good reference to clip to the fridge. Heck, who knows? Maybe Billy-Bob will wander by and pick up some tips.

- When making your way down a row in a crowded theater, face the people who are already in their seats. Ladies and gentlemen don't force others to stare at their backsides.

- Unless he is a Texas Ranger or a cattle rancher, a gentleman does not wear cowboy boots with a suit.

- A lady thinks about who will be attending an event before she chooses her wardrobe.

- A gentleman knows that a social kiss is not an erotic experience. It expresses the mildest sort of affection. It happens quickly and means hardly more than a handshake.

A social kiss is shared only among people who are already friends. A gentleman always waits for the woman to initiate

a social kiss. If she leans toward him, he turns his cheek toward her lips, and she graces him with a light, brushing kiss.



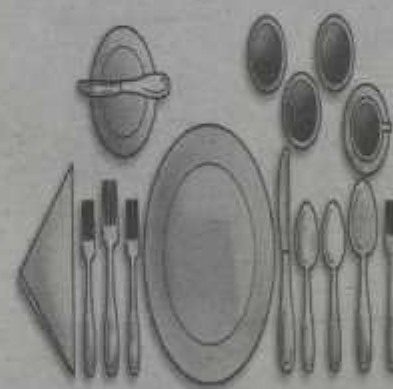
- When a lady is invited to someone's home for a holiday party, she takes a bag of coffee beans, or maybe something she has made herself, such as cookies or an ornament. A gentleman should take something such as a jar of mustard, some jam, a bottle of good whiskey, a tin of nuts or coffee beans.

- A lady is not required to open a hostess gift in the presence of the giver, unless she desires to do so.

- A gentleman does not adjust his crotch in public.

- When a lady realizes another lady's bra strap is showing, or she has a piece of toilet paper stuck to her heel, she discreetly tells her about it as soon as possible.

- When a gentleman realizes his fly is open, he zips up on the spot, if convenient. Never does an open fly require an apology.



- If the table has been set correctly, begin the first course with the fork that is farthest away from the plate. When finished with that course, leave the fork on the plate and it will be taken away. Proceed in the same manner throughout the meal so

that by the time dessert arrives, only one fork, spoon or knife is left.

- Once a lady or gentleman's dinner knife has been dirtied, never let it touch the tablecloth.

- Ladies and gentlemen always send thank-you notes expressing their appreciation for a gift or a wonderful evening.

GIVING A TOAST



There may be an occasion when you're asked to give a toast during the holidays. In the book "A Gentleman Raises His Glass" (Rutledge Hill, \$9.99), authors John Bridges and Bryan Curtis offer these suggestions:

- A toast honoring the host or hostess at an at-home dinner party:

"Sam (or Samantha), thank you so much for the lovely evening. I'd just like to say that you've outdone yourself once again."

"Here's to the heartiness of your hospitality and to this wonderful gathering of friends."

- A toast at Christmas dinner:

"This is a season of joy, a season of giving and receiving. There is no greater gift we can give one another than the joy of being together at this time of love and laughter. Simply being together at this table, the best gift is already unwrapped. We give and we receive."

"Merry Christmas to us all."

- A New Year's Eve toast:

"I can't think of a better way to ring in the new year than with a group of people who have been such an important part of my past and, if the heavens are smiling on me, will be an equally important part of my future."

"Here's hoping the new year will bring each of us good health and happiness."

Happy Holidays!

HAPPY
NEW
YEAR!

Arts & Entertainment

6

EDITOR: JUSTIN BRAUN

AE@THESANDSPUR.ORG

OneRepublic Drives the Ladies Wild

Brittany Fornof
the sandspur

We are sitting in our last few minutes of our Sandspur assignment meeting, and JB holds up an album with what seems to be a mainly blue cover. "It looks like a pretty decent CD," he says. "The band is called OneRepublic, and this is their newest album. I'm not sure what their main genre is, but they look to be sort of rockish."

I sit in my seat contemplating whether or not I'm feeling brave enough to try out a new band. "OneRepublic? I've never heard of it." I think to myself. "What if this is one of those hardcore screamo bands that give me a headache?"

After much contemplation, I decide to take a chance. I snatch up the CD and the article that goes with it.

Sitting in my room hours later, I decide to listen to it as I'm

browsing my Facebook. Rather hesitantly, I place the CD into my laptop and nervously wait for the repulsive sound that was to be emitted from my speakers. However, within the first twenty seconds of the first verse, I begin to realize that I was actually quite familiar with the song.

As the chorus progressed to "You tell me that you're sorry; Didn't think I'd turn around, and say...It's too late to apologize, it's too late," I realized that I had heard this song a thousand times on the radio and that I was absolutely in love with it.

That was it. From that moment on, I couldn't turn it off. I listened through the album nine times over the next few days. I couldn't help myself. That CD changed my life.

Ok so I know what you may be thinking: this girl is a nutcase. She obviously has no life, but you can't knock it until you've tried it. I'd be willing to bet that if you listened to OneRepublic's *Dreaming out Loud*, you would lose yourself in it as well.

Perhaps it's the simple abstract lyrics of the album, which

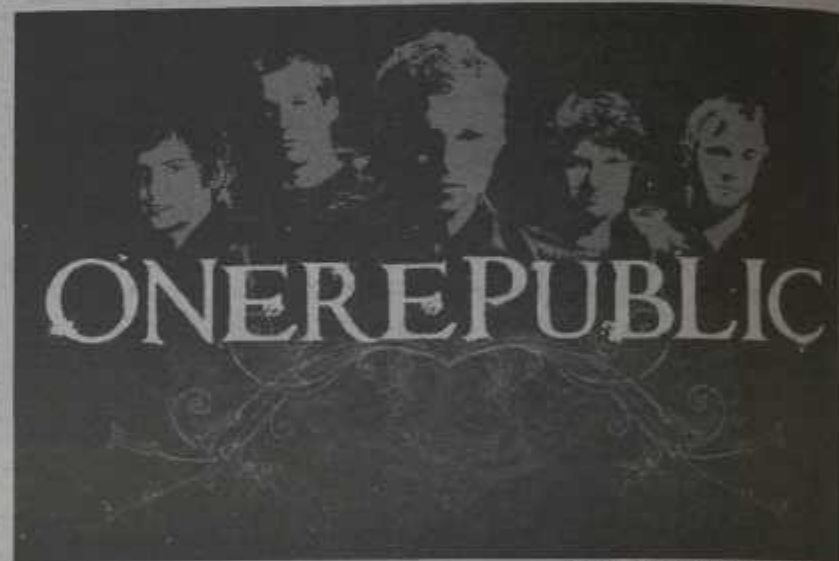
connects so well to the hearts of it's audience, or maybe it is the edgy hip-hop vibe that Timbaland (featured in the song "Apologize") gives to the it that makes it easy for people to fall victim to the album's entrancing powers.

Either way, this album smashes any predictions that OneRepublic would be just another pop sellout. Instead, the band sticks close to its artistic roots of meaningful lyrics and abstract phrases.

(For all of you who crave "bootylicious" music about "chains hanging low" and "bringing sexy back" - this album is not for you.)

However, this album does speak to more than just the alternative rock fans. It's got a sound of honesty and soothing integrity that will appeal to a wide range of tastes.

Do you know those albums that have one really big hit song it, and then the rest of the songs on the album pretty much stink? Well, *Dreaming out Loud* isn't one of them. Each and every song has its own texture and



COURTESY OF MYSPACE

APOLOGIZE: Not quite as awesome as "Chocolate Rain," OneRepublic's soothing lyrics will have you 'Dreaming out Loud'

message, while keeping in the same tone with the rest of the songs.

Whether you are in the mood for a catchy and popular song ("Apologize"-remix) or a sad song for those teary-eyed rainy days ("All We Are"), chances are that this album has a song just for you.

After all, I don't know of

any other band who could sing the lyrics "Come Home...Come Home...Cuz I've been waiting for you for so long" that would make me want to "come home" more than OneRepublic does.

Their album *Dreaming out Loud* promises to captivate the hearts of the music-lovers all across America.

VALENTINE'S DAY CROSSWORD PUZZLE

DOWN

1. I ____ you

2. Be my...

3. Boy with bow
and arrow



ACROSS

1. Sweet tooth

2. Smells good

3. Smooch

4. You're in my ...

DOWN ANSWERS: 1. love, 2. valentine, 3. cupid
ACROSS ANSWERS: 1. candy, 2. flowers, 3. kiss, 4. heart

August Rush Review

Katie Jones
the sandspur

If you're looking for a movie filled with love, suspense, hope, and music then you should definitely purchase tickets to *August Rush*. It is a story about an orphan who tries to find his parents through music. He encounters many struggles along the way, but also hones his musical skills in the process. It will keep you on the edge of your seat for the entire two hours.

The movie opens with a flashback to twelve years ago when Lyla Novacek (Keri Russell) and Louis Connelly (Jonathan Rhys Meyers) met at a party in New York City after both of their concerts. They are both drawn to the roof by the sound of a street musician playing "Moondance" and fall in love overnight. Both of them are musicians and have hectic lives that keep them apart, and Lyla's father frowns on her doing anything besides concentrating on playing the cello.

A few months later, Lyla

realizes that she is pregnant with Louis's baby. Her father tries to convince her to have an abortion or give the baby up for adoption, but Lyla refuses. The baby is the result of the most romantic night of her life, and she couldn't imagine giving him up. One night she is hospitalized from a car accident, and her father tells her that she lost the baby. Lyla was devastated, but she never knew that the baby had survived and that her father had signed the adoption forms while she was recuperating.

The focus is then shifted to August Rush's (Freddie Highmore) life as an orphan. He doesn't want to be adopted by a family because he senses that his parents still want him and are out there looking for him. August feels tied to music and believes that his love for music came from his parents and will eventually bring his family together in the end.

One day, August decides to leave the orphanage and travel to NYC to look for his parents. He befriends another homeless boy after hearing him play the guitar and is taken in by Wizard, a street musician who teaches August about the beauty of music. August's genes

made him a musical genius. He can hear music in the everyday sounds of life. August can play any instrument he picks up, and after attending Julliard's School of Music he begins to write his own symphony.

When Lyla's father is lying on his deathbed, he confesses to his daughter that he put her baby up for adoption. This leads Lyla to track down her son and move to NYC when she is informed that he is lost in the city. She and Louis start to play their music again, and both live in the city without realizing the other is there.

This is a story about hope and faith that is fueled by music. Keri Russell and Jonathan Rhys Meyers give a great performance as musicians in love, and Freddie Highmore is the perfect match for a young, hopeful musical prodigy. Throughout the movie you feel the power of music and believe that in the end it will bring everyone together. It gives you a sense of hope that everything will work out. You will leave the theater feeling like every event, good or bad, has a purpose.

THE POLICE

Rock trio reunites to see if it still has music magic

By Chuck Myers
McClatchy-Tribune

Music & Lyrics

How much of The Police music has swept into your consciousness through the years? Here's a way to find out. Match the lyrics to the correct song.

LYRICS

1. "Giant steps are what you take ... I hope my legs don't break."
2. "Don't wanna hear about the drugs you're taking/Don't wanna read about the love you're making."
3. "Now if I tell you that you suffer from delusions, you pay your analyst to reach the same conclusions."
4. "I work all day at the factory/I'm building a machine that's not for me."
5. "Picked like ferns into shiny metal bones/Contestants in a suicidal race."
6. "I don't want to spend my time in hell/Looking at the walls of a prison cell."
7. "Protest is futile, nothing seems to get through/What's to become of our world, who knows what to do."
8. "I have stood here before inside the pouring rain/With the world turning circles/round my brain."
9. "The Third World beats her air tomorrow/We live on the time we borrow."
10. "I resolve to call her up a thousand times a day/And ask her if she'll marry me in some old-fashioned way."

SONGS

- A. "Canary in a Coal Mine"
- B. "Rehumanize Yourself"
- C. "Driven to Tears"
- D. "King of Pain"
- E. "One World (Not Three)"
- F. "Walking on the Moon"
- G. "Peanuts"
- H. "Invincible Son"
- I. "Every Little Thing She Does Is Magic"
- J. "Synchronicity II"



"Outlandos d'Amour" (1978)



"Reggatta de Blanc" (1979)



"Zenyatta Mondatta" (1980)



"Ghost in the Machine" (1981)



"Synchronicity" (1983)

The Police are back on the beat.

More than 20 years after the popular rock band made its last stage appearance, the group's original members, guitarist Andy Summers, drummer Stewart Copeland, and bassist and singer Sting, are hitting the road.

Formed in 1977, The Police started as a spunky punk band that quickly evolved into one of the top pop and rock bands in music history. Given the number of hit singles The Police has to its credit, it's hard to remember that the group released only five studio albums during its heyday in the late '70s and early '80s. Some of the group's most popular numbers — "Roxanne," "Don't Stand So Close to Me," "Driven to Tears" and the timeless ballad, "Every Breath You Take" — are still played in bars, restaurants and shopping malls, and continue to make the playlist of countless classic and contemporary rock radio stations.

Much of The Police's music possessed unmistakable buoyancy, which stemmed in no small part from a punchy, sometimes reggae-charged rock vibe. But there was a dark aspect to the music as well. Through his lyrics, Sting occasionally explored heavy, if not dark, social and emotional topics, including death, despair and destruction.

With each new release, the band's status as a major rock act solidified, and its fan base multiplied. By the release of its fifth album, "Synchronicity" in 1983, The Police had reached the height of its success. The group stood squarely at the center of the rock and pop music universe, and many in the music world wondered what The Police would do to top or match the success of "Synchronicity."

But no album came. Instead, fissures in the band began to split open over creative and personal differences. And in 1984, the band took a self-imposed hiatus. Two years later, the trio seemed ready to give The Police a new try, but there was only a failed reunion attempt.

With The Police in a state of perpetual hold, Sting, Copeland and Summers headed off in new directions, launching what have proved to be prolific solo careers for each member of the band.



From the cover of the 1995 album "The Police Live!"

Did you know?

■ Early on, The Police sported a punkish attitude with dyed peroxide-blond hairdos. The decision to go with blond hair had little to do with creating a band persona, however. They colored their hair to play the role of a punk band for a chewing-gum commercial.

■ In 1979, Copeland started recording life with the band with a Super 8 movie camera. More than 25 years later, a selection from his 50 hours of film became the basis of a documentary about the band called "Everyone Stares: The Police Inside Out." "I'd forgotten how many laughs we had, and how much we really did enjoy each other's company," Copeland told *Harp* magazine. "For years I bought into the myth of The Police fighting all the time — and there were pretty dramatic arguments ... (but) there were no shots of us being grumpy and moody. They were all shots of us goofing off and having fun."

■ Copeland's father worked for the CIA. The future drummer spent part of his youth living in Egypt and Lebanon and speaks fluent Arabic.

■ Summers was not the first guitarist to play with The Police. Henri Padovani was with the group when it released its first single, "Fall Out," on an independent label (founded by Copeland) in 1977. Summers replaced Padovani soon after.

■ "Roxanne," the first major single by The Police, failed to make the charts after its initial release in early 1978. When the group's label re-released the song a year later, it became a widespread hit.

■ Gordon Sumner picked up his nickname "Sting" after he wore a black and gold rugby shirt to a jam session with a jazz band early in his career. His appearance resembled that of a thornbush.

■ Sting made his movie debut as Ace Face in a 1979 film based on The Who's "Quadrophenia." His other movie roles include the villainous Regd-Raid in "Dune" and Dr. Frankenstein in "The Bride." He also performed in a Broadway revival of "The Threepenny Opera."

■ Sting has earned 11 Grammy Awards as a solo artist — almost double the number of Grammys (six) that he picked up while with The Police.

Stewart Copeland

Born: July 16, 1952, in Alexandria, Va.

Acclaimed for his intricate drum work, Copeland continued to record after The Police split up, both as a solo artist and a contributor to other rock artists' work, including the music of Peter Dinklage and Roger Daltrey. But perhaps his most active post-Police music has been his many movie scores.

Copeland's soundtrack music and scoring actually started before The Police disbanded, with director Francis Ford Coppola's 1983 film "Rumble Fish." The score earned Copeland a Golden Globe nomination. He has also worked extensively in television scoring, producing the music for nearly two dozen TV shows and specials.

Copeland also delved into classical and operatic pursuits, contributing to productions by the San Francisco Ballet, the Cleveland Opera, the Seattle Symphony Orchestra and many others.

In late 2002,

Copeland joined a reconfigured version of the legendary rock band, The Doors. The project proved short-lived, however, as Copeland fractured his arm in a bicycle accident. The situation became further complicated when Copeland sued the "Doors of the 21st Century" for a breach of contract. The lawsuit was settled in June 2003.

Sting

(Gordon Matthew Sumner)

Born: Oct. 2, 1951, in Northumberland, England

Needless to say, Sting has stayed busy in the years since The Police. He has produced albums in a variety of music genres, established the Rainforest Foundation to raise awareness about environmental damage caused by deforestation, written an autobiography and expressed a preference for indie rock.

And that's just for starters. Sting has released more than a dozen albums since 1985, with six of his studio records breaking into the Billboard top 10. And there's been plenty of commercial success, too. Nine of his albums have achieved platinum record status, with each reaching sales of 1 million units.

Sting's music credits have turned up on a wide range of work by his fellow musicians, from Phil Collins and Frank Zappa to Luciano Pavarotti.

One of his most famous turns as a guest singer was on the Dixie Sinatra single "Money for Nothing" in 1985, when he uttered the opening line, "I want my MTV."

Sting has picked up three Best Song Academy Award nominations for "My Family Friend and Me" from "Empire's New Groove" in 2000, "Until" from "Kate & Leopold" in 2001 and "We Will Be My Air" from "Love" in 2003. "Cold Mountain" in 2003.

Andy Summers

(Andrew James Summers)

Born: Dec. 31, 1942, in Lancashire, England

Andy Summers brought a solid music background to the table when he joined The Police. After the band members went their own ways, he was able to step beyond Sting's shadow and stretch his musical interests.

Summers delved into a wide range of projects, including several movie scores. His film credits include many familiar titles, among them, "2010," the sci-fi sequel to "2001: A Space Odyssey" in 1985, "Down and Out in Beverly Hills," "Weekend at Bernie's," and "Mississippi Masala." Summers also released a string of solo albums, many bearing a strong jazz and new age influence. In all, he has put out 16 records since 1984.

The Police split didn't create the same lasting acrimony that other disbanded bands experienced. Summers remained on good terms with Sting and Copeland, and even contributed guitar tracks to Sting's solo album "Nothing Like the Sun" in 1987. Three years later, Sting returned the favor by playing bass on Summers' album "Charming Smiles."

ILLUSTRATION: GREGORY HARRIS FOR AARP

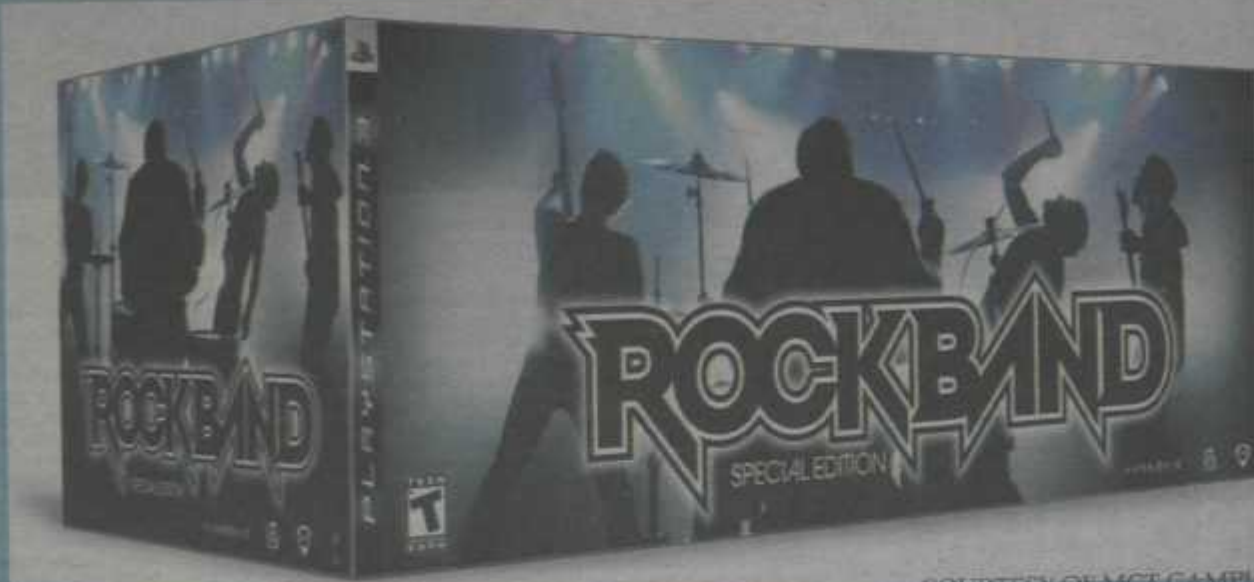
Rock Out with What Ever You Want Out

Scott Cohen
the sandspur

On the heels of Guitar Hero 3 comes Rock Band, the newest project by eponymous Guitar Hero creators Harmonix. Allowing the player control of the guitar, bass, vocals, and drums, Rock Band promises the truly vicarious experience of being a rock star, no matter your choice of instrument.

Rock Band is similar to its predecessor Guitar Hero in many ways - the notes scroll down against a fret board to be matched on the model guitar, a replica Fender Stratocaster, while an animated band performs on stage. The same method is applied to drums. Notes cascade from the top of the screen to the bottom where the player must match the colored note to the similar colored drum on the drumming peripheral. Vocals are performed through a USB microphone, and the unlike previous games based on the karaoke experience, Rock Band requires the vocalist to match words and rewards vibrato.

The songs included in Rock Band are practically a history of rock and roll, from the



COURTESY OF MCT CAMPUS

FREE BIRD! Man, I haven't heard a video crowd go crazy like that in years...the new 'DDR-esque' videogame comes equipped with a Gibson axe, Telecaster, toy microphone, electric drum pads, and super-star status.

Nine Inch Nails. While Guitar Hero has always been host to many more metal songs than other genres, Rock Band shies away from metal and opts for more traditional rock and roll - most songs could be considered classic rock. However, this not to say there is an abundance of classic rock, rather the game is spread very well with choices from all genres, from the hair metal of Bon Jovi to the glam of David Bowie. Rock Band is also a departure from its predecessors as most songs in the game are actual master tracks rather

than covers. In all, the game features 58 songs on release, with the possibility of adding thousands more via downloads. Rock Band begins with you creating a player, which can be either an avatar of yourself in the game or a rock star of your own creation. Rock Band offers thousands if not millions of combinations of outfits, and allows the player to create his or her own tattoos and face paints. As the game progresses, you play bigger and bigger venues and harder and harder songs. Anyone who has played Guitar Hero understands the appeal of this game - the challenge of playing it far more important than the story, and Rock Band doesn't focus much on story. Everything is about the game play.

Gameplay is as challenging and entertaining as it was in Guitar Hero. There are few complaints. For one, the new notes on screen are shaped as bars instead of raised circles, and it is harder to focus on the spacing between them to get timing

right on the more challenging songs. Second, Energy Overdrive (the new Star Power) is gained by correctly playing a

string of notes that are highlighted in a glowing white, but on screen they appear a dull grey. When Energy Overdrive is activated, the effects on the fret board look like muddy tire tracks, not quite as nice as the glowing blue borders of Guitar Hero.

The new peripherals are a grab bag. The guitars are having issues, such as unresponsive strumming, and the guitar in my first copy of Rock Band could not activate Energy Overdrive. The guitar looks much more realistic and nicer than previous Guitar Hero peripherals, however, the inset buttons can jam and are much harder to use than the buttons on the Explorer or Les Paul, both of which also work with Rock Band. The microphones are top notch, much higher quality than was expected. The drum peripherals are lower-quality buttons rather than the expected more professional electronic drum pads, and while they work fine in most cases, they can become unresponsive if played too hard or too fast.

The game is a blast, the graphics are fantastic, and all the fun of Guitar Hero can now be found in drumming and singing as well. 170 dollars is steep, but if you've ever had dreams of being a rock and roll superstar, the investment is well worth the sacrifice.

ors wailing outside their dorm room.

Groupie and occasional bandmate Nick Zazulia had this to say: "When you watch Scott jam, it's just like wow, man. Wow. The pure, unadulterated energy is palpable; it's crazy."

Nick Zazulia
the sandspur

Bwow! Scott "The Axe" Cohen decked out in competition attire, is ready to melt some video game faces with his patented Gibson Les Paul.



COURTESY OF MCT CAMPUS

Ba-Da-Bum! The drum kit is by far the best aspect of the new game.

1960s with the Rolling Stone's "Gimme Shelter" to present day "Maps" by the Yeah Yeah Yeahs and "The Hand That Feeds" by

than covers. In all, the game features 58 songs on release, with the possibility of adding thousands more via downloads.

right on the more challenging songs. Second, Energy Overdrive (the new Star Power) is gained by correctly playing a



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Nevelson Featured in Night Gestures



JB/the sandspur

Not many people on campus are aware of the great good fortune of Rollins in procuring the loan of the large Nevelson masterpiece...for close to a million bucks.

Justin Braun
Nick Zazulia
the sandspur



While rushing frantically to a class ridiculously far away from their dorm, observant students may ponder the origin of the many artistically modern sculptures abundant on the Rollins campus. All questions will be answered with the coming of second semester. From January 19th through April 6th, a dozen pieces will be on display in the Cornell Fine Arts Museum by artist/sculptor Louise Nevelson. The late Louise Nevelson (1899-1988) is considered one of the most prominent contemporary artists, as her work is also being displayed in many major museums across the country. Organized by Director Luanne McKinnon, the exclusive "Night Gestures" exhibition features a variety of sculptures comprised entirely of scrap material.



COURTESY OF ROLLINS COLLEGE

These are two examples of Nevelson pieces which could possibly be on display in the CFAM second semester.



Life & Times

EDITOR: AMY IARROBINO
FEATURES@THESANDSPUR.ORG

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What was the best or worst gift you've ever received for Christmas?

Brittany Fornot
the sandspur

Best

"I think the best gift I received was a command center for my power rangers when I was younger. I was so excited."

"The best gift I ever received was a toy machine gun when I was six. It was so cool. It was camo and made noises when you pushed a button. That was the best gift ever."

-Erik

"Best gift?...uhhhh a boat. I got a boat once. That was pretty cool."

-Clay

"The best gift I ever received was a Go-Go My Walking Pup. It was pretty much my favorite gift of all time."

-Tyler Marx

"The best gift was a trip to Italy. My worst gift? Once I got a long box that I thought was a new golf club I wanted. Instead, it was actually nail clippers."

-Tyler Cloutier

"The best gift I've ever gotten is probably my Garmin. I love having it for road trips, because it tells you the closest places to find food and it's practically impossible to get lost with one! My worst present was from my Aunt. She always buys us clothes that are three times our size, and about two Christmases ago she gave me this huge, frumpy purple sweater and black skirt (that she bought for herself as well so we could match) Haha-I wouldn't mind the matching part, but the clothes were pretty bad. I wore them anyway because I knew it would make her happy."

-Allison Schuldt

Worst

"One year I got a throwback game worn Boston College jersey. I really like that, but my worst gifts I have received would have to be all the sweatshirts my grandma gives me. They are always too small so I can't wear them."

-Matt St. Jean

"Once when my brother and I were younger, my mom put empty boxes and boxes filled with coal under our Christmas tree. After awhile, she brought out the real presents, but it was still a bad joke."

-Tarin Scarbrough

"The worst gift I ever received?... hmmm... I got bed sheets from my grandparents once. That was pretty lame, and I think my grandma once gave me a waffle iron. haha."

-Christopher McCauley

"Ummm my worst gift? One year my parents gave me a scale... I wonder what they were trying to tell me."

-Daniel

"The worst Christmas gift- stinky, smelly, bad body lotion! Every year my aunt gives everyone the most awful smelling body lotions."

-Casey Shutelt

"The worst gift? My grandma gave me this like little mermaid gift set. It was the Disney Little Mermaid. I was like 13, just a tad too old to appreciate such a gift. It had a little pencil, pad, and mirror with it too. I was like, 'Thanks Grandma!'"

-Jen Zyski

"The worst would have to be when my grandma gave me a pink sweater and turtle neck, but the best would have to be a vacation to Paris. That was amazing."

-Alli Crocker

"The worst gift I received was when my uncle sent my family a certificate saying that we owned a sheep in Africa or something, and that same uncle sent us these swabs from national geographic where you give them samples of your cells and they trace your lineage to tell you your ancestors. Those were random and crazy gifts. My brother and his roommate made me a scrapbook of their first year at college, and that was probably the best gift I ever received."

-Katie Jones



Senior Spotlight Laurel Mason



Nikki Fiedler
the sandspur
Name:
Laurel Mason

Major/Minor: International Business

Hometown: Norwich, Vermont

What are your extra-curricular activities?
I'm taking the most classes at a time that I have so far, so I'm mainly focusing on my studies. In the past, NCM was a major part of my extracurricular time.

What do you like to do in your spare time?
I enjoy reading, hanging out with friends,

and going to the movies. Somehow, there never seems to be enough time in a day!!

What do you plan on doing upon graduation?

I'm not really sure yet. I'm planning on completing a second internship next semester and I'm hoping that will give me some insight into what I want to do with my future. I want a job that will challenge me and give me opportunity for advancement. At this point, I can see myself moving anywhere, even internationally. Ideally, I'd like to get a few years' work experience under my belt and then get my MBA.

Your favorite class at Rollins and why:

I've really enjoyed most of my business classes, as well as some from other areas of study. My favorite classes have been the ones that genuinely challenged me to think outside the box. I still have to take a few of the core INB classes and I anticipate that my favorite class is yet to come.

Favorite thing about Rollins:

I've really appreciated the availability of study abroad opportunities offered by International Programs. My semester studying abroad in London was amazing. I loved my internship and the experience of living in the center of such a dynamic city as London. I interned at Asia House, which is a nonprofit organization that organizes events for the Asian community in London. Their events range from cultural events like book releases and art exhibitions to political events. While I was there, we organized a speech and press conference with the president of the Philippines, as well as a Malaysian fashion show and Korean art exhibition. Because of my experience there, I've decided that event planning isn't for me. Nonetheless, I enjoyed it so much and I'm still in contact with many of my colleagues from Asia House.

Another thing I love about Rollins is its highly involved, devoted faculty and the small, close-knit community we have here. Because of this college's size classes are smaller, and faculty members have more time for individual students. There's a lot to be said for the fostering of individuality that Rollins offers. At bigger schools, professors aren't able to offer this to students and there is a higher level of anonymity.

Least favorite thing about Rollins:

I feel that the level of difficulty of the classes here is below what it could be. As I said, my favorite classes were the ones that made me work hard. Without high standards, it's impossible to grow intellectually, and I think Rollins needs to increase the difficulty of its courses. I feel the students are up to the challenge, whether or not they believe it.

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

When I was in high school I studied abroad in Costa Rica for a year with the American Field Service. I lived with a host family in a small rural town and attended a Spanish-speaking high school. I'm still very close with my friends and family from there.

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

Most of my funny stories involve breaking the rules. Getting written up is somewhat of a rite of passage at Rollins.

What advice would you give underclassmen?

Don't compare your college experience to that of anyone else's. Everyone makes different choices, and everyone else is just as unsure as you are of what the future holds. Just take it one day/week/semester at a time and stay focused -- but have a good time, too. In the end, you'll remember the friends you had and the fun things you did, not the test you stayed up all night studying for.



LINDSAY SIEGEL/The Sandspur

cookie jars that they can use later as a container for organization. This way it is something they can use now and use after Christmas. Plus it's inexpensive and personal" Mary Kate Dwyer Sophomore

"I'd say the Florida mall because it has upscale shops and affordable shops...unlike the mall of

millennia which is all upscale stores and not always ideal for college students" Christina Joyce Junior



LINDSAY SIEGEL/The Sandspur

I would have to say Target because they always have such good deals and they have the cutest stuff. I would also have to say shopping online is a great way because it's convenient and sometimes they add in free shipping. Plus they generally have more items than they have in the stores" Lindsay Siegel Junior



LINDSAY SIEGEL/The Sandspur

Sandspur Holiday Shopping Guide

Lindsay Siegel
the sandspur

Christmas is just around the corner and I asked some of your fellow Tars where they like to go to shop for Christmas gifts.

"Malls are always good because of the variety. I prefer Altamonte Mall. But specifically I love Kohl's department store and Wal-Mart. For the past several years I've been able to get most presents there." - Kaitlin Elizabeth Baxter Freshman

"I love to Christmas shop in my kitchen! usually what I do for gifts for my friends is bake cookies for them and then put them into cute little



LINDSAY SIEGEL/The Sandspur

The Outlets near my house in MD are always a good place to go because they have good deals and you can find everything! Prime Outlets- Sarah McWilliams Junior



LINDSAY SIEGEL/The Sandspur

The millennia mall is a great place to shop for all the upscale stores this is a place you shop for your closest friends and family. I also really like to shop at Disney a lot of my friends like Disney and they have some really cute stuff" Rochelle Siegel Senior

Still don't have a gift for your love ones take your peers advice and go out and shop and shop smart.

What's on your wish list?

Brittany Forno
the sandspur

"I would like tint for my car windows or maybe a new bike or something."
-Erik Kirschner

"Anything Vera Bradley."
-Alli Crocker

"I would like tickets to Pro Bull Riding and a plane ticket to visit my friend Kate at Clemson."
-Tayler Marx

"Buckle boots!"
-Tarin Scarbrough

"On my Christmas wish-list this year- a new laptop computer and a Sephora gift card."
-Casey Shufelt

"Clothes and Ugg Moccasins!"
-Jen Zyski

"I want a 32" flat screen TV."
-Carlos

"My Christmas wish-list? Some movies, an Xbox 360, Guitar Hero, and Halo 3."
-Tyler Cloutier

"I'm asking for money and a Manny Ramirez fathead."
-Matt St. Jean

Opinions

EDITOR: TANISHA MATHIS

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For Returning Soldiers, GI Bill Doesn't Add Up

Ellis Henican
mct campus

They're coming home, the lucky ones are, pulling their lives back together after harrowing times in the war zone.

And the GI Bill is there to help them, same as it was for "the greatest generation," who returned to civilian society after World War II.

Um, well, not exactly.

American vets now coming back from the wars in Afghanistan and Iraq are facing an ugly surprise — and I don't just mean the iffy health care at their local VA hospital. The educational benefits that sounded so alluring in those upbeat recruiting ads? They don't come close to covering the real costs of college.

"Four hundred dollars? Are you kidding?" Army Reserve Spc. Sheila Pion said of her monthly stipend. "Just my textbooks cost \$410."

A seven-year reservist back home in Long Island City, N.Y., and attending John Jay College of Criminal Justice, Pion served at an Army hospital in Kuwait, tending to wounded soldiers. "It was important duty," said Pion, 24. "I was happy to do it. But the whole point of me joining the military was to pay for my education. And the educational benefits are nothing like they lead you to believe."

"Be all that you can be" — deep in credit-card debt!

"The few, the proud" — the never able to graduate!

Members of Congress from both parties are constantly saying how much they support the troops. So this is what they mean by support? Sending our soldiers back to society in the civilian equivalent of un-armored Humvees?

Wall Street legend Jerome Kohlberg is sure that isn't right. The 81-year-old billionaire, who co-founded the Kohlberg Kravis Roberts private-equity firm,

served in the Navy in World War II. He knows something about the GI Bill. It helped him get three degrees — from Swarthmore College, Harvard Business School and Columbia Law School.

"I benefited tremendously," Kohlberg recalled Tuesday. "It enabled me to broaden my experience and background and make me valuable to a series of employers and legal firms."

Just like it did for 8 million other World War II vets. "Those people really made the middle class," Kohlberg said. "Just think if they hadn't gone to school what their leadership and earning potential would have been."

Under today's GI Bill, regular-service combat vets get \$1,101 a month, far less for fighting members of the National Guard and Reserve. No one's going to Harvard or Columbia on that kind of money. And even to qualify, today's soldiers are required to

deposit \$100 a month into their own education fund, months or years before they ever get a nickel back.

"A combat tax," the troops have starting calling these paycheck deductions.

"I happen to be against this war," Kohlberg said. "But we can't ignore this. It's very difficult, the entrance back to civilian life. The best thing we can do, not only for the veterans but for our country, is to help these men and women get an education."

Kohlberg isn't just talking. He has taken \$4 million and set up a Fund for Veterans Education, awarding scholarships to two veterans in every state. Pion is one of the New Yorkers. A junior at John Jay, she said she's hoping for a law enforcement career, perhaps with the federal Witness Security Program.

She says her \$3,000-a-semester stipend "will make a huge difference for me. My senior year, I was going to have

to put on a credit card." Pion said she's still glad she served. "I would never tell someone not to join the military," she said. "But if you're doing it for the education benefit, you really have to think twice."

Kohlberg said he understands his gift won't alone meet such a massive challenge, even if other private donors jump aboard. Washington has to step up, too.

But that is a possibility. Sen. Jim Webb and Chuck Hagel, both infantry-combat veterans from Vietnam, called recently for a post-Iraq GI bill that is far less stingy. They, like Kohlberg, believe that "supporting the troops" should be more than just a slogan.

"You've listened to Sheila Pion," the Wall Street and Navy veteran said. "Think of what this new generation can do. Veterans will be the backbone of this country, the same as they were before. We just have to help a little."

Its Not Castro Who is Hurt By US Embargo

Omar Rachid
the sandspur

The US embargo has done nothing but empowered Fidel Castro, the entrepreneur of Cuba, the island-state located in the north-central region of the Caribbean Sea.

If we think of the island as a business and Fidel Castro as its unquestionable manager, then it is easy to see how opposition to the US embargo on Cuba can grow from overseas. When dealing with a country such as communist Cuba, it is necessary to take into consideration the context of the island, a country of the Caribbean and the sole (or one of very few) survivors of Soviet-style communism.

Enacted on February 7, 1962 as a response to the

nationalization of corporations and lands owned by US citizens by the Castro government, the US embargo on Cuba is in its 45th year of existence.

What started as a policy to cripple the Castro regime has done nothing but invigorate it, while presidents come and go in the US, Castro has stood strong to ten presidents through 15 presidential terms in the United States. So if this is an economic embargo, who is suffering?

The Cuban people. It is saddening to see a people with such a vibrant culture and enormous presence whose nation has fallen under tyrannical rule, a culture that has produced notable figures such as Celia Cruz, Maria Conchita Alonso, Jose Bernal, Alejo Carpentier, Nicolas Guillen, and Jose Marti.

When comparing Southern Florida to Cuba, the US is heaven. When comparing Cuba to the Dominican Republic, it is to the advantage of the poor to be citizens of Cuba. I choose South Florida as a comparison because that is a top destination for most Cubans and the Dominican Republic because of the comparable economic situations of both countries.

Sure, medical facilities may go without basic medications in Cuba, but the poor are guaranteed health treatment in the country with the world's second-highest doctors per capita according to a study conducted by the United Nations.

So why the embargo on Cuba and not Egypt? It may seem totally random to some, but Egypt is a staunch ally of the

United States, one of the very few in the Middle East, and its leader Hosni Mubarak is on his 5th term as the uncontested dictator of Egypt. Why is it that some dictatorships are "acceptable" and others form part of the "axis of evil?"

It is this labeling of countries that ties a certain stigma to the people of the country as well. Back to the original question, the US should work with Cuban-Americans wishing to see a post-Castro Cuba flourish. The fear is that the Cuban mafia in Miami will seize the island and massive immigration back to Cuba will leave people with no choice.

It has become a UN tradition that started nearly two decades ago that involves voting on whether the US should lift the embargo on Cuba. At first,

many were trying to form their opinions, but in recent years the UN has overwhelmingly voted against it. Over 190 member states have voted against it, leaving the usual four countries in favor, the U.S., Israel, Micronesia, and Marshall Islands.

Not even the European or Latin American allies are in favor when it comes to this. Yes, the Castro regime has reigned through oppression and terror. But no, an embargo on the island is not the solution.

Economic prosperity is what the island needs, soon after education will follow and the Cuban people will legitimize themselves and empower a pro-democracy movement.

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The End of TV ... Well, As You Know It Today

Chicago Tribune Editorial
mct campus

On the morning of Feb. 18, 2009, some Americans will wake, flip on the television, and find ... nothing. Not a single channel in the vast sumptuous television banquet. Just snow.

They will wonder what happened. We will tell you what happened.

On that day - more than a year from now - TV stations will stop broadcasting an analog signal. In English, that means the old way of beaming television to the set, the way that millions of televisions still depend on, will cease. Only digital signals will be beamed. People will be slapping the

box, and adjusting the ears and scratching their heads and blaming their teenagers. But it won't help.

If the deadline holds, about 20 million homes that rely strictly on antennas to receive free over-the-air broadcasting will suddenly go dark, the National Association of Broadcasters estimates. An additional 14.6 million households have cable in one room but also at least one antenna-powered television. In all, 69 million televisions will be affected, the association says.

So why are we telling you now, more than a year in advance? Well, for one thing, this is good to keep in mind for Christmas/Hanukkah buying season, particularly if you're in one of the households that rely

on free analog television signals. For another, it's important that those who are shopping for a new TV make sure they know what they're buying. Some stores won't sell the analog sets anymore. But some will. Buying a new digital set is not the only way to stay connected after the transition. You could also subscribe to a cable or satellite or telephone-company TV service provider and let it handle the details with your old set. Or you could buy a set-top converter box for \$50 to \$70 that allows you to watch digital programming on an analog TV.

The feds will even help pay for the converter box because they're commandeering the analog spectrum for advanced wireless services and public

safety needs. Come Jan. 1, Americans can apply for as many as two \$40 coupons toward the purchase of converter boxes. (Call 1-888-DTV-2009 or visit dtvanswers.com for more information.)

Many Americans haven't heard of this coming change. Our guess: You'll be hearing about this a lot more. As U.S. Sen. Claire McCaskill, D-Mo., said at a hearing earlier this year, the lack of public awareness "scars me politically. There is no anger that comes close to the anger of an American that cannot get television."

She's right about that. You don't want to get between a television addict and his or her "24" or "Dexter" or "30 Rock" or "Friday Night Lights"

or "The Office," "Reaper" or "CSI: Miami" or "Desperate Housewives" ... well, you make your own list.

For people who disdain television, who brag about not having one or about still owning a black-and-white set circa 1979, this is another reason to feel superior to the proles who sit slack-jawed in front of the set every night. What's the fuss, they'll ask snootily. High def? Who cares? Maybe they won't even replace the ancient television, content to believe that television is not necessary to live a fulfilling life.

Millions, though, will have to get ready for the great conversion.

Decline in Reading, Why Johnny Won't Read

Kevin Horrigan
mct campus

For the last hour or so, the blinking cursor on the blank document on my computer screen has been taunting me:

Go ahead. Type. Write that cunning column about how weird it is for the National Endowment for the Arts to report a crisis in American reading in the same week that Amazon.com is selling out of "Kindles," those new \$399 electronic book gadgets.

Shut up, Blinky. I am going to write it. I'm just pondering. We writers like to ponder.

Ponder this: Who's going to read it?

The NEA report quoted a Bureau of Labor Statistics figure that says the average American, age 15 and up, spends three hours and six minutes every weekend day watching television and only 26 minutes reading. You really think they're going to waste any of those 26 minutes on reading you?

They might. Newspaper

readers are well above average, and readers of the opinion page are way above average. They're keenly interested in the news and cogent, pungent commentary. They like to read, period. They're the kind of people who are buying all those Kindles.

Fine. But consider this: Once they've laid out \$399 for a machine that can hold the text of up to 200 books, and once they've spent \$9.95 to download the latest Amazon best-seller, they've got too much invested to waste any of their reading time on your stupid column.

Ah, Blinky. You don't understand. Readers get hooked early. They like the tactile feel of paper, the smell of ink, the marvelous moment when the book or newspaper disappears and they are hooked directly into the story, the characters, the narrative. It's like a Vulcan mind meld.

See, there you are, making a television reference - and to a TV show that went off the air 38 years ago. What about the future? What about young people? That NEA report says that

people under 34 years old read for no more than 11 minutes a day. You really think they're going to devote three or four of those minutes to you?

They might. They might want to get a good job when they grow up. The NEA says good readers are two or three times more likely than poor readers to get jobs making \$1,950 a week or more. It says employers are desperate for good readers. Young people today know that, which is why they're flocking to read my column.

Please.

They can read it online, too. They can read it on their iPhones or other gadgets. You see them at sock hops or hanging around the Malt Shoppe, reading my column, talking about world affairs.

You really don't have a clue, do you?

You mean they're not?

And they're not reading books, either. That NEA survey you're so concerned about quotes a 2002 study that more than 40 percent of Americans under the age of 34 hadn't read

a book in the last year, outside of stuff they had to read for school or work. In fact 43 percent of all Americans hadn't read a single book for pleasure in the previous year.

What about Henry Potter?

That's Harry Potter. Henry Potter is the guy in "It's a Wonderful Life," which again just goes to prove how out of it you really are.

Whatever. There are 122 million Harry Potter books in print in the United States. They must have made a huge difference.

Not really. Reading habits among kids are still dropping as fast as they were before Harry Potter came along.

Maybe machines like the Kindle will change all that. Maybe it's not reading that kids hate. Maybe it's paper. Maybe they hate the idea of stacks of books and newspapers cluttering up their home. Maybe if there's a machine involved, they'll become big readers again. Kindles are sold out until mid-December. There's nothing Americans like better than buying expen-

sive machines they don't actually need.

So if you give them \$399, they'll buy a Kindle and not an X-Box? No, it's definitely reading they don't like. Reading is solitary, not social. Reading is contemplative and challenging. Today, people want action and distraction. It's why more people play slot machines than poker. It's why they added Diamond-Vision screens and sausage races to baseball games. People want to interact. It's why, with a Kindle, writers may be able to let readers see a work in progress and get their reactions.

That'll make for some great literature: "Dear Mr. Tolstoy: I don't like the part in 'War and Peace' where Karataev gets shot by the French. I think you should change it."

Hey, it's better than starving.

Go away, Blinky. I have a column to finish.

There.

Video Games Good For Your Health?

Katie Jones
the sandspur

In the January issue of Pediatrics the Mayo Clinic published a report stating that video games like those of the Nintendo Wii can help fight child obesity. These new interactive games get kids off the couch and encourage them to participate in more physical activity. But is this physical interaction enough to be considered a factor in someone's health or even an alternative to regular exercise?

Children are no longer sitting on couches all day playing video games. They are playing games on the Wii and challenging themselves in Dance Dance Revolution segments that require the players to jump, dance,

and sweat. Studies have shown that these games produce as much activity as walking, jogging, and skipping. Games such as Nicktoons Movin' Jellyfish Jam which uses the Sony EyeToy (controlled by body movements) can burn just as many calories as walking on a treadmill while games such as Dance Dance Revolution burn even more calories than walking.

Time in front of the television starts to affect other parts of a child's life after a certain point. A study done by the Kaiser Family Foundation found that half of all four to six year olds had played video games before, and one in four of these children play the games multiple times per week. Research has also shown that playing video games cuts down the amount

of time that kids spend reading or doing homework, but high-academic achievers spend less time on homework regardless of whether they play video games or not. Experts say that children under three should not spend any time in front of the television. If children are always playing video games or watching TV then they miss out on the opportunity to do other things such as play outside, read, or spend time with friends and family.

Just because these types of games are more active doesn't mean that they should replace regular exercise. Games designed for the Wii make it possible for players to mimic actions involved in playing tennis, baseball, golf, and bowling. However, the Wii only exercises certain parts of the body. Some players

have even reported soreness in their backs, shoulders, and arms. One symptom has even been dubbed the "Wii Elbow," but the people experiencing this soreness probably need to exercise more. There is one example of how a man played games on the Wii for 30 minutes a day and lost nine pounds in six weeks, but there are more cases of obese gamers than players experiencing weight loss.

Doctors have found another medical benefit to using the Wii on a regular basis. It has been used to treat children with hemiplegic cerebral palsy, which is a condition that can leave one side of the body paralyzed. If children use the Wii with their weaker side then they can increase their motor function on that side of the body. This has

been one way that doctors have been successful in getting the children to practice using their weaker side outside of therapy sessions.

Gamers playing active video games burn three times as many calories as those gamers playing traditional video games, but this is still not sufficient enough to drastically decrease child obesity. Parents should encourage their kids to participate in sports, academics, or more active activities to stimulate their minds and bodies instead of just buying them the latest video game. If children become used to being more active at a young age then they will continue to be active throughout their lives and reduce their risk of obesity.

Sports

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R.I.P Joe Kennedy

Daniel Paulling
the sandspur

A single death reminds people of their mortality, but it does not usually impact many lives. When Joe Kennedy, a left handed free agent pitcher, died on Nov. 23 at the age of 28, it impacted the baseball world.

No, this was not Roberto Clemente dying on New Year's Eve while flying on a plane loaded with supplies for those in need after an earthquake in Nicaragua. It wasn't even Cory Lidle passing away in a plane wreck in New York City. This was the story of a 28-year-old who, it seems, died because of an enlarged heart.

Kennedy was not drafted out of high school. Usually a player earns a cursory glance from some bird-dog scout, but all 30 major league teams passed Kennedy 50 times over. He skipped playing for any major schools and instead went to Grossmont Junior College, where he quickly developed into a legitimate prospect.

The Devil Rays thought enough of him to snag Kennedy in the eight round after the pitcher had spent only one year in JUCO ball. It was pick number 252, so it was not like Kennedy was highly considered.

However, he made the best of his childhood dream of becoming a professional baseball player.

Kennedy put together several good years in the minor leagues, including a 0.19 ERA in seven starts in Class AA and a 3.31 ERA in 22 starts in Class A with the Devil Rays. However, desperate as they were for pitching, the Devil Rays called Kennedy up to the major leagues, and he was thrown into the fire at the age of 22.

Kennedy became an ace by default, putting up 117.2 innings with a 4.44 ERA in his rookie year and 196.2 innings with a 4.53 ERA in his second season.

It was too much, too soon, however. Kennedy flamed out and moved to the bullpen the very next year. His ERA climbed to a Rocky Mountain high of 6.13. You could not blame him if he felt as if everything had hit rock bottom.

There was nowhere to go but up. Especially in altitude. Kennedy was traded to the Colorado Rockies, which is known as where good pitchers go to have their careers derailed. Kennedy was looking for another chance to reclaim one that was just solid.

In 27 starts, Kennedy put together a 3.66 ERA, which stands as the alltime record for Rockies starters. It was easy to imagine that he was finding his form once again, that he

was regaining the magic that had once made him a touted prospect.

However, it was just not meant to be. He was traded to the Oakland A's after a 7.04 ERA in 16 starts with Colorado before putting up a 4.45 ERA in 19 games with the Athletics. Last year, he found a home as a relief pitcher, throwing 35 innings of excellent relief work.

And in 2007, Kennedy put together some decent outings, but moved from the Athletics to the Arizona Diamondbacks to the Toronto Blue Jays. He finished his major league career with a mediocre 4.79 ERA and 43 wins. There was a chance he could have done so much more.

When Kennedy died, he was visiting in-laws in Florida. He reportedly got out of bed a little after one in the morning and was walking out of his room. Kennedy collapsed before he even got out of the room.

And now he leaves behind a one-year-old son named Kaige and a wife, Jami, expecting the couple's second child in June 2008.

Kennedy may not have been the most important player to have ever stepped foot on the field, but his death has left many throughout the game cognizant of their own mortality.



PHOTO COURTESY OF MCT CAMPUS

Rest In Reace: Joe Kennedy, an up and coming young pitcher, was taken from us too soon.

Athlete of the Week:
Ines TeumaDaniel Paulling
the sandspur

There is a big difference between Bafoussam, Cameroon, and Orlando, Fla. The 6,100 miles that separate the two cities, the different languages spoken, and the completely different cultures are just three of the biggest obstacles.

Luckily for Ines Teuma, who has overcome all of those barriers, basketball has not been much different. Teuma started 25 games and played in all 31 of the Lady Tars' basketball games last season. This year, she is continuing her good play, leading the team in free throws made and rebounds and ranking third in points.

Needless to say, Teuma has been a big part of the Lady Tars' 4-0 start going into the Dec. 1 matchup against the University of Tampa.

Women's head basketball coach Glenn Wilkes Jr. has nothing but praise for the forward.

"She's probably as strong a player as I've ever had," women's head basketball coach Glenn Wilkes Jr. said. "She's a good athlete and has a commanding presence on the court."

Teuma talents on the basketball court have not gone unnoticed in her home country of Cameroon. She has worked out twice for the Cameroonian national team, but failed to make the team after the final roster cut both times. She prepared for a work out a third time, but Cameroon decided to cancel sending its women's team to the tournament.

"I would love to play for the team sometime," Teuma said, "but I would not say it's a goal of mine."

One of Teuma's goals is to continue her tremendous charity work. Last year, she hosted a basketball tournament called the "Lady Tars Tournament" after collecting many basketball items from her team, as well as the men's basketball team.

Wilkes remembers hearing Teuma ask if she could speak to

her coach.

"Usually when a player asks to talk to a coach, it means something bad has happened," Wilkes said. "But it wasn't. She asked if the team kept the equipment they had used the previous year. I told her they did and she asked if she could start a collection on the team."

"She wanted to help those in need."

Teuma, it turns out, had been saving money for two years to return to her home of Cameroon over the summer. She also wanted to do something for the basketball players living there. So, because of her love of saving things, Teuma decided to collect used clothes, shoes, and basketballs to take back. Her teammates were very receptive, and Teuma managed to collect three large boxes worth of equipment.

Next, she had to figure out how to distribute the goods. Teuma decided to stage a tournament for the basketball players of Cameroon. Six teams of 12 players each participated.

"It was just a tournament

to play basketball," Teuma said. "When I was growing up, I loved just playing basketball."

To help fund the tournament Teuma helped find sponsors to help defray the costs. She also paid some of the cost out of her own pocket. The jerseys and shoes were given to the better players of the tournament as awards and the basketballs went to local youth programs.

Teuma wants to return to Cameroon and host another tournament, but does not know when that will happen next.

Whatever happens, Wilkes is proud of Teuma, both as a player and as a person.

"She's a stellar person and hard working," Wilkes said. "There are not too many kids who would do that. She's one in a million."

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As your sports editor, I feel that it is my job to educate you on the world of sports. This is for your own good. In the near future, you will be at a cocktail party. An attractive person will approach you and strike up conversation about current sporting events. Now you won't freeze up in front of your potential soul mate. This will happen, and you can take these salt-plated factoids straight to the bank.

-Danny Travis

1. "If ever there is a season that points to a playoff system, this one" says the television talking head. As profound as that statement may be, we have been hearing it for the last five years. There will never be a playoff system, Mr. Talking Head, no matter how hard you put your horn on your shows. The bowl sponsorship system makes the BCS incredibly profitable for the NCAA. The Tostitos semifinal game just doesn't have the same ring to it as the Tostitos Fiesta Bowl. The bowl system is silly, college football is silly, so deal with it. I'm sure if you were getting checks for millions and millions of dollars from these sponsors, you wouldn't have a problem with the system either.

2. While on the subject of bowl games, Missouri and Virginia Tech made me look stupid. I make a prediction that they both go to the title game, and they simultaneously collapse. Now we are stuck with Ohio State in another national title game because they performed so well against no one in the last week of the season.

3. Now for the BCS bowl predictions. I know a lot of you enjoy entering into bowl pools over the holidays for some sporting fun, but make sure you don't put money on them because that would be illegal. Especially don't put money on them if you follow my picks. USC will prevail in the Rose Bowl over Illinois, but it will be closer than most people think. Like the Illini and the points. In the Sugar Bowl, Georgia will

not only cover the spread, but they will make Hawaii look like the Rainbow Warriors that they are. In the Fiesta Bowl, I see West Virginia prevailing, only because Bob Stoops is an idiot. In the Orange Bowl, take Kansas and the points over Virginia Tech, and now, I am now picking arbitrarily. And finally, in the BCS championship game, LSU will blow out Ohio State. It is a home game for LSU, and they have key players returning from injuries, and Ohio State has no problem collapsing in national title games.

4. The Los Angeles Lakers may be mediocre at best these days, but Kobe Bryant is still the most exciting player to watch. His patented no look back door lay ups have been exchanged for the much more comedic eye roll every time one of his team mates bricks a ten foot jumper. Luke Walton needs to live up to his family name, not by smoking pot and getting injured, but by becoming a leader in preparation for Kobe's departure.

5. The Orlando Magic have the Eastern Conference by their proverbial balls, and I often lament the fact that the Magic do not have the same firm grasp upon the hearts of Rollins College students. The Magic are 16-4 and 11-2 on the road. They just capped off a trip to the West coast by beating a surging Golden State in overtime and they lost only to Phoenix. The monster Dwight Howard controls the paint better than anyone in the league, and his hideous dunks have a blast radius of miles. The most encouraging part about this team is that Dwight Howard's superstar status doesn't impose on anyone, and the entire team, including the bench, plays cohesively and selflessly.

6. On Monday night, Brian Billick and the Baltimore Ravens, spoon fed the New England Patriots their twelfth win of the season. The Ravens were so close to tainting the Patriot's perfect season, but, in the last minutes of the Fourth quarter, it seemed like they would much

rather witness history and have the Patriots go 16-0. A key fourth down stop was negated because the Baltimore defensive coordinator called a last second timeout from the sideline. Two glaring reasons show the stupidity of this. One, you aren't going to somehow shake Tom Brady by calling a timeout on him. Two, a defensive coordinator I not even allowed to call a timeout from the sideline! Only the head coach can! A lot of people approach me about my unadulterated hatred of the Patriots, and I am not ashamed to tell them my simple reason: I am jealous. I hate how Boston area fans have everything. I hate how they have the best receiving corps in the land. I hate the cool evil inside of their coach's robotic heart. I hate how their defense plays fluidly and unselfishly. I hate how the lights glisten off of ruggedly handsome Tom Brady's charming smile.

7. On the opposite end of the East coast, the Dolphins are still winless, and they don't seem eager to change that. I know Dolphins fans who are rooting for the winless season, an exciting accomplishment that would be something to brag about for years to come. And of course, along with the historical implications, Miami will be awarded with the first pick. Here is a hint Mr. Wayne Huizenga, take Darren McFadden, or else the Patriots will, causing my heart to tear itself apart.

8. In other Orlando area sporting news, the Orlando Sharks have started off their season with a blast! They have lost all seven of their games, but the action is still exciting, as one would expect from the Major Indoor Soccer League. To celebrate our return to campus in January, they face the California Cougars on the 18th, and the Philadelphia Kixx on the 25th. The game against Philadelphia is Friday Night Phever, so where your fun disco gear and cheer on your local heroes!

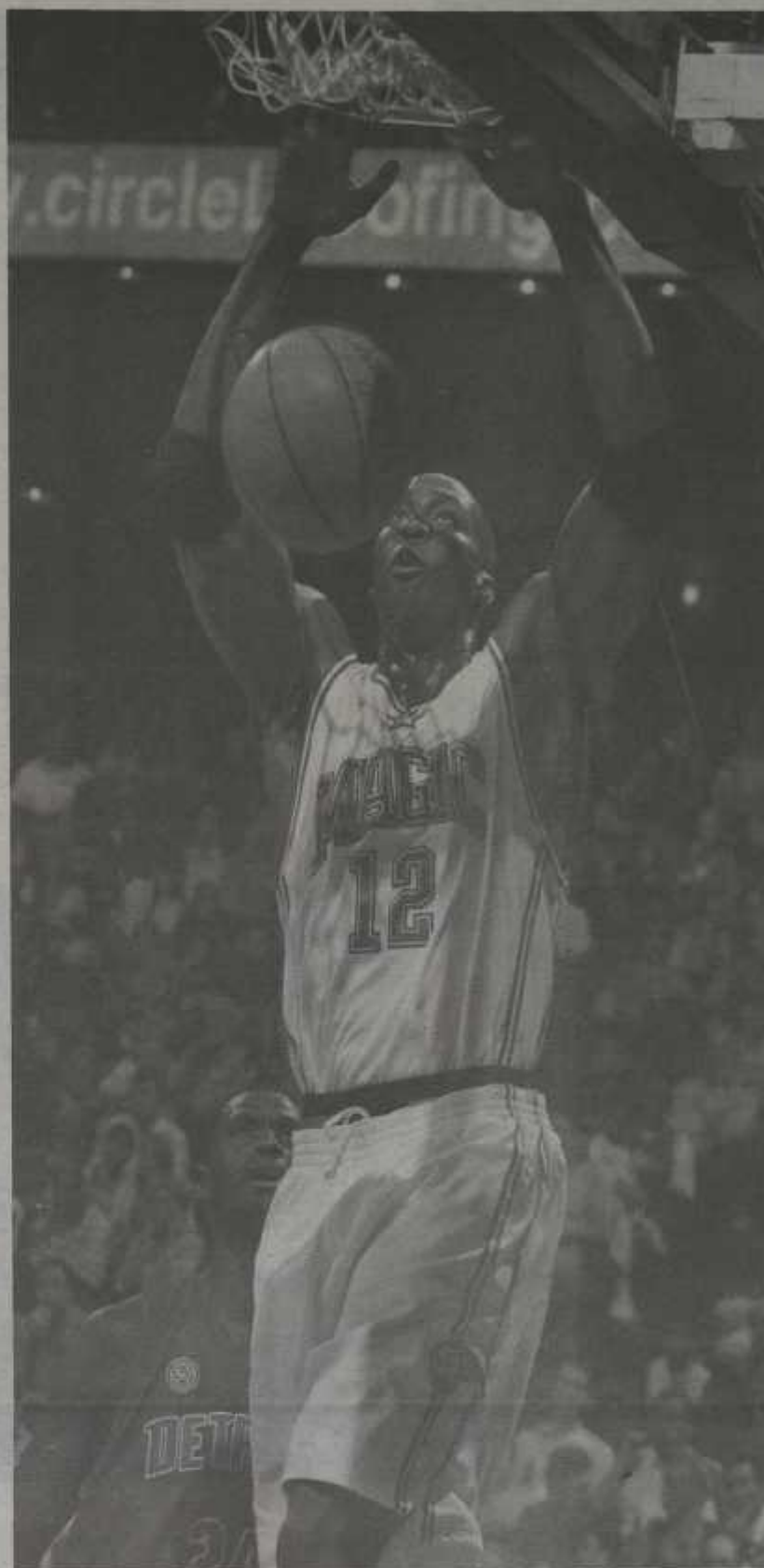


PHOTO COURTESY OF MCT CAMPUS

SPACE JAM! Dwight Howard is a monstar, he will hit you high, he will hit you low, and you can't do anything about it.

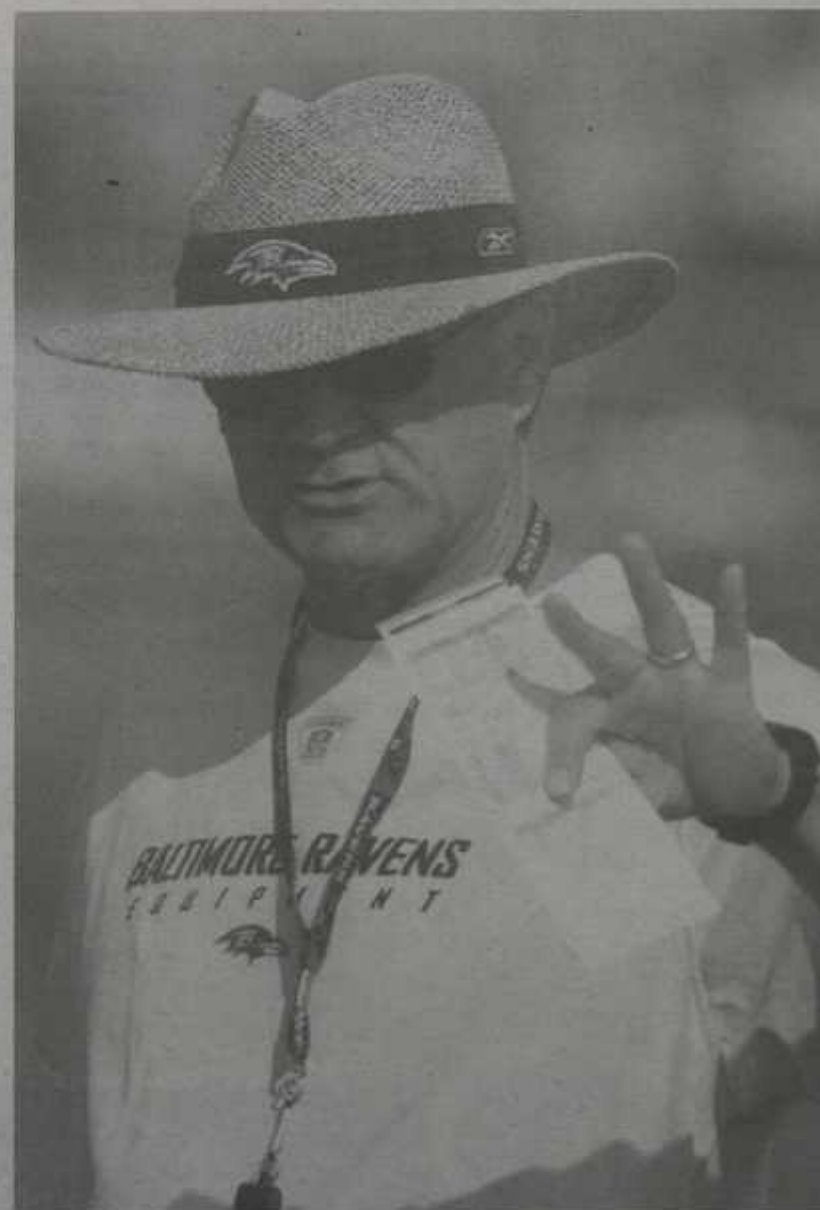


PHOTO COURTESY OF MCT CAMPUS

BILICK = DUMB: Brian Billick handed the Patriots another victory on a silver platter, bending over backwards for them in the fourth quarter.



PHOTO COURTESY OF MCT CAMPUS

IN YO FACE! Kellen Clemens makes Joey Porter eat his proverbial fist

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