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The Sandspur

WINTER PARK, FL

November 7, 2008

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Volume 115 Issue 10



Interested in some extra cash? Take pictures and write stories for The Sandspur

Uncle Sam's Poll Party fired up Mills Lawn with election fervor pages 6-7



Rollins rowers ready for the regatta page 4

Where were you? A shared moment in history

VERNON MEIGS
the sandspur

Obama emerged as the first African-American President-elect. The Senate and the House of Representatives also won the Democratic majority in Congress, but not enough to prevent possible filibusters from the Republican portions. This election has also been significant in that the electoral campaigns of the presidential candidates lasted approximately 21 months, almost two years.

Citizens voted in record-breaking numbers across the country to this end result. Almost immediately after his win was confirmed, Obama held a victory speech and in it stated, "Change has come to America." He also insisted that the victory belongs to the American people. The speech was met

with extreme enthusiasm by his supporters and celebrations ensued with just as much enthusiasm. Obama noted, however, that the challenges that his administration would face will most likely not be taken care of in just one term.

After the results were announced, John McCain called his opponent to congratulate him on his victory. McCain revealed this in his concession speech as he stood his ground despite noticeable dissatisfaction by some crowd members. Both he and Obama agreed that this election serves as a landmark triumph for African-American citizens. John McCain went so far as to say that Obama would help heal America of its "racial demons."

McCain, despite his old age of 72, steadfastly campaigned across the nation so that at one point he reached eight states in a single day. It has been implied, however, that these elevated steps towards securing his votes from these states came too late, which some say may have cost him the presidency.

Obama has also promised that the first issue his administration will tackle is the war in Iraq. Many critics have stated that his plans seem to be somewhat vague as far as the details of what exactly he will do, but these critics do acknowledge that Obama has been doing a great deal of planning.

The election on November 4 is also of great historical

significance in that most of the advertising was largely distributed via the internet, especially for the Obama campaign. Also, whether Obama or McCain won the election, some "firsts" were inevitable: Obama as the first African-American president (which, now that he has won, he is), and McCain's Vice-Presidential candidate, Sarah Palin, as the first woman to have attained that position.

It is evident that this election most certainly did bring about change, and will continue to do so for years to come. Now that the election has been resolved, Obama is the pending successor to George W. Bush. Only time can tell if Americans have made the right decision.

Debate raises awareness

JENNIFER STULL
the sandspur

the turnout and it shows there are students who are politically active and politically motivated at Rollins."

The turnout was rather impressive, showing just how monumental this election really was. With this generation having such low voter turnout at the polls, it is exciting Rollins to have such an obviously large amount of students who care and get involved.

However, it was brought up that not many social issues were addressed during the debate (i.e. abortion and gay marriage). President of the Debate Team Rob Moore responded to this by saying that these social issues cannot be argued as black and white as the other important issues of the election, and it was better to stick with the major world problems. Especially in the case dealing with abortion, he noted, that America has seen many Republican presidents and Roe v. Wade has yet to be overturned and therefore the debaters felt it was more important to touch on more prevalent issues.

Binstock ended by saying, "I think a lot of people are going to take the next couple months for a political vacation. For the near future, there are no debates planned yet, but maybe late this year that could be a possibility." These debates are a great way for students to stay informed and active. Rollins may be a small school, but our impact could be huge.



COURTESY OF MCT CAMPUS

Rollins After Dark celebrates Halloween



ZAC CHENAILE / the sandspur
SCREAM: All Campus Events presented their second Rollins After Dark Event last week on Halloween. Mills lawn was strewn with inflatable laser tag, "Scream" showing on the big screen, bobbing for apples, donut-on-a-string, caramel apples and breakfast buffet. Students arrived in costume to celebrate Halloween. Left are the winners of the costume contest dressed as paper, scissors, rock and lobster. The event lasted from 10:00pm until 1:00am the next day with a couple hundred students passing through.

Interview live from Dublin

KATIE JONES
the sandspur

Sophomore Courtney McCullough is a psychology major and communications minor from Brookline, Mass., who is currently studying abroad this semester. Courtney is partaking in an independent program through the Center of International Studies (CIS), where she is spending the semester abroad at Dublin City University in Dublin, Ireland. Courtney has shared some highlights of her experience with us.

Katie Jones: Is this the first time you have been to a different country? Is it the first time you've stayed in another country for an extended period of time?

Courtney McCullough: I have been to Canada before, but this is the first time I have left the continent. Also, this is my first time out of the country for more than a few days.

KJ: What classes are you currently taking? Have you gone on any interesting fieldtrips with the class or had special hands-on activities?

CM: I am in a sports skills class which is very hands on and we do exercise classes every week. I also have classes in Crime & the Punishment, Communication Skills, and the History of Media & TV Drama. There haven't been any field trips yet.

KJ: Are your classes taught in English or another language? If in another language, is it hard to adjust?

CM: My classes are taught in English, but with the heavy accents Irish accents, it is still difficult at times.

KJ: What has been the

biggest culture shock for you?

CM: How expensive everything is!

KJ: Are there any unusual habits or traditions that you've noticed among the people there?

CM: No one really goes running outside. I went for a run my first day here and got a few weird looks.

KJ: What is your favorite food that you've tried while in Ireland?

CM: The sausage over here is unbeatable.

KJ: What is the strangest/worst food you've tried?

CM: Cabbage. I hate it.

KJ: What is your current living situation while studying in Dublin?

CM: I am living in an apartment with 3 other girls from America. We each have our own bathroom and our own kitchen, so I must say we have it pretty good.

KJ: Have you traveled to any other countries while studying abroad? If so, where did you go and what did you do there?

CM: Before I came to Dublin, I went to London for a few days to visit some friends from Rollins who are abroad there and to stay with my godparents for a few days. I am planning on going around to lots of other countries while I'm here!

KJ: Are other Rollins students studying abroad at your same university? If not, what other universities are the students from?

CM: I am the only Rollins student in Dublin, but there are students from all over the place, especially the Boston area, Japan, France, and Spain.

KJ: How has the weather been?

CM: It's been surprisingly sunny with nice fall temperatures so far, but they say this is just a good stretch and that it is usually



PHOTO COURTESY OF COURTNEY MCCULLOUGH

very, very rainy in Dublin. It also gets really cold here at night.

KJ: What do you miss most about the U.S.?

CM: I miss how cheap everything is, my friends and family (including pets), and my car.

KJ: What do you miss most about Rollins?

CM: I miss all my friends, Chi Omega, the campus, the weather, the caf, and Tijuana Flats.

KJ: Is there anything you want to share about your experience in Dublin?

CM: Dublin is so much fun, and I am so glad that I came here. If anyone is thinking about going abroad, DO IT! It was hard for me to make myself go abroad at first. I love Rollins so much and didn't want to be away from it for a whole semester, but I knew that if I didn't take advantage of the opportunity to go abroad

I would regret it. How many chances do you get in your life to live in another country for 4 months for the same amount of money as you are spending on school now? Even if there isn't a program through Rollins that you want to do, everyone in the Office of International Programs is more than willing to work with you to either help you find a program or help you get a program you have found on your own approved for credit. There are so many places to go in the world, and there's no better time to do it. The experiences are priceless. Going abroad is an amazing opportunity, and everyone should take advantage of it.

Rollins provides a variety of opportunities for students to have experiences abroad through the Office of International Programs. If you choose to enroll in an

independent program such as what Courtney McCullough did this semester, and it is a Rollins or Affiliate program, then there are a few things you need to know. Your financial aid from Rollins will not follow you on an independent program when you go abroad, and you will have to take a leave of absence from the college for the semester. Even though the program is not through Rollins, you still have to go through the Office of International Programs to make sure that the credit is transferrable and that everything necessary is completed for your trip abroad. Feel free to contact the office at intprog@rollins.edu or come by the office in Campus Center 227 with any questions.

For more information about the CIS: Dublin program, visit <http://www.studyabroad.com/index.php?program=dublin>.

Multicultural night breaks bread over Israeli-Palestinian conflict

FATEMA KERMALLI
the sandspur

On the night before Election Day, a Middle Eastern Multicultural Night focusing on the Israeli-Palestinian conflict was held on Mills Lawn. Though not as high-profile as the Uncle Sam's After-Poll Party that occurred there the following night, the event did see a decent student and faculty turnout. Hillel and the Society for a Just Peace in Palestine (SJPP) co-sponsored the night, which featured food, speakers, free "coexist" bumper stickers and a film that exuded a message of hope for the entire region.

Although students trickled onto the lawn slowly near the beginning, the number of attendees eventually built up to about forty individuals at the height of the night. The event began with the clubs' presidents welcoming their guests and introducing the two speakers, Rabbi Jonathan Siger

and Brother Yassine Benzinane, both of whom had spoken at a similar event last year showing the film "Promises." Rabbi Siger, executive director of the Central Florida Hillel, focused on the history of the Jewish people's settlement in the land of Israel. Brother Yassine, owner of the Ali Baba Bookstore and a member of the Orlando branch of the Council on American-Islamic Relations, emphasized the need for the audience to think about possible solutions, given the claims that each side has to the land.

While technical difficulties following the speeches were being dealt with, the audience was able to enjoy a spread of Middle Eastern dishes including pita, hummus, tabouleh, falafel and shawarma. Some form of entertainment was also provided by the sight of strong winds more than once almost knocking the large inflatable screen down.

The film "Encounter Point" was an amazing portrayal of

the independent grassroots movements for peace that are occurring within and between Palestine and Israel. It focused on the stories of a few individuals and showed how they had turned grief and hardship from the conflict into the drive to make peace.

In one portrayal, two men, one Israeli and one Palestinian, lost their daughters in attacks from the other side. Both joined a group for bereaved families where they now talk to each other, bond and work towards mutual understanding. Another person, Ali, had lost his brother, been shot in the leg and sent to prison, enough to make him a hero in Palestine. However, instead of perpetuating hate, he is now working tirelessly to meet with both Israelis and Palestinians in order to spread the message of peace and dialogue.

Although a number of people were forced indoors halfway through the film by the cold and windy weather, the



CHRISTIAN KEBBEL/the sandspur

audience in general seemed to enjoy the film.

When asked about her impressions, Susie Robertshaw said that she "...liked seeing those two young men, the Palestinian and the Israeli, who had changed their stances despite their upbringings and the violence that had befallen them...."

Having lived in Southern Africa (Botswana) during

the Apartheid regime in the Republic, Susie also said she appreciated one woman's comments from the film about how certain attitudes of Israeli settlers are just like in Apartheid S. Africa.

"I also liked hearing those two speakers again," said, "and of course the food and company were just Breaking bread together in all cases."

OPINIONS

Obama - McCain 2008: A winning ticket

ERIK KEEVAN
the sandspur

With this election as close as it was, the question that arises is whose views are best for the country. But back when our country was founded, that problem was not as prevalent as it is today, and that is for one reason alone: the initial elections were not winner takes all, like it is now. Instead, the loser of the election was appointed vice president under the winner.

As you may expect, this caused for a little bit of tension between the two, since they had been at each other's throats for the preceding six months or so. This was especially the case in the election of 1828, which introduced mudslinging into the campaign trail. However, even though there were problems with this process, it also had one large advantage.

Having a candidate from another party with a different set of ideals gives another perspective into laws that can help cover the entire scope of the country. It's like having someone look over a paper; they might see something that you

missed. Using each other's different views, they were able to make compromises that would make the most people happy, whether liberal or conservative. This also stopped one party from having complete control over the leadership of the country, as we've seen in recent years.

Imagine, if you can, a country run by George W. Bush along with Al Gore. Think of how different things would be today if they had been in office together. Or what if Obama was McCain's vice president or the other way around? The country would be run completely differently because they would both still have a say in what laws are passed or created. Instead of having a democrat as President, we would have a democrat president and a republican vice president. The dynamics of the country would be changed completely.

This is not a new ideal, either. In the election of 1864, in order to gain the swing voters who tended to agree with both republican and democratic views, the Republican convention nominated Andrew Johnson as the running mate

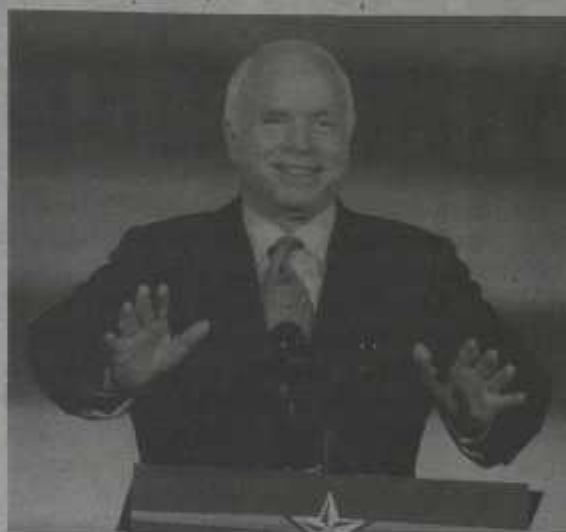
for Abraham Lincoln. The two hoped to be able to find common ground to bring the Civil War to a close. During a time of civil war, when our country was already divided drastically, an election such as the ones we hold today would threaten to divide our country even further. What Lincoln and Johnson hoped to accomplish was to unite the voters so that democrats and republicans alike could be happy with the outcome.

Maybe that is what our

country needs today: a Democrat and Republican working hand in hand to fix the problems with our economy, to bring an end to the wars in the Middle East (not to just pull out, but to actually find a solution to it) and to unite a country that is so divided by issues. The amazing thing about America is that we have the option to have any opinion that we want. However, it becomes a drawback when we split into two parties that are at each other's throats. George

Washington addressed this issue in his Farewell Address, warning the country not to split into two partisan parties.

So maybe what we need is for Democrats and Republicans to work together for the betterment of the country. When the politics of elections is removed, then we can finally have the compromises that our country so desperately needs. That is why I say that we should have voted for the candidates Obama-McCain in 2008.



PHOTOS COURTESY OF MCT CAMPUS

JUDGMENT DAY: Delivered in Phoenix, Arizona, John McCain's concession speech preceded the acceptance speech of President-elect Barack Obama in Grant Park, Chicago, Illinois.

Gullible public is to blame

VERNON MEIGS
the sandspur

So the election is right upon us. Everyone is preparing for the big crunch when either one of the two major presidential candidates wins the election. Everyone's just crossing their fingers, though some seem to be pretty confident about their candidates. The issue seems to be largely black and white.

I honestly do not wish to be rude, I really don't, but it really seems that everybody on campus and the rest of the nation must be out of their minds as far as politics go. It's interesting, almost hysterical to me, how people want nothing more than freedom, and yet give way to a "president" to claim rule of the nation. The way I see it is, that the only reason either Barack Obama and John McCain are even in the election right now is because a gullible and easily flattered public gave way for them to be, instead of genuinely thinking through the issues at hand.

I'm surprised that almost nobody I know has picked up on the fact that flattery is a tactic incorporated by politicians so they can earn their vote. This is a method to earn the trust of the public based upon what they want to hear, instead of the public intelligently taking matters into their own hands. Look at their blissful enthusiasm as the names of the candidates are on large banners and badges

everywhere you go (Obama more than McCain from what I've seen, since Obama seems to have earned popularity among Rollins students and even faculty). They are acting as if their respective candidates are the second coming of Christ or something! This is what I call "Political Messianism," and that messianism is deciding the fate of this country.

The Democratic argument is: "The American people are weak and need our help." Believe me, the last thing the human race needs right now is external pampering. Take the obstacles away from an individual's path and they will find no need to progress, and so they will weaken. This generation will breed weaker generations that are easy subjects for domination. It's no wonder that those that cannot think and are easily galvanized are too easily swayed by rhetoric of "change" by Obama. Personally, I don't think that most of the things he promises, such as pulling out of Iraq, are genuine; politicians and the government today thrive greatly on the Iraq war to keep them alive politically. It's only convenient that the public are baited with "social freedoms," and while many things he says about it are good things, I don't believe his campaign is advocating them because Obama "cares for the people," which too many fool themselves into trusting.

The Republican argument is: "The American people are smart, and will know

to trust us to make things right." First of all, I've clarified my conviction that the American people are NOT smart, and the truly smart will know better than to rely on any government to regulate personal liberties. Furthermore, the Judeo-Christian morality that has been secularized in the political systems are obsolete, and quite frankly, dangerous. Those that cannot think past the Kingdom of God would vote for McCain due to his social policies, and I don't believe McCain will hand the economy back to us like quite a few Republicans said they would do.

Obama is no "anti-Christ" as propaganda proclaims; though, if I may be a bit sarcastic, an anti-Christ will be just what we need for this country. In my opinion, Obama behaves too much like a Jesus Christ, a messiah figure that promises to give people what they want. McCain tries to be, though Obama's popular enough to overshadow him. Politicians in the past have always portrayed themselves as Christs and messiahs, and look at the mess we are in now. I do not trust a word of any politician that says they are going to do good for this country, for I know they won't. I'm interested in the country being given back to us, not having someone else fix it for me.

By the time this article is printed, surely the election will be well over. Congratulations, you have voted in a country where 'tyranny of the majority' is the status quo.

Hail to the chief

LINDSEY HIRSCH
the sandspur

Yes we can, yes we did, yes we will.

Our ancestors came to this land of liberty with a faint optimism of promise in their hands and with the burden of hope, freedom and change for a better life on their backs. As a nation founded and forged by immigrants, the face of our great American nation has finally come to represent our forgotten heritage of a melting pot of culture.

President-elect Barack Obama has become that exact definitive example of that same American dream that our fathers and forefathers strived for, and with his resilience and determination to find his place in the White House, he will lead our nation to fill its potential as the greatest territory on Earth.

Change has come to America. Change that we have been promised for months now has finally been delivered to our doorsteps. The lower middle class college student waiting in the wings of education under the heavy weight of loans will now be able to stand in the spotlight of higher education. The assembly line worker in the factory in Ohio without health insurance will now be able to secure medical coverage for his children. The underpaid public school teachers in the heart of Florida will finally be compensated for the role they play in the lives of our children. And America finally has a presidency that allows citizens to be able to say that they are proud to be American again.

You will forever remember

the exact place you were the night Obama was elected; the land of the free has witnessed history, and for many of us it is the first election where we have been able to put into action our democratic right. To those of you who voted Obama- congratulations, for the victory resides with you. To those of you who voted McCain- better luck next time. And to those who voted independently- thank you for being politically active.

To the many students involved on campus in getting out the vote and supporting the candidates, it is time to rest easy with the knowledge that our future lies in the capable and driven hands of the 44th president of the United States.

If nothing else can be taken from the outcome of this historical election, let it be recognized that what Barack Obama has accomplished is a symbol of the dreams of this nation that we have come to call home. Barack Obama has honored the dream of Martin Luther King, Jr., a man who will forever be remembered as a leader in the transformation of this country, by making his dreams a tangible reality and an inspiration for us all. This is something that no one can deny.

With Obama as our Commander in Chief, I truly believe that with our support he will take us to triumph over new frontiers for the American legacy. On many issues our nation has disagreed, but in the words of Barack Obama, "America will always stand United."

I am an American and for the first time in 8 years, I am damn proud.

My name is Lindsey Hirsch and I approve this message.



TALENTED: Justin Braun/ the sandspur
Jazz legend Larry Coryell performed incendiary guitar masterworks for students and jazz aficionados on Monday November 3rd in Tiedtke Hall as part of the Winter Park Institute's latest visiting artist.



COURTESY OF MEGAN BORKES

BREAK A LEG: Rabbit Hole was directed by professor Thomas Ouellette and performed by students at the Fred Stone Theatre.



ASHLEY LIGHT/ the sandspur

SHALL WE DANCE?: Students showed off their dance moves at a competition at the Hyatt Hotel this past weekend.

Busy campus



OMA says to watch your language

MAHJABEEN
RAFIUDDIN
the sandspur

Are all slurs created equal? Are slurs against racial/ethnic minorities as powerful as homophobic or sexist slurs? A panel of students and faculty will examine the origin and power of slurs and insults.

The Multicultural Leadership Initiative is putting on a Diversity Dialogue Series in the academic year 2008-2009. These are a series of dialogues that are designed to promote engaged scholarship and debate on the topics of race, ethnicity and diversity. At the Office of Multicultural Affairs, we are especially interested in how these ideas and their structural manifestations impact and shape our students' daily lives. Our programmers and organizers recognize the significance of the paradigm between blacks and whites in the United States, but are also committed to expanding the study of race and ethnicity beyond the black/white paradigm. Our series of dialogues will encourage the study of race and the processes of racialization in comparative and transnational frameworks. Thus, the discussions will

range from an examination of processes of racialization among dominant groups to the study of racialized minorities within the United States and black and/or indigenous populations in Latin America, the Caribbean, Africa, South Asian, the Asian Pacific and Europe.

Central to our work is the acknowledgement that race and ethnicity intersect with other primary identities such as gender, class, sexuality and nationality, which necessitates the exploration of social and identity cleavages within racialized communities. Scholars affiliated with the series will utilize a range of methods to investigate the material condition, the expressive culture and the meaning constriction of racialized groups. Fundamentally, we are committed to producing engaged scholarship that rejects the false dichotomy between rigorous intellectual work and community activism. Therefore, our office seeks to provide intellectually challenging and innovative scholarship that can help people transform their thinking and their lives.

We believe that there are a number of reasons why the Office of Multicultural and

Academic Affairs should be of major importance to this educational institution committed to studying race and ethnicity in the 21st century. It is of paramount importance that schools like Rollins College involve the study of race, ethnicity and diversity in their curricula. The United States is in such a political and economic environment in which the social cleavages of marginalized racial communities will be central to policy debates at the local, state and federal levels. Issues such as affordable housing, incarceration, immigration, politics and leadership, HIV and AIDS, and economic development in poor communities/rural regions are all part of the political agenda confronting governing officials and communities of color in Florida. The Rollins Office of Multicultural Affairs is committed to not only working in communities of color, but also to working in partnership with people from the surrounding areas. Community groups and activists will help us produce this series of dialogues that will be not only empirically and theoretically innovative but also useful and empowering to those communities under



examination. We believe that these variable forms of partnership with community groups and our campus staff, faculty and students could allow all of us to develop a regional and national advantage in the study of race, ethnicity and diversity.

The Office of Multicultural Affairs has set out to carve out a unique niche in the study of race—one that will build on Rollins College's comparative strengths of location and personnel. We strive to offer a new model institution committed to principled partnerships with other organizations both on campus and in our communities. The

Office of Multicultural Affairs is now uniquely positioned in the field and is committed to a comparative analysis that pushes beyond the black/white paradigm. We do so by utilizing a theoretical framework of intersectionality and highlighting the ways in which race and ethnicity intersect with gender, class and sexuality. We are committed to the production of engaged scholarship that to transform people's lives, especially those of our students.

For more information on the Diversity Dialogue Series or the Office of Multicultural Affairs, contact Mahjabeen Rafiuddin at MRafiuddin@Rollins.edu.

HSM3: not just for kids

OLAJUWAN AJAYI
the sandspur



Walt Disney Pictures

Disney's "High School Musical 3: Senior Year" has spent yet another week as the number one movie in America. The movie is just like that annoying and overly-bubbly person in your class—all that cheerfulness makes you want to gag, but at the same time the energy is infectious. The success of the third installment continues to leave many shocked and slightly disgusted, but I'm going to suggest that Rollins students watch it anyway.

Starring tabloid favorites Zac Efron, Vanessa Hudgens and Ashley Tisdale, the film follows the East High School Wildcats as they go through their senior year. While basking in the success of a championship basketball season, anxiously awaiting prom and preparing for college, the students decide to stage a spring musical... about senior year, basketball, prom and preparing for college. The film follows these students to graduation, where the kids celebrate by breaking into song and dance.

If everyone went to a school like East High, we would live in a world of well adjusted adults. We are talking about what appears to be a magical utopia where everyone gets along, everyone is popular, and the high school jocks are praised for being theater enthusiasts. Those awkward developing years people always talk about just do not exist here. You have a problem? Dancing and singing solves all! The Wild-

cats demonstrate this central theme as they shimmy and sing their way through their senior year.

Yes, the movie is unrealistic, the songs are generic pop at best, and the dancing is... well, it is actually really good. Nonetheless, it is a Disney movie, so don't expect any Ridley Scott material. The film starts and ends with singing and dancing. It is a musical—that is usually the way these things go.

So why should anyone over the age of 12 subject themselves to the pop culture phenomenon that is "HSM 3"? A step up from a Lifetime movie but not quite to the level of musicals like "Grease," "HSM 3" is mindless fun. Go ahead and watch it—it will boost your endorphins. You are either going to laugh throughout the whole thing or actually enjoy yourself. Allow a mental day off, regress a little, and get carried away by it all. Seeing the film in a theater full of screaming prepubescent preteens can be trying, but that is an experience in itself. If you are a fan of the first two movies, you are sure to love the third (it is okay, you do not have to admit it). If you just cannot deal with all of the hormones, catch a later show. The younger crowd is very unlikely to be in attendance then, and you can watch the film with the other adults who felt like having a good laugh at Zac Efron's expense.

Watch RIP, laugh hard, help needy

JENNIFER STULL
the sandspur

Ever hear the phrase laugh until you cry? Well, how about laugh until you die? This past Friday afternoon the Rollins Improv Players (aka RIP) put on a Halloween version of their short form improvisation called RIP Tag. This particular RIP Tag involved three teams: the blue zombies, the red vampires and the green goblins.

The idea of this form of improv is that there are three judges in the audience who rate each team's skit on a scale of one to five—one being the worst and five being the best—and the winners get the ultimate improvisation success.

The show drew in quite a crowd, with kids everywhere just to see the three teams battle it out in a hilarious horror war. However, while this brought out the same ready-to-laugh crowd, the players have their own feelings about the short form versus the long form. RIP player Dustin Shwab says, "It depends on the day. If I'm in a really goofy mood then I prefer short form, but if I want some of that sentimentality, I prefer long form." He goes on to talk about his favorite part of the days show by saying, "I enjoyed playing the cow."

Similarly, Ana Eligio (another RIP Player) said, "I go

back and forth. I think short form is really good for just going out there and having fun and long form is more of an art and it's much more rewarding if you find a really good character." She went on to talk about her favorite part of the act by saying, "I think that the lovers for the expert double figures were meant to just forget about personal space and boundaries and just be silly."

In the end, the blue zombies took home the title of best improv group, leaving the red vampires and green goblins waiting to redeem themselves in the next RIP Tag event. The players change and rotate every week so that every show is new and interesting to the audience members. Nothing is ever the same and the topics are always relevant to current events or Rollins itself.

However, the shows are not just for our

own entertainment. RIP usually works with some charity and raises money. This show in particular was raising money for "Give Kids the World," which gives children in Orlando with life-threatening illnesses vacations. RIP always draws a large crowd, allowing for a substantial amount of money to be raised for charity.

The next RIP show will take place on Tuesday, November 4 (Election Day) and it is entitled VOAT (Variation on a Theme). That theme is decisions (going along with the decision of a new president). If you have never been to a RIP show, take the time out of your day. They only last one hour and act as an outlet to the stressful college student lifestyle. So, while people did not laugh until they died, they laughed enough to know that the RIP team at Rollins is always ready to deliver.

Rollins Improv Players
you'll die laughing... or we'll kill you.

SERIOUSLY FUNNY SHORT FORM.
JOIN US FOR A HALLOWEEN RIP TAG IN THE 'OL FRED STONE
IF YOU LIKE 'WHO'S LINE,' YOU'LL LOVE THIS
1 PM
THIS FRIDAY
WITH FREE THE HOT DONATIONS
FOR GIVE KIDS THE WORLD

o Halloween or not, RIPsters are always ready to tear it up. Check out their shows in the Fred Stone Theater.

MEGAN BORKES / the sandspur

The Sandspur

The Oldest College
Newspaper in Florida
Founded in 1894

November 7, 2008

Volume 115 Issue 10

The Sandspur is a weekly publication printed on recycled paper, and we want YOU to get involved.

Justin JB Braun
Editor-in-Chief

Amy Iarrobino
Production Manager

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Where do you fit into the Sandspur?

At the Sandspur, we are constantly looking for more voices, be they involved in editing, writing, or photography. This year we are adding a new Staff Reporter position. Staff Reporters will attend weekly assignment meetings and write articles to be published in the Sandspur.

What do you get for contributing to the Sandspur?

Other than seeing your name and work in print, you will be paid as a correspondent for the Sandspur.

How will I get my written articles into the Sandspur?

Articles for the Sandspur are typically 500-700 words in length and must be submitted no later than 5 p.m. on the Monday prior to the corresponding issue's publication. Submissions will be e-mailed to Editor@thesandspur.org.

Where is the Sandspur?

The Sandspur office is located on the 3rd floor of the Mills building, two floors above the post office.

How can I get involved with the Sandspur?

Sandspur meetings are held on each Thursday of every week at 5pm in the Sandspur office on the 3rd floor of the Mills Building. Any questions can be e-mailed to editor@thesandspur.org, and respective editors can be reached at their Rollins e-mail addresses (first initial, last name@rollins.edu).

1000 Holt Avenue
Winter Park, FL 32789

Phone: (407) 646-2696

Editor@thesandspur.org

Rollins fashions it



LINDSEY HIRSCH
the sandspur

Stereotypically, Rollins has been notoriously categorized as an indifferent student body. However, Tuesday night's Uncle Sam's After-Poll Party proved that generalization to be false with the help of WTF Rollins. WTF (We Tackle the Future) Rollins is an organization that was created in order to promote political activism across our little campus. It was evident at Tuesday night's event from the large number of attendees that there are many at Rollins who really are interested in the future of their country.

Even before 8:00 pm on November 4, 2008, crowds on Mills Lawn began to gather with anticipation of celebrating the festivities of the Election Day after-poll party—a party that only comes around once every four years.

Students were dressed in their latest political fashions to display their true patriotic colors. Although few McCain trends were spotted at the event, there was an ample supply of the popular Obama-Biden "hope"

and "change" campaign t-shirts.

The masses accumulated as the night wore on, and at the event's peak time, approximately 500 hundred students, faculty, staff, and their dogs were present—a surprisingly high number for WTF Rollins' first event.

Election Night fun included Sarah Palin and Joe Biden impersonators, a performance by the Thought Doctors, potato sack racing, a performance by the Rollins Step Team, and a pie eating contest. Snow cones, cotton candy, and popcorn made the night feel like a political carnival, and although there were many people at this event and the line for food was long, the TKE boys operating the grill worked efficiently at keeping the line moving as quickly as possible.

Pita Pit and Starbucks gift cards were prize incentives, while sparklers, American flag hats, American flags, red and blue streamers, bubbles, and masks were just a few of the free politically neutral souvenirs that were available to all those who came out to show their support for the election night party.

Hosts of the evening's festivities, Jesse Hugo and Tyler Cloutier, kept the crowd entertained with their unbiased enthusiasm

and witty remarks about the evening's carousing. They also provided continual updates on the outcomes of the election as they became official political news. Chairs set up on Mills Lawn in front of the giant blow-up screen allowed for prime viewing perspective as the poll information of the fifty states came rolling in to CNN.

Overall, there was a general friendly and enthusiastic atmosphere that morphed into screams of joy, excitement, and exhilaration as the announcement of the victory of Barack Obama was confirmed across the nation. Just after 11:00 pm, Aaron Childree serenaded the crowd with his rendition of "This Land is Your Land," by Woody Guthrie, which was the first song performed under the elected Barack Obama campaign.

It was a very relieving and refreshing sight to witness so many members of the Rollins community interested in the political workings of the nation through this election. It may have taken the lure of free food and prizes, but political apathy has taken a step to be converted into political awareness and activism on our campus thanks to WTF Rollins.



Electoral co

ERIK KEEVAN
the sandspur

As many of you probably know, there was an election this week to elect a leader for our country. Something that you may not know, however, is the process that this election will use to select the leader.

The first step, of course, is the vote. Voting is one of the most important ways for your opinions to be heard, and you should always vote. Even if you don't like either of the candidates, vote for the lesser of the two evils. (Actually there are no less than 17 presidential candidates plus numerous write in candidates, though generally speaking only the Republican and Democratic candidates are considered seriously.) And if you didn't vote, don't complain about the way things turned out, because your vote might have changed something.

Once the votes are cast, the ballots from your voting district are counted together and the majority vote-getter is declared the winner. Once the decision has been reached for your district, one vote is cast for the majority winner. There are two exceptions to this rule. Maine and Nebraska both cast two votes to each party, and then the remaining two votes go to the majority winner. The number of votes that each state gets is equal to the number of representatives they have in the House of Representatives.



This indirect and outdated sense when it was used, because counting by hand for the would take years transportation guarantee the arrival punched vote.

In today's world, voting polls are no longer a matter. Counting the votes takes tenths of seconds and can be sent electronically to a computer. But that just means that we have the technology to solve the problem.

For those of you not aware of this, this might anger you. Florida counts as much as a vote. Because of its population is double that of less populated states.



KELLY MCNOLDY / *the sandspur*

FLYING COLORS: Rollins band The Thought Doctors performed at Uncle Sam's After-Poll Party while election results were shown on the inflatable movie screen on Mills Lawn Tuesday night (above).

red, white and blue



ZACH CHENAILLE / the sandspur

e, in a nutshell



only have 4. That means that voting in a smaller state is a say in the election. For example, in California, the winner takes all. A candidate could lose by just 1% of the popular vote and not have enough electoral votes to win. (http://www.archives.gov/electoral-college/)

This division of the votes is an even bigger division in the politics of the vote. Some states, such as California and Florida, have more votes. They tend to overlook the needs of the smaller states. While South Dakota is looking to make a change in the government, presidential hopefuls won't listen to them because it is not worth the votes. They will pay more attention to the larger states so they can lead to trading

votes. In the 1875 election in Mississippi, Democrats had devised a plan to intimidate the newly freed slaves into not voting, so the Democrats could once again control the state. This led President Grant to prepare military protection for the state. However, he was warned that in doing so, he would lose the vote in larger Ohio. So he gave up the Mississippi vote for the Ohio vote, making the Mississippi vote that year completely obsolete.

That is how the politics of voting affect the election to skew the results. And that's without the politics of the votes themselves.

If we really want all ballots in the country to be equal, we need to remove the Electoral College and institute the direct public vote. In 2000, Gore received more popular votes than Bush, but was not elected president because Bush took the larger states (eventually) and it took a Supreme Court decision (http://www.law.cornell.edu/supct/html/00-949.ZPC.html). If we truly want every American's views to be represented, each vote needs to count as much as the next. A representative democracy is not a democracy.

A revolution is needed to change this institution so that my vote for president will count as much as my cousin's vote in Massachusetts.

SASSY! Joe Biden and Sarah Palin impersonators posed with the cardboard cut-outs of their presidential running mates at Uncle Sam's After-Poll Party all night while party-goers participated in such events like potatoe sack races, applie-pie eating contests, and a trivia game. Uncle Sam's After-Poll party attracted over 500 Rollins students, faculty, staff, and pets as all joined together to watch the election results.

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Dr. Pepper, Guns, 'n Roses

VERNON MEIGS
the sandspur

Can Dr. Pepper maintain its bargain of a free can of Dr. Pepper for everyone in America now that Guns N' Roses are finally going to release their long-awaited album? And what is it that makes this album so special and anticipated?

The controversial album that Guns N' Roses, or at least their front man Axl Rose (who has been the only consistent member), said they'll release and haven't for 17 years is finally slated for release on November 23, 2008. The album is titled "Chinese Democracy," and the band has gone through drastic lineup changes even to the extent of guitarist Slash and key members quitting, as well as avant-garde metal guitarist Buckethead entering and exiting the band. Despite the absence of the album in the past, Guns N' Roses has toured for it several times over and has played actual songs from this new album. Critics complain that it no longer sounds like the original Guns N' Roses but instead an Axl Rose solo project, but defenders of the band say that the music is well-written,

nonetheless and that the album will be successful.

Over the years, Guns N' Roses has promised to release "Chinese Democracy" but they kept pushing it back, leading fans and naysayers of the band to question whether it would ever be released. In recent years, the band has sprung to a 9-piece, and according to bass guitarist Tommy Stinson (ex-Replacements), the pressures of not only maintaining a band with so many members but also relatively new musicians that brought new and differing influences to the drawing board was near-overwhelming. The band has spent approximately \$13 million in the recording studio for this album.

The hype of "Chinese Democracy" was so great that on March 26, 2008, Dr. Pepper proclaimed that if Guns N' Roses releases their long-awaited album during the 2008 calendar year, everyone will receive a free can of Dr. Pepper, excluding ex-members Slash and Buckethead. Now that Guns N' Roses are ready, Dr. Pepper has promised to hold up their end of the deal. The reason for the exclusion of those members is likely due to the feuds between Axl Rose and those members; however, since Buckethead has performed in

the album, Axl stated that he will share his Dr. Pepper with him despite the company standing their ground on the exact claim that they made.

Many have wondered how Dr. Pepper will get around to distributing a can of soda to everyone in America, or whether it is really worth it at all. A method is proposed by the company and will be enacted on the release date of the album, November 23, 2008 (an obvious nod to the 23 flavors in the drink). On the release date, one need only to go to drpepper.com, register their information to receive a coupon for a 20-oz free Dr. Pepper, redeem the coupon wherever Dr. Pepper is sold when it arrives (though it says to allow at least 4 to 6 weeks for it to arrive), and "Drink your Dr. Pepper slowly to experience all 23 flavors. Dr's Orders." Starting at 12:01 a.m. on the release date, coupons will be available for 24 hours. The coupons will expire on February 28, 2009.

If you are a fan of Dr. Pepper and do not think that getting a can of it without paying for it is such a bad idea, then this would be something to consider. Also, watch out for the new Guns N' Roses album, for it will not be sold just anywhere; it will be sold exclusively in Best Buy!

Nothing fishy about Sweedish band Therion

VERNON MEIGS
the sandspur

Therion never fail to put on an excellent show, and their latest 2CD/DVD live album *Live Gothic* proves it!

Swedish symphonic metal band Therion was formed by Christofer Johnsson in 1987 and started as a death metal band with notable technical proficiency. However, as the years passed and their lineup changed, Therion kept adding more symphonic elements, choirs, and various other supplements until they have evolved into the symphonic metal icons of today. Their latest live album, *Live Gothic*, contains a concert in Warsaw, Poland from their tour in support of their latest studio album, *Gothic Kabbalah*.

Live Gothic spans a collection of the latter, greater portion of Therion's musical career. The earliest era they reach back to is from the *Theli* album with their symphonic metal classics "To Mega Therion" and "Nightside of Eden".

The concert features the line-up of core musicians and four guest singers featured on the *Gothic Kabbalah* album. The founder and primary songwriter Christofer Johnsson plays guitar

along with guitarist Kristian Niemann and his brother Johan Niemann on bass. Petter Karlsson takes the drums and features a unique drum solo during the performance. The four singers are Mats Leven and Snowy Shaw on male vocals and the female vocal parts are performed by Lori Lewis from the band Aesma Daeva, and Katarina Lilja.

Therion concerts usually feature mystical or mythological visual themes due to the nature of their music and their lyrics that deal with mythology, legends, runology, and the occult (in particular, the variety as practiced by the order Dragon Rouge, of which Therion lyricist Thomas Karlsson is the founder and at least Christofer Johnsson is a member). This concert, as well as the tour they were on, follows a Gothic theme in line with the concept of their latest album that deals with Gothic mysticism and 17th century scholar Johannes Bureus. In the DVD, we see that the musicians and singers are dressed in Gothic-style wear, and I must admit the outfits look very good on Lori and Katarina!

The music itself is a bombastic wall of sound from start to finish, and each musician plays his or her part for the songs. As far as the singing in Therion songs go, the vocalists are very abstract and the studio

versions usually have choirs performing instead of one singer at a time. Fortunately, the four singers alone deliver just as much magnitude to the vocal parts and as gracefully. The guitarists soar in their guitar melodies and their crushing heavy rhythms are rivaled by only a few.

On the songs "Wine of Aluqah" and "Rise of Sodom and Gomorrah", there is also a dancer that adds to the theatrical beauty of the show. From what I can tell, she is a professional, and dances beautifully in a way that matches the music and the concepts.

I would say that for a band with a fixed and intricate lineup, they performed superbly such symphonic and difficult songs. Therion can put on a show that most mainstream bands cannot hope to, and yet those crude bands seem to garner many times more revenue... what a shame! Therion deserves more attention! *Live Gothic* is an excellent start for those who wish to experience (albeit visually) a Therion concert, and what magic it is to listen and watch. My personal favorites from the live album are "Scharzalbenheim", "Deggial", "Wine of Aluqah", "Rise of Sodom and Gomorrah", and "To Mega Therion" to name a few, though the entire album is fantastic start to finish.

A Hundred Million Suns Review

LAURA
HARDWICKE
the sandspur

The new album from Snow Patrol, "A Hundred Million Suns" hit U.S. stores on October 28. The album was expected to be a cheerful departure from the band's previous albums ("Eyes Open" and "Final Straw"). Unfortunately, those that fell in love with the poppy

dreamy and slow.

Since they emerged scene, Snow Patrol's rock has been equated of the legendary Coldplay. This album proves difference. The music is similar overconfident to most indie and alternative. However, it lacks the angst of Coldplay. Any of the from "A Hundred Million Suns" may be used in a iPod commercial or episode



COURTESY OF MYSPACE.COM/SNOWPATROL

undertones of "Chasing Cars" on "Grey's Anatomy" may not be as infatuated with the band's latest, more complex album.

Super-producer Jacknife Lee, whose work ranges from The Hives to U2, sought to enhance Snow Patrol's expansive sound on this album. He continues to define and redefine the band's sensitive approach to music-making. Lee aided the band in avoiding a stagnate sound with no evolution from their past albums. But are audiences ready for this departure?

"A Hundred Million Suns" opens to a slow, shoe-gaze feel. It is spotted with metaphors of outer space, like the songs "If There's A Rocket Tie Me To It"

"Grey's Anatomy." But, we'll be seeing Lightbody and the rest of Snow Patrol in their own tour costumes, boys of Coldplay have: still lingers in their song style.

Despite the sup indie feel and lacking the album has the irresistible magnetism of lead singer Lightbody's Irish accent.

The drowsy feel of the album is broken up through with "Please Just These Photos From My Life." The song's upbeat tone the doubt and apathy lyrics tolerable. "E"



COURTESY OF MYSPACE.COM/SNOWPATROL

and "The Planets Bend Between Us." They leave audiences feeling miniscule in a vast universe. The subject matter perfectly parallels the CD's dreamy sound scales. "Crack the Shutters" plays off the beautiful tones that "Eyes Open" showed us. However, it also goes further into an intimate moment in songwriter Gary Lightbody's life—something "Eyes Open" failed to reveal. The album's tonal guitar echoes are conducive for a great naptime atmosphere,

offers a nice change and back to Snow Patrol's with power pop. It's a continuous, repetitive monotonous guitar also the song with the red album.

The album's final "The Lightning Strike" is swift as the title might. Instead, the sixteen minutes combines three, darker songs into one. It sums overall feel of the "A Hundred Million Suns" as a overdone assemblage of

Orlando to Rock for Hunger

JENNIFER STULL
the sandspur

Lights cameras, action



COURTESY OF MYSPACE.COM/LIGHTS

JENNIFER STULL
the sandspur

To be completely honest, I started playing this album with a less than positive attitude, not really expecting too much out of Lights. Let me put this into context for you: the cover of the CD is a comic-looking scene with a completely expressionless emo chick who has taken a stage name like Cher or Madonna, but certainly does not hold to their status. Then, as if that wasn't enough to turn me off, her CD comes with a comic book. Yes, a complete six page spread, front and back, of some hippie girl telling me the story of her life. Needless to say, I thought I was in for a laugh when I put that CD into my disk drive.

But, to my shock and amazement, the music was not that bad. In fact, I ended up liking it. Her voice is slightly nasally, but as you listen to the music your ears get used to it and it actually works for the songs. But what I liked specifically was the backtracks of her songs. The sound is a little techno mixed with pop, and it makes for a good sound. The sound of her music specifically comes from synthesizers and sound makers.

So, simply judging on music, if you are a fan of pop then this CD is actually a good choice. Unfortunately, it only has six songs on it, but I found each one catchy and memorable. Now, I'm not blown away

by Lights; I do not see any life-changing music coming from this album, but it is definitely something enjoyable and fun to listen to.

The lyrics of the songs are not terribly deep, but I would not say they are superficial either. Lights writes her own music, and she learned from a young age to play the piano and the guitar. She definitely has a style all her own, which may deter people from picking up her album (because like I said, judging from the cover, I did not think I would be a fan either).

Lights has been touring all over the country and will actually be coming to the Orlando area November 22 and 23 at The Social. While Lights is the only person on stage for her performances, she has so much going on in her music that she has assistance from two men, Maurie and Adam, who help with the changing on noise and such.

Her sound is new and different, which is refreshing in the pop music scene. I can see why some people might not like her voice, but for me, I thought it worked with the music she was singing and the image that she portrays. They say don't judge a book by its cover; well, I suppose the same idea goes for CDs. So don't be misled by the odd cover and strange comic that come along with this album. Simply take the music for what it is. You never know, Lights just might light up your dark and bleak music scene.

It has been over two years since a group of University of Central Florida students decided to become leaders in their community by providing a voice for the voiceless with music and a great deal of compassion. What began as a mere student project aimed at community participation for a few college students has grown into the nonprofit organization Rock for Hunger.

Only two years later, Rock for Hunger is now a volunteer-driven organization that obtained its 501(c)(3) status earlier this year. Rock for Hunger now offers programs that help provide meals, clothing, resume crafting and more for homeless and poverty stricken individuals. In addition to these programs, RFH also offers a volunteer program that provides underprivileged kids with an after-school program. The goal of this program is to strengthen math and literacy skills in children living in poverty and homelessness, and providing them with a positive learning environment geared for success.

On Saturday, November 15 it's time for Orlando to Rock for Hunger once again! This year, Rock for Hunger Fest 3 will be held at The Plaza Theatre. The lineup features over 20 artists including top local names, rising regional acts and chart-topping artist Kardinal Offishall. The festivities will take place from 2 p.m. until midnight with three stages filled with live music, arts and crafts and many great vendors.

Tickets to this year's event are only \$20 and are available at The Plaza Theatre, Ticketmaster, Ten Thousand Villages and Park Ave CDs. Special VIP balcony seating is also available, which includes a private bar, free event t-shirt and more for \$40. Come out on Saturday, November 15 and support the cause alongside sponsors and vendors such as Bud Light, Monster Energy Drinks, XL 106.7, "ReaxMagazine," Metro-mix Orlando, Planet Smoothie, Ten Thousand Villages, Lucky Number 17 and many more. Be a part of the great changes happening in our community through music and peace!

Rock for Hunger: the community standing together as one to help make the world a better place, locally and globally, with music and in peace. For more information, please visit www.rockforhunger.org or www.rockforhungerfest.org or contact the executive director Chris Goyzueta at cgoyzueta@rockforhunger.org. 407-346-0334

Welsh leaves you kicking and screaming

ERIK KEEVAN
the sandspur

Screaming out of the UK, Welsh based rockers Funeral for a Friend released their fourth full length album in the United States on October 28th. This latest release, "Memory and Humanity," is filled with the great sounds that have made them more and more popular in the post-hardcore music scene that the UK has embraced in recent years.

The name Funeral for a Friend is actually based on a song by a band called Planes Mistaken for Stars, but since no one knows who that is, they just credit the name to Elton John. In their early years, they had several lineup changes before ending with the group we know today. The bassist and backing vocalist, Gareth Davies, brother to vocalist Matt Davies has, however, recently moved to the US and gotten married. After a year of bouncing back and forth, he decided that the strain had become too great on himself and his family and decided to quit the band. However, you can still find his bass and vocals on their new studio release.

FFAF is a band that has been big, at least in the UK, since their creation. In 2003, they won the

Kerrang! award for "Best UK Newcomer," beating out The Darkness. Over the years, since their creation, the sound of their music has become less grungy and mellower, rounding off with an almost pop sound from their third release, "Tales Don't Tell Themselves." Even with this mellower version, however, their themes of honesty and carrying on have prevailed.

Their new album, however, completely put an end to their slide to mainstream. Filled with the same guitar riffs and heavy bass that fans fell in love with in "Casually Dressed and Deep in Conversation," Funeral for a Friend has returned to kick ass and take names. Mixing in to the harsher sound of the instruments is Davies' mellow vocals which softly draw you in while the instruments tell you to rock. Their Welsh background allows them to have a different point of reference than most American bands, and their songs prove it. Filled with metaphors such as "We go out like we come in, kicking and screaming" and "The light has faded through the window," these rockers will rock your stereo as if Shakespeare had mastered the guitar.

In 2006, FFAF toured America as one of the headlining acts on the "Taste of Chaos Tour." This was the first real foray that they had in America, and



COURTESY OF MYSPACE.COM/FUNERALFORAFRIEND

they played alongside other notable bands such as the Used and Story of the Year. However, even as a little known band from across the pond, they had a huge crowd show up early to watch their show. They have a talent to shock and awe the crowd with their music, words and actions. In fact, during the show, a man tripped and fell in the mosh pit and was trampled under the crowd causing him to break his leg. Matt, the vocalist, jumped into the pit and pulled the man out so that no further harm would come to him. Then,

he jumped back up on stage and completed the set.

So if you like melt your face guitar riffs and lyrics that actually have a point, then this is the perfect band for you. Even if you prefer a softer sound, you can find songs by them that you'll fall in love with. I would suggest looking up "History," "Red is the New Black," "Escape Artists Never Die," and "Kicking and Screaming." I can guarantee that this Welsh rock band will quickly rise to one of your favorite bands. Happy rocking.

Rollins women's soccer is bringing the heat back to the Sunshine State

HOPE KRAHEK
the sandspur

This past Sunday, November 2, while most students were recovering from the Halloween weekend, the Rollins Women's Soccer Team made history. The Tars won their first ever regular season championship title, and the home crowd's cheers

at the Cahall-Sandspur Field could be heard throughout the campus. The opponents from St. Leo University were the underdogs going into the game with a 14-3-0 record, and Rollins (previously 13-0-3) had to step up their play to pull out the 1-0 victory. Rollins began the game with two shots on goal and an unsuccessful corner kick. St. Leo reciprocated with their own

shots on goal, missing just left and right. Then, the Tars found a literal "breakthrough." Junior midfielder Rachel Jakubowski capitalized on a rebounded shot by senior forward Lindsay Giblin and lit up the scoreboard in the 16th minute of play. Rollins dominated the rest of the game, outshooting St. Leo with six shots on goal, compared to the guests' three. Rollins also had

an astounding number of corner kicks, ten, compared to St. Leo's two.

Defensively, Rollins played a tight game. St. Leo was held scoreless thanks to the tough play of deep defenders Leah Hirsch, Meagan Thomas, Dana Merrill, and Maia Ryan. Freshman goal-keeper Michelle Dillingham did an outstanding job at the net throughout the

game, making three saves recording yet another shutout.

The Sunshine Conference Tournament begins this Friday, November 7, at the Tars' home turf, Cahall-Sandspur Field. The Tars play at 7:00 p.m. against the winner of the 4th ranked St. Leo and 5th ranked Lynn game. The championship game will be held November 9 at 1:00 p.m.

Rollins rugby team picks up the pace

LAURA HARDWICKE
the sandspur

Lindi Mngadi formed the Rollins Rugby team earlier this year. Growing up in South Africa where rugby plays an important cultural role, Lindi found himself missing the game. In an attempt to instill some tradition and more school spirit at Rollins, he gathered up some guys and started playing because, as he says, "We all love to watch and support a contact sport!"

If you've passed by Mills Lawn recently and saw what looked like a combination of intense gymnastics, wrestling, and football, you had the privilege of witnessing these boys practicing rugby.

The game is rough—especially for the Rollins boys. With not enough players for a normal sized, fifteen-man

team, they resort to a seven on seven format. Half the players, however, means double the action.

Each team aims to score a try (similar to a touchdown). A try is scored when a player reaches the end zone with the ball, an oblong object resembling a football, but on steroids. Players can throw the ball forward and can only advance it by running.

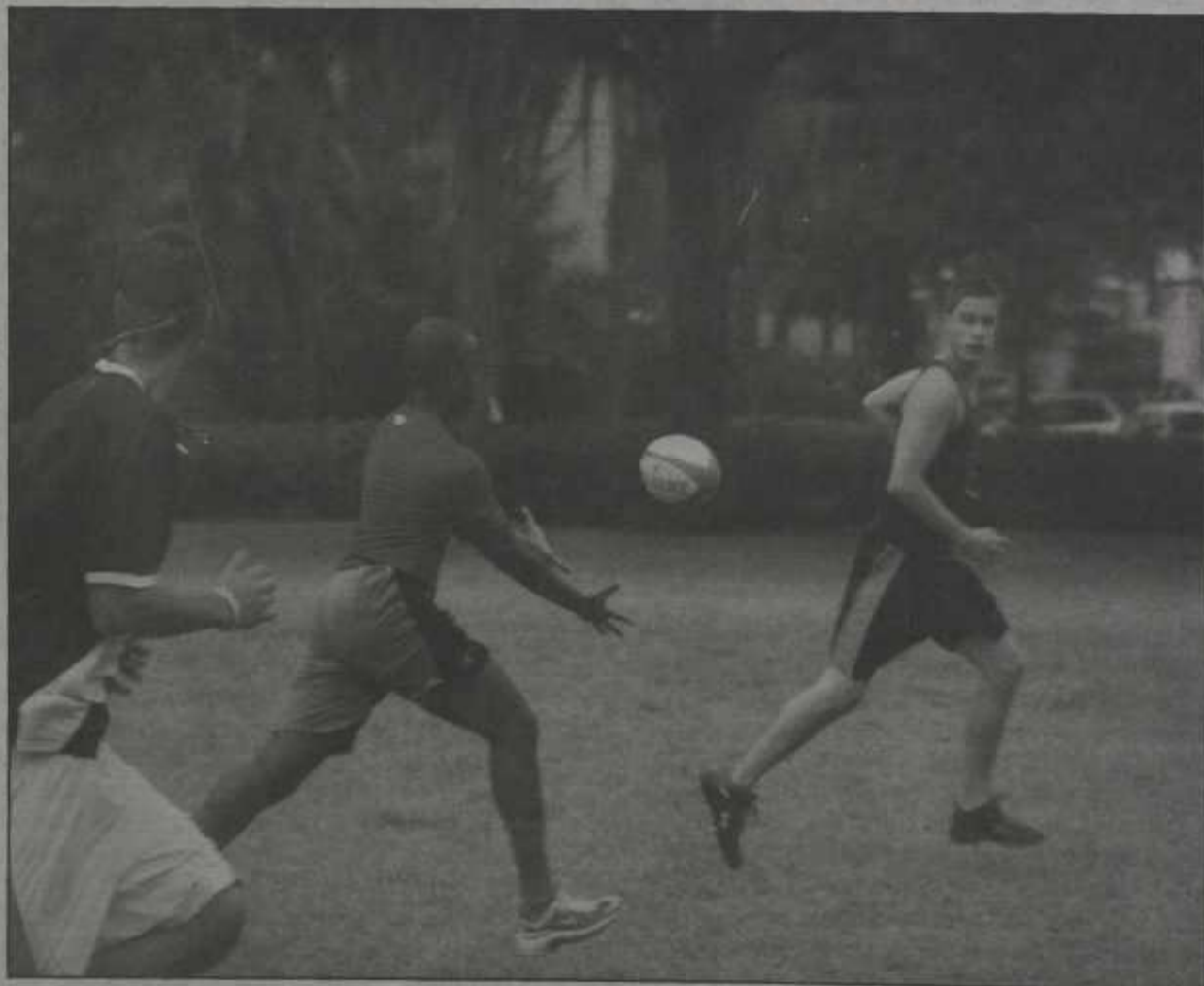
If a player is tackled, the play continues as one team attempts to retain possession, while the other wrestles the ball from the offending team.

Lindi says "We play because we have a passion for hard hits and scything runs. I think for most of us it is a case of realizing that we are not made of glass and wanting to push ourselves to that extra step." Thankfully, the team hasn't reached any extremes. While Rugby tallies the most injuries compared to any other sport, the Rollins boys exercise and stretch properly, thus far avoiding injury.

Our rugby players won't be caught prancing around in heavy armor or tight pants. There are no helmets or pads, making these guys some of "the toughest buggers around." The lack of spandex shouldn't discourage female onlookers, though—the brute strength of the Rugby players is plenty to gawk at.

The sport's camaraderie and vulgarity pose no difficulty in attracting testosterone fueled crowds either. Rugby promotes individual strength in direct correlation to the strength of the team. Lindi claims that they are "the gutsiest people I've met at Rollins; anyone who is 135 pounds taking on someone who out weighs them by 65 pounds with a good head of steam deserves some respect."

Like any other sports team, the Rugby players need support. They hope to see Rollins fans this Saturday the 8th as they face the Orlando Rugby and Football club at Blue Jacket Park.



CATCHING BALLS: The rough and tough boys of the rugby team practice handling each other and the ball on Mills lawn.

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Stoked for the stroke: Get wet with Rollins Crew

ELIZABETH
ROGERS
the sandspur

The sun will not rise for another hour as the Rollins College varsity women's crew team sets the racing eight shell in the dark waters of Lake Maidland. Already sweating from the mile and a half run to the house from campus, the women lock in their oars, grab their water bottles and nudge their seats back with their socked feet. From the stern of the boat, Emily Collins, 19, the coxswain, sits in her cramped, square hole, checks the rudder for clinging weeds and turns on the stroke-rate monitor. She calls out into the brisk morning, "Alright ladies, call out your number when you're ready!" Beginning in the bow, a series of seat numbers sound off in response, ready to start the morning. Satisfied, Ms. Collins shouts, "Shove off!" and the eight drifts away from the floating dock. The women strap their feet into the shoes rolled inside the boat, check their handle heights, and wait for their coach, Shawn Pistor, to finish tossing the water out of his sinking, single-engine rowboat.

Inside the quiet boathouse, you can watch through the glass doors overlooking the lake as the eight pulls away, and hear the echoes of Coach Pistor on the megaphone telling the crew to drop in their catches – the moment the blade goes into the water to pull – and slow their slides – the time it takes to slide back up to the catch from the finished position – as he puts along beside the shell. The boathouse walls are covered with row after row of brown-framed photographs. Each picture shows a line of smiling faces, holding medals or lifting trophies; and even though the years change, the pride on each face and the yellow, blue, and white spandex uniforms remains the same. If you take the time to search, you can even find Coach Pistor among the photographs, wearing a uniform instead of a coach's visor and megaphone.

"I received a letter from the crew coach when I was an incoming [Rollins] freshman in 1991," Coach Pistor says. "But I have to admit, I had never even heard of rowing prior to that letter."

Although some of the earliest American regattas began in 1756 in New York, many people don't even know that the NCAA-recognized sport of rowing is associated with hard, slave labor, and not much of that notion has changed, save for new and improved methods of torture, referred to as ergometers, or indoor rowing machines. About ten ergometers sit in a row inside the Rollins boathouse, used to monitor a rower's stroke rate (how

many strokes per minute a rower makes) and how many meters they have pulled. This aspect of the erg makes pulling twenty-minute pieces, or twenty-minutes of full-pressure racing, even more torturous.

"I don't enjoy not erging a lot in the Fall," says Rollins freshman, Ashley Franklin, 18, a brand-new member of the varsity women's crew team. "It's crazy, but true; I like doing 6k's, power hours, 20 minute pieces, you name it! I think cross-training is extremely important, and I wish we could add extra erg-workouts on top of running. In my mind I know I would hate that, but I also know we could become much faster on the water because of it."

Working out with the crew team requires much more than just rowing. Coach Pistor incorporates weight-lifting and running into practice schedules as well. Ironically named Fitness Fun Fridays, Coach Pistor challenges the rowers to push their limits by running a timed three-mile race, doing as many pull-ups as possible, and as many squats and push-ups as they can in six-minutes each.

"As sick and twisted as it may seem, I love Fitness Fridays," says Ms. Collins, the coxswain, who essentially steers the boat. "Just because I love watching everyone push their teammates and work just as hard right next to them."

Every rower is expected to beat their score from the previous Friday, and when members start to slack off, there are usually consequences to pay.

"Last year, I missed a morning practice," says Scott Marchfeld, 20, a third-year returning varsity men's rower. "I overslept and it was a big practice. Coach wasn't mad, just frustrated, so he made me carry an oar to breakfast, lunch, dinner, class, and bed for five straight days." Mr. Marchfeld signed his infamous oar, which now hangs in the boathouse as a reminder, but mostly just for a good laugh.

However, not everything about the crew team is serious, exhausting, and demanding. Team support and friendships are a huge aspect of the rowing community. Before races, the women's varsity and novice teams get together to paint and personalize t-shirts and socks, and relax watching movies.

"At Rollins, my favorite part so far is how friendly and welcoming everyone is on the team," says Ms. Franklin. "I feel like I came to school with automatic friends who understand how important carbs and sleep are and how much erging hurts!"

Recently, Coach Pistor took both the novice and the varsity team members to Rock Springs for a Lazy-River tubing trip, instead of the usual Fitness Friday. Last year, both teams were treated to the Blue Man group



PHOTO COURTESY OF ROLLINS COLLEGE

IT TAKES TEAMWORK: the 2008 Rollins College Women's Rowing Team powers through the water.

at Universal Studios.

"Communication with the teams is important," says Pistor. "Our ultimate goals are to empower our athletes and develop a race plan without holding their hands. I want to find a balance between work and something people enjoy. The members aren't getting paid to be here, so I want to make sure that we work hard but have fun training and raising our fitness."

It is because of this ultimate balance that Coach Pistor has brought to the sport that crew team members return year after year.

"This will be my sixth year as a coxswain, and my second as a collegiate athlete. What keeps me coming back is hard to explain," Ms. Collins says. "It's a combination of the friendships, the hard work, and the rewards. Helping someone break a personal record or beat a rival school is so exciting for me. It's hard to multitask steering, race strategy, motivation, and everything else but at the end of a close race, it is a great feeling knowing I contributed to the team's success. I am very competitive as it is and this sport definitely has the right kind of atmosphere to challenge me."

Racing in the regattas are basically the culminating achievements of both the rowers and the coach. Rollins College participates in two major regattas in the fall semester: the Head of the Hooch in Tennessee, and the Florida Fall Classic held in Melbourne, Florida on November 8. "Riding along the racecourse and hearing the



PHOTO COURTESY OF ROLLINS COLLEGE

IT TAKES EFFORT: Junior Scott Marchfeld (before the infamous accident) displays his strength at the Dad Vail Regatta

amazed comments from other coaches who are wondering where we came from – who are they? How are they so good? – makes me feel good," says Coach Pistor, expressing his pride at watching his rowers participate in these events.

Scott Marchfeld, who recently injured himself outside of practice – which may keep him from competing in these races – is devastated. He says, "It's heartbreaking being so close to the race and possibly not being able to go. Crew pushes your body to the limit and you really see how far your body can go. The question is, can you man up and fight the pain? Crew doesn't get the respect it deserves."

"Similar to every other team, no sport [at Rollins] gets the recognition they deserve from the student body," Coach Pistor agrees. "There are always more visitor spectators than our own spectators. Rollins athletics in general needs more attention. I understand that crew is not a spectator sport, and I am trying to figure out how to make it more inviting."

Outside, the varsity women's crew team is pulling back into the dock. The sun has finally begun to peek above the silhouetted palm trees and the women are soaked in sweat and lake water. Coach Pistor guides

his choking engine back into the boat shed. His wake teeters the shell and Ms. Collins has to readjust the eight to slide back into the side of the dock. Ms. Franklin catches the edge of the dock from her spot in seat six and waits for the coxswain to announce, "Starboard side, out!"

After setting the shell back on its rack, returning the oars to their pegs, and climbing the stairs into the boathouse to listen to Coach Pistor recount all of the progress he has seen in the boat that day, the women are finally able to run the mile and a half back to school. Some will be lucky enough to climb back into bed, but most have to go straight to class. As they walk out of the boathouse door they slap their left hand against a copper sign that has turned black in the lower-right-hand corner from this tradition. The sign reads, "Those who stay will be champions."

Coach Pistor walks back into his office as the last exhausted woman hits the sign and closes the boathouse door. "Many people have given crew a try," he says. "But only a few stick around. Those who stay grow and achieve real life experience. I only hope they take this experience with them after Rollins."

NOVEMBER



**Sandspur-ian
of the Week**
Amanda Hampton
For being all-around AWESOME!

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
2 Rollins Volleyball vs. St. Leo 2:00 p.m. Rabbit Hole 2:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. Fred Stone Theatre	3 Larry Coryell Concert Tiedie Concert Hall 7:30 p.m.	4 Election Day WTF Rollins Under Sam's After Poll Party Mills Lawn 8:00 p.m. - 1:00 a.m.	5 Wind Ensemble Concert Tiedie Hall 7:30 p.m. ACE Coffeehouse with Robbie Hazen Dave's Down Under 8:00 p.m.	6 Rollins Volleyball vs. Barry 7:00 p.m. Rollins Men's Basketball vs. UF 7:00 p.m.	7 Rock Mystical Tiedie Manks 8:00 p.m.	8
9	10	11 Veteran's Day ACE Street Sign Making 7:00 p.m. Dave's Down Under	12 Rollins Volleyball vs. Florida Tech 7:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m. Alford Sports Center	13	14	15 Rollins Volleyball vs. NCVA Stafler 7:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m. Alford Sports Center
Greek Week						
16	17	18	19 ACE Sybil's Desert Tasting 8:00 p.m. Sybil's Cinema Dis on Fairbanks	20 Guest Speaker Mark Martin Rush 170 7:00 p.m.	21 ICC Olympics Mills Lawn 2:00 p.m. ACE Rollins After Dark Karaoke and Video Games 8:00 p.m. Dave's Down Under	22
They're Playing Our Song- Annie Russell Theatre						
23 Faculty Recital Kearse Hall 3:00 p.m. In God's Bedroom Fred Stone Theatre 4:00 p.m.	24	25	26	27	28	29
Thanksgiving Break						
30	1 JB's 21st Birthday! Send all alcoholic gifts to The Sandspur Office, 3rd floor Mills Building Rollins College 12:00 a.m.	2	Rollins College www.TheSandspur.org			

A letter from YOUR president to you

Hey guys!

SGA has been working pretty hard on some new initiatives since last week. Patrick McKelvey, the Public Relations Director, in cooperation with the Holt SGA and ROC has planned the biggest event ever to hit Rollins. TARNival is Rollins' first, college wide carnival with food, games and so much more. It will be taking place on Sunday, November 23rd from 3pm to 6pm and keep an eye out for more information.

Winter Park Platinum cards, the best deal any college student could ask for, are on sale this week. Vendors like Urban Flats, Downeast, and Tolla's are all offering great discounts

to cardholders all for five dollars. The full list of all the participants will be listed on the SGA website and will be updated on a regular basis. Mad props to our Community Relations Director, Artie Grizzle, and all the senators who helped him pull this off.

Jimmy Colston, senator from Gale Hall, is working on forming the Dining Services committee. This committee will address any issues anyone may have about food service at Rollins. The meeting time is yet to be determined as membership is still being determined.

Bill #3, sponsorship of WTF t-shirts, was passed by a majority vote. I, personally, want to congratulate everyone who planned the

After-Poll Party and all the other election related programming. Your hard work truly paid off as Florida ranked pretty high in youth voter turnout. Again, congratulations to you all on the success of your events and all the work that went into them.

That's all for this week in the world of SGA. If you ever have any questions or ideas on how to make our college better, stop by the Mills building and talk to anyone in SGA or just send Walker (jhamby@rollins.edu) or myself (mgermain@rollins.edu) an email. Good luck to all the greeks as they enter into Greek Week!

Be safe!
Marissa Germain
Your SGA
President

