



University of Central Florida
STARS

The Rollins Sandspur

Newspapers and Weeklies of Central Florida

1-30-2009

Sandspur, Vol 115, No 14, January 30, 2009

Rollins College

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

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

STARS Citation

Rollins College, "Sandspur, Vol 115, No 14, January 30, 2009" (2009). *The Rollins Sandspur*. 1875.
<https://stars.library.ucf.edu/cfm-sandspur/1875>

The Sandspur

WINTER PARK, FL

WWW.THESANDSPUR.ORG

Volume 115 Issue 14

January 30, 2009



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



Going GREEK? Men's and Women's Recruitment come to a close this week. see pages 6-7



Highly anticipated Beedle the Bard reviewed. see page 10

ars here
to stay:
speculation over
team name ends



VE SCHWARTZ
the sandspur

Last semester's campus-wide dispute concerning the new team name and a part of Rollins' various branding modifications, is now over. The time-honored, tradition-rich Tar will remain the Rollins mascot for good. A free t-shirt issued for the exhibition basketball game, which states "What's Tar?—You're about to Find Out," describes the marketing strategy perfectly.

Rollins Director of Publications and Brand Community Mary Wismar-Davis is working towards the creation of a consistent logo to be representative in all our sports teams. She notes that as our "Tar" title goes, the logo will not change. As a mascot herself, she believes it is important to keep the tradition.

This is what sets us apart," Wismar-Davis adds. "One of our few traditions. We throw one of them away."

It will be important in the coming launch to maintain not only a consistent model of the Tar's logo, but also a description (especially for prospective students). "We haven't done a good job of telling the story," said Wismar-Davis, who wants to provide a clear and easily accessible description of a Tar on the Rollins website, further emphasizing our traditional.

See Tommy to stay, page 2



PHOTOS COURTESY OF ROLLINS COLLEGE

REVERENCE: Rollins and community joined together to remember Dr. Martin Luther King and honor his contributions. Weekend events included an open mic and candlelight vigil.



MLK celebration emotional, triumphant

G. KEITH EVANS
the sandspur

On a blustery evening, white balloons welcomed students, faculty, and community members to a little-visited portion of the Rollins campus. As they followed the brick sidewalk around the Cornell Fine Arts Museum, visitors were greeted by the aroma of rich hot chocolate and the warmth of welcoming fellowship.

The crowd of about 100 students and visitors had gathered on the patio behind the museum to observe a salient day in African American culture: the birthday of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. The crowd, however, was not what one might expect; while so many may associate the day solely with African American culture, the crowd was

quite diverse, neatly appearing to be a valid cross-section of the Rollins community.

On an evening traditionally associated with civil rights and emerging from oppression, the togetherness of the community—including its many ethnic groups—seemed to solidify King's message. With all the groups gathering, celebrating, observing, and learning together in peace and acceptance

the night seemed a world away from the days of the 1960s. Certainly, the diversity, hope, service and courage of the crowd would have made King smile.

However, the days of oppression are not forgotten. As speaker after speaker took the podium, the overall

positive message of peace and progress was underscored with a history of sadness, violence, and inequality. When especially moving speakers like Connie Holt, Holt Graduate Studies Program Advisor, took the microphone, some audience members could be seen with the glistening of tears in their eyes. This atmosphere of reverence continued until Rollins students Shelby Hemmans and Jo-Anne Kitson enthusiastically sang the African American cultural song, "We Shall Overcome," causing solemn faces give way to rhythmic swaying accompanied by hands clapping in unison.

When the esteemed and highly regarded keynote speaker Carolyn Fennell delivered her message, the

atmosphere evolved into one of hope. The celebration, after all, was taking place on the eve of the inauguration of the country's first African American president. Barack Obama has, in fact, overcome. He has overcome the history of his race's oppression, aspiring to the highest office in the land on a platform not only of change, but of peace, hope, acceptance and service.

Fennell nicely tied the evening's festivities to Obama's presidency with her resounding message of hope and change. Just hours before Fennell's presentation, the then President Elect Obama had been spending his last day before inauguration painting the walls of a teen homeless shelter in Washington. Obama, it seems, helped embody Fennell's message. Her emphatic chorus, "Serve. Serve. Serve!" echoed across campus and, through Obama and the memory of Dr. King, across the country.

As speaker after speaker took the podium, the overall positive message of peace and progress was underscored with a history of sadness, violence, and inequality.

Israel-Hamas violence ceases

G. KEITH EVANS
the sandspur

Since late December, a time when many Rollins students were enjoying their peaceful holiday break, military groups in Israel and neighboring Palestine have been involved in escalating violence.

This most recent outbreak of violence is claimed to be a direct result of unprovoked aggression from Palestinian militant groups like Hamas. These groups, according to Israeli officials, have been relentlessly launching unguided rockets into the Israeli state for several months.

The rockets, apparently randomly launched and sometimes improvised, have proven to be a constant threat to Israeli interests and the safety of its citizens, leaving 20 Israeli citizens dead within the last eight years.

On December 27, Israeli forces launched retaliatory strikes, attacking Palestinian interests from the air and the ground. Within five days, four more Israelis and 370 Palestinians were dead, with hundreds more were injured.

After the onslaught began, Palestinian forces unleashed newer, more powerful rockets

which expanded the Israeli danger zone up to as much as 25 miles from the Palestinian border. No recent statistics were available on these newer rockets, though reports from the area indicate they may have been smuggled into the region through underground tunnels.

As those familiar with the situation may know, violence in this area of the world is not a recent development. Many historians and religious experts point to the late 1940s as the root of the turmoil, as the arrival of the Jews in Israel disrupted life in the region. Dr. Edward Harrell, a history professor in the Hamilton Holt School, suggested that the violence can trace its roots to Nazi-controlled Europe.

"The Jews," he said, "were the only people to date in history that were given a death sentence because of the fact they had been born."

While few experts believe the United States, currently embroiled in a devastating economic slowdown, will become involved in the current conflict, the nation has a long history of supporting Israel. America was the first nation to officially recognize Israel, and has been the largest supplier of arms and aid to the country since 1974.



COURTESY OF MCT CA

JERUSALEM: A protest of about 200 people against the military operation in the Gaza Strip.

While sentiments around the Rollins campus are mixed—clandestine signs posted on light poles boast support for either side—the overall American sentiment seems to condemn the Palestinian actions. Dr. Harrell agrees with the measure of support, "This country, I think, will stand behind Israel," he said.

An impromptu poll of

interested parties indicates an overall belief that Israeli aggression is being carried out as a matter of self-defense, and those familiar with the area detail horrific atmospheres of hatred the Israelis must constantly endure. Still, the Israelis are resilient, living their lives amid the constant bombardment of Palestinian

rockets. When enough is enough, though, even the most must take action, and believe their deep roots in the area will them resistant to the attacks. Dr. Harrell expressed it best by stating, "I'm going to defend myself. It will to the bitter

ORLANDO
MAGIC
COLLEGE NIGHT

Amway



ONLY \$20

EVERY WEDNESDAY

Includes a ticket, T-shirt, hot dog or pretzel and beer or soda!

COLLEGE NIGHT GAMES:

February 4 vs. L.A. Clippers
February 11 vs. Denver Nuggets
March 11 vs. Chicago Bulls
March 25 vs. Boston Celtics
April 1 vs. Toronto Raptors
April 8 vs. Memphis Grizzlies
April 15 vs. Charlotte Bobcats

1.800.4.NBA.TIX

orlandomagic.com/collegenight



BE THERE

Magic Fans, text the word "FANTASTIC" to 57375 to receive more information on College Night and other Magic news, updates and promotions!



Mobile

Tommy to stay

■ Continued from page 1

Campus-wide e-mails were sent regarding a potentially new name last semester, but the rumors amplified the possibilities. Rollins could have been the Lakers, the Suns, the Rays, the Ravens, the Raiders or the controversial (almost sexually suggestive) Foxes. Wismar-Davis claims that the results of these e-mails were all over the map, but the Tars were the only dominant choice.

The school logo will certainly change, however, to a more simplified yet effective "Fiat Lux" model. Wismar-Davis stated, "We are looking to bring

some consistency and continuity to sports." The new colors will be a powerful yellow-gold, outlining a blue. As far as the logo goes, "We have three or four concepts to turn to the athletic director. We are still in concept phase, but Nike will be working with Rollins on the design."

"I am happy we're sticking with the Tars," said senior Chris Kellam. "I am a Tar and future students should be too." There are many different opinions concerning our name, but as far as marketing directors are concerned, tradition shall be maintained.



The Editorial Staff of The Sandspur welcomes student and faculty responses to all published material with the intention of establishing a dialogue among members of the Rollins community.

Please email letters of response to
editor@thesandspur.org

American media biased towards Israel

FATEMA KERMALLI
the sandspur

On January 3, after eight days of air attacks, Israel launched a major ground invasion of the Gaza Strip with the stated purpose of ending Hamas rocket fire. Over an approximately three week long offensive, over 1000 Palestinians including hundreds of women and children – were killed and thousands more injured. Thirteen Israelis, including three civilians, were also killed.

Throughout this war, the logic portrayed by the majority of the US mainstream media was that continuous firing of Hamas rockets into Israel from Gaza justified Israel's actions in "responding" to the attacks and defending herself and her people. They say that Hamas broke the cease-fire agreement. But this version is not the whole story.

The narrative as described above is based on the assumption that Gaza was the aggressor, and falls apart when Israel is proven to have acted aggressively, thus putting the Palestinians on the defensive. CNN's Rick Sanchez actually confirmed on air that Israel violated the terms of the ceasefire first by killing six Gazans on November 4. This violation was in addition to the continuous siege on Gaza that has blocked the people's access to adequate necessities.

What about Hamas? According to "Just Foreign Policy"

news, "...as the truce expired, The New York Times published an article noting that Hamas was "largely successful" in curtailing rocket fire into Israel. The article also noted that what Hamas expected in return—easing of the blockade—never arrived. The article also noted that "Israeli forces continued to attack Hamas and other militants in the West Bank..."

It is important here to remember that Hamas, though characterized as a terrorist organization in the US, is the democratically elected leader-

Throughout this war, the logic portrayed by the majority of the US mainstream media was that Hamas rockets continuously fired into Israel from Gaza justified Israel's actions in "responding" to the attacks and defending herself and her people. They say that Hamas broke the cease-fire agreement. But this is not the whole story.

ship group in Gaza and thus has a duty to protect its people. Remember, in addition, that all of Gaza is an urban area—one of the highest population density areas in the world—so the idea of Hamas hiding in urban areas to use "human shields" does not really hold.

So it was not as simple as Hamas firing rockets. But what about the tunnels they were building into Gaza? Was Hamas not just preparing to attack Israel anyway?

Actually, tunnels seem to have been their only choice. According to the LA Times: "For residents of Gaza, how-

ever, the tunnels bring far more than arms. The territory's borders have largely been sealed since Hamas took control of the territory in 2007. The tunnels are the main conduit for normal commerce and a lifeline for food and medicine. Smuggling through the tunnels is also a primary source of income for Bedouin tribes long neglected by the Egyptian government. One smuggler, who gave his name only as Abu Mohammed, said that gasoline and food made up the bulk of his business. Palestinians involved in cease-fire negotiations want to see the overland border with Egypt reopened. 'As long as there's a blockade around Gaza, the tunnels will remain,' Abu Mohammed said."

Think about it: Gaza is like an open air prison. It is surrounded and does not have control over its borders. According to Human Rights Watch: "Israel withdrew its military forces and settlers from the Gaza Strip in 2005, but it still controls Gaza's airspace, territorial waters, and land borders—with the exception this week [in 2008] of the Rafah border area with Egypt. Israel is Gaza's primary supplier of electricity, which is essential for water availability and sewage treatment. In addition, Israel controls Gaza's telecommunications network, its population registry, and its customs and tax revenues. Israeli security forces have frequently re-entered Gaza at will."

And on top of all of this, there has been a siege. Those



COURTESY OF MCT CAMPUS

NO MORE ROOM: A 10-year-old Palestinian girl is treated on the floor by doctors in Gaza City's Shifa Hospital near the beginning of January. The overwhelming number of injuries from Israel's attacks left hospitals with no room for new arrivals.

who effectively control the area are not allowing goods to enter. It only makes sense for the people there to create tunnels to get necessities and other goods in and out! And the arms? Unless and until the entire world completely disarms, there can be no argument against someone wanting to defend themselves, especially from those in the United States, which even gives individuals the right to bear arms in its most important of documents.

The other point that must be made here is that even if Gaza had been the aggressor in all of this, there would still be a huge human rights issue of disproportionality. Obviously no civilians on either side should be killed. But looking at the numbers helps in comparing Israel's

"response" to that which it was supposedly responding. Over a thousand Palestinians (hundreds of civilians) and thirteen Israelis (three civilians) were killed. Not to mention the UN sites that have been attacked. Once again, even the killing of three Israeli civilians is absolutely wrong. But my point still stands: even if you believed that Palestine broke the cease-fire first, the numbers should be enough to demonstrate to you that, in this specific case, something was horribly wrong. It was collective punishment, just like the blockade that Israel has had on Gaza for the past 18 months.

So next time you watch the news, make sure to check your facts. You are not always getting the whole story.

Closing Guantanamo: a bad idea

TRAVIS CLINGER
the sandspur

On January 22, President Obama issued an Executive Order to close Gitmo. Gitmo is the prison that holds the terrorists at Guantanamo Bay, Cuba. Obama promised to close Gitmo during his campaign, and this proposal was to the joy

of many of his supporters. However, one must ask the question, what is going to happen to those at Gitmo? The individuals inhabiting Gitmo are no ordinary criminals. These are terrorists. Many of the individuals being detained at Gitmo

were partially responsible for the 9/11 attacks. Many more, murdered Americans in Iraq or Afghanistan. Others conducted terrorist attacks on innocent civilians within various countries around the world. Barack Obama, however, plans to close Gitmo. Now, Obama has not mentioned where he will put these detainees. America runs into a serious problem if those detainees are moved to Amer-

ica. First and foremost, terrorists would be living on American soil. If they were to escape, they would be close to targets and could commit mass murder and inflict terrible horrors on Americans before they were caught. Second, if they are held in America they would most likely have to be tried in civilian courts, as ordinary criminals.

In a civilian court, intelligence that was gathered through intense interrogation techniques would most likely not be accepted as evidence. This would result in the automatic release of a number of the prisoners held at Gitmo. These individuals would then go home, and continue plotting to kill American lives.

When they were held in Gitmo, they were tried under a military tribunal.

Now, you may be asking, why it is important that terrorists are tried under a military tribunal, instead of civilian courts. The answer is rather simple. To adequately prosecute the terrorists, the government would need to show evidence of their crimes. Often, this evidence may still be related to current terror-

ists that have not been captured. Thus, the trial could jeopardize American intelligence. Military tribunals are held in secret and are not public record, while an ordinary trial is on public record and involves the release of confidential information, which in some cases could result in danger to American lives. Further, there is the issue of how the intelligence was gathered from the terrorists. In a civilian court, intelligence that was gathered through intense interrogation techniques would most likely be discarded as evidence. This discarding would thus result in the automatic release of a number of the prisoners held at Gitmo. These individuals would then go home, and continue plotting to kill American lives. In five years, we might then find out that it was one of the individuals we released from Gitmo that conducted yet another major terrorist attack on the US.

Then the question as to where to put this new prison for terrorists would have to be



COURTESY OF MCT CAMPUS

IT'S OFFICIAL: President Obama signs an executive order in the Oval Office closing the prison at Guantanamo Bay.

answered. I would be very surprised if there was a Congressman that volunteered to have this prison in his/her district. Could normal prisoners be held with the terrorist prisoners? Would this prison be located in a rural area or an urban area? How much would it cost to secure this prison? Would this

prison be secured by police forces or the US military? These are all questions for which Obama has presented no answers. Perhaps he should have answered these questions before closing Gitmo. Gitmo should not be closed, not until there is a reasonable plan. "terrorists held there."

The Sandspur
The Oldest College
Newspaper in Florida
Founded in 1894

January 30, 2009
Volume 115 Issue 14

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

Justin JB Braun
Editor-in-Chief

Kelly McNoldy
Managing Editor

Amy Iarrobino
Production Manager

Amanda Hampton
Advertising Manager

Stephanie Duesing
Advisor

Section Editors

Amy Iarrobino.....News
Brittany Fornof.....Life and Times
Nick Zazulia.....Entertainment
Fatema Kermali.....Opinions
Hope Kramick.....Sports
Evie Lyras.....Copy

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 Tuesday of every week at 6pm 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

sandspur.org

The legacy of George W. Bush

TRAVIS CLINGER
the sandspur

George W. Bush. For many the name evokes images of Iraq and the idea of failure. However, George W. Bush's legacy may not be what many think it shall be. When the President left office, he had the second lowest approval rating of any President (the exception was President Nixon). He left the nation with an economy that many blamed on his administration, as well as two wars that most Americans feel were mismanaged by his administration. However, at the same time Bush left the White House without a single terrorist attack occurring on US soil since September 11, 2001. Bush left the White House without a depression, despite the worst financial crisis since the Great Depression. Bush left the White House with an Iraqi government that is well on its way to becoming peaceful and independent. Bush left the White House with the world as a safer place.

Many Americans seem to forget 9/11. At 8:46 AM, on September 11, 2001 American Airlines flight 11 crashed into the North Tower of the World Trade Center. This tragedy began what would be the most horrendous terrorist attack ever conducted on American soil. On that fateful day, over 3,000 individuals were brutally massacred. The attack stunned and mortified the American people. President Bush said this in his farewell address: "as the years passed,

most Americans were able to return to life much as it had been before 9/11. But I never did. Every morning, I received a briefing on the threats to our nation. I vowed to do everything in my power to keep us safe." You may remember that immediately following the 9/11 attacks, and the lack of subsequent terrorist attacks, President Bush enjoyed an approval rating of 80-90%. This was the highest approval rating ever for a President. It is important for Americans to remember that since 9/11, America has not been attacked once by terrorists. There have been many plots, but thanks to the actions of former President George W. Bush, the plots were uncovered and stopped.

The Iraq War, for many, is the major flaw in the Bush administration. There are those who claim that the Iraq War was started on false pretenses and America was not justified in invading Iraq. Allow me to give you some history concerning Iraq. In March of 1988, Saddam Hussein ordered that the Kurds, an ethnic group in North Iraq, be attacked with chemical gas. This was described as genocide and is to this day the largest chemical attack on civilians. Saddam Hussein tortured those who disagreed with him and murdered tens of thousands. America had every right to free the Iraqi people and ensure that Saddam Hussein was no longer a threat. President Bush may very well have made mistakes in Iraq, but he stopped a tyrannical dictator

and freed 29 million people.

The current economic crisis is yet another situation which people blame on George W. Bush. The economic crisis was caused by mitigating factors that had existed long before George W. Bush took office. Bill Clinton, for example, repealed the Glass-Steagall Act and allowed sub-prime mortgages to be issued. Furthermore, remnants of the 1987 stock market crash still lingered, which, when combined with the bursting of the housing bubble and the enormous number of sub-prime mortgages, produced a near collapse of the financial industry. Americans should not blame George W. Bush for the financial woes of our nation, but instead should be thanking him for his prudent actions to halt the collapse of the major financial institutions. Without President Bush's actions, we may very well have had a banking collapse and would not be in a recession, but instead in yet another Great Depression.



COURTESY OF MCT CAMPUS / the sandspur
SIGNING OFF: President Bush waves goodbye as he boards Marine 1 for the last time.

President George W. Bush will not go down in history as one of the worst Presidents. Instead, he will be seen as a President who took the necessary actions to protect America. He will be seen as the President who freed the Iraqi and Afghani people. He will be seen as the President who stopped the financial crisis from causing a Great Depression. George W. Bush may very well go down in history as one of the top 10 Presidents.

What is the definition of love?

VERNON MEIGS
the sandspur

Love. Many regard it as a holy word. It is certainly socially taken as a universally pleasing concept. To shun it is very blasphemous, even. It is preached left and right with glorious definitions as "the only truth," "what the world needs now," and most profoundly, "God." Love is one of a number of things advocated as a cure for the world's problems and people's sufferings. To those who believe so, love is both the basis and goal of whatever cause, religion, or lifestyle. But is this view universally accepted, and is love really the all-benefitting thing it is advertised to be?

I can disprove the notion that universal love is the all-accepted view straight off by stating that I am a deviation from those that believe love as such. I do not see love as the all-benefitting force that almost everyone says it is. Furthermore I do not believe that such use of love benefits others in the first place. If anything, it does a great deal of damage to people in general, and almost always, such global-

ist views of love result in the withdrawal of love from those who actually deserve it.

So, does my challenging the popular notions of love make me an evil heretic? How would you react if I were to say that I am trying to save the name of love from the common notions that I perceive as fake and socially whitewashed versions?

The definition of love, as I see it and know it to be true, is a selfish, discriminating feeling inherent in human beings and actually quite a few animals that subjects whatever or whoever they so love to their own personal needs. Love certainly provides and gives, but only to fulfill the selfishness of others.

The definition of love, as I see it and know it to be true, is a selfish, discriminating feeling inherent in human beings and actually quite a few animals that subjects whatever or whoever they so love for their own personal needs. Love certainly provides and gives, but only to fulfill the selfishness of others.

self, then that is perfectly fine. The problem is that people are biased with the social negative connotation of "self" and won't admit to it or even know it.

The point is that love is made by selfish means, and lead for selfish ends. This notion is precisely why love must never be wasted. And frankly, too much love is wasted in the world today. Everyone takes the selfish, holier-than-thou approach to love and masks

their own selfish ends by convincing the others that they really do care and require no reward in return. What a blatant act of self-scapegoating!

One cannot practice true love by eliminating hate. Love and hate should be complementary to each other. Love is a discriminatory phenomenon; it is selective and selfish. You can forget all the of the euphemisms which say that love is about loving everyone and is unselfish. It is not, after all. If you cannot love

distinct individuals or whatever suits you personally to fulfill your wants in love, then you cannot truly love because you have lost the capacity to hate. I am not talking about malicious hate like terrorists and most religious extremists commit, but rather the feeling needed to punish or scorn those who deserve it, or whom you cannot love and instead antagonizes or drains you. Know hate and know true love.

To love everyone is to lose the capacity to hate, and make such a mistake is fatal and can lead to the unpreventable harm to those who cannot defend themselves with the human capacity to hate, and also to the deprivation of deserved love from those that have rightfully earned it. My advice to you is to no longer waste love on ingrates who will merely take it for granted. The Golden Rule is flawed, for they will not necessarily do back to you what you do to them.

Now go out and love, the truest sense of the word. The way you perceive the world would certainly be different then. You would perhaps be better off and emotionally healthier, and people certainly would be benefitted.

Pencil drive proves a point

HECTOR RAMOS-FLORES
the sandspur

For five decades now the United States has imposed an economic embargo on the communist government of Cuba. Although the embargo intended to hurt the Castro regime, in actuality it hurts the people of the island that need the most help. People are finding it difficult to get common items such as phones, school supplies and medicine. The government does not provide the people with basic necessities such as food, medical care and public education, but many of these programs have been inadequately funded since the fall of the Soviet Union. The lack of availability of these items is also due to the global economic situation that has taken place in recent months. Cuba survives on a double currency system where the Cuban government prints two currencies: the Cuban peso and the Cuban Convertible peso, which is only allowed to be converted into foreign currencies. Since most Cubans are paid in the Cuban peso, which is not allowed to be converted, many Cubans find it difficult to get many of their necessities. Rollins College strives to make its students global citizens, and last month the American Student Association (LASA) proved that it is achieving its goal. In November, LASA decided to help the island nation that is 90 miles south of Key West by doing a pen and pencil drive along with the help of advisor, Dr. Patricia Tomé, Assistant Professor of Spanish. "When I told some of my students at Rollins that I was traveling to Cuba, many of them came with bags filled with goods because they wanted to help with as much as they could," Dr. Tomé said. This enthusiasm from the students prompted Dr. Tomé to seek help from LASA to host a drive. "We thought it would be a great opportunity to help the Cuban community," said Hector Ramos, the Public Relations Officer for LASA. "The organization decided to send pens and pencils because they are lightweight and easy to

transport. The Cuban customs officials can be just as tedious and time consuming as the one in the U.S., so having a lighter load makes it easier to get through." Explained Dr. Tomé. They put large red boxes at the Olin Library, Hauck Hall and Casa Iberia along with signs explaining their cause. From the beginning of November until the end of the semester, they allowed the pencils and pens to collect in the boxes while being picked up regularly. "We never really got that many pencils or pens, but we did get enough to allow for the students to have a few, and we knew that anything would be enough," said Ramos. As soon as the semester was complete, Dr. Tomé and LASA packed up the pencils and off to Cuba they went. Once in Cuba, Dr. Tomé, along with some colleagues from the University of Havana, arranged for the supplies to be given to a local school. "I chose a relatively small school, about 250 students, so that at least each student could have a good portion of the donation," said Dr. Tomé. The supplies were received with open arms, not just by the children, but also by the administration and faculty of the school. "The kids behaved as if they were receiving a visit from Castro himself. They also dedicated the morning salute ceremony to the students of Rollins College," Dr. Tomé commented. Dr. Tomé remembers growing up and having limited school supplies, and she enjoyed seeing the faces of the children light up to get some basic necessities. "Taking those pencils rights before Christmas brought me back to the days when I would go and get my annual school supplies," she said. "We are very glad as an organization that our project was a success, and we plan on possibly doing it again with other countries," said Ramos. People often forget how just a small act of kindness can benefit tons of individuals. Even though these two countries have very different types government, humanity binds them together and no government can stop them from breaking that bond.



HECTOR RAMOS-FLORES / the sandspur
SMILING BUNCH: Students in Cuba were thankful to receive the school supplies that Dr. Tomé brought.

Rollins brings relief to New Orleans

MELODY JUSTICE
the sandspur

I have always felt like New Orleans was a city that everyone hears more about than he or she will ever actually witness. The festivities always seem to have just ended when you arrive, or you hear about how it got interesting right after you left. You do not believe that anyone could willfully become as intoxicated as the stories lead you to believe – yet, there are enough other people who were "totally there!" that some stories actually become plausible. Before I went on the Rollins Relief trip every aspect of New Orleans was like this for me – the hospitality, the culture, the history and more importantly, the damage left behind from Katrina. It just never seemed real. I felt completely desensitized to the damage from Katrina after being force-fed image after image of floodwaters in post-Katrina New Orleans by cable news shows. I even remember making jokes about Katrina becoming another overexposed heiress-titute whose new underwear line is so comfy it's like they're not even there! Yes, I made a Katrina joke and yes, I know it was too soon and that I am Tucker Max's date into the fiery gates of Hell – but this was before I went to New Orleans and realized why it was on the news so much and why it should be on the news even more now. One of the houses that we worked on with Habitat for Humanity was on a road called Funny Farm. The Funny Farm house was the most influential to me because in the midst of the construction site there was a really disgusting, outhouse-looking, wheel-based, bad-side-of-OBT-trailer thing. This trailer-thing was so miserable looking it simply blended into the background of our surroundings and nobody really noticed it at first. You might not think blending into the background is a big deal, but remember how New Orleans looked after the storm? Remember how images like that usually only showed up on the news when they were covering wars from locations like Bosnia, Somalia and other areas that typically are not known for their indoor plumbing and huge allocations for landscaping in the operating budget? Right. Well, this hunk of metal looked like it just belonged in that picture. And then, out of nowhere, the owner of the property, the family that we are building this Habitat for Humanity House for, walks over. She is super-friendly, nice and is incredibly grateful for our efforts here. We exchange pleasantries and we both walk away. Before I go back to work I pause and take a moment to really live this encounter to its fullest. I start talking to myself in my head about what good work I'm doing and I even make the Fred Rogers-Rollins connection of loving-thy-



MELODY JUSTICE / the sandspur
BROKEN HOME: Battered from Hurricane Katrina, a house stands broken and crumbling in the midst of an overgrown yard.



MELODY JUSTICE / the sandspur
DEMOLITION ZONE: New Orleans neighborhoods are still littered with remains from demolished houses and equipment. Needless to say, Rollins student never ran out of projects to work on during their trip to the Big Easy.

neighbor, when I see the woman, the owner, WALK INTO THE HUNK OF METAL! She just opened up the door and waltzed in like she lived there. And then I realized, "Oh dear God, she does live there!" The formaldehyde greenhouse that I thought had been used and abused by the guys from MythBusters was her FEMA trailer! Suddenly my incredibly quick thinking college educated brain kicked in and I realized, she is not only currently living in there, but she has been since the storm hit, and more importantly, will continue to live there with no escape whatsoever until we finish building this Habitat house for her. I have never been so enthusiastic about measuring, leveling, hammering, or making big pieces of wood into smaller pieces of wood, in my entire life. Then it dawned on me that I had a direct impact on getting this totally normal lady out of her totally low-grade and unnatural trash can of a "home." I experienced a new kind of resolve and motivation I have always seemed to fall short of during finals. I hate getting all Full-House-Uncle-Jesse-end-of-episode, but I actually felt like I was making a difference.



This was Rollins Relief's 8th trip to New Orleans since Katrina struck. Twelve students and four professors volunteered in the first week of January and are already organizing efforts to plan the next trip. I will without a doubt be in attendance for the 9th Rollins Relief trip to New Orleans – and if I had some kind of really cool, astronomically high-interest yielding railroad fortune I would buy a league of golden robots for every person who also signed up. Because, aside from the obvious social justice impact this trip and this kind of work can have, you also have the opportunity to spend a week with some really amazing and truly inspirational students that make everything worthwhile.

ROLLINS GREEKS RUSH

IMPORTANT RECRUITMENT=FUN RECRUITMENT

GRAHAM GILBERT
the sandspur

So you have made it through the first five days of recruitment. You paid the dues and received your free t-shirt. You sat through the meeting in Dave's DownUnder. You made it through Monday night and the admittedly awkward forced conversations with people who you may have never seen before. As the week went on, the events became progressively more exciting and more fun.

Recruitment, after all, should be a fun process, and as Walker Hamby, a three-year junior and member of Alpha Tau Omega, explains, "A great way to meet good guys."

Throughout the week, hopefully you have been able to meet a lot of new people, both in your class and in others. Perhaps you have also narrowed down the list of chapters you would like to join to groups in which you feel the most comfortable being yourself, as four-year member of X-Club, Tyler Maddox, emphasizes.

Now, it is Bid Day, and before you walk downstairs to Dave's to receive your bid(s), you might be

thinking, "What now?"

Remember, this is an important decision.

As Co-Director of Student Involvement and Leadership Andy Hughes reminds us, it "Is not a decision to be taken lightly...it's a decision of a lifetime."

You must consider all aspects of fraternity life. As to which aspects are most important, Hughes emphasizes the expectation of becoming a leader on campus, of participating in community service, of holding yourself to high academic standards and, most importantly, the expectation that you live with higher ideals.

He urges that we "expect more of ourselves as fraternity men than as regular college students."

At the same time, Hughes admits that there are other aspects of college life that do not involve Greek life.

"Everything usually works out for the best," Hughes says, "if you decide not to accept a bid, or if you don't receive a bid, there are other options on campus."

If you do receive and accept a bid, you will join your pledge class and the brothers of the organization in a Bid Day celebration at the location of the organization's choosing. Although the parties and their locations will be

different, they all represent the start of new member education, a process designed to bond you with your pledge class. Although challenging and time-consuming, the process is well worth it.

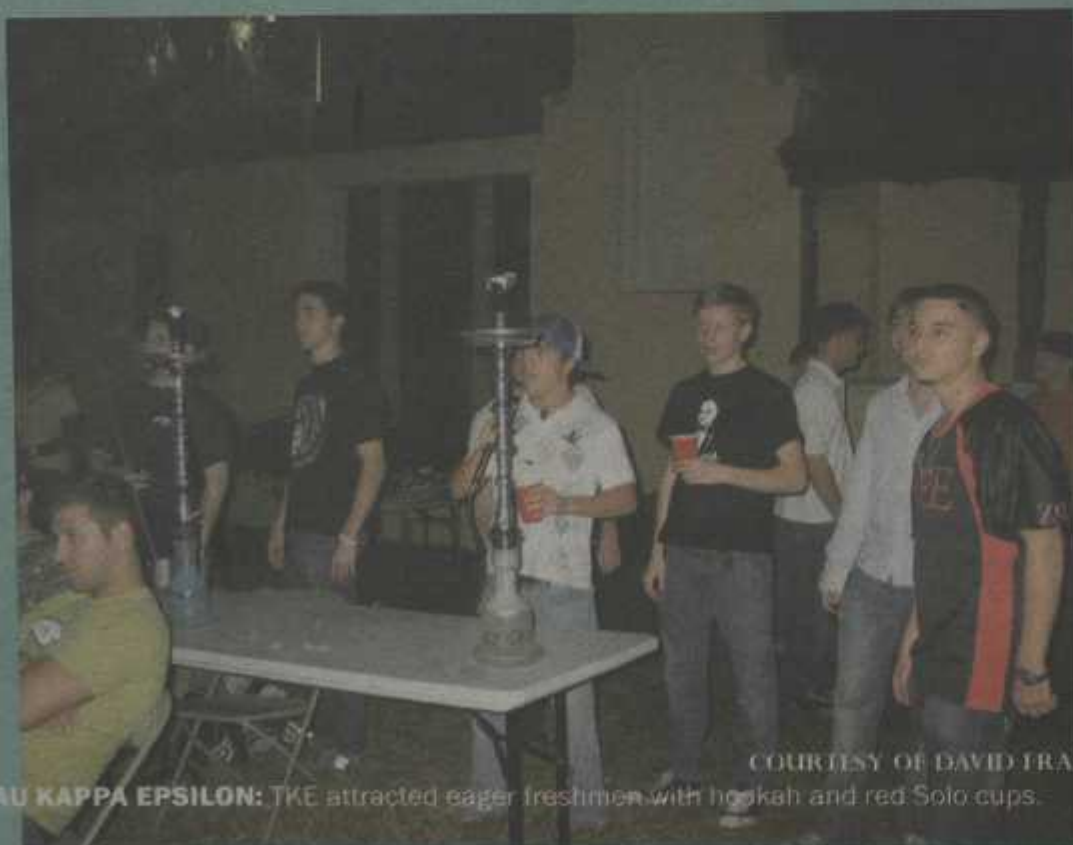
Hamby explains, "I've met some of my best friends through Greek life, people who I otherwise might not have met."

Echoing Hamby's sentiment, Eric Rodriguez, a four-year senior in Chi Psi, states, "Greek life is a good way to make friends not only for four years, but for life."

This corroborates Hughes' statements during Sunday night's meeting asserting that the people you will meet in the Greek system over the next few years will be the people attending your wedding and playing golf with you during retirement.

Have fun tonight and during the rest of new member education. Relax and be yourself. Enjoy it. It goes by fast; take it from me, a four-year senior myself, who was once in your shoes. Finally, be tight with your brothers, but do not limit yourself. Continue to meet as many people as possible.

Listen to Marko Kazanjian, Interfraternity Council President-elect, when he says, "Keep an open mind and meet as many people as possible from every different organization." Be safe.



TAU KAPPA EPSILON: TKE attracted eager freshmen with hookah and red Solo cups.

COURTESY OF DAVID FRANTZ



TAU KAPPA EPSILON: TKE's rush night.



KAPPA KAPPA GAMMA: Kappa girls rally on Holt Ave. in honor of their pledge class.

COURTESY OF KIM

ALL WEEK



COURTESY OF ASHLEIGH BAUMAN
FDK pledge class.



COURTESY OF DAVID FRANTZ
FDK brothers pose for a picture at one of



COURTESY OF DAVID FRANTZ
TAU KAPPA EPSILON: A chill rush night for TKE makes freshmen happy.



COURTESY OF HILLARY WISE
CHI OMEGA: Chi O girls celebrate their newest pledge class.



AMY IARROZZO
KAPPA DELTA: K Delta girls have big plans for their 2009 pledge class.

RUSHING FOR FUN

KATIE ACKLEY
the sandspur

The Sandspur: Why did you decide to rush?

Jennifer Stull: I always thought that I would rush when I went to college, and all my best friends went to big state schools so they rushed in the fall. They said, "You have to rush! It's so much fun!" So I decided to give it a shot.

TS: What sort of things did you notice throughout the week?

JS: It is kind of high stress, but the girls are trying their best to make it as fun as possible and not a judgmental thing. It's kind of hard since we're all trying to balance classes and grades, so it's not the easiest thing in the world. It's all about time management, though.

TS: What is the hardest thing about rushing so far?

JS: It's just stressful to go to six houses in such a short amount of time, all the while trying to give them your best example of your personality and see where you mesh well.

TS: What do you hope to gain?

JS: I just hope to become more involved with the school and just widen my opportunities here. They do a lot of events on campus and community service like I did in high school, so I just wanted to continue with that, and I feel like they can help me.

TS: What did the schedule for the week look like?

JS: All six houses first two nights. Narrow it to top four. Top three. Then bid day. Bid day is when a sorority gives you a bid... sometimes, and you can accept it or decide not to join.

TS: Anything in general you think people should know?

JS: Just don't listen to the stereotypes. There's no commitment in rushing so you might as well try.

Capoeira kicks back into action

CLARISSA STABILE
the sandspur

If you have not seen it yet, you soon will. The Rollins Capoeira Club has started up its third semester on campus, and with it comes a variety of flashy kicks and acrobatics performed by your very own peers. They kick, flip, roll, and sing in Portuguese, and they are eager to welcome new friends to the game.

This Afro-Brazilian martial art is unique in its incorporation of many dance-like movements which African slaves in Brazil developed in revolt against their captors. They practiced in the sugar and tobacco fields where they worked, disguising their fights as a dance or religious gathering whenever the slave master would approach. Even the names of the movements were camouflaged to avoid suspicion. A heel to the chest was called *benção* (blessing—traditionally, when the slave would kneel and kiss the master's ring), a roundhouse type kick was dubbed *martelo* (hammer), and a high double spin kick was named *parafuso* (bolt or screw). Due to the nature of their work, the legs were not chained as the hands were, and, therefore, the majority of Capoeira moves are kicks and leg sweeps.

Groups of slaves began using Capoeira to fight against their captors and liberate themselves. Many fled to a region they named Palmares

for the abundance of palm trees they found there. Slavery was abolished in Brazil in 1888, but the former slaves could not all find work. Many became criminals and used their knowledge of Capoeira against their victims.

Eventually, an edict was passed outlawing its practice and threatening banishment to any known Capoeiristas. In order to undermine this law, participants were given nicknames so the police would not know their real identities, making arrests more difficult. Over time, Brazilian society became more open to this way of fighting as a form of art. After a successful demonstration at the request of the president in 1937, Mestre Bimba, one of the most renowned masters of Capoeira, opened the first Capoeira academy in his home state of Bahia.

In Capoeira, people do not fight, they play. Participants form a *roda* or circle in which two Capoeiristas at a time play a completely improvised game that focuses more on evasive techniques rather than blocking. Today, it is considered a national sport in Brazil and has spread all over the world, including Rollins College.

Akin Ritchie ('11) said the Rollins Capoeira Club plans on having weekly classes on Fridays at 6:00 pm in the Alfonds Sports Center and that these classes will be offered for free to Rollins students, faculty,

and staff. Occasionally, given favorable weather conditions, meetings may be moved to Mills Lawn. Everything from basic to advanced moves is covered, and as little as one class can provide an intense workout. Ritchie also commented that the club is considering buying the traditional instruments because "music is an important part of Capoeira, and we'd like to make sure it remains prominent in our club's activities."

Another powerful pull this group has for its members is the nonjudgmental acceptance of all backgrounds and levels of experience—it is not just for Brazilians. Club member Michael Mastry ('09) commented that he was "drawn to Capoeira for its cultural tradition and diversity," and he hopes "the club will have some opportunity to perform this semester." Previous demonstrations include last semester's Unity Fest in April and a *roda* with members of a local academy on Mills Lawn this past fall.

You may be drawn by the music played on the *berimbau*, *atabaque*, and the *pandeiro*. You may be engaged by the flips and close-up sparring. Perhaps the Portuguese singing will grab your attention. Whatever allures you to the game, once you try Capoeira, you may find yourself hooked.

The Rollins Capoeira Club has a Facebook group open to everyone called "Capoeira Club."



AKIN RITCHIE / the sandspur

MARTIAL ARTS THROWBACK: Students gather outside of Mills to practice and observe Capoeira, an Afro-Brazilian martial art that incorporates many high kicks and leg sweeps.

Astronomy professor copes with large class

STEPHANIE
ELLENBURG
the sandspur

Rollins is known for its dynamic liberal arts education, easy communication between students and professors, and small classroom environment. Unfortunately, some students are concerned with an astronomy class that has 73 students registered this semester. Will this become a trend at Rollins, or can we maintain our small class sizes?

Christopher Fuse Assistant Professor of Physics is enjoying his second semester teaching Astronomy and Modern Physics at Rollins. He is also a part of a research project that focuses on understanding the X-ray emission in galaxies, using NASA's Chandra X-ray Observatory, and simulating the formation of planets and moons.

When asked about his 73 student class, he simply laughed and said, "A lot of students have an interest for astronomy, and having the class in the Bush Auditorium helps accommodate all the students."

In astronomy, he teaches everything from understanding the physics underlying planetary orbits to developing a basic knowledge of star formation and evolution. The class also meets once a week to observe the stars and planets through a telescope.

"The observing we have done has been on the roof of the Bush science building and on the lakefront behind Ward Hall. Viewing isn't required for class, but it is strongly suggested. Observing allows students the chance to see astronomy in action. The moons of Jupiter become much more real and vivid when seen through a telescope," Fuse says.

Professor Fuse experienced the environment of a small college campus when he attended St. Bonaventure University located in Western New York, just south of Buffalo.

"In college I majored in physics with a minor in chemistry. My graduate degree is in physics, with my

research focused in astrophysics. I think that St. Bonaventure and Rollins are very similar. Both institutions provide a great deal of student-faculty interaction. Rollins benefits from a strong research emphasis, where undergraduates are encouraged to work with faculty on projects that often produce publishable results," Fuse stated.

When comparing his astronomy class from last semester, Professor Fuse noted that he had 43 more students this semester. That is a combination of about three classes in one. However, this growth does not faze Professor Fuse. The interaction in the Bush Auditorium has not changed any of the participation from the students. Fuse walks around to acknowledge if anyone has a question, he welcomes students to the board to solve physics problems and also lectures information on PowerPoint.

"From the time I was a kid I knew that I wanted to study astronomy and physics. There is nothing more exciting than figuring out how something works, whether that be a computer or a galaxy. From the time I was a teaching assistant as an undergraduate I have loved working with students, helping them to discover the world around them. From my point of view I have always found teaching and research to be two side of the same coin, you can't have one without the other," said Fuse.

Meeting Professor Fuse is a pleasant visit. He welcomes everyone into his office with a smile on his face and answers any question thrown at him. Regarding this 73 student class issue, there should be no cause for worry. With professors like Fuse, it is obvious that students not only want to learn about astronomy, but enjoy those who teach the material.

As William Arthur Ward put it, "The mediocre teacher tells. The good teacher explains. The superior teacher demonstrates. The great teacher inspires."

Taking laughter seriously

GREG GOLDEN
the sandspur

Want to get the effects of spending an hour in the gym in only twenty minutes? If you are laughing, that is exactly what will happen. This is why Christian Kebbel founded the Rollins' Laughing Club, which sprung from laughing clubs founded by Dr. Madan Kataria in India. Dr. Kataria, referred to as the "Guru of Giggling," has extensively studied the effects of laughter on the body, finding that it is not only a tremendous workout, but also greatly beneficial to the human body. According to Dr. Kataria's website, www.laughteryoga.org, laughing can release a "cocktail of hormones and neuropeptides" that improve our moods and help to activate and satiate our NK (Natural Killer) cells that protect our bodies from cancer. Laughing can help control blood pressure, improve lung capacity, and when performed before an event, can increase an athlete's stamina. Laughing Club meetings take place on Thursdays and Sundays at 12:30 in the yoga room of the J. Alfond Sports Center, though Kebbel says he is seeking a more visible location, of which he will notify the campus via email.

The structure of the

meetings is simple. After a brief yoga breathing exercise, one person gets in front of the group and begins to laugh. Everyone is encouraged to laugh, for even forced laughter promotes the effects that natural laughter also boasts. The person who initiated the laughter then points to someone else, who must increase the volume and voracity of their laughs to lead the group. In a given session, everyone laughs, has a good time, and gets a workout.

Kebbel first discovered laughing clubs from a friend's father who had traveled to India. Always a lover of laughter, and having even performed as a standup comedian, Kebbel was immediately intrigued by the idea. After trying it out at the dinner table one night, he knew that, if ever given the opportunity, he would start his own laughing club. Kebbel said, "When I laugh—really laugh—I feel it all over. I tingle and sweat, and I laugh in different ways—sometimes shallower, sometimes deeper—to feel it play in different parts of my abdominal wall. After a 15-Minute Laugh and a brief relaxation exercise, I feel energized."

Until Thursday, January 22nd, the Laughing Club has held meetings in the yoga room

of the J. Alfond Sports Center. On that Thursday, however, a particularly under-attended club meeting nearly made Kebbel cancel the event, until first-time laughter Aditya Mahara had an idea. "Let's go into the weight room," Mahara said, which was met with a broad smile across Kebbel's face. The slight relocation turned into an impromptu social experiment, as the laughers were met with several turned heads—but no returned laughs. Despite the lack of onlooker participation, Kebbel is confident that the club will soon expand its reaches to a location on campus that will allow any passerby to join in, without feeling obligated to attend weekly. As Kebbel said, "It's here for when [people] get stressed or glum or whatever, and on weeks when they don't need it, there's no pressure to attend."

LaughterYoga.org states that Dr. Kataria's laughing group started with just five people contributing chuckles, a number that reflects the average attendees in Laughing Club meetings in the fall of 2008. Now, over 6,000 laughing clubs exist across 60 countries. If their growth is any indication, it will only be a matter of time before all of Rollins will be laughing. We may all be healthier for it.

Beedle the Bard brief but bewitching

VERNON MEIGS
the sandspur

When I got J.K. Rowling's new book, *The Tales of Beedle the Bard*, I actually had not been aware that J.K. Rowling had released a new book since *Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows*. One might say that I had not been keeping track of the J.K. Rowling world after my contention with reading the final book in the actual *Harry Potter* series. My father had asked me during my family's weekly Wal-Mart grocery shopping while I was home for the Winter Break if I wanted him to buy the new J.K. Rowling book, to which I reacted in intrigue. So I did buy it and spent a few days to take my time and read it around a busy schedule. I deemed it necessary to include the details on how I came across the book because I noticed that many were actually anticipating *The Tales of Beedle the Bard* and some were disappointed with its small page volume compared to the several-hundred page *Harry Potter* books. This review will be in the perspective of someone who read the book not long after discovering its very existence.

Now, for the actual review. I gathered the book over all as a collection of curious fairy tales belonging to the Wizarding World as opposed to the

Muggle world in which we live. There are even commentaries by the great Albus Dumbledore himself for each of the short stories, as if talking to an actual reader of the Wizarding World. Dumbledore discusses versions of certain stories and the acceptability to children, alternate versions, and so on.

There are five stories Rowling wrote for the short book. The avid *Harry Potter* reader will remember actually reading "The Tale of the Three Brothers" as an inclusion to *Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows* as an essential part of the novel's plot. There are also references to three other stories: "The Wizard and the Hopping Pot," "The Fountain of Fair Fortune," and "Babbitty Rabbitty and her Cackling Stump." We have, however, a fifth story (and my personal favorite from the collection) that was previously unheard of: "The Warlock's Hairy Heart."

I would rather the reader take a look at the stories themselves to see what they are and form their own opinion, so I will not try to review each of the five stories. Therefore, I will make comments about my two favorites from the book: "The Fountain of Fair Fortune" and "The Warlock's Hairy Heart."

In "The Fountain of Fair Fortune," three witches and a knight band together to seek the annually active Fountain of Fair

Fortune in which if one bathes, he will have his problems answered. During the quest, they all face challenges that force each them to use their individual skills to pull, and eventually the witches individually find answers or remedies by the time they reach the fountain. The fountain itself is said to have a real magical power, but it would turn out that the magic is all in the witches' heads. While most will enjoy this story as clever and entertaining, it is especially significant to me because I am able to equate it with certain ways of occult thought on which I have personally read; thought that describes the change upon the world in accordance to the will as a personal result rather than an external "happening." There is little concern to what happens to an outside, impersonal thing.

"The Warlock's Hairy Heart" is a fun, dark story. It describes a warlock who sees his friends let love get over their heads, so he locks away his own heart to keep love from happening via Dark Arts. He waits for a perfect woman, and while he does, he is persuaded to restore his heart, which had since grown hairy and savage and makes him animalistic, resulting with both dead hearts in the warlock's hands.

For the avid *Harry Potter* fan, *The Tales of Beedle the Bard* is a unique and interesting look into the Wizarding World!

Slumdog worth a million and more

KATIE ACKLEY
the sandspur

Ever since its first appearance on television, people across America and eventually other countries, have dreamed of being the next big winner on *Who Wants to be a Millionaire*. But in one of this year's blockbuster hits, a "Slumdog" from Mumbai, India gets to be just that. Of course, he has to go through hell to get there.

Slumdog Millionaire follows the story of Indian boy Jamal Malik (Dev Patel) as he is questioned and tortured after being accused of cheating during his run on the Indian version of the hit show *Who Wants to be a Millionaire*. Through explanation after explanation, as well as many intense and detailed, personal flashbacks connected to how he really knew the answers, Jamal clears his name and is allowed to return to the show for the final "20 million rupee" question.

Aside from being brilliantly organized and cinematically astounding, *Slumdog Millionaire* manages to weave together a touching love story and a dynamically untouchable documentary of the tragedies that within the Indian slums, a feat that would have seemed almost impossible to convey so effortlessly. And that is without mentioning the brilliant performances from actors Dev Patel (Jamal), Freida Pinto (Latika), and Madhur Mittal (Salim), as well as the young actors who played their childhood counterparts.

Along with the brilliantly composed score by A.R. Rahman, it's no wonder *Slumdog* has racked up ten Oscar nominations – second only to *The Curious Case of Benjamin Button* – as well as four wins at the Golden Globes and five at the Critic's Choice Awards, snagging the award for "Best Picture" from both. Some of their Oscar nominations include Best Directing, Original Score, two for Original Song and, once again, the nomination for Best

Picture. At the rate it is going, *Slumdog* could very well take the Academy Awards by storm as well.

Along with just about all who have seen it, Junior and English major Catherine Kelly had nothing but positive things to say about the film. "One of the best movies I've seen in ages," she raved. "It was by far an entertaining and riveting film: amazing plotline, talented acting, and incredible cinematography. It's definitely deserving of all the awards it's won. I'd recommend it, for sure."

And Catherine was not the only one who thought so. When asked what she liked best about the movie, first year



FOXSEARCHLIGHT.COM/SLUMDOGMILLIONAIRE
NO LIFELINE NECESSARY: *Slumdog Millionaire* is the final answer for awards show voters of all kinds.

Christine Henderson could hardly decide. "The maturation of the two main characters, Jamal and Latika, was astounding," she decided at last. "How they grew up, grew apart, and then found each other again was heartwarming. The acting was amazing in general, though, especially considering that they are all unknowns. I saw it twice!"

Likewise, the movie itself was hardly the only thing getting rave reviews. "The music matches every scene perfectly," Helene Marcantonio, a first year music major complimented enthusiastically. "Rahman is a freaking genius!"

As if its praise and awards were not enough of a sign, *Slumdog Millionaire* is a must see on many levels.

With everything from romance to action, disturbing realities to dreams coming true, it has the makings of what could possibly be the biggest film to hit theaters in years. Who knows what the DVD/Blue Ray release might bring?

it's still airing or order the DVDs off of Amazon if you have the extra cash. I've managed to find a few episodes on hulu.com as well, if that helps.

Whatever you may think of the new version of the classic Original Series of *Star Trek*, I certainly adore it and plan to buy them someday on DVD. I give *Star Trek: Remastered* the highest possible ratings; I am very much open to new ideas and would recommend any *Trek* fan to at least check it out to make a decision for yourself! May *Star Trek* live long and prosper!

Remastered Star Trek still

VERNON MEIGS
the sandspur

If you are a purist about an old television program or anything old in particular, then chances are you are intolerant of any attempt at remastering, refining, polishing, or any form of tampering whatsoever. So some of you die-hard *Star Trek* fans at Rollins, who have a strong personal connection with the original, grainy incarnations of *Star Trek* (known today as *Star Trek: The Original Series*), will squirm at the biggest step they have made thus far with the series.

Star Trek: Remastered has actually existed for about a year or two and has in fact already released DVDs of the original series' three seasons. However, it seems not to have been addressed largely in the media as some of us fanatics feel it should have been. I, myself, have only discovered that this new update of my favorite series ever had even existed a mere few months ago. Although I may also be pigeonholed as one of the hardcore "trekkies" (I prefer "trekker"), I was absolutely thrilled by the ambitious

attempts to give new dimensions and perspectives to the universe of Kirk and Spock on the U.S.S. *Enterprise*. I was utterly impressed by the results and was all smiles through watching the episodes I managed to catch.

I praise profoundly the brand new angles and fresh original designs of starships, planets, and anything out there in space. Though, dedicated fans of the original versions will prefer the old and imperfect images and props, this new incarnation of the beloved series features all new kinds of ships and space stations.

On the episode "The Ultimate Computer," the four Federation starships actually appear to be taking a formation and making genuine maneuvers, instead of the original version in which the ships were copies of the *Enterprise* model heading in a straight direction. In the same episode, an entirely different



COURTESY OF MCT CAMPUS

model for the space station was used instead of recycling the K7 model from "The Trouble with Tribbles." In terms of the aforementioned episode, we actually see the Klingon ship orbiting the station while we cannot see it in the original version.

At least two of the planets in the series were given rings! The ones I know that have them are Tantalus V, the penal colony planet from "Dagger of the Mind," and Planet Mudd from "I Mudd." In the classic "The Naked Time," the planet actu-

ally looks more like a frozen wasteland and we see what the station looks like. These planet landscapes have also been expanded so it does not look like merely a huge studio room but instead a genuine landscape. The damaged station on Cetus III is expanded to show the whole landmass on the episode "Arena," and we see more of the archaeological ruins on the planet M113 in "The Man Trap."

There are many more examples I can rattle off but I would rather persuade you to somehow catch them on television if

Cheap thrills in 3-D Brett Dennen's worth a listen

LAURA
HARDWICKE
the sandspur

The new generation of moviegoers is hard to please. They've been numbed by sequel after sequel of I Know What You Did Last Summer. They have "Scream"-ed nearly five times in theaters. As if that wasn't enough, they've spent an even greater amount of time mocking the cheesy and obvious motifs of slasher movies with the exceedingly immature Scary Movie series. So why would director Patrick Lussier (Dracula 2000) seek to shock and scare audiences, that are already exhausted by scary movies? Because he had the help of cinematographer Brian Pearson, who wanted to do it in 3D.

My Bloody Valentine opens with a coalmine tragedy, which is soon revealed as a massacre. Sole survivor, Harry Warden, hacked to death his fellow miners with an axe pick to ensure his air supply would not run out. A year following the event that shook the clichéd

small town out of their coalmining boots, Harry Warden wakes from his coma, starting a psychopathic killing spree like never before seen (in 2D). Tom Haniger (Jensen Ackles), who is to blame for the mine collapse that triggered Warden's massacre, becomes Warden's final victim, when the cops shoot down the ominous figure in a gas mask.

But no, the audience hasn't lucked out on a thirty minute slasher flick. The movie then flashes to ten years later, when peace has been restored to the town. But low and behold, as Valentine's Day approaches, the murders start again, and the psycho returns. Now the focus is Sarah Palmer (Jaime King), who married Axle (Kerr Smith), Tom's best friend, after Tom disappeared...ten years ago. It is the Sheriff's job, Axle, to determine if the new slaughters are a hoax or the real deal.

My Bloody Valentine adheres to every slasher flick rule as if they were a sacred code of life. If you by chance find yourself trapped in this movie, don't have sex, don't run into the mine, and don't cheat on your wife. These classic

blunders will leave tough guys feeling bored, if the deliciously gory 3D effects don't hold their attention. Less astute moviegoers will be left guessing, as the plot jumps around like the damsel's chest in a chase scene. However, it's obvious that less time was spent developing the movie's plot line and characters than mastering the bloody 3D effects. That's to be expected from a cast who's most prestigious work ranges from Kerr Smith in Baywatch to Jensen Ackles in the CW series Supernatural. But attention is diverted from the subpar acting when everything from tree branches to axe picks is hurled at the audience.

The plot may seem too familiar to horror-hoppers...because it is. My Bloody Valentine attempted to scare audiences in 1981, in reaction to the success of cult classics such as Halloween. Unfortunately, the film's budget was lower than its cinematic standards. Failure was inevitable. Without its 3D enhancements, the remake of My Bloody Valentine may have succumbed to the same fate. Luckily, audiences can't escape their infatuation with cheap thrills.

PETER TRAVIS
the sandspur

Seven years ago, California native Brett Dennen spent his days jamming around the campfire as a camp counselor. Now, the folk singer-songwriter is on a national headlining tour, and has cut three studio albums. If you have not heard of Dennen, you are not alone. Dennen spent the first few years of his career in relative obscurity. But with the release of his second album, So Much More, he began to build a sizeable fanbase. And now, with his new album, Hope for the Hopeless, Brett Dennen has finally taken center stage. In 2008, Brett was the hot pick for titles such as "Artist to Watch" or "Artist on the Rise."

Brett Dennen's sound is one of mellow, soothing storytelling that is rooted in Brett's acoustic guitar and his unique voice. His awe-inspiring lyrics transcend the products of many modern songwriters, harkening back to the lyrical gifts of artists such as Bob Dylan. His first two albums, Brett Dennen and So Much More, offered this new sound to the public, which was very well received. The problem was that he wanted to be able to reach out to more people with his music. Therefore, with Hope for the Hopeless, Dennen's sound has evolved into a fuller, more commercial sound while still maintaining the sincerity of his lyrics and unique vocal qualities. He was perfectly fine with this evolution, asserting that his goal was to reach as many people as he could with his music.

The subject matter of Dennen's work has also shifted a little bit. Dennen states that his first two albums were a bit more personal than his new al-

bum. And now in Hope for the Hopeless, Dennen has shifted the focus of his tunes to the rest of the world. In the spirit of worldly appeal, he was able to collaborate with Afro-pop singer-songwriter Femi Kuti in the first single of the album, "Make You Crazy." Dennen has had the opportunity to play with a variety of different artists from John Butler to Sheryl Crow, but when asked with whom his favorite collaboration has been, Dennen maintained that Femi Kuti was the most fun. "It's like everything that he's says is something right out of Bob Marley's mouth," praised Dennen. Adding to his list of collaborations, Dennen soon will work with Senegalese musician Yousou Ndour.

Dennen began his current headlining tour at The Social in Orlando, and he is presently making his way up the east coast. His opening acts include Erin McCarley, The Little Ones, Angel Taylor, and Angus and Julia Stone. After he has completed his tour, Dennen will have hit 54 cities and undoubtedly will have expanded his fanbase. However, tours and albums don't consume all of his time. Dennen is also a very intelligent and opinionated activist for human rights and social equality. He offers his talent to groups, such as the Mosaic Project and Burma: It Can't Wait, in order to spread his musical message of love and compassion. When asked about music and social progress, Dennen asserted, "I don't see music having any role at all right now...it could be the way people around the world share information." Along with a few other modern artists, Brett Dennen is seeking a more peaceful world through music.

Stage Fright at the Fred

JENN STULL
the sandspur

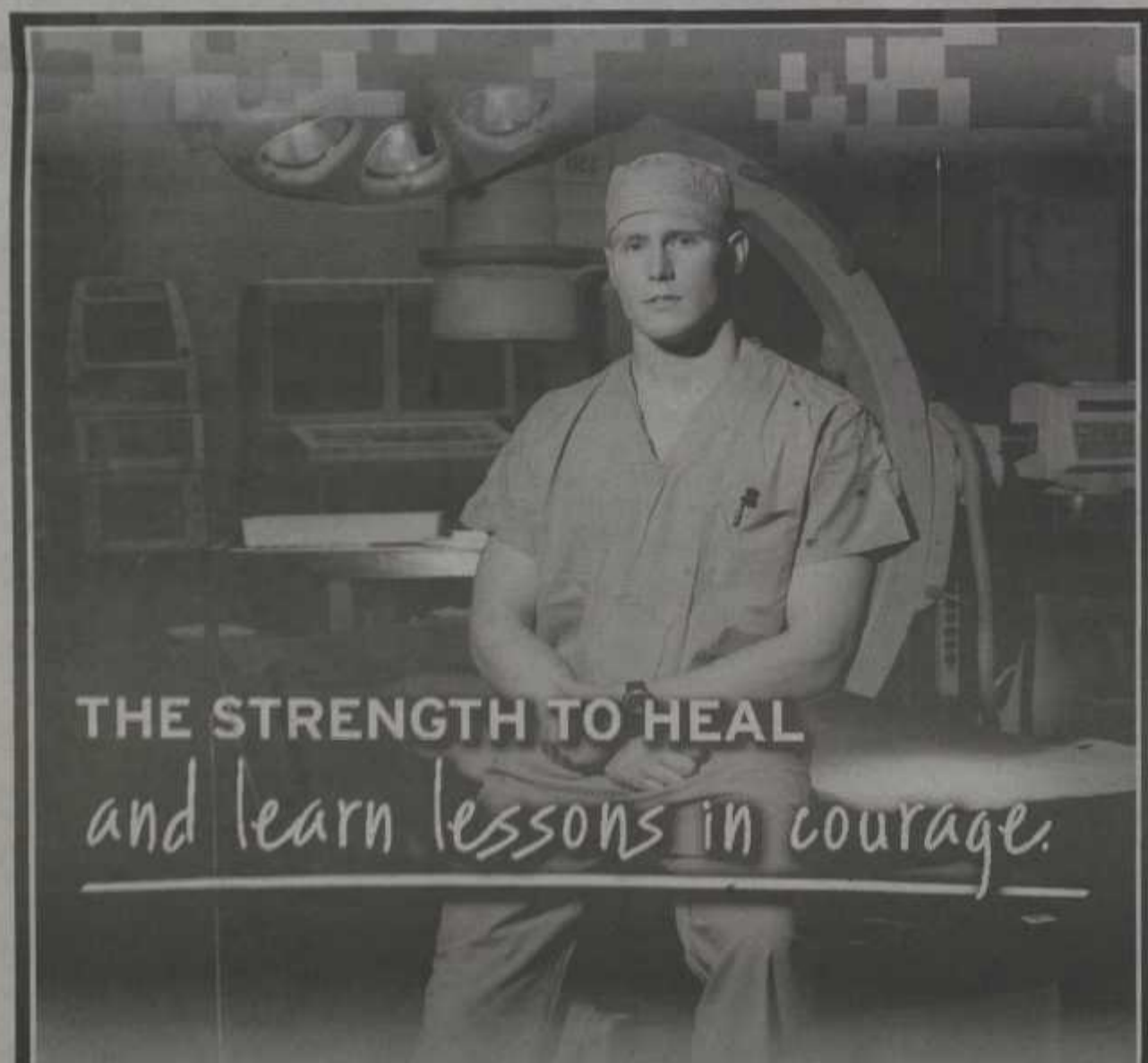
As Rollins students enter a new semester, the theatre program starts a fresh season full of excitement and enthusiasm. The first show to open this semester will be "Stage Fright" in the Fred Stone theatre this weekend. What is specifically interesting about the show is that it is a collaborative work of senior Joseph Bromfield Dr. Jennifer Cavanaugh, Chair of the Theatre & Dance Department.

It all started back in the summer of 2007. "When Dr. Cavanaugh told me of her desire to conduct summer research on Annie Russell, I jumped at the opportunity," says Bromfield. The story is a historical fiction piece based on the life of Annie Russell. Yes, our very own Annie Russell was quite the prominent actress in her day and a historical Rollins figure.

The idea of "Stage Fright" did not even begin as a play, but

rather as a scholarly essay. However, Bromfield notes, "As we co-wrote our article and developed presentations for Rollins and the greater Theatre History community, we began seriously talking about an Annie Russell play. While we were in the throes of crafting the findings from our original research with the correspondences of Annie Russell, we stumbled upon a short story Annie wrote in 1906. The opening images of the story sparked our playwriting imaginations." The short story was entitled "Stage Fright" and its rest is history, literally.

While the show is fictional, it does hold real historical value and importance to anyone involved in the Rollins community. The play runs from January 29th to the 31st at 8 pm, and January 31st and February 1st at 2 pm. Make sure you come and see what your fellow students have worked to create. Seating will be limited, so give yourself 30 minutes prior to the start of the show to reserve seats.



THE STRENGTH TO HEAL
and learn lessons in courage.

The pride you'll feel in being a doctor increases dramatically when you care for our Soldiers and their Families. Courage is contagious. Our Health Professions Scholarship Program (HPSP) helps you reach your goal by providing full tuition, money towards books and lab fees, a \$20,000 sign-on bonus, plus a monthly stipend of more than \$1,900.

To learn more about the U.S. Army Health Care Team, call CPT Juan Ramirez at 877-354-4041, email juan.ramirezromero@usarec.army.mil, or visit healthcare.goarmy.com/info/mchpspl.



ARMY STRONG.

©2008. Paid for by the United States Army. All rights reserved.

Tars flourish late, bury Buccaneers

DAVID SMITH
the sandspur

Behind a very strong last ten minutes of play, the Rollins College Tars defeated the Barry University Buccaneers 71-58 in Sunshine State Conference play on Saturday. With the victory, the Tars improved to 14-4 overall, and 6-1 in conference play. Barry fell to 6-11 and a 1-6 in-conference record with the defeat. Rollins now leads the all-time series against Barry 35-12. Nick Wolf led the Tars in scoring with 18 points, while Karyn Tucker led the Buccaneers with 22 points. Tucker also contributed with 9 rebounds.

The game began with stifling defense by both teams. After the first five minutes of play, the teams had managed a mere 8 points between them. The Tars looked out of sync, and struggled to find open looks on the perimeter or establish a presence down low. Redshirt freshman guard Julian Wilkison's entry at the 9:01 mark of the first half proved to be the boost that a sluggish Tars team needed. The team promptly went on an 11-2 run, and despite a poor shooting half overall (34%), the Tars still led the

Buccaneers 27-22 at halftime.

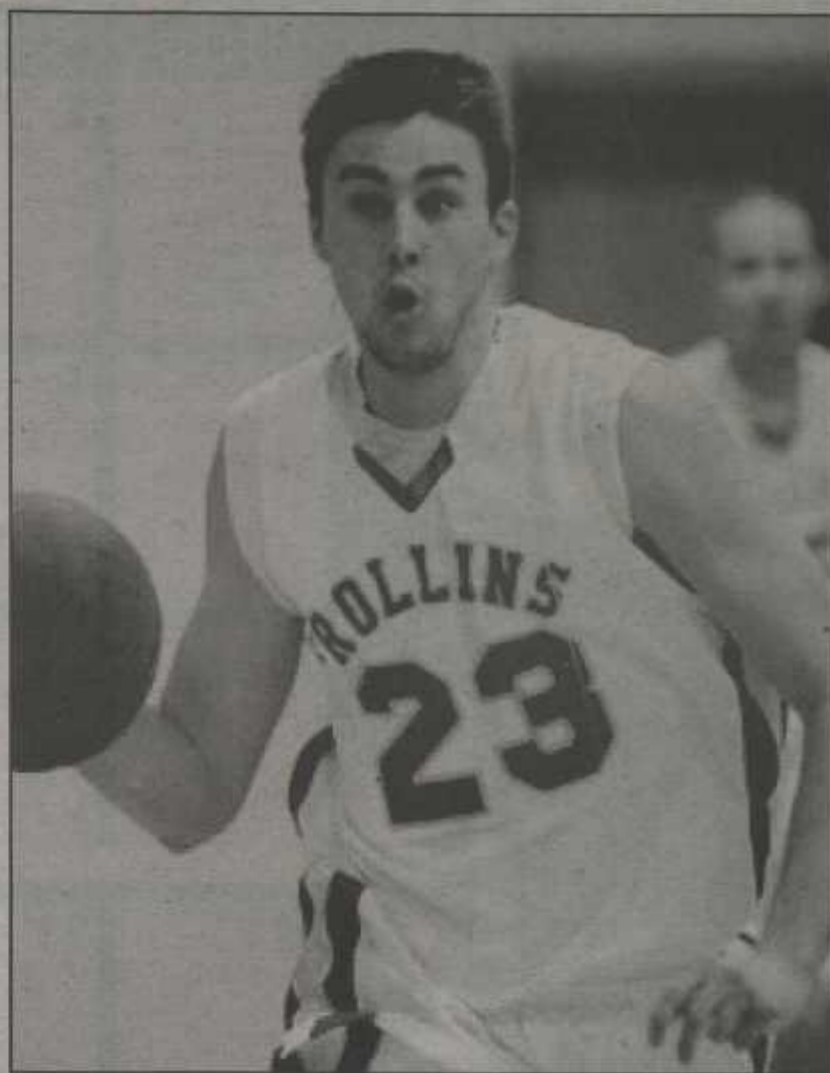
The Tars came out slow at the start of the second half, allowing Barry to pull ahead at the 16:40 mark. The Tars could only manage six points in their first five minutes of action in the second half, and still trailed 40-38 at the midway point of the second half. The final ten minutes saw what seemed like a completely reinvigorated Tars squad, led by the fantastic play of Junior Nick Wolf. Wolf at one point reeled off seven straight points for the Tars, who between the 10:00 and 5:00 minute marks went on a 16-2 run to take over the game and lead 54-42. A technical foul by Buccaneers Head Coach Cesar Odio with 3:34 remaining was a fitting signal of the end of Barry's chances. Rollins finished up 13, winning 71-58.

Other strong contributors for the Tars included Zach Pancratz, who notched 15 points, 10 of which came at the free throw line, as well as Jeremy Sharpe and Craig Reichel, who each scored 10 points. Rollins was also able to counteract a poor shooting first half with a dazzling 71% field goal percentage in the second half, in part due to Sharpe and Reichel. Overall on the night, the Tars shot 50% (20-40) and the Buccaneers 38% (23-61). However,

the Tars were outworked on the glass 38-27.

Speaking to Rollins Head Coach Tom Klusman after the game, he spoke of the momentum that the team rode to victory late in the game: "We're a team that goes on runs, both good and bad, and we play well off of excitement and getting out in the open floor and running." Coach Klusman also spoke of being very proud of his team's patience after slow starts in both halves, and of the Tars team defense. Coach was also quick to give credit to what he viewed as a very sound defensive effort by opponent Barry. The game's star Nick Wolf echoed some of coach's sentiments, also speaking of the team's ability to feed off of momentum well. He also mentioned trying to improve each day as a key for the team's success. Never looking past opponents and viewing each next game as the most important one were also of great importance, according to Wolf.

Looking forward for the Tars, they host Eckerd College at Warden Arena on January 28. Eckerd is 9-9 overall on the season, but a mere 1-6 in conference play. The game will mark the completion of the first half of the Rollins Tars' season.



COURTESY OF ROLLINSSPORTS.COM

SWOOSH: Junior Nick Wolf breathlessly rushes the ball down the court in order to defeat Barry 71-58.

Boston University International Programs



summer abroad

Internship Programs

Dublin Internship Program
London Internship Program
Los Angeles Internship Program
Madrid Internship Program
Paris Internship Program
Sydney Internship Program
Washington, DC Internship Program

Language and Liberal Arts Programs

Argentina Cultural Studies: Writing in the Americas
Dakar Senegalese Studies Program
Grenoble Language & Liberal Arts Program
International Conflict Resolution Program in Geneva & London
Lima & Ayacucho: Understanding Contemporary Peru
London Graduate Mass Communication Program
London Liberal Arts Program
Madrid Language & Liberal Arts Program
Mediterranean Archaeological Field School
Padova Language & Liberal Arts Program
Shanghai Intensive Chinese Language Program
Sydney Entertainment Promotion & Film Studies Program
Travel Writing in Australia
Tuscany Landscape Painting Program

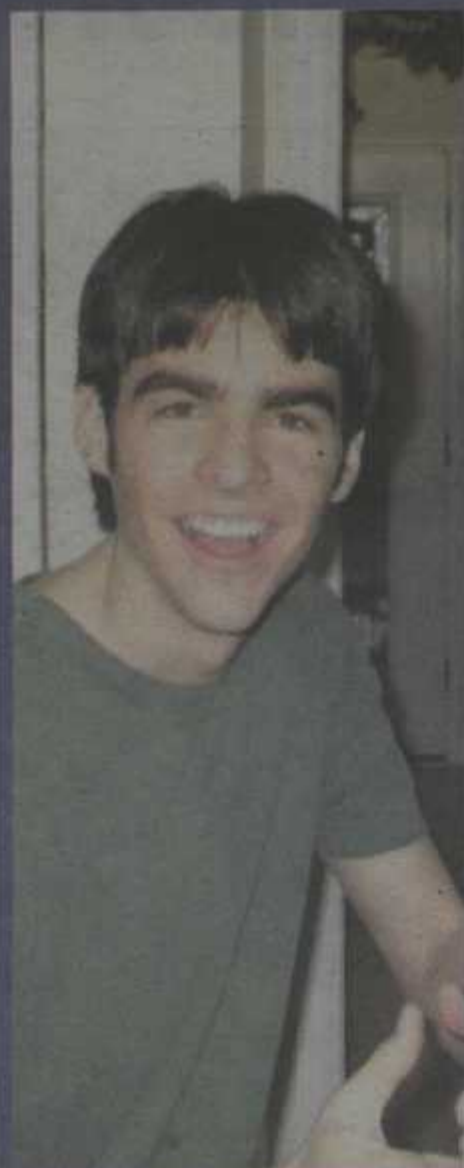
Program Features

- Open to all majors
- Housing provided
- Organized excursions and activities
- Financial aid available

APPLY TODAY FOR SUMMER 2009!
Application Deadline: March 1, 2009

www.bu.edu/abroad

FEBRUARY



**Sandspur-ian
of the Week**
Greg Golden
why not?

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 Stage Fright Fred Stone Theatre 2:00 p.m. ACE presents Super Bowl Party Mills Lawn 6:00 p.m.	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10 Out-Reach presents Valentine's Day Giveaways Campus Center 11:30 a.m.-2:00 p.m.	11 ACE presents Death By Chocolate Dave's Down Under 7:00 p.m.	12 Out-Reach presents Condon Bingo Campus Center 5:00-7:30 p.m. ACE presents Open Mic Night Dave's Down Under 8:00 p.m.	13 A Midsummer Night's Dream	14 Valentine's Day
15	16	17	18 B-side Artists Art Opening Garden Lounge 5:00-8:00 p.m.	19 ACE presents Do or Dye T-shirt Tie-dye Mary Jean Plaza 5:30 p.m.	20	21
A Midsummer Night's Dream- Annie Russell Theatre 8:00-10:00 p.m.						
22	23	24	25	26	27 ACE presents Rollins After Dark Dave's Down Under 10:00 p.m.	28
Rollins College www.TheSandspur.org						

Rollins recreational sports update



JENNIFER STULL
the sandspur

Fall 2008 Recap

Happy New Year from Rollins Rec sports. We had a busy Fall with awesome student and faculty-friendly competition. We kicked off with 3 on 3 basketball, the 'Defending Champs'

Spring 2009 Outlook

Five on 5 basketball began on Monday, January 26, and soccer and softball will follow. There will also be two ping pong tournaments; come out and test your skills against the two-time champion!!! Club Baseball be-



lead by Brad Ash, who defended their title in a 12-team double elimination tournament. Club Flag Football had a 6-1 season and made it to the Semi-Finals of the Orlando Men's League. President Duncan won back-

to-back Ping Pong tournaments and looks likely to make it 3 in a row at the first Spring '09 semester Ping Pong tournament (date TBA). Also, 'Alpha Tau Omega' took first place in intramural flag football to cap off Fall 2008.

* Participation in any intramural activity or event is purely voluntary and individuals participate at their own risk. *

Group Fitness Schedule Spring 2009

Abs & Core with Dave/
Lindsey (MON /WEDS 5:30)

Body Works with Garry
(TUES & THURS 5:30)

Yoga with Theresia
(Mondays @ 6:30)

Muay Thai with Jensen
(Tuesdays @ 6:30)

Sports Fit with Lindsey
(Weds @ 6:30)

Yoga with Joan
(Thurs @ 6:30)

Yoga with DAVID
(Fridays @ 5:30)

PLEASE SIGN-IN AT THE FRONT
DESK (classes are free)
ALFOND SPORTS CENTER
Room 139 (Dance Studio)