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The Sandspur

WINTER PARK, FL

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Volume 115 Issue 16

February 13, 2009



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Are you a lover or a hater on Valentine's Day? see pages 6-7



Read the State of the College Address in its entirety see page 3

Panelists lead discussion about conflict in Gaza

NIC RAMOS
the sandspur

The Israeli-Palestinian conflict is a dispute that has been ongoing for several decades, yet in recent history, the conflict has become particularly tumultuous. This past December it once again escalated into violent military conflict. After eight days of rocket air strikes, the Israelis decided to do an amphibious invasion into Gaza. Both Palestinians and Israelis feel threatened by the other side, and although no real solution has been worked out to end the attacks on Gaza by Israel, the international community has been in protest over what they feel are crimes against humanity.

Christians, Jews, Muslims, Arabs, Europeans and many other groups of people came together around the world to show that this was an issue on humanity and not of politics or religion, as many people characterize the problem. Last week the Society for a Just Peace in Palestine held a discussion panel on the current conflict in the Middle East. The organization wanted to spread awareness as well as create understanding about the issue.

"Our purpose was twofold: to engage the campus in meaningful discussion about the events, and to ensure that people do not rely solely on biased media for their information," said Fatema Mahmood, the president of the organization.

The event was open to the public and lasted two hours, which included a question and answer period.

The seven panelists representing were diverse, ranging from a former member of the Israeli Defense Force, to a local Rabbi, to a Jewish advocate for peace in the region.

"Our main concern with the panel was simply to balance the views that would be presented, because the only way to find the truth is to listen to both sides of the story," said

See Diverse discussion, page 3



UNSANITARY: Residents of Rex Beach faced health risks as sewer water flooded the halls when drainage and pipe problems arose.



COURTESY OF CHASE JENNINGS

Sewage floods Rex

JENNIFER STULL
the sandspur

As we all know, not every dorm on the Rollins campus looks as glamorous as Ward. In normal dorms, the floors are carpeted, the bathrooms smell, and the temperature of a room really depends on the temperature outside. However, there are certain expectations that students have that should not be considered outrageous such as a roof, a bed and floors without sewer water.

While the third request may seem rather specific, it was a serious problem that the residents of Rex Beach Hall were faced with at the end of last week. According to facilities, there was a clog in the pipe somewhere between the second floor of Rex and the third floor. The cause of the clog is unknown, but the result was an overwhelming toilet overflow of sewage that took over the bathroom and then flooded the entire hall and some rooms of the second floor.

Not only did this event stop all plumbing within the building for several hours, it uprooted students from their rooms, and posed a serious health concern for the building's residents. Students in Rex Beach, particularly the boys living on the second floor, had several opinions on the matter of how the situation was handled.

Resident Charlie Jicha said, "The people who worked to correct this situation did their best, but this whole situation could have been avoided. I found it very obnoxious that as a dorm we had to fight for a new carpet and that it took a week for the dorm to get somewhat back to normal. I still appreciate all the work that people put into this, and that all the residents were not forced to move."

Earlier this past week a meeting was held in the common room of Rex Beach for residents, members of Res Life and maintenance. During the meeting, questions were answered regarding the health risks and what was going to

be done from that point about the ongoing smell and molding prevention. Leon Hayne of Res Life said, "That night [of the flood] when maintenance came out for the second time, they were able to unplug that pipe; there are no more drainage issues or pipe issues. Any residual issues have been resolved also. The carpet on the second floor and the tiles on the first floor that were affected have been replaced." Hayner goes on to say, "The air quality tests that were done came back showing little to nothing wrong with the air."

However, while Res Life has done a thorough job of cleaning Rex Beach, there was an issue that maintenance had been called previously about plumbing issues, yet little had been done. Hayner responded to this by saying, "There had been a call earlier about some water overflow,

See Plumbing problems, page 3

State of college addressed

LAURA
HARDWICKE
the sandspur

With the presidential fervor at its peak, and the unfolding of a strange chapter in Rollins College's student life, Student Government Association President Marissa Germain fittingly called fellow students to a State of the College Address on Friday February 6.

Students gathered on Mills Lawn to hear Germain speak. The chairs set up for the event were only filled to three quarters capacity. Attendees ranged from active college faculty and student leaders. Among the crowd was senior Salem Willis, who was taken aback by the lack of students at the address. Willis says "I wish more students came, or at least to SGA meetings which are all open to the student body."

Introduced by President Lewis Duncan, Marissa stepped up to a podium, standing tall in front of the Mills building. The setting reflected the locally famous scene in "Sydney White" where Amanda Bynes does the cinematic equivalent. Germain sought to address the college about the stage of transition that has fallen upon Rollins.

Germain's speech began with typical morale boosters—allusions to the nation's new presidency, as well as recollections of athletic victories of the year. However, the serious nature of the State of the College Address was not ignored. Germain dove into the three current weaknesses of the student body.

First, she commented on the lack of an informed student body. Germain lamented over the compartmentalization on campus, specifically in separate student organizations. She was clear and concise, asserting that the students only have themselves to blame.

See Germain's Address, page 3

Nobel laureate Derek Walcott brings island flavor

ARIANE ROSEN
the sandspur

When I first met Nobel Laureate Derek Walcott on Wednesday February 4, we were making our way to the Cornell Fine Arts Museum by car. For the St. Lucians, the weather was too cold for a walk. Members of the Winter Park and Rollins communities congregated in the Jack R. Smith's American Poets exhibit room.

There was a great moment in the evening when Derek Walcott posed for a picture with his own portrait. If anyone could fully appreciate the quality of that portrait, it was definitely Derek Walcott, whose paintings were being shown on a slide show in another room.

The next day, we met again for his master class in Bush Auditorium. He started the class by giving the group of undergraduate students on the stage with him some artistic advice. Derek Walcott said that young poets should be focused on the technical and metric aspects of poetry and should learn through reading, through imitation of the masters. He also

pointed out that poetry, unlike prose, is meant to be recited.

He then spent about half an hour going through Curren Bell's poem in minute detail. He included broad advice and suggested poets to read, such as Hemmingway and Hardy, making the class useful to everyone present. He finished up by touching

on a few other student pieces, more quickly but with the same level of insight.

Derek Walcott's poetry reading filled every seat in Tiedtke Concert Hall. He read several passages from his Nobel Prize-winning "Omeros" as well as poems from his forthcoming book

"White Egrets," which includes two poems written at request of the Times and BBC recognizing President Barack Obama. As he said in the Master Class, his poetry is meant to be recited.

You can listen to the sound of the words, become entranced by the metrics of the lines and be completely satisfied. When you also grasp the meaning of the piece, you are captivated

by the island flavor and colorful narratives laced with powerful and deep themes.

In the question and answer session that followed the reading, the audience gained true insight into the life of such an amazing artist, with a little humor thrown in.

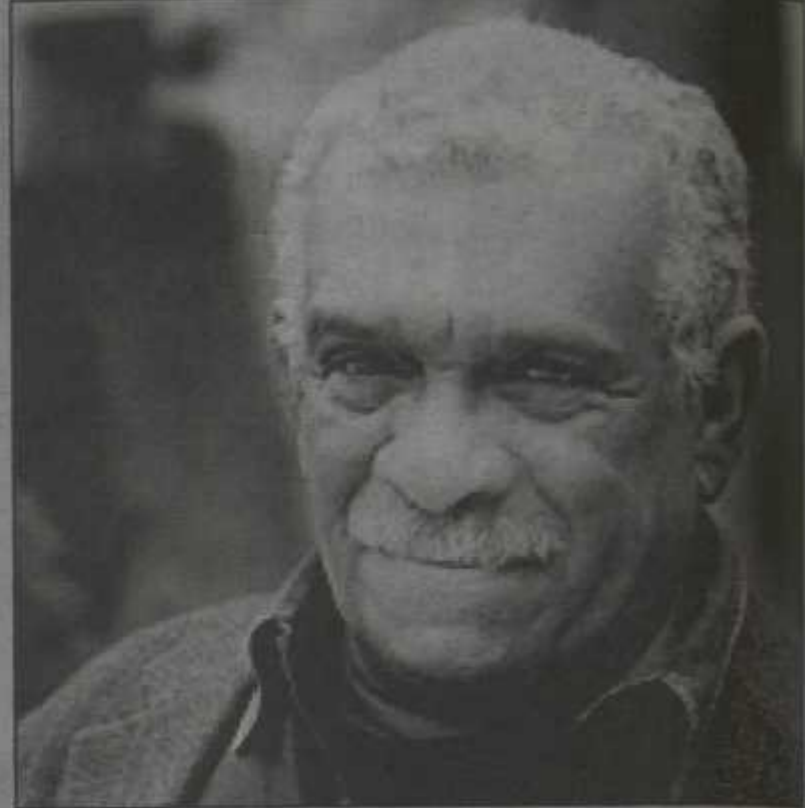
He gave his opinion on what the role of a poet was

(simply to write poetry) and was candid about what it means to be a writer from the Caribbean.

The questions ranged from ones about poetry in general to questions about his works. There were also a few silly questions, such as "How often do you trim your mustache?" and "How do you correctly pronounce 'Caribbean?'"

He also talked about theater. We found out that his target audience for a comedy is an old fat lady from the countryside whom he hopes will sit in the back of the theater and laugh so loudly that she has to cover her face. He also admitted that in theater he has recently "become an authority on the flop," and

You can listen to the sound of the words, become entranced by the metrics of the lines and be completely satisfied. When you also grasp the meaning of the piece, you are captivated by the island flavor and colorful narratives laced with powerful and deep themes.



COURTESY OF ROLLINS COLLEGE

TRUE ARTIST: Nobel laureate Derek Walcott offered lessons to students, advising budding poets and reciting from his works "Omeros" and "White Egrets."

that he has "learned nothing from failure...but the failure is negligible if you worked hard."

Finally, when asked which of his art forms he enjoys most, he told us that it was painting because it provides the most physical joy.

The joy from writing plays, he said, is sharing in the en-

joyment of the audience. Poetry, however, simply brings relief and gratitude at being able to finish it. According to Derek Walcott, true poets are not selfish or focused on being great; their poems are about service to poetry. Derek Walcott has truly mastered this servitude to his art.

Florida weather unpredictable

STEPHANIE ELLENBURG
the sandspur

Rollins College is notorious for its student population that resides in the New England area of the United States. Could the popularity be due to the small classroom sizes or the wide range of academia? Yes and No. Most northerners want to come to Florida for the weather. Florida is, after all, the "Sunshine State."

A normal year in Florida consists of warm weather in the spring, hot and humid weather in the summer, hurricane storms in the fall and bright and sunny during the holiday season. This year, however, has been one of the longest winters in Florida. The nights got down to a staggering 20 degrees and freezing.

Luckily, Rollins students were prepared and had their winter coats, because everyone on campus was bundled up from head to toe from the end of December to the beginning of February. A student from Professor Eng-Wilmot's 'Chemistry and Society' class even made the smart alick comment "Where's the Global Warming?"

From here it can be said that Florida is a very unpredictable state. One day could be beautiful, then it might rain and the next day it could be freezing. It was during the freeze spell in Winter Park that the week of February 3 was acknowledged

as Florida's Hazardous Weather Awareness Week.

The National Weather Service activated a Tornado Warning on Wednesday, February 4, between 10:10 a.m. and 10:30 a.m. This drill was performed in order to test the state-wide warning systems that are currently in place through local radio and television stations.

Along with local communication, the City of Winter Park has another emergency notification system called OUTREACH. This system's features include convenience of emergency contacts to cell phones, along with alerting benefits of outdoor voice and siren devices.

Found on the City of Winter Park's website, www.cityof-winterpark.org, it describes the system further saying, "Use of mediums such as landlines, cell phones, e-mail, text messaging, FM radio and pagers, as well as outdoor sirens for those who may not have access to these devices are all offered through this system."

The advantages of these outdoor warning sirens are that they announce important weather messages within the community when large groups of

people need to be directed to seek shelter or evacuate an area. The outdoor siren system of Winter Park's procedure was tested on February 7th at noon, and will be tested on the first Saturday of each month as regularly scheduled.

The OUTREACH program has and will be an essential tool to use in the case of a weather emergency. The number of tornadoes recorded in 2008 was far more than previous years, according to a Chicago Tribune tally. There have been more winter tornadoes in January and February of 2008, than the combination of 2005, 2006 and 2007.

Also, with the amount of hurricanes that came through Florida during 2005, OUTREACH would have probably been used many times during that hurricane season. To receive alerts from OUTREACH, anyone can register and complete an information form on the City of Winter Park's website.

Corrections

Rollins Capoeira Club update:

"The Rollins Capoeira Club would like to acknowledge Capoeira Brazilian Pelourinho under Mestre Lazaro Santos for helping establish the club on campus, and to thank Mestre Lazaro for sending instructors every week.

"More information about CBP is available at <http://www.capoeirabrazilpelo.net/> or call 407-692-6505."

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Copy of the State of the College Address speech

MARISSA GERMAIN
SGA President

One hundred and twenty years ago, in the year 1885, Rollins College became the first recognized college in the state of Florida. From the beginning Rollins stood out as being progressive and focused on the students. Rollins, at that time, was co-ed and its purpose was to provide an education for students from the North whose health required a more temperate climate. Throughout Rollins' history, national events have strongly affected our small campus community. As the Great Depression brought on the hardest economic times and could have been devastating for our small college, our President, William Fremont Blackman, never closed our doors open, but also remained committed to Rollins students. Then, as World War II began, President Hamilton Holt challenged how our classes were taught and developed the Conference Plan that paved the way for our close relationships with faculty. With the Korean and Vietnam Wars, Hugh F. McKean was compelled to organize an event that brought the whole campus together. Thus, Fox Day was born.

One hundred and twenty years later we stand proudly and boldly on their successes. We have claimed the title of number one liberal arts college in the south with a Masters program. We have committed to facilitate learning not only in the classroom but as well as in our social lives through programs like Living Learning Communities and Service Learning courses. Our women's lacrosse team nearly won the number one women's lacrosse team in the world. Student Government has been intimately involved with piloting the new General Education plan where connections can be easily made from class to class, removing the code of student rights and responsibilities, and restructuring our organization to better address the needs of our constituents, YOU, the student body.

All of these great successes exist amid a nation that is offering divergent cues. Our economy is a shambles, but our new president is heralding change. What does that look like? Can we find our place in that change once we leave the

marble arches of Rollins?

As current students I feel that we are incredibly nervous. Nervous that as seniors we will not be able to find jobs in the ailing economy, nervous that our parents will not be able to pay tuition and we will be forced to leave the community we hold so dear and nervous that we are not ready to be adults in the "real world."

I called this state of college to share the perspectives of the student body, as President Duncan and Provost Casey have done for the college as a whole. As I have outlined, there is a lot going in the world around us but there is also a lot going on within our direct community.

Upon my entry to Rollins I truly believed that good could be found in everything and everyone. When I heard quotes like Mahatma Gandhi's "Be the change you wish to see in the world" I truly believed that I could be the change I wished to see here at Rollins. After assuming this position and working with this year's SGA to tackle the issues we deemed as most important, I learned that such a simple phrase does not even nuance how difficult that particular task actually is.

This year as SGA, we were prepared to take on anything and everything. What we never realized was how long and difficult that road actually would be. At the start of this year, I was lucky enough to be in the Bush Auditorium with about one hundred of my peers as we discussed how they felt about our campus and their involvement in it. Their honesty fueled SGA to be more critical to what we were experiencing as student advocates and liaisons. At this point in my term I have been able to point to three broad issues that foster and facilitate a constant feeling of frustration, not just for the students, as I have learned, but for most members of this campus.

First, a lack of an informed student body and a consistent student experience. Not everyone needs to have the same experience here at Rollins but everyone needs to be touched by the mission of our college. Without this consistency, how can we view ourselves as one campus community when we do not have overlapping experiences? We have inconsistent standards of how people are treated based on who you are or who you know. Very few students are ever treated the same. As

students, we have become compartmentalized by the organizations that we represent and the friends that we keep. The same 100 students are repeatedly tapped by offices, preventing opportunities to be opened to other students. This is true for faculty and staff as well. As much as we can blame those who oversee the selection processes, much of the blame should fall upon us, the students. We have club presidents and team captains, activists and homegrown theatre stars who got into this college because of their exceptional leadership skills and incredible talent. We all have the capability to do something great, so why don't we?

Second, ask any residential student, any office worker, anyone who works on maintaining our campus and you will find a common trend that exists: they don't always feel respected. Whether it is by students, one's superiors or one's coworkers, the disease of disrespect has found a way into many aspects of our college and crippled many of our relationships. Our already fragile infrastructure is further threatened by the idea that there is no point in confronting an issue because there are inconsistencies on how to address them. This leads to a lack of honesty. Because very few members feel respected, very few members are compelled to be honest on this campus. Many result in the dangerous attitude that every man is out for themselves. The epidemic cultivates a lack of trust. There is no consistent message. There is no consistent plan, making it impossible to trust our decision makers. What is the standard to which our decision makers are held??? Aside from a quality education, do we have an established greater good that we are all working towards and can apply to everything that we do?

Third, and by far the biggest issue, is communication. We don't have one central location to find out big news. The Sandspur, RTV and email cover so much that sifting through it all becomes a daunting task. Thus, we rely heavily on the Rollins Rumor Mill as that is the easiest way to truly get quick information, regardless of the accuracy. You receive that information in measured doses, not all at once.

■ See Address in print, page 4

Germain's Address

■ Continued from page 1



COURTESY OF MARISSA GERMAIN

The second issue, as Germain sees it, deals with respect. Whether it is faculty, staff or students, no one on campus feels the respect they deserve. This fuels the other issues on campus.

The final pitfall for our student body is communication. Germain expressed disappointment for the traffic of information on campus. So many mediums, e-mail, campus mail, R-TV, and even our very own Sandspur, export exponential amounts of information at members of the Rollins community. Sifting through and determining important from disposable has become a chore, and much is lost in the process. Therefore, students are forced to rely on the rarely truthful Rollins Rumor

Mill.

After presenting these issues, Germain admitted "Change is hard, and it is long, but that does not mean we should give up." Accordingly, a question and answer session followed the speech in Galloway room. It aimed at seeking solutions to the issues facing our student body. There, student leader Patrick McKelvey commented that "Marissa started a conversation that has never happened between faculty and students. It will be hard, but we need to start challenging each other." The atmosphere around the talk was very optimistic.

Students wishing to participate in this new change are urged to attend SGA's open meetings each Wednesday at 6p.m. in Galloway.

Plumbing problems

■ Continued from page 1

It was not sewer at that point, but water. And so, facilities had been out once to clean up any water, and they cleaned the bathroom. At that point, it was not clear that there was an actual pipe problem. They had come out just to clean an overflowing toilet. So they came out and used the wet vacs to clean everything up and left. Now, the second call was for the actual flood. So, had we been aware of the problem the first time around, I'm sure these folks could have unplugged the drain. However, we were unaware that was occurring." He then elaborates, "We have worked with facilities and talked about the fact that while we may only be there for one reason, are there further issues that need to

be investigated, rather than just going off of thinking there is just a toilet that is overflowing. Because, had we known at the time, we probably would have unplugged the pipe and called a plumber."

Now that time has passed and the dorm is back to regular form, it seems the flood was no more than an accident. The situation was dealt with the best it could be, and the residents of Rex Beach are happy to have their dorm back to normal, or as normal as Rex can be. Resident Chase Jennings reflects after the flood by saying, "I've never heard the same joke more in my life than I did during the meltdown. 'Rex beach really is the 'poopiest' dorm on campus!'"

Diverse discussion

■ Continued from page 1

Kermalli of the selection of the panelists.

"The students should be commended for sponsoring a panelist who seek solutions," said Dr. Joan Davison, moderator of the discussion.

Even with this organization's hard work to keep the discussion balanced, there were still emotional outbursts due to the intensity of the subject matter.

"It's healthy to have the discussion, but I felt it was ignored too much which

makes it not proactive for the cause," said Rasha Mubarak, a spectator at the event.

Mubarak was one of several in the audience that had an emotional outburst. She later apologized for her actions and stated that she has "lots of respect for pro-Israeli views."

Alia El-Assar, who was present at the event and also helped plan the discussion, felt that the high emotions were expected, especially because of the controversy surrounding

the issue.

"I feel that these outbursts were inevitable. There are a lot of people who are extremely passionate about this issue and will understandably become enraged by certain statements," El-Assar said.

"While it may have been somewhat disrespectful, take notice to the fact that the same people who had outbursts during the presentations were the people to stay after and talk rationally with the same

panelists they spoke against," El-Assar said.

Kermalli hopes to sponsor more events similar to the discussion in the future.

"We're definitely looking forward to planning many more events on campus to raise awareness, but not necessarily exactly like this one. Suggestions so far include: informal discussions, documentary screenings, teach-ins, speakers, and Palestinian cultural events," Kermalli said.

Aside from the intense emotional flare-up that occurred during the event, the resounding opinion was that simply having the discussion was an important beginning.

"I think it's awesome that the event happened and I strongly believe in dialogue. I welcome any opportunity to practice in the sharing of ideas," said Ariel Vegosen, a panelist and traveling activist.



ACE: Death by Chocolate

AMY IARROBINO / the sandspur

EVIE'S STOMACH ACHE: Dave's Down Under drowned in chocolate during All Campus Events' Death by Chocolate event. Students lined up to partake of the chocolate fountain and scrumptious treats. Participants also created their own candy parfaits with Valentine's Day themed sweets.

Walcott inspires again

LAURA
HARDWICKE
the sandspur

Rollins students and professors, Winter Park community members, and poetry lovers filled Tiedke Concert Hall on Thursday, February 5 to hear Nobel Laureate Derek Walcott read from his award-winning book "Omeros."

Derek Walcott received the Nobel Prize in Literature in 1992 and was recognized for his "poetic oeuvre of great luminosity, sustained by a historical vision—the outcome of a multicultural commitment," according to the Nobel selection committee. Walcott became a published poet at the age of fourteen, and a dramatist two years later. His infatuation with art transcended into the field of painting. Walcott's influences stem from his home on the Caribbean island of St. Lucia are translated to all fields of his expression.

Prior to Walcott's reading, he directed a master class in poetry. Approximately twenty young poets gathered on the cramped stage of Bush Auditorium to have their poetry examined by Walcott. He began the class by addressing the audience and then scolded himself for not directing his attention to the poets. Walcott began with the poem "Tuscan," written by Curren Bell. Walcott paid painstaking attention to detail when analyzing the poem. He exclaimed, "The urge to recite is part of poetry," asking other students to read Bell's words aloud. Walcott also touched on the need for young poets to study form. His commands of reverence to the masters and imitation were eased by nostalgically recalling: "No one contains more elation than a young poet discovering poetry."

Walcott then spent a brief time on a handful of other writers' work. His comments were straightforward, and he recognized the quality of the work. Some audience members cringed in embarrassment for the admirable students who spilled their souls for the master to analyze. However, Bell, who was subject to Walcott's most intense critiques, was grateful for the experience. "I had no

idea I was going first, so I was very shocked," said Bell. "But I did not think he was too harsh. It was nice to have such a close critique like that. He gave me great advice and great words of wisdom."

Director of Winter with the Writers, Carol Frost, commented "He was candid. He complimented the work of each student he addressed, while trying to teach him or her something important about what it takes to move a poem toward significance—not only as personal expression of feeling and ideas, but as an art and craft."

Frost continued, validating the incredible experience these poets had: "Had I had the opportunity, like student writers at Rollins had, to have my poetry treated seriously when I was 20, I'd have been a little overwhelmed. I'd never ever forget it."

For listeners completely immersed in Walcott's work, the reading in Tiedke Hall was unforgettable. Walcott skipped all introductions, and dove right into reading for nearly an hour from his novel-length poem "Omeros" and up-coming book "White Egret."

The packed audience restlessly fidgeted while the poet's St. Lucian accent faded in and out. His emphasis on diction in the master class was challenged by his half-hearted reading. Still, the message was reverberated. English major Ariane Rosen commented, "When you grasp the meaning of the piece, you are captivated by the island flavor and colorful narrative laced with powerful, deeper themes."

The evening closed on a more candid note, as Walcott participated in a question and answer session with the audience. Questions ranged from serious inquiries on the craft, to how Walcott grooms his mustache.

Winter with the Writers continues for the month of February. On Feb. 12, Scottish novelist Margot Livesey will conduct the master class at 4 p.m. in Bush Auditorium, followed by a reading and book signing in Tiedke Hall at 8 p.m. The month-long event will conclude with Billy Collins on February 19th.

Students to honor Mr. Rogers by being good neighbors

JENNIFER STULL
the sandspur

On February 20-21, Rollins College will be hosting the second annual Good Neighbor Conference. The Good Neighbor Conference is an event put on in order to honor Rollins alum, Fred Rogers (or as many of you may know him, Mr. Rogers). This year, the Child Development and Student Research Center along with the office of Multicultural Affairs is putting on, "Being a Good Neighbor in a Multicultural Society."

This event will begin on February 20 at 7pm It will commence in the SunTrust Auditorium.

The main speaker will be author and illustrator, James Ransome. "We wanted to open up the conference to the entire Rollins College community, not just early childhood educators, and do something that will be life changing for the participants," said conference planner Sarah Stoub.

Another on campus event that is tied in with The Good Neighbor Conference is a sweater drive from February 14-21. "We wanted to plan a day where we could gather as Rollins neighbors—faculty, staff, students, community—and learn more about each other," said Dr. Sharon Carnahan, Director of the Rollins Child Development and Student Center.



"It's sometimes a challenge to be a good neighbor in a multicultural world, and we want to go beyond tolerance to understanding," she said.

Then, on Saturday, February 21 at 9am, a workshop entitled "Teaching Tolerance, Using Children's Literature to Teach about other Cultures, Racially Kind Children & Bullying Prevention, Triumphs of Multicultural Schools, and Customs of Faiths in America" will take place.

The price to attend this conference is \$15 while the main speaker event is free to the public. Come out and see what the Good Neighbor Conference is all about.

Address in print

■ Continued from page 3

This especially becomes a problem when policy changes are not all placed in an easily accessible location or, often times, are not even written at all. Our community has relied so heavily on oral history that campus information is lost in translation. Old policies disappear and new policies fail to address old problems because the institutional knowledge leaves with our outgoing members. As SGA, we often struggle with how to inform the community with important information. There is so much information that is just emailed to us and then buried in the website so everyday becomes a struggle to filter between what is garbage and what is useful. When trying to figure out how tuition is established or how to plan an event one receives a different answer depending on the time of year. This current process is exhausting and overwhelming. The only system that has remained somewhat unchanged is purchasing food from the Campus Center and that can even cause a minor aneurism.

These are all issues that casually come up in the lives of an average student. These are all issues that as student leaders we have sacrificed our homework, our study time, and our social lives to be the change we wish to see in our world. However, we now know that change is hard and that it is long but that doesn't mean that as a student body we need to just give up before we have even started.

Our student body has accomplished great things amid all of these challenges. Projects like Rollins Relief have brought groups of our peers together and organized trips to help with the reconstruction efforts of New Orleans and several Central Florida locations affected by

severe weather. A senior theatre major wrote a play in conjunction with a faculty member that was performed for six sold out shows last weekend. We have been able to work with changing what foods we have to eat and what products are carried in the C-store. Our peers have challenged the way we think about oppression with all the landmark programming for Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. weekend. As a community we raised over thirty-seven thousand dollars this year alone to help the sick children of Arnold Palmer Hospital and Shands Hospital by participating in Children's Miracle Network's Dance Marathon. As a community we have embraced events like Tarnival, Campus Movie Fest, and Rollins After Dark, all of which are designed to bring an element of fun to our campus. Awareness about our ecological issues has literally been put in our face by organizations like Eco-Rollins. Each Greek chapter continues to embrace their individual core values rooted in academics and service.

Your SGA has begun to investigate the source of student organizational budgets and how they are used in order to provide better campus programming. We are proposing that a student representative will serve as a permanent liaison to our Board of Trustees. We are re-evaluating the graduation hour requirement in collaboration with faculty. We are working with strategic marketing to promote the new website and logo. Relationships with the Winter Park Merchants were improved with the reinstatement of the Winter Park Platinum Card. One way or another every student has been affected by our work. Whether it is policy changes or re-evaluating our finances, Student Government

has been involved.

If we can manage to do these things, why not ask for more streamlined information to be published on our website? Why not smile to each other and use the phrase "thank you" to display our respect? Why not challenge our Rollins decision makers and the commitment to the greater good? This road will be rough, but to achieve these things we need the whole community to get involved. I challenge you to ask questions about rumors you hear, I challenge you to pick up a Sandspur and write back regarding what has been written, I challenge you to come to a senate meeting to see what things are being worked on or ask any member of SGA what we do. As a student organization that represents the student voice, you have the right to know what goes on, invite our campus community to participate in the Question Answer period that is to follow, as well as start the informal dialogue on how to resolve the issues. It is by talking together that we will find the answers and it is by working together that these answers will come to fruition. Together we can create a community that communicates effectively and is supported by a strengthened infrastructure. It is our right to demand a higher standard and it is our responsibility to lift ourselves to that standard. As our past presidents have triumphed over seemingly impossible odds, now, we as Tars, must take on these obstacles with the same optimism and vigor. And we shall also triumph. Thank you everyone who made this possible but more importantly, I thank you all for coming today as well as allowing me the privilege to serve you as SGA President.

The Sandspur
The Oldest College
Newspaper in Florida
Founded in 1894

February 13, 2009.

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

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Managing Editor

Amy Iarrobino
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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 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

Editor@thesandspur.org

Vandals and destructive organisms

VERNON MEIGS
the sandspur

Vandals are the festering scum of the planet. I despise vandals violently. They are truly the lesser creatures of the Earth. The sad fact is that there is not enough attention being paid to this issue at all, which is why culprits can execute their sick deeds and often be overlooked. This ignorance is due to a permissive, forgiving, altruistic attitude that gives way to antisocial atrocities upon our property and others'. Turning the other cheek does not stop a thing.

The first thing you have to know about a vandal is that he has no logical reason, no rational motivation, not even the slightest profit in doing what he does, destroying or defacing the belongings of those who have done nothing to antagonize them. They require little to no provocation to manifest their destructive behavior.

The second thing you have to know about them is that they are masochists...by inherent behavior and also by definition. This is especially true with vandals that happen to be hardcore Christians. They are the ones that sully your property with aberrations such as "Jesus is Lord" or "Christ Saves." They exemplify the masochistic quality of the vandal because they claim to be upholders of the so-called Golden Rule: "Do unto others as you would have them do unto you." They certainly seem to do that, and they certainly seem to show that they would like to be done the same or worse to themselves in return. In simpler language, they are asking to be punished!

They are asking to be equally damaged! They should be obliged.

Suppose a decorated artwork, poster, or even a plain wall has been soiled with paint, slime, dirt or anything of the sort. If the culprit is apprehended, he should be sickeningly defaced in a similar manner. If the vandalism is of a permanent nature, if the paint will not come off, then we must deal punishment of a more permanent nature. The discoloration of the vandal's body will have to be tattooed unflatteringly, branded unceremoniously, or effectively poisoned to cause skin damage. If on one's property, something is ripped away, torn, or crushed, a part of the culprit's body should be treated likewise and the vandalized victim gets to choose where. If the whole object is stolen and totally destroyed, we can ascertain just what kind of punishment the vandal is asking for, can we not?

Personal property has been too long thrown in with what can be replaced, fixed, or otherwise is insignificant. What belongs to you should be a reflection of your values and you

have to cherish them. What about things that you or others have devised or crafted? Your own dedicated, hard work was placed into making them (or paying for them). Are you going to let masochistic social degenerates destroy your belongings for their amusement? If you are, you are just as bad as the vandals themselves, for you are condoning vandalism to happen to others who definitely will not take kindly to vandalism.

When the vandal asks why they are being punished, you can give a simple, truthful answer to that: "You asked for it." After all, they did, whether they realize or care to admit their own masochism or not. This way, would-be vandals will have learned a vital lesson to contemplate whether they should succumb to mindlessly destructive behavior.

Some of you sensitive readers out there would question my

violent remarks as far as punishing vandals go. Let me ask you this: Whose side are you on? Are you a vandal, or a vandal sympathizer? If you have just as many problems with vandals as I do, the solution is NOT to forgive them and hope that they will change their ways. This only lets destructive organisms take advantage of you. This consciousness against vandals and consciousness of our belongings which we place tremendous personal value upon will indeed help raise a sense of respect for property and effectively governing our own selves. Those ideal punishments I have described will serve as a warning to those who try to derive fun from harassing us.

Like harmful bacteria or viruses, destructive forms of life must be appropriately eradicated for our own well-being.



COURTESY OF MCT CAMPUS / the sandspur

Vandals: A wall in Rome which has been desecrated by vandals.

Frosh survive first college semester

JENNIFER STULL
the sandspur

Fellow freshmen, welcome to second semester of freshman year! Congrats, you have now made it through the less-than-popular RCC experience, blindly chosen classes and experienced the overall ignorance of being "the new kid." Yes, second semester has arrived and with that comes positive and negative aspects. Now, only a few short weeks into the second semester, freshmen have already begun to make judgments on which semester held more enjoyment for them.

"I enjoy second semester more because now I know what is going on, like when picking classes, I know the classes that I want when fulfilling gen-ed requirements instead of choosing things that will be boring for me," said freshman Tara Napolitano.

"I also know what parties are better. However, I liked first semester because they babied

us, and it was easier," Napolitano went on to say.

Well, it seems the days of being babied are over, and sadly, responsibility will creep up and take over every college student's life. However, responsibility can

seemed much more welcoming and more like home than it did during the first semester.

In the end, both semesters hold different experiences for freshmen.

"I like both first and second

While it seems that three more years feels like an eternity, the first semester is already over faster than anyone expected.

also bring several positive elements.

"I enjoy second semester better so far because things seem a lot more familiar and you have a group of friends to come back to," said freshman Christine Henderson.

Everyone knows being the new kid is never easy. One of the perks of second semester is coming back to an established group of friends. No one likes the awkwardness involved in meeting new people for the first time. Upon coming back from winter break, the campus

seemed much more welcoming and more like home than it did during the first semester.

Even in small schools, it is hard for students to find their place and learn the ropes. First semester is basically the grace period for students to get their feet on the ground and see what college is all about. Now that that time has passed, freshmen students are finding themselves more knowledgeable and understanding of campus life.

First semester has come and gone. Second semester is in full swing, and every student is working towards their own goals. While seniors are looking towards graduation, freshmen continue to learn, grow and observe the ways of college life. The truth is, every semester is different, and each hold new challenges.

The freshman experience continues on in the hopes of finally fulfilling the endless gen-eds and major requirements while salvaging a social life through it all. While it seems that three more years feels like an eternity, the first semester is already over faster than anyone expected.

No one can say how the freshman class may feel about further semesters, or how they will feel about their entire college experience for that matter. Yet it seems the more time we spend here, the more comfortable we feel and the more fun we have, which leads us to believe that future semesters should only hold more of the same.

Not your father's jazz

VERNON MEIGS
JUSTIN BRAUN
the sandspur

The Timucua Jazz Orchestra's performance this past Sunday night blew the walls off the Tiedtke Concert Hall. The jazz orchestra, having only been around little over a year, featured an ensemble composed of established and master musicians. The concert, lasting around two and a half hours, delivered eight American pre-

the title seems quite appropriate!), I was pleasantly proved to be mistaken. An insane, unapologetic song, "Out Of Nowhere" can be described as an aural assault by a masterful handling of slippery musical structures and a strong amalgamation of the kind of jazz in which these virtuosos specialize. To me, this was their way of saying "This is the bare, basic roots of what we can do...though it is anything but basic!" This tune contained some of my favorite solos of the concert, the most breath taking of which was performed by

numbers on the slower, more mellow side, and I consider myself to have an affinity for slower songs. They are somewhat...nostalgic, if I understand the correct use of the word. Should I name the piano for that reason, or some astral saxophone melodies? What about the drums? "Dindi", the third piece performed, invoked a universal tranquility amongst audience members due to the soulfulness of its melody and timbre. Another favorite of the style, though a lot more varied due to its inclusion of technical and fast-paced sections, was "Sorry to Lose You", the next to last song performed, featuring Radiohead reminiscent rhythmic patterns. I could also say the same for "As the Morning Moonset," the second song after the intermission.

The conductor and co-composer of many of the pieces, Benoit Glazer, displayed his conga-drumming skills on the song "Fanny's Blues." It was very enjoyable to see him joining his hand mates in a collaborative percussive environment. Glazer is also a skilled trumpeter and used several songs as his playground, expertly exploring every musical avenue of his pieces. Glazer was also a humorous and interactive emcee, consistently entertain and amusing the audience between numbers. The drummer, Keith Wilson, is also an interactive

personality and I caught him occasionally shooting smiles to audience members.

The last few songs featured a jazz guitarist Bobby Koelble, whose melodic mastery emanated through his shredding solos. Rollins College Music Major Hope Forconi and recent alumni Marissa Zambito were included in the orchestra as guest horn players on the final three songs, "Rapture", "Sorry to Lose You" (a personal favorite of mine), and "Marche Pour L'Enfer".

The screaming decibel levels of the orchestra's performance left my ears ringing and my heart thump-

ing, and gave me an adrenaline rush lasting for quite some time. The Timucua Jazz Orchestra turned me on to a style of music I did not even know existed, and I look forward to attending more concerts in the future.



mier jazz compositions and three standard tunes.

Admittedly, prior to attending, due to my own ignorance I had expected a form of jazz in generally pop-territory or mostly dominated by smooth, moderate-paced jazz. Upon being introduced with the first song "Out Of Nowhere" (yes,

Tom Parmeter on the trumpet. Seated in the very back of the concert, I smiled as I could see audience members in front of me conversing with glazed eyes in awe of the solo, and shaking their heads implying, "I can't do that to save my life! This guy is fantastic!"

The concert had a few



VERNON MEIGS / the sandspur

Timucua Jazz Orchestra was a refreshing and unique performance that was a definite treat to the ears.

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Can't beat the classics

DAVID SMITH
the sandspur

As enjoyable as a new great film that you aback is, there still is nothing like the classics, in my opinion. Everyone has their favorites, and the reasons for their inclusion vary as much as the people themselves. Some hold a personal sentiment because of the time and place you first saw them, or maybe because they struck a particularly relevant emotional chord. Whether it is time, emotion, or just because you could stand for the movie to end, they hold a special spot in all our memories. Here I start one of some classics that I think could be considered standard viewing for anyone looking for a taste of the best of the past.

of all of the characters, both major and minor, feels undeniably genuine, and is a credit to the astounding ensemble cast, which included Al Pacino, Robert Duvall, and the legendary Marlon Brando.



Scorsese weaves a fast-paced thrill ride into the life of a place we can only dream about, or more likely, have nightmares about. It is gritty, grim and ferocious in its telling of a story that could not stand for anything less. Ray Liotta, Joe Pesci and Robert De Niro shine as mafia men searching for their place amidst the madness, while dealing out plenty of carnage on their own throughout.

also serves as a staunch anti-war sentiment. In the over-the-top buffoonery of the military leaders and their delegates, we are shown a frightening portrayal of the delicateness of the true national security of America and the world at large. It is finest satire movie I have ever seen, and a definite classic still relevant to this day, with nuclear war never seeming far from mind or mouth.



"Lawrence of Arabia": One of the most ambitious movie projects ever set out upon, and the result was one of the most strikingly beautiful movies ever made. Winningly performed by one of the finest actors of all time, Peter O'Toole, the movie tells the story of T.E. Lawrence, a British soldier renowned for his role in the Arab Revolt of 1916-1918. The movie was shot on such a scope and grandeur scale for its time that it is simply one of a kind. Behind some of the best cinematography in the history of film, courtesy of Freddie Young, and the powerful direction and ambition of David Lean, the picture went on to win 7 academy awards.



"Dr. Strangelove or: How I Stopped Worrying and Learned to Love the Bomb": A movie with the genius that only writer/director Stanley Kubrick could manifest. At times, the movie makes you want to laugh hard, mainly due to the acting genius of Peter Sellers, who portrays two of the major characters. However, there is a message behind the madness, so to speak, as the movie

"On The Waterfront": A tale of loyalty, family, betrayal and in the end, honesty at all costs. Marlon Brando delivers the performance of a lifetime as Terry Malloy, a dockworker who witnesses a murder, falls in love and struggles to come to grips with whether fighting a seemingly insurmountable force, in mob-connected union boss Johnny Friendly, is truly worth it. A tale of quiet salvation at certain moments and climaxing and invigorating action at others; it is truly a powerful movie, moving the audience to not be able but to root for our protagonist and flawed hero, Terry. The movie is fierce and unrelenting in its portrayal of the moral complexities that haunt us all, and the inhumanity we are all bound to come across at certain times in our lives, and how to face it.

Hope everyone is looking forward to Part II next week...

PHOTOS COURTESY OF MCT CAMPUS AND MYSPACE.COM

For all your kabobbing needs

JUSTIN BRAUN
the sandspur

Nothing is more romantic than your lover whispering into your ear, her breath rich with spicy scents, that she desires you more than any other man. The very thought of such whimsically passionate moments invokes fantasies of warm evenings under the jewel-encrusted Persian sky, the sound of ceremonial drums beating in the distance. This Valentine's Day, take your sweetie out for some Middle Eastern cuisine and she will not soon forget.

In the mood for zesty, aromatic, skewered foreign delicacies? Hanking for food served on a stick? Well, look no further than House of Kabob, located off of Fairbanks and near York avenues in the Urban Plaza shopping center.

Hints of saffron infatuate the senses upon entry in the intimate exotic establishment. Inside, the décor is a combination of a Lebanese family living room and that of a Chinese take-out restaurant. Unless you enjoy unnecessary physi-

cal contact with fellow patrons, I would suggest ordering and eating outside on the somewhat tropical patio, as the quarters inside are a bit close.

The selection of food is diverse in flavor and accommodating to most diets and appetites. A variety of appetizers, salads, traditional dishes and pita sandwiches are offered along with extensive vegetarian options. Beef, chicken, lamb and even seafood, all seasoned with the flavors of the Fertile Crescent, are available in several styles at your command.

Even though numerous members of the "Sandspur" staff were dining on the occasion of this review, our appetites were less than adventurous, as we all ordered similar dishes. Our meals included gyros, both chicken and traditional, Greek salads and falafel sandwiches, choices which proved bolder than expected. The food was flavorful to say the least. Tongues tingled with the tang of lemon, herb and spice, but fresh vegetables served to neutralize the taste. However, many of the dishes tasted dry, despite the copious application of tzatziki.

House of Kabob is open Tuesday through Sunday from 11 a.m. to 9 p.m. (7 p.m. on Sunday) and this culinary experience is definitely worth checking out. The chow is savory and the atmosphere is welcoming. Self-proclaimed catering specialist and owner, Masoud Sadeh, will gladly cater for campus organizations with plentiful portions for a reasonable price. But be forewarned; House of Kabob's cuisine is heavy and full of strange spices and is not for those with weaker stomachs.



JB BRAUN / the sandspur

ZESTY! House of Kabob is a convenient local spot for fulfilling any cravings for Greek food.



FEB/MARCH

Sunday Monday Tuesday Wednesday Thursday Friday Saturday

8	9	10 Out-Reach presents Valentine's Day Giveaways Campus Center 11:30a.m.-2:00p.m. Michael Phillips Cornell Fine Arts 6 p.m.	11 ACE presents Death By Chocolate Dave's Down Under 7:00 p.m.	12 Out-Reach presents Condom Bingo Campus Center 5:30-7:30pm	13 A Midsummer Night's Dream	14 Valentine's Day Rollins Baseball V. Bentley 3 p.m.
15 Rollins Baseball V. Bentley 3 p.m.	16 William L. Pressly Cornell Fine Arts Museum 6 p.m.	17 Girl Scouts and Kappa Delta selling cookies outside the Campus Center 5:30-7:30pm	18 B-side Artists Art Opening Jordan Lounge 5:00-8:00 p.m.	19 ACE presents Do or Dye Mary Jean Plaza 5:30 p.m. Sandspur Open Mic Night 8 p.m. in Dave's	20 Rollins Baseball V. Saint Leo 6 p.m. Good Neighbor Conference Crummer Hall 7:00 p.m.	21 Rollins Baseball V. Saint Leo 1 p.m.
A Midsummer Night's Dream- Annie Russell Theatre 8:00-10:00pm						
22	23 Evie's 21st Birthday!	24 Speakers: Greek Life Anti-hazing Bush Auditorium 6:00p.m.	25	26 Martin Eidelberg Cornell Fine Arts Museum 6 p.m.	27 ACE presents Rollins After Dark Dave's Down Under 10:00 p.m.	28
1	2	3	4	5 Rollins Baseball V. St. Anselm 6 p.m.	6 Rollins Baseball V. Stonehill 7 p.m.	7 Spring Break
8	9	10	Rollins College			
Spring Break			www.TheSandspur.org			



**Sandspur-ian
of the Week**
Stephanie
Ellenburg
for bringing a strobe
light for The Sandspur
office

Swing, batta' batta'!

**GRAHAM
GILBERT**
the sandspur

Junior 3B Ryan Luker Leads Rollins Against PBA En Route to SSC Player of the Week Honors"

The Rollins College baseball team (3-2) won the first two games of the weekend but suffered a 9-7 loss Saturday night at Alford Stadium, costing the team a chance to sweep the three game series with Palm Beach Atlantic University (1-4).

Palm Beach Atlantic came out strong in the first inning of Friday night's game. Junior second baseman Vasilios Mila singled up the middle, stole second and scored on a two out single to center, hit by Joaquin Valdes. However, the Tars answered in the bottom of the first with a walk and a triple to center from junior outfielder Taylor Ferguson, scoring junior shortstop Justin Yount. After a groundout and a Bryan Bennett single scoring Ferguson, junior third baseman Ryan Luker drove a homerun to left, registering the team's first on the young season and his first of three on the weekend. Junior catcher Ben Hewett doubled but was stranded after stealing third.

The Sailfish scored again in the second, managing

one run on a throwing error. The Tars answered with a run of their own. In the third, the Tars took over the game and never looked back. Rollins held PBA scoreless in the top half and put up four runs of their own on singles from Bennett, Hewett, freshman second baseman Josh Band and Yount. Despite a three run rally in the top of the ninth, the Tars held off PBA 13-7 to earn its second victory of the year.

Junior RHP Stephen Hiscock (1-0) earned the win for the Tars, throwing six innings, striking out six, and only surrendering one earned run. Steven Gropler and Chad Giannuzzi completed the last three innings. Buddy Fisher took the loss for Palm Beach.

On Saturday, the Tars took the first game of the double-header in impressive fashion, 15-6. Led by singles from Luker, Charlie Baines, Band, Yount, senior outfielder Jesse More and a double from Luker, Rollins broke a scoreless tie in the bottom of the second with three runs on six hits. Rollins added another three in the third on singles from John Avanzino, Bennett and a Luker home run. In the fourth, Rollins continued its offensive barrage, adding five more runs—two on a triple from Avanzino, two on a Yount single up the middle,

and one on Hewett single. The Tars added two more in the 5th and another two in the 7th on another Luker homerun before keeping PBA scoreless in the top of the ninth to finish the game with a final score of 15-6. The Sailfish managed to score once in the third and five times in the top of the eighth but could not keep up with the Tars.

Tim Griffin (1-0), throwing five innings, gave up no earned runs and only two hits, got the victory for the Tars. Danny Clark, Andrew Loynaz and Michael Eppich finished the game for Griffin, Clark and Eppich combining for three and a third shutout innings. Thomas (0-1), gave up ten runs on fourteen hits in only three and a third, took the loss for PBA.

The Tars came out Saturday night hoping to sweep PBA in the three game weekend series, but fell short. The Sailfish, determined to stave off a sweep and earn their first win of the season, came out strong. Mila opened the game with a leadoff homerun, and the team scored six runs in the first four innings, while the Tars managed only one, brought in on a throwing error. Rollins did score three times in the sixth, but it was not enough to ward off a determined PBA team. Despite giving up



COURTESY OF ROLLINSSPORTS.COM
Home Run! Senior Bryan Bennett at one of the Tars' games

five runs in six innings, Taylor McBeth took the win for PBA, while Marc Hewett (0-1) took the loss for the Tars.

Despite failing to complete the sweep, the Tars were pleased with their performance over the weekend. Junior third baseman Ryan Luker, with eight hits including three homeruns was a standout at the plate. About Luker, senior RHP Michael Eppich said, "Luker has always performed well, so his success this past weekend doesn't surprise me. He's an unbelievable athlete and an even better teammate." Eppich was positive about the season's outlook as well, saying, "We'd love to win them all, but we knew coming into this season that wasn't going to be

the case. It's a very long season. The teams that are successful in college baseball are those who learn from their mistakes and make adjustments." Junior catcher Ben Hewett was optimistic saying, "The young season looks very promising for us. We have a bunch of new arms, and many that look very bright for the future. We have the talent, the potential, and the drive."

At 3-2, Rollins stands in fourth place in the Sunshine State Conference, although the team has yet played a conference opponent. On Tuesday, Rollins played host to preseason favorite the University of Tampa. The game was played after "The Sandspur's" article submission deadline.