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Rollins College

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# The Sandspur

WINTER PARK, FL

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Volume 115 Issue 19

March 6, 2009

The Sandspur  
STICK TO IT!

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



Mardi Gras Masquerade a feast for the eyes  
page 4



Spring Break 2009 has arrived  
pages 6-7

## Embodying Global citizenship through language

ATEMA KERMALLI  
the sandspur

"Rollins College educates students for global citizenship and responsible leadership, empowering graduates to pursue meaningful lives and productive careers." So reads our mission statement, and it seems lately as though the college is really trying to live up to the spirit of the words.

Through the efforts of some students and faculty members, we have put together lists of students interested in learning various languages. Rollins has been and continues to be able to increase the number and variety of courses offered. Two courses teaching languages from the Middle East, in particular Arabic and Hebrew, have recently been offered on campus, but the question of their continuation depends entirely on the availability of a professor and the number of students who would be seriously interested in taking the courses.

So far, it is looking good. About 10 students for Hebrew 101 and 15 for each section of Arabic (101 and 201) have signed up thus far through responses to campus-wide emails that were sent out earlier during the semester. Since each number is enough to constitute a class, the sister semitic languages seem to have a pretty good chance of being around on campus again soon.

The first semester of Arabic was offered at Rollins this academic year, with a class size of about 15 people. At the students learned how to read and write in Arabic, a script vastly different from the English language—that is, read like Hebrew, from right to left. The majority then continued into the 102 class that is currently being held, and students have also expressed their interest in going on to a 201-level course. One current student even noted her wish that others on campus would learn and speak Arabic.

Hebrew 101 and 102 were offered last year, with a 201-level course that was taken this past year as an independent study by three Rollins students.

See Global Citizenship, page 2



**YOUR PLACE:** This preview screenshot of the new Rollins Web site is the culmination of years of marketing research. A modern and stylish look successfully organizes the Rollins home page into a cleaner, more user-friendly format.

## Rollins reimaged

JUSTIN BRAUN  
the sandspur

"Find your purpose, find your place." No, it is not the advertising slogan of a new anti-depressant, which is what 30 percent of Rollins students initially thought, according to a survey on The Sandspur's website. It is actually the centerpiece of Rollins College's newly revamped Web site, set to launch over the week of March 9 (during the College of Arts & Sciences' spring break).

For years, Rollins College lacked a centralized marketing effort. The absence of a consistent theme and image representing Rollins, especially online, was illustrated by the more than 21 different logos associated with the institution. Such an inconsistency was increasingly considered a detriment to Rollins, so beginning in the fall of 2007, the College sought to "reimage" itself. Two years later, Rollins is set to sport a new logo along with a more stylish and user-friendly Web site.

Director of Web Strategy John Sharkey, having led the online strategic marketing initiative since its conception, is excited about the site's new, modern look. Sharkey

explained that the intent of the redesign was to make the Rollins.edu home page more effective, promoting the wealth of services that Rollins provides. To him, "the redesign is just the tip of the iceberg."

"We wanted to tell the Rollins story," Sharkey remarked. "We used a lot of student models from a number of photo shoots. You'll recognize a lot more people, Rollins people, illustrating how close a family the Rollins community is."

Also making its online debut will be the innovative sister site to the Rollins.edu home page, R-Net. This site will play an integral part of every student's on-campus life. Dubbed the "internal news hub" of the College, R-Net will inform students of campus news and upcoming events, provide links and electronic forms for all campus services, and will also be the gateway to all campus login sites such as FoxLink, Blackboard and GroupWise.

"R-Net will be a place where all student organizations and campus departments can easily post news items and important deadlines," said Stephanie Duesing, manager of communications and new media. "For R-Net to be the best it can be, we need participation

from the entire campus."

R-Net will also feature links to social networking sites utilized by the Rollins community as well as articles and news stories highlighting Rollins' achievements.

"This launch is best thought of as a 'commencement'—a beginning," said Sharkey, who went on to explain that the site would continue to be refined over the next year. Beginning in May, departments, organizations and clubs will all be given the ability to move their current web-based content to the newly created R-Net, using professionally designed graphic templates to link the many facets of Rollins together in a focused, clean and user-friendly network. Students, faculty, and anyone who visits the website will be able to submit feedback to the Web Strategy Team from an easily accessible link on the main page.

In addition to an increase in visual appeal and efficiency, the site will be more secure than ever. Sharkey assures that the site's are extremely high-tech behind the scenes and that structural organization has been expertly thought out.

See New Web site, page 2

## Hazing on trial in Bush Auditorium

LAURA HARDWICKE  
the sandspur

Members of every sorority and fraternity filed into the Bush Auditorium, Tuesday February 24, to be hazed by anti-hazing expert Dave Westol.

"I enjoy hazing people who haze people," Dave exclaimed. Westol formerly served as recruitment chair and new member educator for his fraternity, Theta Chi, and vice-president and president of his university's Inter Fraternity Council. He now travels the nation speaking to Greek organizations and athletic teams regarding hazing. Westol's "Hazing on Trial" was made mandatory for all of Rollins' Greek organizations, but not athletic teams.

Westol listed five chapters on a white board, all of which face felony charges regarding hazing related deaths in the past year. All but one incident—Delta Delta Delta of Miami University, were male deaths. After Westol spilled the juicy information regarding the worst of the worst national chapters, the audience's attention levels waned. He proceeded to discuss the cause of these tragic deaths: the chapters lost sight of their values and their members did not stand up against hazing.

Pledge used to be a verb, to pledge allegiance, to pledge responsibility, to pledge commitment. Pledge is now considered a noun, a demeaning term to describe new members of a Greek organization. Westol lamented, "Pledging isn't about education, it's about endurance, and that's not right." He asserted that what is expected of new members should be expected of all members. For instance, if a sorority commands that their pledges dress up and serenade a fraternity with inappropriate songs, all the members should partake. Greek organizations have enough adversity without creating it through hazing.

Westol used the hypothetical situation of a fraternity involved in hazing to grab the audience's attention.

See Greek Anti-hazing, page 2



## New Web site

Continued from page 1

Employing a state-of-the-art e-commerce system, Rollins merchandise and even tuition can be paid for online.

At this point, the launch will only affect "key landing pages." As explained in his recent campus-wide e-mail, Sharkey assured students, faculty and staff that current Web sites will not be immediately affected by the impending change. "The new pages will link to your existing Web pages. You may notice some broken links or 'page not found' errors," the e-mail forewarned. It is suggested that in such cases, users fill out the site feedback form, located at the bottom of the new home page under the "About this Site" link.

Students, remember that this electronic progress is for your benefit, so be sure to utilize every aspect of it. To commemorate the launch, a Web and brand celebration event is scheduled for March 31, when the campus will unite to rejoice in our newly acquired technological advancement. Fear not these times of change and renewal, for evolution is inevitable, and cool things usually come of it.

### Get Connected:

\* **Monday March 9, 2009**  
- Launch Rollins.edu main site and R-Net

\* **Tuesday March 31, 2009**

**12:30 p.m.** - Rollins.edu Web and Brand Commencement Celebration on the Cornell Campus Center lawn  
**5:30 p.m.** on the Annie Russell lawn

\* **April 2009** - Web templates uploaded into new content management system (CMS). Campus departments should prepare for the site shift by following the instructions at [www.rollins.edu/webstrategy/webrebuild/](http://www.rollins.edu/webstrategy/webrebuild/)

\* **May 2009** - Training of new CMS begins for Web editors

\* **Summer & Fall 2009** - Training, content creation and launch of Web sites as ready



**LOGO GRAB-BAG:** Recently, as many as 21 different logos represented various Rollins organizations.

## Cooper marries childhood friend as final wish

AMANDA DRUM  
the sandspur

The sun rose on Paradise Cove in Grapevine, Texas, as a young nine-year-old girl and her seven-year-old friend enacted one last wish.

In less than a week, Jayla Cooper and her family prepared a wedding with groom Jose Griggs, who she met at her children's hospital. He suffers from a similar condition, but is recovering. She is terminally ill with leukemia and does not have much longer to live.

"We didn't expect to have to do this when she was nine years old," her tearful mother told CNN the day of the wedding. "But she has taught us all how to love each other and how to be strong."

Jayla battled leukemia for two years before this culmination. She and Jose married on Feb. 22.

Of Jose, Jayla says, "He's very cute, and I love him."

"[Jose] is brighter, happier, more content with what they go through, you know, in the hospital. And [Jayla] just changed all of it, brought it all out, and really opened up a side of him I hadn't seen," said Jose's father.

Jayla's mother shared a similar opinion of her own daughter, and had insights of her own.

"Show your kids that you love them, every moment of your life, because you never know."

For the honeymoon, the family and guests went to Great

Wolf Lodge.

The story is humbling on many levels. She knows she is terminal and what that means, and yet she did not choose to sit down and let her life pass her by.

She had the wedding of a lifetime—a symbolic one, because the couple's age held no legal foundation—far before she should have been able to. Her wish was granted, yet something so unique is cause enough to step back and take precaution. No doubt, her parents probably asked over and over again, "Do you really want to do this?"

Jayla's family, friends and Jose are not ready to let go, but they give and give anyway, because, as the mother told CBS 11 (Texas), "I don't know what else to do."

"It's really hard," said Jayla's father. "It's something you never want to go through or imagine."

Jayla Cooper and Jose Griggs showed the world that friendship is incredibly powerful. The vows that they made to each other were to be 'friends forever.' It is enough to make one think about friends that have come and gone. Everyone has those friends, it seems. Each lesson teaches one what to not take for granted.

The people you see every day, the next time you meet up with them actually look at them. Do your best to know them for who they are in their entirety, because as with Jayla you never quite know when your final chance will be.

## Global citizenship

Continued from page 1

Study of the language in these courses covered reading and writing the script (both written and formal styles) as well as speaking, some culture and vocabulary.

When asked about the movement to have both of these languages available for study at Rollins, Dr. Yudit Greenberg, head of the Jewish Studies department, highlighted Rollins' mission statement, again pointing out the commitment mentioned therein towards "global citizenship." Both Arabic and Hebrew are, after all, important within the international arena, both politically and economically, as well as because of their inherent and important ties to two of the

world's major religions: Islam and Judaism. For all of these reasons, the languages cannot be ignored, and on the contrary, will most likely be important for any "global citizens" in this era.

Another language—spoken not too far away from the Middle East—will also soon be making its way into the Rollins scene. At the request of close to 200 students, Italian has also been added to the list of languages to be taught at Rollins during the Fall '09 semester.

But none of this happened by chance, either. Remember being asked if you were interested in Italian on your way to Beans? Well, that was the impetus for the new class currently being planned. Last semester, Christian Keibel (Class of 2011) started a petition to bring Italian

to the school by collecting signatures of interested students at a table in the Campus Center. Through this, he found a 100 students with profound interest in the language, about 80 more who responded via e-mail. He then presented it to the head of the Modern Languages department, Prieto Calixto.

Just like that, the college admitted that it had not known the immense student interest in the language and said that it would try to find a professor to teach the course. The students were thus able to effect a change in the curriculum, and the college, for its part, demonstrated true commitment to providing students with the ability to receive a truly "global" education.

## Greek anti-hazing

Continued from page 1

He recounted in great detail the tension growing between a pledge and an older brother trying to foment a bond while hazing separated them. The story ended with the death of the pledge. The pledge choked on vomit while forced into doing push-ups. The fraternity was put on trial for involuntary manslaughter.

Remarkably, this graphic depiction left the audience uninterested and distracted. In each row, at least one member of a fraternity and/or sorority sat texting, doing homework, talking or even sleeping. A fraternity pledge, who wishes to remain anonymous, said "I think the main reason it was

hard to relate to this guy was that the situations he talked about are probably more prevalent at bigger schools." A post-presentation interview revealed Westol's story to be entirely autobiographical, apart from the death.

For the chapter questioning their "traditions," Westol has an entire program devised to eliminate the threat of hazing. The effects of events and their potential to turn ugly should draw the line between hazing and tradition. For instance, Westol said, "No one ever died from gathering signatures." However, the consequences a new member faces for not having all of their signatures may warrant the title "Hazing."

Pan-Hellenic Vice President Ashley Schneider (Class of 2010) was excited by the great turnout. However, as she commented on the presentation's impact, she don't think hazing is a problem on this campus. If we do have it, it is not mentally or physically harmful. It is a bigger problem for the athletic teams because they may not know the law as well as Greeks do.

The event lasted less than an hour. Upon ending, sorority and fraternity members stamped out of the audience. Optimistically, a few took Westol's 18 years of experience to heart. While a few minds may have opened to the serious effects of hazing,



# Terry Teachout talks professional criticism of the arts

KATIE JONES  
the sandspur



The Wall Street Journal Drama Critic Terry Teachout came to Rollins College during the weekend of February 28-March 2 to do a Winter Park Institute Presentation, "Confessions of a Critic." Teachout acquired a B.S. in Music Journalism from William Jewell College. Since then, he has become known as an accomplished theater, music, and dance critic, as well as an established biographer. In 2004, President Bush appointed Teachout to the National Council on the Arts; a very high honor, as it is the review board for the National Endowment for the Arts.

**The Sandspur (S):** How long have you been working for The Wall Street Journal as their drama critic?

**Teachout (T):** I think six years. That feels about right, I think I'm beginning the sixth year or mid-way through it.

**S:** Can you tell me a little bit about what your job entails?

**T:** I am, first of all, the drama critic, which means I write every Friday. Last year I covered 110 plays, half of them were outside New York. I am the only drama critic in America who covers theater all across the country. Early this month I was in Florida and I saw shows in Coral Gables, Palm Beach, and Fort Meyers. I cover shows from coast to coast, but I haven't been to Mississippi yet, or either of the Dakotas, or a couple of others—the big flat states. I have a list of about 275 theatre companies whose seasons I follow.

**S:** And do you go internationally?

**T:** Nope. We decided when we started this that we'd start by getting a feel for the United States. I'm going to go to Canada this summer to go to the Stratford Festival in Ontario. Every other Saturday I write a column about the arts more generally in America for a journal called "Sightings." So that's what I do for the journal. And then I do all sorts of other kinds of writing. I have a book coming out in December.

**S:** You are also a biographer?

**T:** This will be my third biography. And then I wrote the libretto for an opera that is going to be premiered in July by the Santa Fe Opera.

**S:** So which do you consider your hobby and which do you consider your job?

**T:** This is all my job. And, I sort of plan my life that way. There aren't many people who write about all the arts. For the first part of my life, I wrote just about music. I am a trained musician, that's what I started out as, and I got burnt out. When I finally recovered

from that, the thing to do is to have all of these interests so that when you're feeling a little frazzled with one of them you can turn your attention to another one. So that's the way I've structured my life and it's worked pretty well.

**S:** You're a trained musician? Did you play and sing?

**T:** Yes, I played several instruments. The first instrument I learned was the violin. Then I learned bass, viola, and piano. I mean, I was a paid, professional musician. That was what I was going to do. But I realized that I liked writing better.

**S:** What path did you take to get to The Wall Street Journal?

**T:** Well it was all one path. I came to New York when I was 29. I'm 53 now. I came to New York to be an intern at Harper's Magazine. I eventually became a senior editor there. Then I moved to The New York Daily News' editorial page. And then I became a full-time freelance writer doing lots of different kinds of gigs. I was writing books by this time. You know, I've used several different things at any one time to sort of put together a career. So it was just a process. Before The Journal I wrote a column for the Washington Post, "The New York Letter," about what was happening in the arts. And I think that may have been what gave The Journal the idea to start a drama column and what gave them the idea to have me write it. They had not been doing that before.

**S:** So you pioneered that with them?

**T:** Yeah, I did.

**S:** Do you have any specific plans for future? Are you aiming for anything right now?

**T:** Not at this moment. The opera opens on July 25 and my Louis Armstrong book comes out on December 2. I don't know what the next book is going to be. I have some ideas. To tell the truth, right now, I'm just sort of concentrating on staying upright and getting through these next two goals.

For more information on the life and career of the accomplished Terry Teachout, visit his Wikipedia article, as he stresses that it is

## LIFE & TIMES

# In loving memory of Diane Lillian Ware

LAURA  
HARDWICKE  
JUSTIN BRAUN  
the sandspur

The Rollins community lost an inspiring individual last week. Diane Lillian Ware, 53, passed away Thursday, February 19, 2009. Ware was pursuing a Degree in both Anthropology and Women's Studies here at Rollins. Born in Queens, NY, Diane graduated from Martin Luther High School.

A dedicated federal employee and civil servant, Ware's achievements surpassed any expectation. The NAACP, ACCORN, Orlando Police Department, Citizen Review Board, and Cultural Collaborative Jamaica all benefitted from her enthusiasm and passion.

"Diane took the Intro. to WMS class with me," Dr. Kim Dennis, professor and advisor for campus organization *Voices for Women*, reminisced. "She was such a great voice in that class. Her maturity and life experience brought so much depth to our discussions, and she was a real role model for the students, most of whom came from extremely



different backgrounds. Her loss is a loss to our community in so many ways."

Fellow students refer to Ware as a true role model with wisdom. She is survived by her mother, Ada Spells-Williams; sister, Tyra Emerson; brother, Mark Williams; children, Summer Ware-Grandison and Jeff-Fauna Ware; son-in-law, Jeffrey Grandison; nephews, Cleveland Jones III and Lance Williams; nieces, Tyra Leach and Sharaye Williams; granddaughters, Saliya Grandison and Safauna Grandison; a large extended family; and every

life she touched at Rollins. Friends of Diane can honor her legacy by sending a card or an email to Dr. Kimberly Dennis with a statement of their thoughts of and experiences with Diane. The organization *Voices for Women* will then write these messages in a scrapbook to be given to Diane's mother, daughter, and granddaughters.

"Boundless"

Dedicated to Diane Ware  
February 23, 2009

By Michael J. "Fireeyes"  
Robinson

Boundless is the spirit,  
A soul that defines life by its  
drive to capture the essence of  
life.  
A bundle of hope,  
Love of every moment of life.

My friend Diane,  
Leaves me with this type of  
love,  
Measuring my love for  
humanity,  
Measuring my love for family,  
Measuring my love for myself,  
Measuring my love for my  
childhood God..

# Going, going, gone green

G. KEITH EVANS  
the sandspur

While Saint Patrick's Day may be just around the corner, that is not the focus of this article. Instead, Rollins is going green in a different way: the school is making sweeping changes in an effort to improve efficiency, reduce costs, and save the planet. A pair of recent announcements from the College's Facilities Management department highlights recent efforts. The department insists it is committed to sustainable initiatives.

In the first announcement, received by many students via email in mid-February, Facilities Management reminded students that it installed high-efficiency lighting in most campus structures over a decade ago. Since then, of course, lighting technology has come a long way, and the organization is now experimenting with new ways to save energy through innovation. According to the e-mail, LED lighting has already been incorporated into standard construction projects, and Facilities Management is "exploring the latest developments in LED lighting for both interior and exterior use."

The e-mail also proclaimed, "We currently have on campus a prototype for one of our standard exterior pole lights replacing the 210W high-pressure sodium lamp and ballast with a 40W LED element." The light mentioned here, however, could not be immediately located, and

details about the prototype were not readily available at press time. Still, the prospect of replacing 210 watt lights with 40 watt equivalents is exciting, and certainly stands to benefit the environment by reducing electrical demands which, in turn, helps reduce the amount of fossil fuel burned by power companies.

"As the technology becomes reliable and cost-effective," the e-mail continued, "we will continue to update our lighting."

The second e-mail to arrive in student mailboxes carried an intriguing message about treatment of Rollins' water with magnets rather than chemicals. The water in question is used to cool air conditioning units, buffering the heat they produce from being vented directly to the atmosphere. Because the water used in this cooling process absorbs a considerable amount of heat, bacteria in the water can grow quickly and must be removed. The revolutionary new treatment methods do away with the dangerous chemical treatment that can drain back into the drinking water supply, replacing the method with a series of electromagnets that kill bacteria and crystallize minerals. "As a result," the e-mail said, "we introduce no chemicals. Thereby in the long-run, we are actually saving money and environment."

The two e-mails that students received did not comprehensively review all green initiatives, though, and

they served more as indicators of a much larger commitment. According to the Facilities Management website, myriad other initiatives are underway or have already been completed. Among these projects are:

- **Waterless Urinals:** The school has more than 100 waterless urinals campus-wide, saving as much as 2 million gallons of water (20,000 gallons per unit) each year.

- **Low Flow Shower Heads:** The department has installed low-flow shower heads and sink nozzles in one (unnamed) residence hall, and expects to continue the initiative to other halls in the near future. This single act can save thousands of gallons of water per semester, and should have no adverse impact to students who use the nozzles.

- **Occupancy Sensors:** The new Communications building at 170 West Fairbanks uses occupancy sensing technology to actively adjust heating and air conditioning at points when rooms are unoccupied.

- **High Performance Glazing:** According to the Facilities Management website, any new windows installed on campus are made of "fixed, insulated, tinted glass in order to limit heat gain."

Several other "green" initiatives are either underway or already completed, and Facilities Management invites you to view the full list on their website. To view the list, visit their site online at <http://www.rollins.edu/facilities>. Once at their site, click on "Sustainable Practices."



# All things hidden were revealed at Mardi Gras Masquerade

JENNIFER STULL  
the sandspur

Imagine a room full of beads, balloons, unlimited food, and music. Sounds like heaven right? Well, this event actually occurred right here at Rollins College. This past weekend the Rollins Players put on a "Masquerade" fundraiser in the Fred Stone Theatre. The event cost eight dollars to attend (five if you brought food). Once inside, there was an extensive amount of homemade dishes ranging from Bourbon Chicken to Mr. Goodbar Pie. The event was certainly decked out.

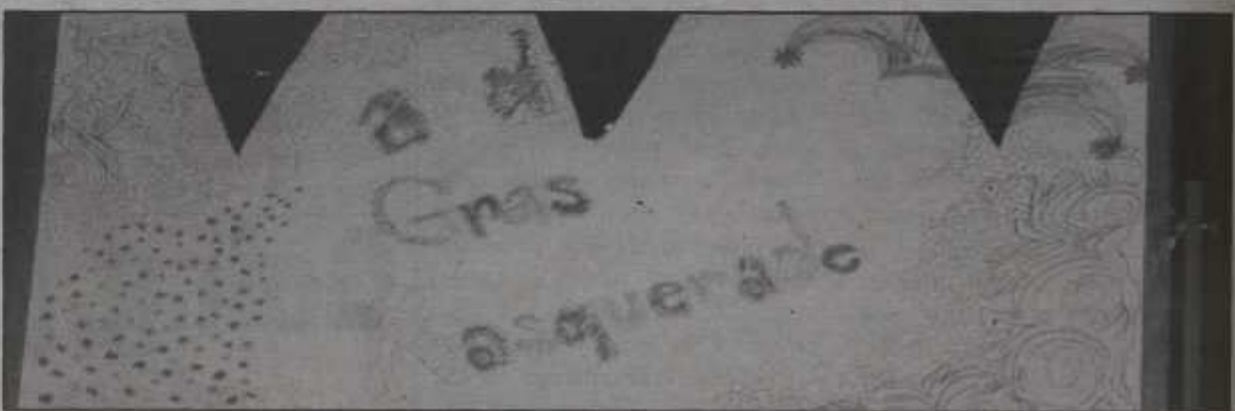
There were several aspects of the night that made the event have a very "real" masquerade feel. In the back rooms of the Fred, you could have your fortune told by Tarot Card readings, tealeaf readings, or palm readings. Participant Stephanie Leone said: "The Tarot Card readings were surprisingly right on, it was a really cool aspect for them to have and really made for a fun masquerade feel." Indeed, it is always fun to delve into the world of the unknown and perhaps catch a glimpse of our future.

There was also a food competition. All the dishes could be tasted throughout the night and people would vote on their favorite dish. Along with that there was also a costume contest, so you can only imagine some of the outfits seen. People were dressed in a range of looks, from medieval

to cross-dressed, but they still seemed to fit in with the wild and bizarre masquerade theme.

Also, as everyone knows, the idea of a masquerade is that everyone wears a mask! Well, just in case some came unprepared, first years Kyra Wagner and Shannon Lynch were there to face paint masks. They came with books of different makeup masks that they were able to paint directly onto faces, ranging from simple eye masks to masks covering the entire face. Freshman Katie Jones said "I thought it was really cool how students were the ones running everything, and it was fun just being around people we know. It was just a very chill atmosphere with food and friends and it's also nice that the money goes towards something important and helpful with the theater department."

As stated before, this event was a fundraiser for the Rollins Players. The Players' money goes toward bringing guest directors (like the acrobatic directors from Midsummer), speakers, and important people onto campus with whom the student body can interact. Players do several events throughout the year in order to raise money for the theater program, as well as just enhancing the arts scene around Rollins in general. They are fun and friendly events that incorporate interesting themes and events. Keep an eye out for the next Players event and come take part in helping the theatre department. You will certainly have a good time while doing so.



COURTESY OF CAITLIN ELIZABETH BAXTER

**PARTY TIME:** Rollins Players and guests showed off their bejeweled costumes and masks as they participated in the Mardi Gras festivities.

# Looking to the stars for guidance

KATIE JONES  
the sandspur

**ARIES:** Keep your optimism up this week, Aries. Although you may be feeling a lack of energy recently, there is no reason to get down. If you keep your head up through your most stressful times this week, you will find a way to turn around a bad turn of events and make your own success.

**TAURUS:** This week you will find a time where you can use your creativity to help a close friend realize a dream or take advantage of an opportunity. If you donate your time and energy wholeheartedly to your friend with good intentions, you will see their goals through to fruition and build a closer relationship with them in the process.

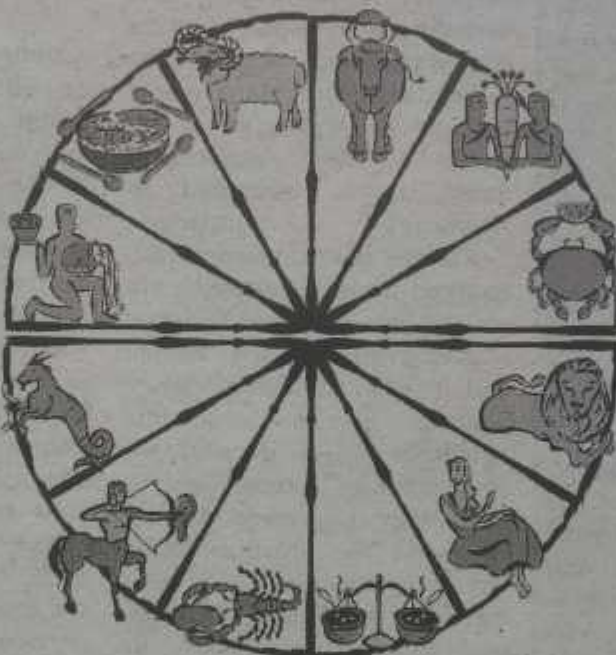
**GEMINI:** It is healthy for you to daydream a bit, Gemini. Do not let yourself become overwhelmed with work this week; take the time to let your imagination wander. This will reduce the hectic pace of your week and give you a welcomed, temporary, break from your workload.

**CANCER:** This week you will find it very easy to begin healing an emotional wound;

you will see how advantageous letting go of your grudges can be. In doing so, you will be more so able to offer yourself up emotionally to those around you than if you are focused on your past injuries and resulting weaknesses.

**LEO:** Watch closely this week for the arrival of a new companion in your life that will give you an extra boost. A new person or an old acquaintance, will show potential for a budding relationship, and should bring the encouragement you need to act out in a big way. Do not miss out on this opportunity for social expansion and productivity by missing this person's entrance into your life.

**VIRGO:** You are full of such energy that keeping things in perspective may become difficult. Try not to turn a mundane task into something overly complicated by being overambitious in your approach. Keep it simple, Virgo,



COURTESY OF MCT CAMPUS

and you will be much more efficient in your schoolwork as well as the workplace.

**LIBRA:** You are bursting with great ideas recently. This week will be just the right time to share them with those around you; however, try to balance your enthusiasm with a sense of propriety to avoid coming off as a "know-it-all." Make sure you are staying sharp in your listening as to

ensure that you can tell when your audience is growing weary of your discussions.

**SCORPIO:** You will find yourself taking a stroll down memory lane this week. However, you may be surprised at your emotional reaction to past experiences. Things that once gave you grief and disdain in their memory will now seem immensely less problematic. As a result, your memories will seem overwhelmingly positive to you, thus giving you a great outlook for the future.

**SAGITTARIUS:** This week it will be vital for you to remember to stay active! With your busy schedule, you will most likely find yourself cloistered and fairly sedentary. Be sure to reserve time for some outdoor exploration or some casual games with friends; getting into the sun will help you keep your spirits up when the potential for cabin fever is high.

**CAPRICORN:** You are

always very adept at keeping your self-confidence at a high. Capricorn. But this week, try to also acknowledge the things you need to work on. You are successful enough at the moment in most aspects of your life that you can stop to improve upon the parts of personality or work ethic that you're the most unsatisfied with.

**AQUARIUS:** Remember this week that you do not have all the answers. Although it may be tempting to try to fix everything that ails you with temporary, neat-and-tidy solutions, you have to realize that some of your problems are not fixed with such simplicity. Take the time to truly work through your predicaments and accept that you may need assistance outside your means of improvement.

**PISCES:** Communication may be hard for you this week because your mind is moving much faster than your words. You have got much going on in the workplace, and your brain is working overtime to provide you with the resources to succeed. Try to slow your pace of thinking and get your ideas on paper before proposing them aloud.



# Anticapitalists face critique

VERNON MEIGS  
the sandspur

There is a certain kind of infestation infesting this earth that I hate with all my hate, and you might even be one or think you are one: the anti-capitalist. Today it is very popular to bash capitalism as "an evil, oppressive force" or "corrupt capitalism." Teenagers and relatively young adults are easily swayed to the illusion that there is an alternative to capitalism that promotes the well-being of everyone and the protection of the environment, human rights, etc.

Many self-proclaimed anti-capitalists and "revolutionaries" tend to be too impatient to actually read up on the precise definition of capitalism before they go out thinking they are socialist rebels and adorning their Che Guevara t-shirts. Every time I see a t-shirt of Guevara, Karl Marx, or any other communist symbol, I have to burst out in laughter because of the person's blatant hypocrisy: the shirt was brought about by capitalistic means but promoting socialism.

I am a laissez-faire capitalist. As such a person, I will define capitalism honestly for what it is: capitalism is about focusing on individual rights. It stands for economic freedom, which in its truest sense means keeping the money you have worked hard for and spending it however you want, providing it does not interfere with the same rights of others. Capitalism has nothing to do with oppression or fascism because ideally, nobody can do that, the oppression of others.

Many brainwashed kids in the world think that capitalism is about the exploitation of the worker, and the greed of corporations working against the worker. I will first say that this kind of society would be attractive to socialists because it gives them something to rant about. Unfortunately for socialists, this is not the genuine expression of capitalism, nor is it because of capitalism that we live close to this kind of society today. I will also say that since greed is essential to suit the purposes of the human animal, it is fine as long as the laws of not interfering with others' greed are in place as they should be. If everybody were more open about their greed and stopped faking socialism, then people would be placed in a position in which they could help themselves and the circumstances that others will be helped will be a deserving kind.

It wrenches my heart into knots that I am forced to bottle up whenever I hear talk of the

poor being the socially discriminated and that the rich are where they are because they are "lucky." Accusing one of selfishness is basically long-term greed that is unwarranted and unworthy. It is basically begging for something they have not earned by making the truly successful feel guilt in having achieved. This whole sequence of distributing guilt is a very similar but maybe an opposite relation to the way religion and churches work. For churches, the rule is to thank God for your own achievements but blame yourself only for the mistakes of yourself and others. With radical leftists, it is different but not dissimilar: if you achieve, you must feel guilty for it and give the rewards to the undeserving, and when you fail, you become exalted for it exemplifies the "common man." Indeed, mediocrity is represented well by the common man, which is why true achievers are not common men. They should be the ones earning all the money for them to use as they please.

I will now define socialism by the description socialists give themselves, so there is no bias: "From each according to his ability, to each according to his need." This states that regardless of how much one has contributed, one will be given what he needs. Even with this definition, needs still cannot be objectively ascertained. One's needs, even his wants, must be determined by the individual himself. Anyone who states otherwise cannot claim to be supporters of minorities, since the individual is the smallest minority.

So which sounds like a totalitarian, imperialist oppression now? I have made it clear that capitalism is in direct support

of human rights and individual advancement. Then, I have given you the definition of socialism as the socialists themselves have put it. Which is better? Which is freer?

# The New York Times reports that university students expect grades

G. KEITH EVANS  
the sandspur

A recent column in *The New York Times* is causing quite a stir among college students around the country. The Feb. 18 article pontificates that American college students simply expect an "A" grade as their default score, regardless of their actual achievements. In other words, *The New York Times* has called college students out, accusing them—us—of the same entitlement issues that might befall a toddler or other juvenile underachiever.

According to the article, a University of California-Irvine study found that about one third of students there expected a "B" grade for simply attending classes, and a full 40 percent expected the grade just for completing required reading. Professor Marshall Grossman, an English instructor at the University of Maryland, tells his students that doing the required work and meeting general coursework requirements will earn a grade of "C." "That is the default grade," the article quoted him as saying. "They see the default grade as an 'A.'"

Dr. Rick Bommelle, chair of the Rollins Communication department, seems to be aware of this expectation as he teaches this concept in his classes. Students in his Listening course are informed on day one that being "good" will earn a "good" grade: a "C." To earn an "A"

grade, students must be not good, but "great." A "B" grade can be earned for "very good" performance. This grading scale seems to make sense, reinforcing the established notion that a "C" grade is average, and earning an "A" requires truly going above and beyond.

College students do not seem to share this vision, though. Sarah Kinn, a student at the University of Vermont, was quoted in the *The New York Times* article as saying, "I feel

Does effort, though, really count toward the grade? In a previous article published in *The Sandspur*, professors were quoted as saying that college is not quite the same as "the Real World." In the Real World, even the greatest effort can be met with failure, and that failure can have disastrous consequences in the workplace. In other words, employees who fail to perform in the workplace often find themselves looking for another job, despite whatever effort they put in.

The essence of the entitlement issues may be exemplified in the very terminology students use to discuss grades. When asking how a fellow student did on an exam or in a course, Rollins students can often be overheard inquiring "What did you get?" According to James Hogge, associate dean at Vanderbilt University in Nashville, Tennessee, students at the prestigious school use a slightly different lingo. "Instead of getting an A, they make an A," he said. Making a grade? Maybe that is not such a revolutionary concept, after all...

WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU: Do you have an expectation for a certain grade when you complete all assigned work? Do you think *The New York Times* exaggerated the expectations of college students? Send us your thoughts at [GEVANS@rollins.edu](mailto:GEVANS@rollins.edu) and look for a follow-up column later this semester.

*Dr. Rick Bommelle, chair of the Rollins Communication department, seems to be aware of this expectation as he teaches this concept in his classes. Students in his Listening course are informed on day one that being "good" will earn a "good" grade: a "C." To earn an "A" grade, students must be not good, but "great." A "B" grade can be earned for "very good" performance. This grading scale seems to make sense, reinforcing the established notion that a "C" grade is average, and earning an "A" requires truly going above and beyond.*

that if I do all of the readings and attend class regularly that I should be able to achieve a grade of at least a B." Her sentiments were echoed by another student quoted in the article: Jason Greenwood, a senior at the University of Maryland, elaborated by saying, "If someone goes to every class and reads every chapter in the book and does everything the teacher asks of them and more, then they should be getting an A like their effort deserves."



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# Spring break on a budget



COURTESY OF MCT CAMPUS

**SOAK UP THE SUN:** With gas the lowest it has been in a couple of years, why not spend your spring break at the beach? The ocean is free and it's only an hour drive to Cocoa and Daytona.

**AMANDA DRUM**  
*the sandspur*

As I type, students across the Rollins campus are fidgeting in classrooms, moping in dorms, and looking outside with just two words in their minds: "spring break!"

The preceding weeks have been sunny and balmy, dipping between the high sixties and low eighties. You could not ask for more perfect weather this time of year. But before you all slam your books shut and prep for a bout of the high life, hold on. How much

cash do you really have in that wallet to make that one week in March a memorable affair?

The economic crisis has already impacted the college-goers in too many ways to count, and now we have to face the reality that it has swallowed up our holidays too. All is not lost! Those with planned vacations already are among the lucky. For everyone else who plans to stay on campus or teeter around at home, some spring break budget tips might come in handy:

1. Do nothing: You are probably asking if you just read that correctly. With midterms wrapping up and the semester full steam ahead towards summer, catching up on much needed shut-eye is probably smart. Because we have a whole week without classes you

can block off some time for snoozing.

2. Get some sun: This is obvious. I will admit that Cocoa Beach is a hot spot for the weekend during the regular school weeks. However, the concept of "getting sun" is almost always synonymous with "fresh air." We

have a lovely pool on campus, too. Is tanning not your thing? About five minutes by car south of campus is Rowena Gardens, a botanical garden with only \$5 admission for adults. A little farther is the popular Wekiwa Springs, with beautiful pools and picnic sites. For the sidewalk limited, take this opportunity to explore a pedestrian's Winter Park.

If you are at home for the break, then you could have just as many, or even more options. Provided the temperature is warm enough, you can lounge on your front lawn if you would like.

3. Play tourist: For those of us that do not live here year-round, we might think we are acquainted with the town. Visiting typical tourist spots over the week however may make you change your mind. Just down Park Avenue is

the Morse Museum of Art with only \$3 admission. cannot quite swing Disney places include the Cypress Gardens (with starting admission of \$30) and Gatorland (with admission of \$19), to name Orlando-area attractions.

Students that are bound can also make a trip to their local Chamber of Commerce for travel pamphlets for the cities, or just browse the Internet for popular places to hang out. You could surprise yourself.

4. Road trip!: Burn some gas and hit the road with your friends. Get an experience out of the city, not the destination. Depending on where you are headed, you might only have to pay for gas.

5. Go see a movie: I am lying on this old fallback reason. It is practical, and not necessarily costly. Whether you are on campus or elsewhere there is bound to be a movie theatre nearby. The experience can even be made cheaper by bringing your own food! You do not even need to go anywhere to catch a flick. Dig through your reservoir of DVD's (or if you are daring, old VHS's) and pop some popcorn at your own place. Group together for a movie and relish the moment.





# An alternative spring break

MANDA HAMPTON  
the sandspur

As spring break approaches, popular destination spots like Cancun, The Bahamas, and Panama City are lowering the "vacation" signs on their hotel rooms and dropping the prices on everything a college student may want to buy while on vacation. The idea of spring break commonly conjures images of beaches, parties and alcohol. Sometimes, it also conjures regrets. Twelve students and two staff members will not have to worry about that this year, as Rollins continues its second year of the Alternative Spring Break program through Rollins Immersion. The group will be in Ypsilanti and Detroit, Michigan from March 9-14. In cooperation with Eastern Michigan University and their VISION (Volunteers Incorporating Service Into Our Neighborhoods) program, ten students from EMU will reverse come to the Orlando/Winter Park area to experience an Alternative Spring Break of their own.

In order to partake in the program, students had to submit their applications by February 11. Each participant also had to pay a \$200 deposit which covers airfare, transportation, food, housing, cultural experiences and supplies. After several meetings, the Alter-

native Spring Breakers will discuss their trip and then finally depart for their destination. It may seem like excessive work when, for many, spring break is a time to let go, cease worrying about paperwork, and just enjoy doing nothing. However, the Alternative Spring Break is about creating change. As sophomore and Alternative Spring Break student facilitator Kathryn Powell pointed out in a campus-wide email, it is possible to make a difference if one is simply "Willing to step up and take charge in making a change." So, for those participating in the program, it is worth the extra effort if it means making a difference.

One of the most significant distinctions between the Alternative Spring Break program and the average, clichéd college spring break, is that the Alternative Spring Break requires all participants to remain alcohol and drug-free while participating in the program. While in Michigan,

students are expected to represent Rollins College, which means following specific guidelines during the program's duration. In fact, according to the Alternative Spring Break informational packet, "Groups are asked to be flexible and willing to do what needs to be done, even if it is different from what they expected."

It is clear that those participating in the Alternative Spring Break will not spend the week in futility. The group will work on various projects focused around hunger, homelessness, low-income socioeconomic status, and children. The group plans on working with those most vulnerable in a community: the underprivileged, the disabled, and those who are simply encountering a difficult period in their lives. Yet, the group will also be able to en-

joy their time away from Florida and have some. Meredith Hein, Assistant Director of the Office of Community Engagement, says "The ASB [Alternative Spring Break] will also involve cultural experiences including museum visits, sporting events, [and] arts and culture." While in Michigan, visitors from Rollins will also explore culture in the auto industry, while still allocating specific times for both group and individual reflection of the experience in its entirety.

This year's trip to Michigan is not for everyone, but instead of spending hours in a crowded airport on the way to Cancun or Daytona, a small minority of Rollins students and about two staff members will take an alternative route. It is an alternative spring break, after all.



COURTESY OF MCT CAMPUS

**MOTOR CITY:** Twelve Rollins students are not spending their spring break soaking up rays and catching some waves. Instead, they are going to Detroit for a different type of spring break focusing on service-learning.



# Obama's health care... a plan or a disaster?

TRAVIS CLINGER  
*the sandspur*

Well, it seems that spending nearly a trillion dollars on a stimulus bill is just not enough. President Obama has now proposed a new spending bill, this time it costs only \$634 billion. The reason for spending more money when this economy is in a terrible recession is health care. President Obama has decided to make good on his campaign promise to attempt to fix health care. Now there are those, myself included, who might question whether spending \$634 billion on health care is a good idea in the first place. However, spending this money when we are in a recession and have spent trillions to prop up the banks and financial institutions seems foolish.

This amount of spending alone is a disastrous idea, but Obama has coupled the spending with another bad idea: tax increases. During a recession, in which people are struggling to survive, Barack Obama has proposed tax increases. There is no widely recognized economic philosophy that would support such an idea. Even Keynesian economics, which advocates extra government spending during a recession, do not in any way ad-

vocate tax increases. The reason tax increases are not advocated is that raising taxes would put a further damper on the economy, which would worsen and elongate the current recession.

Perhaps the most ironic part of Obama's plan is that he says part of the way the government will be able to pay for the \$634 billion on health care is by cutting government spending. That is right; Obama says he will cut government spending. Perhaps, Obama has forgotten about the stimulus bill that he created and forced through Congress just a couple weeks ago. If we are going to cut spending, maybe we should start by scrapping this health care proposal.

So in less than two months, Barack Obama has spent well over a trillion dollars and is now proposing spending even more. To solve the spending problem he proposes raising taxes and cutting spending. It seems that his only real solution is raising taxes, as he has already proved that he does not know how to cut government spending.

Obama made many campaign promises. Indeed, during the campaign, Obama proposed spending trillions of dollars on issues from health care to global poverty to welfare for Americans. However, Obama needs to understand that in the current economy he cannot have everything he wants. He cannot just spend, spend and spend. Obama needs to realize that



**SMILES:** Barack Obama introduces Kathleen Sebelius as his nominee for Secretary of Health and Human Services. During this introduction, he discussed more about his health care plan.

someone is going to have to pay for all of this. In many ways, when Obama was sworn in, it was like American handing the national credit card to a teenager. Obama, like a teenager, has spent with complete disregard for the future. It is time that the American people take away Obama's credit card. We need fiscally responsible individuals

in charge, not people who like to spend without thinking about the consequences.

Obama has once again proved that he just does not understand the American people. He has proposed another massive spending spree, just after he got his enormous stimulus. The time has come for the American people to tell Obama

NO. The American people need to state that they are tired of this wasteful spending and they want to see the government come fiscally accountable again. The solution is not raising taxes in this economy. Nor will Obama pretend that he is going to cut government spending while he proposes one massive spending project after another.

# Are activists doing what they say they are?

VERNON MEIGS  
*the sandspur*

For most activists, the sole purpose in their lives is to find or sustain things on which they can take a stand. Over the course of my life, I have observed that activists do not really want to find solutions to the problems they have causes for, lest they would die of satisfaction and boredom. Rather than falling in to boredom, however, they find new problems to become activists for or perhaps perpetuate the existing problem. Activists fulfill their function, activism, else they would cease to exist; this makes for a very dependent profession.

Whoever said "Global warming is good for political activism" was not kidding. Supposed human-instigated environmental detriment is what makes extreme environmentalists and "green" activists happy because it gives them paper tigers to blame, namely those who happen to be more successful or those on the opposite political

party. To me, the whole global warming "danger" is a classic case of what I call the "Chicken Little Syndrome." An emphasis on the direct human cause of global warming is enough to stir guilt among gullible masses that prefer dependency instead of bearing the difficult respon-

...I have observed that activists do not really want to find solutions to the problems they have causes for, lest they would die of satisfaction and boredom. Rather than falling in to boredom, however, they find new problems to become activists for or perhaps perpetuate the existing problem. Activists fulfill their function, activism, else they would cease to exist...

sibility of preparing for the consequences of freedom. Catalysts for imprinting fundamental guilt are atrocious against the individual. Assuming that global warming is indeed a reality to one degree or another, I offer that it is something that inevitably happens to the earth at some point of the planetary lifespan. If anything, I am more convinced that the immediate danger of the planet will be global freezing. It has happened

before, but that too was natural. The very thing that would make environmentalists as unhappy as they can possibly get would be to find a solution to global warming and pollution of the planet. They would lose the purpose for which they are environmentalists, with nothing new to

gripe about or gain charities for by eager, childlike citizens.

The modern feminist movement is no less of an example. It is my personal belief that the feminist movement actually fulfilled its purpose sometime during the 20th century. They seem to have emerged victorious for the most part, thus leaving their reason for activism diminished. More problems had to be put into play to further blame men while having excuses to be chau-

vinists themselves. They never live out their philosophy instead of just sitting around waiting for it to happen. Real change comes from action not activism. A truly liberated female actually goes out and does things that give her an independent, individual mark. This is what I call true pro-

active behavior. Activism seems to act contrarily to its definition. It seems activism is what holds things back instead of making things happen. This is why I am not part of the Masculist movement despite sharing some of its convictions. I actually live the liberation of the male, instead of brooding over things that I am not affecting.

The proactive doer is far superior to the bumbling activist. If you are concerned for the

environment, take measure yourself. If you do not want abortion, do not have one. If you are afraid of global warming, do not go and scream "the world is falling," take precautions and adaptive measures. Humans need to specialize in adaptation for it is what they do best. If they cannot, then they would not be as fond of the word "change," which they have blissfully voted for.

Further, what causes activists are whining about can be taken care of in a free market format. If you want animals to be protected, buy them all a huge stretch of land to put them on so harming them would be an infringement on private property. Do you want efficient energy? Invest in its market. Do you want to stop tobacco companies? Boycott them. In every activist's issue, there is always some solution without privatization. You should try. It would work much faster than protesting and picketing.



# Celebrity opinions not needed in politics

JENNIFER STULL  
the sandspur

I always wanted to be famous. I wanted to live an amazingly glamorous life full of wonderment where people would look at me enviously at all times and wish they could be just like me. However, as I got older, it seemed the life and persona of a celebrity was slightly less appealing than I had thought when I was an ambitious preteen.

I suppose it all started with the Dixie Chicks. I will admit I like country music and I was a big fan of the Dixie Chicks. What could possibly be better than going around the world singing with two of my best friends? I remember sitting in my living room one night while the television was on. The nightly news was on and as a typical uncaring youth, I basically tuned out what was being said. What did catch my ear was the newscaster talking about the Dixie Chicks. My favorite country trio had undoubtedly come out with a new music video of some sort. However to my horror, they were being viciously torn apart because of their harsh words

against then-President George Bush. I could not believe this until I saw with my own two eyes, the lead singer on the TV making outlandish statements about politics and the world.

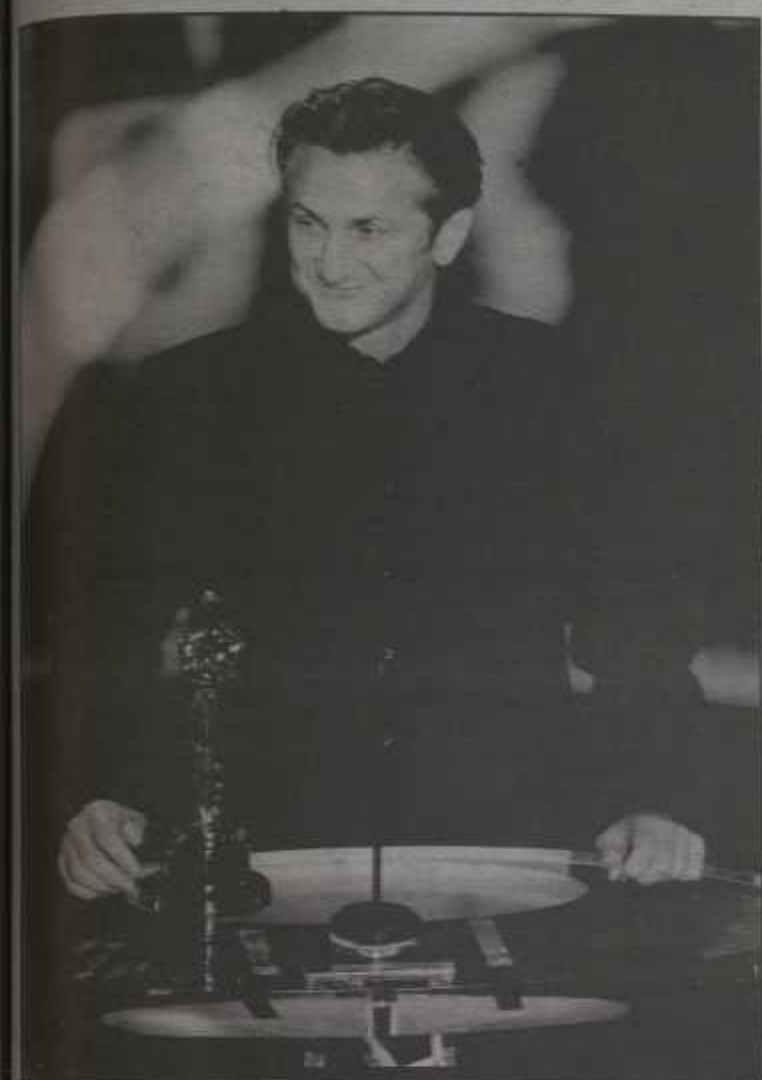
At that point, I do not think I had ever encountered celebrities using their famous status in order to make their opinions known. However, from that moment on I was highly opposed to it. It seems to me that if you are a politician, then you can speak on politics. If you are a celebrity, speak about your upcoming movie, album or reality television show.

I understand there is some gray area. Some celebrities are very politically involved and know a lot about the subject of politics. However, it seems to me that celebrities use their power over the microphone to voice their opinions to whoever is there to hear it. I find it is an abuse of power to take your status as a public figure and use it against the public. Being a celebrity does not make a person's opinions any more important than those of any other citizen who is equally uninvolved in politics; however, since they have celebrity status, they feel they are automatically qualified to talk on any subject and that

their opinions are more important than others.

An example of this is also evident in the recent Academy Awards. While I agreed 100 percent with what Sean Penn was saying, I felt it was not the time or the place to be saying it. He had just won an Oscar for best actor and took it upon himself to make a political statement that was completely unrelated to the evening. It really took me out of the moment of the show. What would have been appropriate would have been for him to go up, receive his award, thank whoever was involved, and walk away. However, an unnecessary statement was made and was only made because he had the microphone at his disposal.

The Dixie Chicks and Sean Penn incidents are not the only cases of celebrities using their power to voice their particular views; they are merely examples of the problem. I do not want to come off as hypocritical; I enjoy hearing the silly celeb gossip like who is dating who and who is breaking up. But, when it comes to serious world matters, let us leave that up to the politicians and have the movie stars stick to making movies.



COURTESY OF MCT CAMPUS

**TRIUMPH:** Sean Penn receives the award for best actor at the 81st Academy Awards.

# The Oscars not as impressive this year

JENNIFER STULL  
the sandspur

2009 has surely been an interesting year, already full of wild celebrity gossip. Blink-182 has reunited, the beloved Chris Brown has blown his all-American boy status, and the number of kids in the Pitt-Jolie family has continued to grow. The event brings together all of these entertaining and abnormal characters: the Academy Awards.

This year, the Oscars did not seem to have the normal "hype." While I am a huge Hugh Jackman fan, I felt he was not present throughout the show and really only had his little bit to perform. Also, it was a little strange that the whole show was centered on a musical. It felt like I was at a low-budget awards ceremony. I also found it rather annoying that whoever casted the night's performances, felt Zac Efron and Penelope Cruz were on the same level as Hugh Jackman and Beyoncé (who, in case you did not notice, was lip syncing). Following the cute song and dance by the worthy Jackman and Beyoncé, but once the High School Musical teenybop hit the stage I was pretty much done with the performance.

Though, it was not all bad. There are still the awards to be discussed. Personally, I feel Kate

Winslet is up with the ranks of Meryl Streep and to finally see her get an Oscar really made the show for me. If you have not seen *The Reader*, see it— it is worth the eight dollars.

And, as I am sure many hoped, Heath Ledger won the Oscar for Best Supporting Actor. I truly feel that his death was not the reason for his Oscar win and that his performance outshined the rest. It was a very touching moment for his parents and sister to come and accept the award on his behalf.

But, what I felt was the biggest success of the night was *Slumdog Millionaire*. This low-budget Bollywood film won eight Oscars and the coveted Best Picture. After I saw this film I knew it would be a contender at the Oscars, but I had no idea it would sweep so many awards. However, I am very pleased that it did. This film was not about spectacle, rather just about telling a story. It had no major Hollywood stars and was able to create a superior movie without the superficial aspects of the Hollywood atmosphere. Again, if you have not seen this movie, you are missing out.

The night definitely had its ups and downs, but it seemed the awards were appropriately given. 2008 processed many movies that were Oscar worthy, in my opinion, more than previous years. I also noted how this year seemed slightly less political than previous years (albeit not completely without its politics). Despite the second-rate



COURTESY OF MCT CAMPUS

## MOMENTS OF CELEBRATION:

Winners of the 81st Academy Awards held in Hollywood, California. Above: The cast and crew of *Slumdog Millionaire* celebrate after winning best picture of the year. Left: Posing with their Oscars are Best Actress Kate Winslet, Best Actor Sean Penn, and Best Supporting Actress Penelope Cruz, from left.

performance more fit for the Tonys and the High School Musical takeover, the importance of the awards was kept intact and

made the 81st Academy Awards an evening to remember.



# Heath Ledgers' last gift in per

AMANDA DRUM  
the sandspur

The late Heath Ledger's last movie, *The Imaginarium of Doctor Parnassus*, is about a thousand year old magician named Parnassus who lures audiences into a place he calls the "Imaginarium," a place made of the stuff of dreams. All goes well until the Devil, whom Parnassus made a deal with, comes to collect his end of the bargain and Parnassus' daughter. The first official trailer shows computer graphic stages and watercolor panels of scenes and settings that are complex, colorful and fantastic. Costumes are old London-esque and theatre gothic. Though it is strictly independent, it sounds like another blockbuster in the making, from the director of *The Brothers Grimm* and *The Fischer King*, Terry Gilliam.

Sounds amazing, right? And with a September 24, 2009 world-release date, it fits per-

fectly into the beginning of the fall term. There is just one catch: U.S. viewers might have to buy a movie and plane ticket to see it.

"The Imaginarium" is struggling to find a major U.S. distributor, even though the movie wrapped last August. If no buyer is found, or no exclusive U.S. release is set, the movie would go straight to DVD. This is all despite the \$30 million budget and links to Ledger, who plays one of the main characters in the movie.

*The Hollywood Reporter* says, "[Fruitless negotiation] has fuelled all sorts of rumors in indie circles, ranging from dissent over finances on the producers' side to outsized expectations on the part of filmmakers."

What makes the movie unattractive is its complicated summary; the plot has many parts, and therefore can decrease its marketability under only one genre.

"Even with the Ledger hook, a distributor would have a hard time with marketing.

Gilliam has grown more experimental in recent years with such fare as *Tideland* and *The Brothers Grimm*...[and] retailing *Dr. Parnassus* as a Ledger film risks running a word-of-mouth problem with general audiences who are not accustomed to that kind of material," says *The Reporter*.



COURTESY OF MCTCAMPUS.COM

**A DYING LEGACY:** Heath Ledger poses for a picture for *Entertainment Weekly* before his tragic accident. Now, his last gift to the world may go unwatched.

that when Heath Ledger the filming was only half completed. Gilliam was in danger of losing the whole project until Johnny Depp, Jude Law and Colin Farrell stepped in to fill his shoes. The script was written so that Tony, the character Ledger played, could moderate all four faces, and shoot continued. In essence, the public is lucky to have the film at all.

The point of the matter is, house, or artistic and classic indie films are more difficult for audiences to 'get.' This makes them harder to sell. Riskier ventures like *The Brothers Grimm* fell under this category. Gilliam helped create, and produce, *The Imaginarium* will feel quite a bit of backlash.

An unidentified indie veteran has this to say on the controversy: "This movie is a performance -- it will get a second chance and come out in the U.S. But no accident that it's taking so long."

## Can't beat the classics part 3

DAVE SMITH  
the sandspur

I hope everyone has enjoyed the first two parts of this three-part series on some classic movies that I think everyone should consider essential viewing. In this week's final installment, we have two war movies, a Spielberg classic, a great love story as well as one of the greatest courtroom dramas in the history of cinema.

**Platoon:** A semi-autobiographical account of writer/director Oliver Stone's tour of Vietnam, *Platoon* won Best Picture at the 1986 Academy Awards. Starring Charlie Sheen, Tom Berenger and Willem Dafoe, the film provides a brutal depiction of life as a soldier and the moral ambiguity surrounding actions taken under times of war. By portraying the main characters as teetering on the edge of sheer insanity throughout the film, Stone is able to paint an entirely different picture of the apparent glory and honor that war is supposed to bring upon a man. In the end, was the Vietnam War wrong or right? Stone does not definitively say; all we do know is that it was hell on earth for the men who served there.



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**12 Angry Men:** Serving as the directorial debut for the much acclaimed director Sidney Lumet, the film focuses on one man, played by Henry Fonda, who tries to persuade 11 other jurors to acquit a boy all found guilty. Through the presentation of logical faults in the prosecution, the juror challenges all other 11 men's views. It is a provocative, compelling and enthralling look at the system of crime and punishment in America. Unbelievably, nearly the entire film takes place in one room, on one single set, yet it is still recognized as one of the finest, if not the finest, courtroom dramas ever made.



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**The Great Escape:** Are there truly any scenes in the history of cinema more memorable than Steve McQueen's legendary attempted getaway on the stolen German motorcycle? To me, there are not. Telling the real-life story of Allied POWs attempting to escape a German camp, the film stars legends such as James Coburn, James Garner and Charles Bronson. Although not a particularly harsh and mundane portrayal of the life of POWs, the film is delightful in its ability to remind us all of the power of resiliency, determination, and hope. Not to mention, there is always something gratifying and just about telling the tale of men who sacrificed themselves for their fellow sol-

diers, and their country.



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**Casablanca:** Arguably the most loved film on the part of the American public. A tale of the romance between a club owner, played by the infamous Humphrey Bogart, and Ingrid Bergman's character Ilsa Lund, the film takes place against the backdrop of WWII in Casablanca, Morocco. An engrossing story develops regarding certain highly valued letters of transit obtained through the murder of two German couriers. From there, we see a mix of romance, suspense and comedy as the plot unfolds. Behind the superb acting performances of Bergman and Bogart and a well crafted story, *Casablanca* is often seen to represent the glory of the Golden Age of Hollywood.



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**Jaws:** The very first true summer blockbuster, and what a thriller it is, indeed. Behind a legendary musical score by John Williams, *Jaws* works because it is able to foster a connection to the central characters on the part of the audience, and then strike fear by pitting them against such a scary foe, the deadly shark. Despite all the terror and angst we feel, *Jaws* is also easy to enjoy, primarily because of the development of the lead characters and superb direction of Steven Spielberg. Robert Shaw shines as a grizzly

old shark hunter named Quint and Roy Scheider complements him nicely as Police Chief Martin Brody. It is one of those films that scare you senseless, but you loving every minute of it.



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MARCH 23-27TH

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**WEDNESDAY MARCH 25TH**  
PAINT! PARTY (9PM BEHIND WARD)

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## Sandspur-ian of the Week

Jenn Stull, for doing...  
what needed to be  
done to become  
Sandspur-ian of the  
Week. Don't ever quit,  
Jenn. Ever.

# MARCH

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2	3	4	5 Rollins Baseball Vs. St. Anselm 6 p.m.	6 Rollins Baseball Vs. Stonehill 7 p.m.	7 Spring Break
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
Cornell Cafe-4p.m.-8:30 p.m.						
The Marketplace-9 a.m.-1 p.m.		The Grille-5 p.m.-8 p.m.		C-Store 1 p.m.-7 p.m.		
Spring Break						
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
Spring Break						
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31	Rollins College			
www.TheSandspur.org						

# Tars stumble in regular season finale, look forward to SSC Tourney

GRAHAM GILBERT  
*the sandspur*

The Rollins men's basketball team fell to Sunshine State Conference opponent Eckerd College on Saturday, Feb. 28, in St. Petersburg in the regular season finale for both teams. After the game, each team turned its attention to the SSC tournament, which began on Wednesday.

On Saturday, the Eckerd College Tritons needed to win to take the third seed by virtue of a tiebreaker in the BlueCross BlueShield of Florida SSC Basketball Championships. The Tritons took advantage of four double-digit scoring efforts to better the Tars, 81-74. In the upset, Tritons players John Harper and Lewis Lampley each netted twelve points while Chris Gray and Kornilous Donnell had 11 and 10, respectively. Harper and Donnell both made their contributions coming off the bench, while six other players also added points for the Tritons.

For the Tars, guard Kevin

Hogan (class of 2009) scored twenty points in his last regular season game by shooting 4-for-6 (67 percent) from three point range and a perfect 8-for-8 from the free throw line. Aiding Hogan, guard Nick Wolf (class of 2011) added sixteen of his own, 5-for-13 (38 percent) from the field and 4-for-6 from the line. Forward Zach Pancratz (class of 2009) contributed nine points as well.

Looking to the tournament, the Tars (18-9 overall, 10-6 SSC) with the second seed took on seventh seed, Saint Leo University (15-15 overall, 7-9 SSC), in the quarterfinals at Warden Arena on Wednesday. Prior to the game Rollins led the all-time series between the schools, 73-14, and had won the last nineteen meetings. In the last contest, played Feb. 4 on the Tars' home floor, Rollins came away with a 75-67 victory. In the game, Hogan contributed a twenty-plus point game, his fourth of the season at that point, shooting 4-for-7 from behind the arc and 9-for-9 on free throws. Wolf and guard Jeremy Sharpe (class of 2011) also scored in the double digits that game. In addition,

Wolf pulled in nine rebounds and Pancratz had seven.

Since then, the Tars have gone 2-4, collecting wins against Florida Tech and Lynn while suffering losses to the University of Tampa, Nova Southeastern, Barry and most recently Eckerd. During the same time period, the Saint Leo Lions recorded a 3-4 record, garnering wins against Florida Tech and Palm Beach Atlantic, as well as an upset win against Tampa. The Lions lost to Florida Southern and Lynn and, like the Tars, also lost to Eckerd and Nova.

Both Pancratz and teammate Chauncey Gibbs (class of 2009) looked forward to the meeting with the Lions, acknowledging the challenge Saint Leo posed. In order for the Tars to beat Saint Leo and move onto the quarterfinals hosted by Nova Southeastern, Rollins looked to leading scorers Nick Wolf, Kevin Hogan, and Jeremy Sharpe for offense. Other starters, Zach Pancratz and Craig Reichel, would be relied upon to stop Lions stars Jordan Prais and Quentin Cullop, who himself scored a combined forty points in his previous two meet-



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**BALLER:** But not baller enough to pull out the season finale. Guard Forward, Zach Pancratz (class of 2009) shown here.

ings with the Tars this season.

Should the Tars advance to the second round, they will face the winner of the Nova Southeastern and Lynn game this

Saturday in Fort Lauderdale. The Tars are 1-1 against both Nova and Lynn teams this season.