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Rollins College

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The Sandspur

The Oldest College Newspaper in Florida, Est. 1894

Rollins College

Friday September 18, 2009

www.thesandspur.org

Volume 116 | Issue 2

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How long does it take to get a hamburger at Rollins?



COURTESY OF MCT CAMPUS

How fast is The Grille? Not as fast as you may think. Over an hour wait for a hamburger? Yes.

PAGE 4

this day in history

September 18, 1851: The first issue of *The New York Daily Times*, which would eventually become *The New York Times*, was published. The NYT would go on to become one of the largest and most successful papers in the country.

The New York Times

TITANIC SINKS FOUR HOURS AFTER HITTING ICEBERG BY CARPATIA. PROBABLE CAUSE: MRS. ASTOR MAYBE NOTED



COURTESY OF NYT

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



ResLife loses McKean RAs



CHELSEA CUTCHENS
the sandspur

Everyone remembers their first Resident Assistant in college. Whether he or she was the overly-friendly RA who was always up in residents' business, the crotchety RA who enforced quiet hours with an iron fist, or the RA who was constantly missing in action when residents were in serious need of help, it cannot be denied that students' Resident Assistants have major impacts on their residential lives.

In light of the recent incident and resignations of several RAs, it might be helpful to discuss the duties and responsibilities of the RAs. James McKnight, Class of 2011, and Matt Lonk, Class of 2010, both recently resigned their duties as RAs, and discussed their experience as RAs. Both had similar views of

what made a good RA.

"A social personality is required to be the best role models, and I absolutely loved my residents and was the best role model in McKean," McKnight said.

"I became an RA to meet new people and give the incoming freshmen a positive experience," Lonk stated. Both believed, "McKean was safe for all residents," that while they were RAs and they felt that they performed their duties well. Both disagreed with their being asked to resign.

"Although I have a great respect for ResLife, I feel that some of the situations are not dealt with in the best possible way," remarked Lonk.

The Office of Residential Life has strict requirements for RAs, and when those requirements are not met, severe consequences follow. Leon Hayner, director of Residential Life, ex-

plained the role of an RA, but had no comment on the recent resignations.

"RAs fulfill several roles on campus; they are administrators, counselors, mentors, policy-enforcers, and advisors. They program activities for their buildings, conduct inspections of dorm rooms, document broken policies, and provide support for all residents," Hayner said.

Resident Assistants are often put in precarious situations; on the one hand, they want to be friends with their residents, and encourage their residents to have an active social life. On the other hand, however, RAs must know when to lay down the law and enforce policies—such as quiet hours during weeknights—or diffuse tense situations between roommates and hallmates. Oftentimes, there is a fine line between being an acquaintance and being an en-

forcer, and an RA must be able to recognize this boundary.

Hayner, further explaining the challenges and rewards of being an RA, continued; "Although the job of an RA is a difficult one, it can be one of the most rewarding. While some students may not like the idea of always being monitored and constantly having to set an example, RAs know how to live up to their high expectations. From their stints as Resident Assistants, they learn life skills, team building, and leadership." It is important for all students, especially first years, to acknowledge that their Resident Assistants are valuable resources and aids, and should not be taken advantage of. So, when RAs admonish residents for playing music a little too loudly or skipping a hall meeting, give them some slack; their job is a lot tougher than one would imagine.



COURTESY OF RESIDENTIAL LIFE

SMILES: RA's put together fun activities while ensuring the safety of their residents.

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quotable

"...Since smoking has become such an issue in this country, companies are looking for a profitable solution."

opinionsPAGE 8



thesandspur.org POLL

How do you read The Sandspur?

In Print Online Both

The Sandspur
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Newspaper in Florida
Founded in 1894

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

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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 400-700 words in length and must be submitted no later than noon 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 Wednesday 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).

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Provost promotes pride

PROVOST ROGER CASEY

Welcome back to Rollins, returning students and, first years, welcome. You are all Rollins College—the number-one ranked masters-level university in the South, according to U.S. News & World Report, for the fifth year in a row. Did you also know that in fulfillment of our mission to educate for global citizenship and responsible leadership we have been nationally recognized for outstanding community involvement by Florida Campus Compact, the Carnegie Foundation, the Association of American Colleges and Universities, and the President of the United States? Or that our internationalization initiatives made the front page (and four other pages) of *The Chronicle of Higher Education* last year? *The Chronicle* is to colleges what the *Wall Street Journal* is to business and, speaking of business, the Crummer Graduate School of Business ranks among the top twenty-five MBA programs in the nation according to *Business Week* and *Entrepreneur*. *Forbes* says we have the best MBA

program in Florida, and that the Rollins MBA pays for itself faster than almost all other MBAs.

Why does this matter? Because I do not think we talk about ourselves at Rollins with nearly enough swagger. Every time we talk about Rollins and say something great about the college, the value of our institution and the value of your diplomas rise. Every time we say something negative about Rollins, the reverse is true. Do not shoot yourself in the foot! We are number one, folks—let's celebrate it!

This fall, there is a lot to be anxious about: H1N1 flu, the economy, and healthcare reform top the list. However, I encourage you to tell everyone about your great college and to celebrate all the wonderful things that happen here every day and night. Also, make it a point to get involved. I am always astonished you can tack a note to a ceramic fox and place it on the lawn at five in the morning on a spring day and, fifteen minutes later, the entire school and 10,000 of its alumni know it is Fox Day. But, send an e-mail to the entire campus that a toxic cloud is overhead

and we need to evacuate all the buildings immediately, walk outside, and only about five people will be milling around. We need to communicate better and make people aware of everything that is going on. You are all incredibly socially networked through Facebook, MySpace, Twitter, and more. Use your networks to spread the word about Rollins.

Have a great year, Rollins. You are number one! I am honored to serve as your Provost.



COURTESY OF ROLLINS.EDU

PROVOST: Casey is Provost of Rollins College as well as Vice President of Academic Affairs. Casey joined the staff of Rollins in 2000 and attained his position in 2006.

Letter from the Editor

BRITTANY FORNOF
the sandspur

Hello Rollins!

Since this is the first issue of the year, I felt it was only appropriate to write you a letter of appreciation. As members of the Rollins community, you are the reason *The Sandspur* still exists today. We pride ourselves in being the oldest college newspaper in Florida and one of the few student newspapers in the nation that is still in print, an accomplishment we couldn't achieve without your support.

Time and time again, people have asked why we don't become a solely online publication, and the truth is that we are just too stubborn. We are clinging desperately to the not-so-popular medium of print. Although we realize newspapers are a dying breed, we refuse to bow to the pressure of society. We love what we create too much.

From the work of writers, copy-editors, and layout editors, it takes nearly two dozen hours to create one complete issue. As a newspaper staff, we love knowing that the hours we invest in each issue go to good use. You cannot imagine the joy it brings us every time we see someone carrying a copy of *The Sandspur* around campus.

Our sole purpose is to serve Rollins by printing news and feature stories that are relevant to the campus community. Our student-run publication seeks to present commentary on policies affecting student life, while



KATIE JONES / the sandspur
FORNOF: Editor-in-Chief of *The Sandspur*.

providing documentation on popular campus events. All in all, we seek to be the student voice for the student population.

So, the next time that you are on your way to class or work, pick up a copy of *The Sandspur* and see what news and information we can offer you. Have a great semester!

Sincerely,

Brittany Fornof
The Sandspur Editor-in-Chief

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Afghani-plan

TRAVIS CLINGER
the sandspur

These days the economy and health care dominate discussion in the political arena. However, there exists a topic that although receiving little attention is still incredibly important. That is the topic of national security and terrorism. Eight years ago, the United States suffered the worst ever attack on our country. On that day, over 2,900 Americans were brutally massacred. For the next seven years, the Bush administration would dedicate a large amount of its time and energy to increase our national security and win what President Bush called the "War on Terror."

Today, though, eight years after that attack, we have not won this war. Indeed, many people are not even sure what the "War on Terror" is anymore. Instead, we are embroiled in two major conflicts overseas and have several other potential conflicts looming over us every day. In Iraq, we have been having some success since Robert Gates took over as Secretary of Defense.

The bigger and harder conflict, though, is that of Afghanistan. When we invaded Iraq in 2003, many were confident that we had won in Afghanistan and no longer needed a presence in the country. However, the truth is far from that. Afghanistan is going to be much harder to win than Iraq will ever be. The Iraqi people lived under a controlling regime, that of Saddam Hussein, for many

years. However, the Afghani people have not had anything near a government since the Soviet invasion in 1979, and even before that many would argue that no one really had control of Afghanistan. After the Soviets withdrew, the Taliban tried to control Afghanistan, but even they failed. Thus, the majority of Afghans do not even know what a real government is supposed to be. They have lived most, if not all, of their life with the Taliban fighting the Soviets and various local factions. Since we invaded, we have tried to implement democracy there. This has failed miserably, and we now have a corrupt government with little control of Afghanistan.

Today, Obama has proposed that we send tens of thousands of more troops into Afghanistan. Interestingly enough, the little support he is receiving for this idea is coming from Republicans, not Democrats. The problem with this plan is not hard to find – the Soviets did the same thing in 1979. America needs to find a better solution for the Afghanistan mess. If we try to send in more and more troops, we will be met with failure. We may take back some areas, but the moment we try to leave the country, the Taliban and tribal warlords will resume their fight for control. The American people and Congress need to look at this situation and think long and hard before sending in more troops, as we will simply be repeating history.

The United States can and must come up with a new plan for Afghanistan.



COURTESY OF MCT CAMPUS

SEND IN THE TROOPS: On Tuesday, President Obama ordered his first major deployment, 17,000 additional soldiers and marines to stabilize Afghanistan.

Left, right, or neither?

VERNON MEIGS
the sandspur

I have often wondered why conservatives or liberals will be correct on one issue and wrong on another. When liberals agree on an issue, conservatives will disagree, and vice versa. Nowadays, how does being on the "Right" differ from being on the "Left"? Social ideologies and political positions seem to span a great deal outwards with

numerous branches that cannot be classified as being on the Left, Right, or even in the Center; I for one do not believe anybody truly lies in the Center. Even if one did, the label is not the know-all, end-all by any means. Simplified labels do not mean a thing in the long run, and will not say anything specific about a person's political convictions.

It is because of this reason that I suggest a general abandoning of the Left-Right political spectrum. Many assemble arguments for both sides, working together in their reasoning for forgetting the Left and Right. I think that ingraining oneself in such a fickle generalization is inefficient and misleading, and it discourages deeper insight. The political Right, originating from the seating arrangement in Parliament during the French Revolution, represents traditionalism, conservatism, religious fundamentalism, and nationalism. Today, this group seems to have turned over a new leaf; members are now claiming to support free-market capitalism.

If I were to still use the labels "Left" and "Right", I would end up on the Right primarily due to the fact that I am laissez-faire as far as fiscal policies go; I do not believe in egalitarianism and I am by no means socialistic. My personal streak of nationalism consists of general national pride and loving my countries, America and Japan (where I was born). At the same time, I am by no means a traditionalist; I do believe that there is room for diversity, progress, and new ideas. I am also not conservative for similar reasons. Furthermore, my life philosophy and religious views are notions generally looked down upon by religious fundamentalists. Do I call myself a Leftist in this

case? Combined with the idea that I supposedly share Rightist views, does that make me a Centrist? No. I would like very much to forget pointless trifles such as Left and Right. I prefer to explain myself in more detail, as far as my political views go.

My objections to those on both sides of the political spectrum are as follows: conservatives say that something is good because something is old; liberals say that something is good because it is a change. Neither side can keep true to their claims; they make excuses and exceptions left and right, no pun intended. Being a straight-up capitalist myself, I think that conservatives generally misrepresent capitalism. My social views tend to fall in line with most liberals, but I refuse to associate myself with "modern liberals". I prefer the classical liberals who believe that the government must not intervene in the private matters of the people; modern liberals, I feel, are by no means true liberals. They incessantly dabble with political correctness, constituting as an animal everything on the planet not considered to be human, and putting mindless altruism in place of honest selfishness and dependent collectivism. If there is one thing I wish for in politics, it is for the term "liberal" to be reclaimed by the classics.

When I say that I espouse the abandonment of the Left-Right way of interpreting politics, I mean that it should not be directly instituted by government or radical social alterations, or by so-called "revolutions". I prefer to use the tool of persuasion to get others to think beyond Left and Right. Those terms are obsolete and can be manipulated greatly to suit the purposes of the corrupt and gullible.

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Down on the Farmville

LINDSEY HIRSCH
the sandspur

Life offers many addictions: cocaine, heroin, alcohol, and now...FarmVille. Pity be upon those who have not yet caught on to this latest Facebook craze, for they are still living city life and have not yet explored the wonders of managing one's own farm. There is nothing greater than logging onto Facebook, starting up FarmVille and realizing that after three long days, that patch of wheat that was planted before is now fully grown and ready to be harvested.

FarmVille appears to have quite the following. With 38,345,101 monthly active users (and counting), news feeds everywhere are being filled with information regarding one's neighbors and their progression "down on the farm". This advancement could include anything from new high scores to the attainment of gifts, or even placing wandering black sheep up for adoption. According to these numbers, FarmVille is slowly taking over the world.

Why is FarmVille so addicting? For each addict, there is a different ingredient that calls to him or her, like a fly to a bug-zapper. To get to the bottom of this mystery, I stepped away from tending my farm and surveyed several enthusiasts and neighbors. Kate Hastings '11 said, "I like to pretend that I know how to farm. I mean, I



GRAB YOUR HOES: The pineapples, animals, and trees on Lindsey Hirsch's farm aren't ready to harvest yet, but you can stop by and help her with her pesky weeds!

don't like it because I feel like I'm actually farming. I just like it because it's something that just keeps me preoccupied when I have nothing else to do."

Another addict, Michele Hunt '10, divulged, "It's easy to get caught up harvesting and checking on your trees and animals. Also building the farm and making it your own with accessories makes it more so addicting."

Sarah Griffis '11 commented simply, "Because it's magical." Laura Hardwicke '11 had a more philosophical response of, "Maybe it's the back-to-nature syndrome, like Henry David Thoreau." Indeed, it seems that the millions of Facebook users are giving up their "normal" Internet ways to retreat and live in the more "outdoorsy" Internet realm that is FarmVille.

An addict who wishes to

remain anonymous believes that his or her addiction stems from the ribbons and dreams of expansion. Whatever the addiction may be, the strife of hard work, day-to-day on the farm, is all for one goal: to obtain the best farm in the 'hood. However, FarmVille is not simply a game. It is a teacher. It is a genius. The user is taught economics, civic responsibility, time

management and punctuality, neighborly etiquette, moral questioning, and environmental planning and design. This sounds like a good recipe for a Rollins College Conference Course; teaching students to be well-rounded, global citizens, one farm grid at a time.

The economic aspect is incorporated by determining which crops yield the most cash in the most efficient way. Civic responsibility and neighborly etiquette come by way of visiting one's neighbors' farms to clear leaves, crows, or weeds. If crops are ready to be harvested and the user doesn't do so within four hours, the crops wither and are worthless; therefore, one must plan ahead which seeds to plant according to his or her "Facebook checking schedule". This must all be done in a timely manner.

Moral questioning in FarmVille can be observed by choosing whether to have a large, industrious farm that uses heavy machinery and gasoline or to operate a smaller scale, organic farm. Since the user gets to plot his or her own land, one must play one's cards at environmental planning and design. With all of these tools for life, FarmVille must be glorified and maybe even taken into consideration for future curricula (this does, in fact, intimate toward a class solely about FarmVille).

So, grab your pitchforks and overalls because with over 30 million monthly active users, FarmVille is simply "too legit to quit".

The Grille gets grilled

DODIE O'KEEFE
the sandspur

Have you ever been so hungry for a delicious cheeseburger from the Grille, but by the time you actually get it you have forgotten about it? Recently, many students have been feeling this way and are upset about the time it takes to get their order from the Grille, but how long is too long?

Well, fellow student Justin Wright, said that he waited for an entire hour for an order consisting of two cheeseburgers. I was appalled after hearing this, so I decided to try it out for myself. At 10:55 on Friday night, I ordered a grilled cheese and French fries. The Grille was not crowded at the time, so I assumed that it would not take very long.

Twenty-five minutes later at 11:20, I received my order. I was completely satisfied with the food; I just did not understand why it took so long. To find out, I decided to interview a staff member of the Grille to see what goes into making the food and to try to solve the mystery.

Jose, a current employee at the Grille helped me out with my

inquiries. He said that at certain hours every day, the Grille is extremely busy and that there are numerous orders to fill.

When asked what the hardest part of filling orders was, Jose replied that the menu has so many different options, and people order so many different items, that a lot of the time the orders are confused and sometimes made incorrectly. He also added that the Grille is not a very large facility for all of the orders that come in. The kitchen is fairly small and it is hard to fit a lot of staff in there and even harder to maneuver around for all of the orders.

Jose has provided some very helpful insight. Perhaps Rollins should consider expanding the Grille. That way there would be room for more employees and more stove area for grilling. Maybe they should consider limiting their menu so that orders would be less intricate and easier to fill quickly.

It seems the time it takes for students to receive their food is a bit ridiculous, but they must also realize the complexity that comes from so many orders at one time and how space is a real issue. Though the mystery seems to be solved, it does not

seem that orders will be made more quickly soon, so if you are an impatient person, you may want to consider an alternative place to grab a bite to eat.

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LAURA HARDWICKE / the sandspur

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ObamaCare: Reform health care, not a solution, reform America

TRAVIS CLINGER
the sandspur

President Obama likes to spend money. Obama started his term by passing his economic stimulus package, which cost around \$800 billion. Then we bought the car companies. Now, Obama is trying to fix health care, at an enormous cost.

The problem is that Obama is failing to understand why health care is expensive. Obama likes to blame insurance companies and greedy doctors. The truth, however, is that he needs to look closer to his political base. Trial lawyers and medical malpractice are a large reason why health care costs have skyrocketed recently.

Unfortunately, today's trial lawyers seek enormous punitive damages and then collect fees of 33 percent or more. This, in turn forces all doctors, including those who have never made a medical malpractice mistake in their lives, to pay enormous premiums on malpractice insurance.

Congress needs to cap the amount of punitive damages for malpractice claims at one million dollars, as well as malpractice lawyer fees, when taken in the form of a percentage of the settlement, in the area of 15%.

This would be a big step in lowering the cost of health care. Barack Obama, however, has no interest in doing this, perhaps because he received millions of dollars in contributions from trial lawyers during the 2008 election cycle. Nevertheless, part of the reason Medicare is failing is this malpractice nightmare.

The time has come to fix it. Obama proposes that we should ensure health insurance for all. Those who have private insurance would keep it, while those who do not have private insurance would get it at the expense of the taxpayers.

Perhaps, one should ask the question as to why anyone would have private insurance if there was free government insurance for everyone. Despite Obama's claims that private insurance will survive, the truth

is that no private company can compete with a free government service. The private companies will go bankrupt and thousands of individuals will lose their jobs.

We must also consider the cost of health insurance. Obama quickly admits that this would be an enormously expensive undertaking. However, he has left the details of how to pay for it up to Congress. Nancy Pelosi naturally thought the best solution was to tax those making over \$250,000 per year to pay for healthcare. After all, shouldn't the American government tax success? Absolutely not! The American government needs to reward success, not tax it.

The vast majority of those without health care at this time are those making under \$250,000, so Pelosi wants to pay for Obama's plan by making those who already pay for health insurance pay even more. That just doesn't make sense.

The other proposed

BRENDAN MONROE
the sandspur

Autumn in America is a time of change. For the Rollins community, it is not the leaves that change this season, but the classes, and for some who have recently graduated or transferred, it is life itself which has taken a dramatic new direction. Still, academic life and the (hopefully) cooler weather are not all this autumn brings. Something else profound and lasting is on the horizon this season in America: health care reform. That is, if the warring tykes on the playground unite long enough to give it to us. For many, the phrase "Death Panels" are all one associates with the current health care debate. There is much more to the argument, however, than Sarah Palin's provocative but absurdly misleading catch phrase, not that that is immediately obvious. The loud mouths of talk radio and cable news have united for the better good of their wallets to destroy any semblance of

bill? Zilch. The anti-reformer had Medicare. As ironic as that may be, it's even more so when considering that the reform President Obama wants to implement would be basically an extension of Medicare without preference to age. A system, by the way, with which 94 percent of recipients are satisfied.

The Glenn Beck of this world, though, would have us believe that such universal health coverage would only serve to reduce the quality and care of a U.S. system that, in Beck's words, is "the best health care system in the world." Interesting coming from the same man who, on record, back in January 2008 after hemorrhoid surgery derided the current U.S. system as a "nightmare" and his surgery as an "eye-opening experience" into a health care system "that's just trying to shove the patients out the door as fast as they can." Beck's ordeal seems to have led to some memory loss as well. Either that or he has just been exposed as another deceptive

is somehow not intertwined with the service of health care provided in this country is just absurd and illogical.

Kristoffer Bruto has lived his entire life in Falköping, Sweden, a town of just under 16,000 inhabitants. I asked him his thoughts recently on Sweden's government funded health care system. "Everything is covered by our tax system," he says. "If you have a cold and want to see a doctor you have to pay a small amount but if you need surgery it's already paid for." Kris, as I came to find out, had discovered this firsthand. "My sister was born with a heart condition called 'blue baby' and had to have a lot of surgery. All of it was paid for from our taxes. It's really good compared to what I know about your system."

Many here have not been so lucky. In an example that hits particularly close to home, my mother was hospitalized earlier this year with chest pains. Florida Hospital ran the obligatory tests then released her the following day. In the end, they

presented my mother with a bill for over \$16,000 for the overnight stay. To charge such exorbitant amounts for service that in more humane countries would be cheap — if not free — is simply immoral and wrong. For a political party that constantly prides itself on taking a stand on supposed moral issues, the Republicans sure have dropped the ball on this one. For all their talk of "Death Panels" where your grandmother,

father, sister, child and all the rest of humanity are at the mercy of a verdict essentially granting life saving medical care or denying it, there is one thing the right wing commentators do not want you to know: that these panels already exist. Not as a flourish of the President's pen stroke but as a result of the greed-infested corridors of America's true death dealers: the insurance companies. This is the season to change all of that.

Corrections

Who's Who: In last Friday's issue of the Sandspur, an article on Leslie Capobianco was incorrectly attributed to Annie Schmalstig. The article was written by Jen Atwell.



COURTESY OF MCT CAMPUS

Paging Dr. Obama: Obama's healthcare reform causes controversy among Americans.

payment plan is that the government taxes those with health insurance to pay for the public option. Another plan that just doesn't make sense.

The time has come for the American people to stand up and stop this health care debacle. Health care needs to be fixed, but President Obama and Nancy Pelosi do not have a good plan to fix it.

Instead, Obama will raise taxes to pay for the ever increasing cost of health care without fixing the reasons that make health care costly. There are ways to fix healthcare, but the proposed plan is not one of them.

rationality that this debate once had, resorting to name-calling, conspiracy theorizing and finger biting. That is right, finger biting. At a health care rally the night of Wednesday, September 2, in Thousand Oaks, California a 65-year-old man's pinky finger was bitten off in an altercation with a health care reform advocate. The biter, who managed to escape before police arrived, explained his actions thusly: "He punched me hard, straight in the face, so I bit his finger off." Classy. The AP reports that the injured man "retrieved the finger" and went to a nearby hospital. The

political commentator looking to enrage a righteous following for profit. As far as the Republican claim that the U.S. has "the best health care system in the world" we need only look at the rest of the world to see that this is far from the case. Britain's NHS system, in place since 1948, covers all citizens for everything from flu vaccines to surgical procedures — and health spending in the country is a mere 8.3 percent to our 15.3 percent GDP. Life expectancy in Britain (and Europe in general) is higher than in the U.S. That our lower life expectancy among developed countries



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BRENDAN MONROE
the sandspur

September is a month for the film festivals. Many studios in gearing up for Oscar season release their best and brightest films to festivals in Venice and Toronto this month, and while the occasional gem is revealed, the majority of the screened films are standard Hollywood message movies lacking any real substance. Substance and message movies are two things though that the upcoming 7th Annual Global Peace Film festival will have plenty of. As anyone who has ever attended the festival in years past knows, it is unlike any other around. This year, The Global Peace Film Festival will showcase 39 films from 6 continents, each film completely different except for a common thread of unification and the filmmakers shared dream to help better the world.

I talked with Dr. Denise Cummings

who, along with a core group of other Rollins faculty, has been working together over the last several years with Nina Strejch, the Festival founder. The mission of the faculty is the same as that of the festival, Dr. Cummings believes- "to teach global citizenship and responsible leadership." The festival's mission, she says, is to create a "global discussion" to "highlight the power of film as a medium as it relates to new peace issues." All features, Dr. Cummings explains, that make the Global Peace Film Festival "unique as a film festival."

The festival begins on September 22 with an outdoor screening on Rollins' very own Mills Lawn of 'The Day After Peace.' The film, directed by Jeremy Gilley, follows the filmmaker around the world in a 10-year journey to establish September 21st as an International day of Peace. From there, the remaining 38 films tackle such diverse topics as how to cope with the death of a child, an old Volkswagen beetle, a performance artist's

stand against "Europe's last dictatorship", and a concert to benefit migrant farmworkers. The film dealing with this last topic, titled "UNO: The Harvest of Hope" is of particular interest because of the close relationship its filmmakers have with the Rollins Community. Filmmakers Shaun and Jamie Cricks are no strangers to the Orlando area and are in fact Rollins Alumni. To be able to come back to their Alma Mater years later must no doubt be a thrill, though the idea of screening a film here isn't a new one to the Cricks, who have done it twice before in this same festival. This time though, the subjects are America's many migrant workers. "Everybody knows who their doctor is, their lawyer, and their teachers, but why don't they know who their farmer is?" It's an interesting question that the film poses and one that the filmmakers support throughout the 75 minute run time with "music, interviews and historical clips," according to the festival's website. Dr. Cummings, who has been involved with the

about this one in particular though she wishes she "could see every film in this year's program."

The festival, which is Sept. 22nd - 27th, offers Rollins students a great off the standard \$8 ticket price and will be held in various buildings across campus. The festival's website, peacefilmfest.org, has the full schedule and synopsis of each of the 39 films. Truly, the Global Peace Film Festival has something for everyone and Rollins students are strongly encouraged to try and attend even one screening. The impact and importance of this festival is summed up best



Tibet's Cry of Freedom



One Village Same Ocean

Global

Tuesday Sept 22

8pm The Day After Peace
Mills Lawn

Wednesday Sept 23

5:30pm For the Next 7 Generations @ WPPL

6pm Original Child Bomb @ Trust Auditorium

6:30pm Against the Grain: Artist's Survival Guide to Peace @ Bush Auditorium

6:30pm In The Blood @ Bush Auditorium

7pm Belarussian Waltz @ WPPL

8pm Motherland @ WPPL

8pm The Burning Season @ Garden Theater

8:15pm The Drumma Brothers @ SunTrust

8:30pm Dear Mr. Gore @ Bush Auditorium



For Tomorrow



Against the Grain: An Artist's Survival Guide to Peru

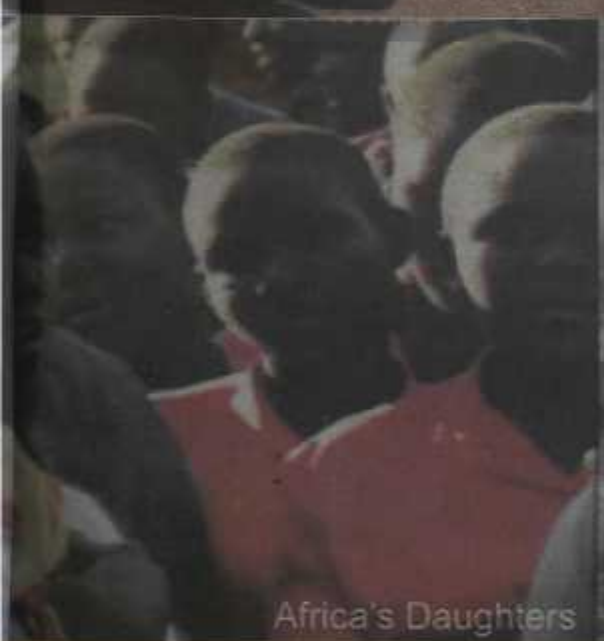
in Dr. Cummings words that "attending films, meeting filmmakers, and engaging in panel discussions, students, faculty, staff, and members of our community can become more aware of important issues and learn how to get involved in creating positive change in our world." Isn't that the real point of a film festival in the first place?



The Beetle



For the Next 7 Generations



Africa's Daughters



The Burning Season

Peace Film Festival Schedule

WPPL = Winter Park Public Library
UCF CEM = UCF Center for Emerging Media
CFAM = Cornell Fine Arts Museum

10am Yodok Stories @ UCF
11am The Beetle @ WPPL
12pm Fierce Light: When Spirit Meets Action @ WPPL
1pm In The Blood...Bridging Generations @ SunTrust
2pm UNO: The Harvest of Peace @ Bush
3pm For The Next 7 Generations @ UCF CEM
4pm Tibet's Cry of Freedom @ SunTrust
5pm Cracker- The Last Cowboy of Florida @ WPPL
6pm Original Child Bomb @ UCF CEM
7pm A Touch of Spice @ Bush

Fri, Sept 25
5:30pm The Other Side of Immigration @ WPPL
6pm Palestine, Beer and Oktoberfest Under Occupation @ SunTrust
6:30pm Motherland @ Bush
6:30 The Cats of Mirikitani @ UCF CEM
6:30pm With One voice @ UCF CEM
7pm The Burning Season @ CFAM
8pm Against The Grain: An Artist's Survival Guide to Peru @ WPPL
8:15pm Captain Abu Raed @ SunTrust
8:30pm Yodok Stories @ Bush
8:30 Gospel Hill @ UCF CEM

Sat, Sept 26
12:30pm Expansive Grounds @ Bush
12:30pm Tibet's Cry of Freedom @ UCF CEM
1pm The Dhamma Brothers @ SunTrust
1:15pm Dear Mr. Gore @ WPPL
3pm The Other Side of Immigration @ Bush
3pm Fierce Light: When Spirit Meets Action @ UCF CEM
3:30pm The Beetle @ SunTrust
3:45pm One Village Same Ocean @ WPPL
5pm The Cats of Mirikitani @ CFAM
5:30pm Captain Abu Raed @ Bush
5:30pm With One Voice @ UCF CEM

6pm Gospel Hill @ SunTrust
6:15pm The Burning Season @ WPPL
7:45pm Belarusian Waltz @ UCF CEM
7:45pm A Touch of Spice @ Bush
8:15pm Palestine, Beer and Oktoberfest Under Occupation @ SunTrust
Sun, Sept 27
12:30pm Motherland @ SunTrust
1pm With One voice @ Bush
1:30pm Expansive Grounds @ WPPL

All pictures courtesy of
www.peacefilmfest.org

Who's Who: Jonathan Miller

JEN ATWELL
the sandspur



COURTESY OF ROLLINS.EDU
MAN IN CHARGE: Jonathan Miller is the Director of the Olin Library.

In this week's Who's Who, we had the opportunity to interview the director of the Olin Library, Mr. Jonathan Miller.

Q: At what point did you realize that being a librarian was what you want to do?

I was in a boarding house in New York City in the late 1980's, in my late 20's. I was thinking about what I could do with my life. I knew I liked books, I liked research, working with people, and I thought a job in higher education would work with my wife's career. My brother-in-law is a public librarian and I thought, "I could do that."

Q: What is the Olin Library doing to keep up in the "digital age?"

- The "Find It" button on

every article record. When you click it, it looks for the full text of the article in every database in the library and presents it to you with just one click. If we do not have the full text, it gives you some other alternatives so that you can get the article.

- New interlibrary borrowing software that works with the "Find It" button so that it knows who you are, knows what book or article you want and fills out the request form online automatically. When we get the article it is delivered to you by e-mail. It is free, there is no limit on how many times you can use it, and you get the article or book in an average of about one week from anywhere in the world."

- We are bringing up a new service this semester called R-Search; it is like Google for libraries. One search box searches everything (well, almost) and the full text is just one click away.

- We have added loads of databases and full text journals and moved lots of journal subscriptions from print to online so they are more convenient.

- Easy and convenient off-campus access so that you can access all of our digital resources from anywhere you can get to a networked computer.

- We have reorganized the staff so that more of them are concentrating on the digital library, and less on processing print materials.

The really exciting next stage is when we move to web scale discovery systems, in which you get access to the information you need not based on where you are, but who you

are. To get a little feel for this take a look at Google Scholar (<http://scholar.google.com>). Go to the preferences and add Rollins to the "Library Links" box. When you do a search, the system will recognize you as a Rollins Student and allow you to access the full text, if we have licensed it. Another example is <http://rollins.worldcat.org>. Give it a try and let me know what you think.

Q: What are some of the biggest things that you have implemented in the library, as well as campus wide at the college?

We have tried to make the library a bit more "user-friendly" with the rocking chairs outside, allowing students to eat and drink in the building, extending the hours of the coffee shop, opening 24/7 in the week of and week before exams, and opening up more group study rooms for students.

As for campus wide, I chaired the committee that searched for Rollins' new Chief Information Officer, to lead Information Technology at Rollins. Dr. Pat Schoknecht just started working on Tuesday, September 8. I think she is going to have a huge impact on IT service at Rollins over the next few years.

Just as a side fact from the interview, did you know that "most people who work in libraries are not librarians?" Jonathan said that "you must get a master's degree in library and information science," which is really just the beginning of the learning journey as a librarian.

Electronic nicotine

LAUREN LA PORTE
the sandspur

Since smoking has become such an issue in this country, companies are looking for a profitable solution. Many people believe an answer has been found in the form of electronic cigarettes. The electronic cigarette claims to have fewer chemicals than a regular cigarette, and no tar or ashes. It is also said to produce no secondhand smoke. All of these factors make the electronic cigarette sound like a good alternative to tobacco cigarettes, but the selling points may be a façade.

The FDA has not approved electronic cigarettes. In fact, the FDA issued a press release in July of 2009 discouraging their use. In September of 2008, the World Health Organization also released a statement, claiming that it does not believe the e-cigarette to be an effective method for the cessation of smoking, based on the premise that vaporized nicotine.

The fact remains that the electronic cigarette still contains nicotine. Nicotine is the main chemical that is negative in ciga-

rettes; therefore an e-cigarette is not much better. Health Canada, 2009 advisory stated: "...Electronic smoking products may pose risks such as nicotine poisoning and addiction."

"There is a reason why they were not approved [by the FDA]," said Samantha Poirer (Class of 2013). "If someone wanted to stop smoking, there are other methods. My mom did it. She used her own willpower." There are multitudes of other options too such as books and programs to help people stop smoking, as well as nicotine replacement like the nicotine patch, and nicotine gum. These replacements help increase chances of quitting by 50 to 70 percent, according to Patrick Reynolds of Anti-Smoking.org.

Though many are desperate to stop smoking, and feel like everything they have tried has failed them, there are safer methods than electronic cigarettes. Perhaps in the future, a better developed version will be less harmful, but right now, the electronic cigarette is not a reliable tool for someone to safely fight nicotine addiction.



COURTESY OF MCT CAMPUS

IS THIS LESS DANGEROUS?: This man demonstrates the use of an electronic cigarette. However, if he is hoping this will help him quit actual smoking he may need to look elsewhere for assistance.

Living on a budget

NIC RAMOS-
FLORES
the sandspur

College living in most of the United States generally means cheap, cash strapped, young adults looking to eat, live and play on a low budget. However, there are plenty of ways to save money to get the most of the college experience. Food, entertainment and school expenses are typically areas in which college students overspend.

At Rollins, food is one of the most wasted commodities that the student body abuses. It is easy to save money in this category. Part of the cost of going to Rollins is the meal plan, yet most of the A&S students never fully spend the \$1,900 that are provided for us on the meal plan. Even with this huge expense students still feel the need to go off campus to eat. Students should use common financial sense and eat off the plan; it is a simple way to save some money.

That is not to say that Campus Center food does not get old

after the first month or so of consumption. "I eat off campus because the food is better and there is more variety," says Benjamin Elzweig (2012), who frequently eats off campus. Local newspapers such as the Orlando Weekly are a great resource for many local restaurants. Oftentimes there are coupons from restaurants that are trying to draw a larger clientele, benefiting the consumer-you.

Many students also live in Sutton, where a meal plan is not required, or they live off campus. When buying groceries, scope out the Sunday newspaper that is filled with coupons. The key to coupons is not to buy something simply because you are saving \$1.50; use coupons on things that you would have bought regardless of price. Another helpful tip is to go to discount stores such as Wal-Mart and Target and buy store-brands of items. "I oftentimes buy brand name products at Wal-Mart since they are cheaper than other grocery stores or discount stores," says Ashley Light (2012), who lives

in Sutton Place Apartments. It is also smart to have a budget and to stick with it when it comes to groceries.

Entertainment is a major expense for most college students since they are typically away from home and do not know where the cheap places in the local area are located. A major way to cut your entertainment expense is to get involved on campus. The campus has a free event at least once a week, and many times they will offer free meals to attract students. "Getting involved on campus is a great way to get to know people and do something outside of studying and classes that is free," says Genevieve Cooper, a Holt student who loves going to the free events on campus.

Finally, school has to be the biggest expense that students have by far and books in specific are one of those large expenses that vary from semester to semester. There are two big ways that you can save on books. Recently, there has been a lot of buzz about renting books. This

is a good idea, especially for courses that one only takes for a general education requirement. For example, a book for EDU280 that costs \$54.00 new at the bookstore can cost you \$23.14 for 130 days of renting it. They ship the books to you and all you have to do is return the books on the set return date.

If renting is not your thing, an easy alternative is buying your books online so you can save anywhere from 25% to 50% of the book prices. Waiting a couple months and putting your book for sale online can also give you a much higher profit than the convoluted formula the bookstore uses to buy your books back. This plan also allows you to sell stockpile books that you will never read again.

The financial aid office is also a great place to save on college expenses. According to

CNN Money, students oftentimes do not apply for financial aid because they believe they do not qualify for the extra help. But there is a plethora of federal, state and local grants that are usually unheard of until students apply for financial aid. Do not bypass the financial aid process, try it out because if you get a \$3,000 grant, that is \$3,000 you can spend on entertainment or a new car.

Saving money and living on a budget is a rewarding way to get the most out your four years at Rollins. Sometimes you cannot save on certain items, for example Check Soda at a \$1.25 per two liter does not taste the same as Coca Cola for \$2.00, but saving money in places that you can will allow you to appreciate things more and allow a student's limited budget to go places that truly matter.

So you think you can dance?

TJ FISHER
the sandspur

When asked why she wanted to start the dance team, Maisano replied, "I wanted to show school spirit through something I love to do, which is dance."

Now, some might ask, what is the difference between a dance team and a cheerleading team? Well, the Rollins College Dance Team consists of two separate teams, the Blue Team and the Gold Team. The Blue Team dances hip hop, and the Gold Team dances in the Pom style. Each team has two separate captains - Alyssa Howe and Denise Lee lead the Blue Team, while the captains for the Gold Team are Jannina Laaksonen and TJ Fisher. The current Blue Team members are: Alyssa Howe, Denise Lee, Danielle Abby, Jasmine Clayton, Me-

This year, there will be a new addition to the halftime shows at Rollins Basketball games, a dance team. The Rollins College Dance Team, it's a club started by sophomore Sarah Maisano this year. It's a group of roughly 20 girls who will perform both hip-hop and pom-pom routines at each of the home games during halftime, with the goal of bringing spirit and energy to the crowd.

Tryouts took place last week in the dance studio of the Alford Sports Center. Maisano taught the girls part of one of the hip-hop routines to be performed. With great energy

and excitement, the girls began to learn the routine and were able to pick up the choreography in no time. After watching, it was clear that picking only 20 girls was going to be a hard task.

On the second night of tryouts, Maisano reviewed the routine from the night before, and proceeded to teach the poms routine, a style that incorporates both pom-poms and jazz dance styles. The girls were, once again, full of enthusiasm. As they learned the new routine, it was clear this year was going to be a great year for the Rollins College Dance Team.



TJ FISHER/ the sandspur

ROLLINS GOT TALENT: The girls of the brand new Rollins Dance Team pose for a picture to promote their new and exciting organization on campus.

Rosie O'Melia.

Another set of tryouts will be on the 21st and 23rd of September; anyone who wants to be a part of the Rollins College Dance Team is welcome to visit the dance studio in the Alford Sports Center at 7:45 on Monday and see what it's all about!

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BOSTON
UNIVERSITY

Laptops in class: Facebooking or note taking

TJ FISHER
the sandspur

At many colleges around the United States, more and more students are bringing their laptops to class, allegedly to do work. Here, around Rollins College, the number of laptops in classrooms is not staggering, but there are enough of them to wonder, can that kid really type notes that fast, or is he just Facebook chatting? What about professors? How do they feel about the digital age and its effect on the increase of laptops being used in class?

Recently, in an Intro to Philosophy class, three students were using their laptops in class. The professor, Hoyt Edge, must have been suspicious, because he began to walk to the edges of the classroom and closer to the desks than usual. The first laptop he came to was being misused, prompting him to check the other laptops, which were being used for their purpose in class: to take notes.

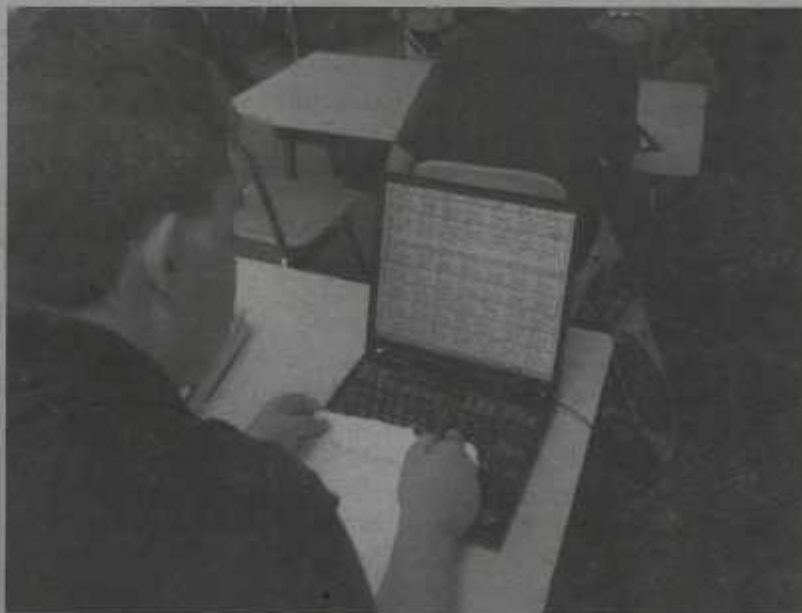
This raised the question: how do professors come up with their laptop policies? Scott Rubarth, a philosophy, religion, and classics professor who teaches the "Rome: Beyond the Miniseries" RCC, clearly states in his syllabus the conditions under which computers can be used. His syllabus states, "Laptops may be used only with permission of professor. Students using laptops must turn off wireless function, close all applications/windows other than the notes document and

sit in the front row." This prevents students from surfing the web, and in many cases discourages students from bringing their laptop to class in the first place. Professor Larry Van Sickle, who teaches sociology, has a slightly different laptop policy. He has no specific rules except that the computer just be used for note taking, but also says, "There is something to be said for person-to-person communication. The way I run my classes, discussion is important, and when a student is hiding behind a laptop, there is a loss of that certain quality of human conversation."

Even when professors al-

low laptops in class, there are certain restrictions. Granted, most professors do not walk around the classroom checking every student's computer screen. Still, the consensus from teachers is that, although they have policies, we are all adults here, and a student is only wasting his own education by misusing computers in class.

However, if a computer is being used appropriately in a class room setting, there are several benefits such as being able to take notes at a faster rate and spend more time paying attention to the professor. Either way, there are pros and cons and it all comes down to each individual student.



MCT CAMPUS/ the sandspur

DON'T GET CAUGHT: A student uses his laptop in order to take notes in class. However, who knows what this student has minimized for when the professor passes?

Buyouts in the comic book world

SHELBY PHILLIPS
the sandspur

Announced early last week, alongside the recent news of Disney buying Marvel Comics, comes the news that Warner Brothers has officially acquired DC Comics. Also announced is the equally surprising news that Paul Levitz will be stepping down from President and Publisher of DC Comics, a position he has held for several years. DC Comics will of course continue to publish comic books and graphic novels as they always have. However, DC Entertainment is now a new division of Warner Brothers headed by Diane Nelson, the woman responsible for marketing the hugely successful Harry Potter franchise, and who holds high hopes for propelling the legendary characters of DC Comics to the social and economic status as the kid wizards.

Also in the works is company restructuring, as Levitz will be choosing a new publisher

for DC Comics to work alongside Nelson. Levitz himself will return to writing comic books, something he has been itching to get back to. His first byline in many years will appear in Adventure Comics number seven. In the meantime, he will be acting as a stand-in editor on a few books and a consultant for Nelson as she learns the business.

One must keep in mind, however, that this is not a buyout as we all know Warner Brothers already owns DC Comics, and has for several years. This is simply a natural progression in business, a step many have been waiting for Warner Brothers and DC Comics to take. This new division of DC means that there will be less confusion, and movies such as Batman can make it to the big screen in record time, without the faltering filming that has plagued both companies for several years. So remember to keep an eye out for Paul Levitz's triumphant return to comics, as he dives happily back into the DC Comics storytelling business.

Trapped in the Antarctic, a chilling fate

BRENDAN MONROE
the sandspur

Early in "Whiteout" we are treated to a shootout on a Russian plane. Why exactly anyone would think it would be a good idea to have a shootout in such a location is beyond me and is never fully explained anyway, but what is important, I think, is that the plane crash lands on the "coldest, most isolated landmass on the planet." That landmass is Antarctica.

Stripped of her sensuous British accent, the usually scintillating Kate Beckinsale radiates little heat as U.S. Marshal Carrie Stetko who, naturally, just days away from transferring to a more temperate post, happens to stumble on the continent's first homicide. Follow that up with your typical spooky phone call offering to tell all (but not over the phone, of course), and low and behold you have all the ingredients for a semi-routine, if originally-set, thriller, or in this case, "chiller." That is, until the ice-pick wielding figure in all matching black arctic gear, fresh from the local North Face, pops out from the shadows. At this point "Whiteout" turns into something resembling a late night cable slasher flick, albeit without the steamy sex. Aware of this slight, the quartet of writers oblige us by tossing in an

utterly pointless shower scene in which we can admire our clearly haunted marshal's finely toned, and remarkably tanned, body from behind the foggy glass walls.

The sports bra wearing marshal is everything the accessory would suggest she is: a tough, persistent, man-eating stereotype who rejects the advances of her universally male colleagues with oddly worded jokes about the size of their appendages, which she noted, passing them outside while they were streaking. In Antarctica. Just before the onset of winter. This, however, is one of the more plausible elements of the script, which, if I have not already mentioned, took four writers to concoct. Probably in the basement of their parents' house while drunk on vodka, as evidenced by the liquor's omnipresence in the script, though one character notably prefers scotch. Of course, our lovely U.S. Marshal is not as tough and cold as she first appears. This is all imperfectly explained by events that happened some time before while on assignment in Miami— events that of course led to her arrival on this most isolated of landmasses. That these events are flashed back to at various points in the movie and then culminate in such an unsatisfying fashion in one particularly long flashback near the

The Time Traveler's Wife: anything but a chick flick

JARED SILVIA
the sandspur

What if I told you there is a movie out there that stars Rachel McAdams (The Notebook) with Eric Bana (The Other Boleyn Girl), and in that movie they are super in-love?

Chick flick, right? It would have to be a chick flick.

"The Time Traveler's Wife" Robert Schwentke's film based on the Audrey Niffenegger novel by the same name (adapted for the screen by Bruce Joel Rubin) appears on the surface to be pure, unfiltered, sappy date fodder, and that is probably the fault of the advertisements. Let's have a look at a play-by-play of the trailer:

Hunky smile, innocent smile, hunky smile, loving smile, loving stare, sweet embrace, kiss, kiss, kiss, marriage proposal, kiss, wedding, happy life together, plot points (minor detail), argument, unhappy, frowns and concerned looks, cuddling, crying, arguing, drama, running toward each others arms, kiss, kiss, over.

But before I go any further, I should make something clear: I do not hate romantic films. I hate bad romantic films. I was worried that this was going to be another EZ Bake dramatic romantic trash epic. You know the ones I'm talking about. Boy meets Girl? She is startlingly independent? He is a rough, out of control bad-boy? He learns to be tamed for love and she learns

to rely on someone else? The last shot is of them in the park, and she is pregnant and/or has a toddler in tow, and it zooms out to show a shot of the city?

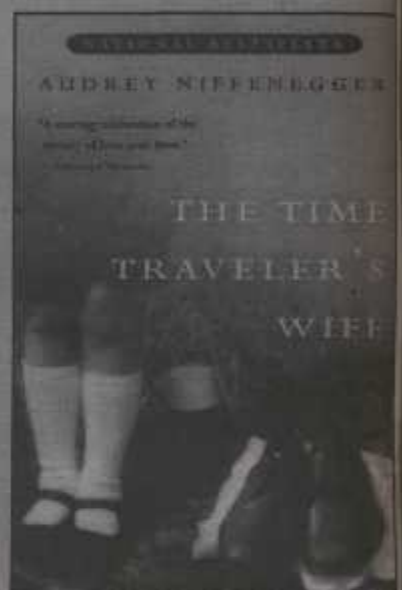
"The Time Traveler's Wife," though, despite threatening to be just this sort of sad, unfortunate film is... actually not that bad. There is very little of the smoochy sap pulsating throughout the trailer, and it does have exactly what it needs to sustain the romantic relationship that weaves the overall tale together. The story is compelling, and the actors do a convincing job portraying their characters, especially considering the range of ages and states they are required to portray them in. Of particular note is the unexpected Ron Livingston (Office Space, Band of Brothers) who plays a convincing character across a roughly 15-year age range. Eric Bana and Rachel McAdams succeed in depicting a substantive romance that has a unique difficulty to overcome: absence due to involuntary time travel.

Science Fiction is the major area where this film falls short. Any film that tackles the topic of time travel must answer a number of questions: Can characters change things in the past? If so, does an alternate reality occur, or does the entire time-space continuum collapse into nothingness? "The Time Traveler's Wife" sadly contains very little discussion of the nature of time and space.

Having had a chance to peruse Niffenegger's original

novel, I can say to those who are worried about the film betraying the book should take a look at the rating (PG-13). So, much of the grit, a lot of the sex, and some of the metaphysical philosophy is just not there. Otherwise, it stays pretty true.

So, where does this film fall in the spectrum if it is not a poorly conceived romance and not a gritty sci-fi time romp? It's a dramatic, convincingly acted, well directed tale that, when taken on its own merits, may just tug at your heartstrings. I'd say it is worth viewing, whether you are looking for a romantic movie, or just a good time.



COURTESY OF MCT CAMPUS
A LOVE FOR THE AGES: Rachel McAdams and Eric Bana star in this romantic sci-fi movie about a time traveler and his wife. This movie is a must-see for everyone, not just women.

end makes the whole device feel like an underdeveloped "Lost" plotline long since tossed into the recycle bin.

The only character Carrie trusts after the rash of killings begins is the kind, grandfatherly 'Doc', whose role seems to

be to dispense delightful bits of philosophy and wisdom in any and all circumstances, including while amputating our brave heroine's frost-bitten fingers. He warns a group of shivering, yet fully clothed males early on to "never underestimate the ice,"

with such mock-conviction and foreboding that the line could have been delivered by Mr. Freeze in that most memorable of Batman features. Beckinsale spends much of her time falling into conveniently placed holes and getting trapped in ancient Russian aircraft, while flirting with the handsome, possibly murderous, UN Investigator Robert Pryce. Pryce serves about the same purpose in the film as the international body does in real life: to act important while all hell breaks loose.

There are some other things left to complicate matters: a bad storm or "whiteout" is approaching and one of the other three (we think good) characters might be very very bad. Having only three to choose from would be simple enough, but by the time the so-called climax rolls around the villain is so glaringly obvious the word might as well be tattooed on his forehead. And no, there are not any other women in the film so nothing was spoiled. Ironically, whiteout is a product that the screenwriters apparently did not have on hand, thus leaving us with a contrived, predictable "thriller" that packs about as much heat as the snowy terrain on which it is set. Perhaps with a little work on the script, this movie could have been halfway decent. On a scale of one to ten, "Whiteout" is a four.



COURTESY OF MCT CAMPUS
COMPLETE WHITEOUT: Kate Beckinsale stars in this wild thriller, a twisting, turning plot set in the vastness of the Antarctic.

"9" is the lonliest number, it's true

BRENDAN MONROE
the sandspur

"9" is the kind of film that garners all kinds of undo buzz and anticipation before anyone has even seen the whole thing, so that when it finally is seen it receives a collective sigh of... regret. Regret that you just spent the last hour and nineteen minutes of your life on a film that will be, nine months from now, in the bargain bin at your favorite trailer park Wal-Mart. But remember, no matter what you do, that when your little kid sister (or brother, niece, nephew, etc.) pulls this cursed little film from the stack and presents it to you with those googly eyes, that you respond with a brave, yet firm "No." As in, "No, I will not let you, someone I love, watch a film so utterly uninspired and devoid of logic that it makes the latest shampoo commercial look divinely inspired."

I used to like numbers. As a child, I would watch the daily number on Sesame Street and maybe even count along, but that is all over now. The only

numbers that I wished to think about while I was in that dark and depressing cinema were how many minutes I had left before I could flee this post-apocalyptic world of sock puppets and spider-bots.

The film starts a bit self-critically: "We had such potential, such promise," the narrator

exactly have a stake in things anymore, but that is before we are told that actually, the sock puppets all contain particles of the machine inventor's soul which, naturally, will start the human race up again, or didn't you know? And thus our title... umm, number, awakens and our blessed little plot begins.

sock-puppets next. It might have something to do with the whole soul thing, but it is never mentioned. Of course, 1 does not want them to go on this mission. He is the big boss, you see, and is a bit set in his ways and all too eager to declare war on what he does not understand. Hmmm... whom might that be

made. This film would not have been original even if it had come out 25 years ago, and it certainly is not now. We could talk about the score (one of the worst ever) or the voice talent (in case you go to a film for Elijah Wood's voice), but neither are worth mentioning.

What is remarkable about "9" is how it manages to make 79 minutes feel like 179. It was adapted from an 11-minute short film so it seems as if someone just forgot to fill the extra 68 minutes with anything slightly resembling a decent story. The misperception is that this is a film that children would enjoy. It is not. I am telling you no one would enjoy this film, least of all children who have a hard time sitting still as it is. One little girl was seated directly behind me and was kind enough to share her thoughts aloud at various points: "Why are they puppets, mommy?" "Why are they going after 2?" "What are they doing here anyway?" I do not know kid... nobody knows.

I give 2 out of 10 for "9", by virtue of it not being "All About Steve" and having some slightly interesting visuals.

"This film would not have been original even if it had come out 25 years ago, and it certainly is not now"

intones, referring to the perennially destructive nature of humanity, but also to the potential this film might have at one time had. There are not any humans in the movie, as we have all been destroyed by the evil "machines" that, at this point, have to be challenging the Nazis for film villain supremacy. According to the movie, we invented the machines to go to war for us, but that predictably did not work because the machines got bored and turned their ire on humans. But never fear! The sock-puppets are here! It is not clear why that matters, since all the humans are dead and do not

What I would not have given for that hair-tearingly annoying little puppet to have never opened his eyes... to think at the promise of a world without '9'. Instead we are left with an absolutely scatter-brained story about a knuckle-headed and terribly nosy sock-puppet who, along with a recently acquired sock puppet friend, 5, goes off to recover 2, who has been puppet-napped by a robot pit bull. Yes, you read that right. Apparently, since the human population seems to be at a bit of a low point at the time, the robot dogs and spider thingies have decided that they want these

alluding too? 1, along with still being the loneliest number, is also the self-appointed king of the sock puppets, though his power seems to be entirely in his having the obedience of the incredibly dimwitted (even for a sock-puppet) but brawny (for a sock-puppet) 8, who grunts and mumbles whenever he has a response to something. He also enjoys getting high by putting a horseshoe magnet to his head, but don't we all.

It is not just the Terminator films that "9" steals from, but Lord of the Rings, Ice Age, The Matrix, and just about every post-apocalyptic film ever

This newspaper for humans only, no aliens

JOSH MANNEN
the sandspur

Face it: science fiction has never been an incredible medium for insightful and well thought-out metaphors. Generally consisting of overdone special effects and over-the-top action, sci-fi and fantasy films have constantly maintained a small "Ivy League" of literary crossovers, consisting of Lord of the Rings, Star Wars and, debatably, few others. However, "District 9" takes a huge step toward joining these with quality writing and directing, while embracing the deep metaphoric capabilities of literature while not forgetting its sci-fi roots. Blending both intense, heart-wrenching storytelling with lightning-fast alien warfare, "District 9" is a breath of fresh air in the genre.

The movie opens in a dramatic, documentary style, introducing the overall theme in a way that lessens the fantastic "alien" elements and lets the audience realize them as a commonplace being in the movie's world. By linking the alien population to the apartheid of South Africa, District 9 immediately draws us into a twisted reality, combating our natural instinct to distance ourselves from such an unbelievable surrealistic setting. This notion of uneasiness is evident throughout the entire movie, forcing the audience onto the edge of their seats in distinct anticipation. Many specific instances arise

that force us to humanize the aliens, teaching us to remember our own humanity in the face of racism and genocide. As the main character, a squirrely, somewhat off-kilter Wilkus van der Merwe begins to suffer the extremes of racial prejudice, we are all asked to question our own sense of what it truly means to be a member of the society constructed around us.

Throughout the deeper issues pervading District 9 also lays a cinematic hodgepodge of

camera techniques and filming styles that constantly refresh the scenes. Beginning with a documentary style similar to what we have seen in recent films such as "Cloverfield", "District 9" soon shifts into sweeping dramatic visuals. Constantly shifting back and forth, the shots transform from documentary-styled to dramatic, and then to intense action sequences later in the film. This merging of styles introduces a gritty realism that forces the audience to look

deeper into the possibilities occurring on the screen [because of its realism]. Simultaneously, "District 9" provides a heart-pounding blood bath that will keep the heartiest action junkie kicking the back of your seat until you're ready to start a blood bath of your own.

By hybridizing the best of both genres, "District 9" comes together to create a creature unique to anything ever filmed. Grasping the emotional reins of the audience, the movie fails to

let go until the curtains finally drop, releasing the audience in a euphoric stupor and causing them to question what the hell they just saw. After spending the following evening digesting the ten-course visual feast, the eccentricities and sheer depth of "District 9" come to fruition, allowing one to appreciate its comprehensive whole. In this way, "District 9" will declare itself as a staple of the sci-fi genre, letting generations for years to come appreciate its prowess.



DIVERSITY IS UNITY: Sharlito Copely stars in this social commentary about District 9, a district that has been roped off for alien life forms, which are forced to stay separated from the populous.

September/October

Sunday

Monday

Tuesday

Wednesday

Thursday

Friday

Saturday

20

Men's Soccer vs. Warner
2 pm

21

Rollins Climbing Club trip to
Aiguille Rock Climbing Gym
6:30 PM
(every Monday
and Wednesday)

22

23

SGA Senate Meeting
open to the entire campus
6 pm

Volleyball vs. Tampa
7 pm

24

RIP Tag
Fred Stone Theatre
11 pm

25

ACE Presents:
Rollins After Dark
Karaoke, Pancake Bar,
& Mock-Tail Competition
10pm-1am
Dave's Down Under

26

Fields of Glass (dark heavy
metal band featuring Rollins
students) in Battle of the
Bands at AKA Lounge
68 E Pine St, Orlando
Visit [www.myspace.com/](http://www.myspace.com/fieldsofglass)
fieldsofglass

7th Annual Global Peace Film Festival - Check out www.peacefilmfest.org for times and ticketing info

27

28

Sandspur Open Mic Night
8 pm

Slavoj Žižek presents
"Žižek and Film: A Theorist's
Commentary" 7-9:30 pm
Bush Auditorium

29

Slavoj Žižek presents
"Is There Ethics in
Psychoanalysis?"
7-9 pm
Bush Auditorium

30

SGA Senate Meeting
open to the entire campus
6 pm

Rollins Climbing Club trip to
Aiguille Rock Climbing Gym
6:30 PM

1

Antigone Opening
Front of the Annie Russell
Theatre at 7 pm

International R-Journalist
Skype Sessions 5-6:30 pm
Bush 120

2

Antigone
Front of the Annie Russell
Theatre at 7 pm

Volleyball vs. Barry
7 pm

3

Soccer vs. Eckerd
4:30 (Men) & 7 pm (Women)

Pinehurst Pancakes & Open
House! 11 am - 2 pm

Antigone / 2 & 7 pm

Volleyball vs. Nova / 4 pm

Film Festival

4

5

Weekly Rock Climbing Trip
6:30 pm

6

Volleyball vs. Florida Tech
7 pm

RIP Cut-To
Fred Stone Theatre
11 pm

7

Weekly:
SGA Senate 6 pm
Rock Climbing Trip 6:30 pm

8

Taste of Culture Series:
Costa Rica
12:30-1:30
Reeves Lodge

9

Tennis
[C.L. Varner
Memorial Invitational]
All day

10

Volleyball vs. Lynn / 4 pm
Volleyball vs. Southern New
Hampshire / 7:30 pm

Soccer vs. Palm Beach
Atlantic
4:30 (men) & 7 pm (women)

Fall Break

11

12

Weekly Rock Climbing Trip
6:30 pm

13

Men's Soccer vs. Lynn
7 pm

14

Weekly:
SGA Senate 6 pm
Rock Climbing Trip 6:30 pm

15

16

Men's Soccer vs. Tampa
7 pm

17

Women's Soccer vs. Lynn
7 pm

Fall Break

18

19

Weekly Rock Climbing Trip
6:30 pm

20

21

Weekly:
SGA Senate 6 pm
Rock Climbing Trip 6:30 pm

Women's Soccer vs. Tampa
7 pm

Rollins College

www.TheSandspur.org

Tars Shoot Down Thomas Night Hawks

JARED SILVIA
the sandspur

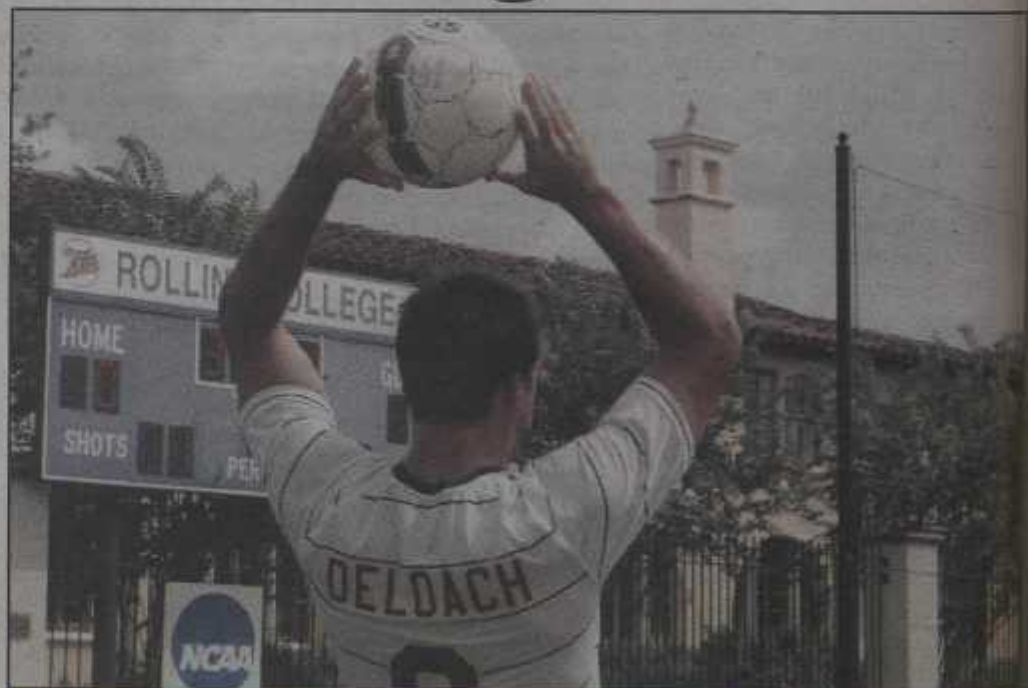
On Sept. 13, the Tars men's soccer team clashed with the Night Hawks of Georgia's Thomas University.

The Night Hawks had an early chance in the eighth minute of the game, as they caught keeper Aaron Rokeach (class of 2012) just out of the goal. Luckily, Tars defender Thomas Biddinger (class of 2011) cleared the well-placed shot off of the line. Moments later, Tars forward Adam New (class of 2011) struck a clean shot past the Night Hawks keeper to

take Rollins into an early lead. Bradley Welch (class of 2011) struck again for the Tars in the 22nd minute, recovering New's blocked effort and driving it home.

Still knocking on the door, the Tars struck again twice in rapid succession. Jacob Deloach's (class of 2010) well-directed free kick was controlled and fired past the Night Hawks' keeper, Jan Feldman, by Dean Walker (class of 2010) in the 32nd minute of the first half. Moments later, Ryley Delgado (class of 2013) netted the Tars their fourth goal of the match, his first for Rollins.

Sadly, in the 34th minute of the first half, Rokeach was beat for the first time this season when the Tars defense failed to manage a poorly cleared ball. Night Hawks midfielder Angus Cox snuck the ball in, breaking the Tars' season-long clean sheet.



JARED SILVIA / the sandspur

Defender Jacob Deloach scans the field before throwing the ball into play.



JARED SILVIA / the sandspur

Tars Forward Adam New attempts to score on the Night Hawks defense.

Still, at the half the scoreboard displayed an accurate image of the movement of play in the game. The Tars were up 4-1 and were dominating shots taken with a whopping 17 to the Nighthawks' two.

The second half kicked off with a valiant effort from the Tars' Nick Sowers (class of 2012), which Night Hawks keeper Jan Feldman barely

got his hands on. Moments later though, play at the Cahall-Sandspur Field was complicated by a typical Central Florida afternoon downpour that changed the pitch texture and ball movement, causing more than a few slips and misjudged balls for both teams. Still, the Tars managed to shut down the Night Hawks' few attacks, turning most of them around into breaks toward the opposite end. The Tars made a total of 25 shots during the course of play and held the Night Hawks to just eight.

In a controversial decision moments before the end of the

match, officials waved play on what appeared to be a fairly clear foul situation after a poor tackle by the Night Hawks. Amidst protests, Night Hawks forward Alex Fleming slotted a final goal past the Tars' substitute keeper Chris Cummings (class of 2011) with seconds left on the clock.

Despite the disappointing ending and the break of their season-long clean sheet, the Tars' victory put them at 5-0-1, and with national rankings coming out the week of Sept. 14, the Rollins men are looking good for a nice place in the national spotlight.