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Rollins College

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The Sandspur

The Oldest College Newspaper in Florida, Est. 1894

Rollins College

Friday | November 6, 2009

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Sandspur hosts
first ever Hallow-
een Party



Over 100 people attended The Sandspur Halloween Party, which was an enormous success.

PAGE 8

this day in history

November 6, 1944—Plutonium was invented at the Hanford Atomic Facility in reactor B. This Plutonium would later be used to in the atomic bomb that was dropped on Nagasaki. Plutonium paved the way for the nuclear era we live in today.



COURTESY OF NATIONAL ARCHIVES

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Kids celebrate Halloween at Rollins



VERNON MEIGS / the sandspur

CHUCKLES: Children have tons of fun at Halloween Howl.

VERNON MEIGS
the sandspur

Halloween Howl 2009 at Rollins attracted a vast array of children and families and a plethora of students and Rollins organizations provided these families with activities to enjoy. Kids and participating Rollins students showed up with a colorful spectrum of costumes such as cartoon characters and superheroes. Rollins professors and staff members were also present and enjoying the event at Mills Lawn. There were additional special features during the event, such as a group of dancers and Rollins President Lewis Duncan even performed physics-themed magic tricks in front of the children.

Everyone who attended or participated in the event agreed that although the weather was

clear, it was quite hot, especially considering the heavy costume wear. The table for Rex Beach Hall had a meet-the-characters feature that allowed for kids to have their pictures taken with them. Rex Beach RA Billy Yates (Class of 2012), who played a pirate, said that it has been very rewarding for them, and it was organized well, even though it was very hot out that day. His fellow participant, Elena Anemogiannis (Class of 2013), who played a princess, corroborated that statement; she pointed out that she had "50 layers of skirt" for her costume. Members of Sigma Alpha Iota said that their crayons were melting and that they had to put their candy on ice.

The pressure of the heat, however, did not prevent enjoyment of the event, and the kids genuinely appreciated all of the games and activities. Some ac-

tivities involved water, such as water-balloon tossing and dropping the target into a tank of water, which were perfect for the participants. Residential houses such as Pinehurst were made into haunted houses as well. The candy, in large amounts, was well received.

Rollins physics department professor Christopher Fuse commented that "it was a lot of fun and there were a lot of clubs."

However, the day itself was not without its mixed feelings. Rollins student David Townsend (Holt), who portrayed the red Power Ranger, expressed his thoughts on the fact that the table for his club, TAG, had to be closed down due to a misunderstanding. "The [adult] staff was completely idiotic about it," he exclaimed, "but the student staff was great. Other than that, the event went good."

Despite having his end

closed down prematurely, he endured the extreme heat in a Red Ranger outfit made of polyester. "The dance team was having fun, the costumes were great, and I sympathize with those in heavy costumes who carried on despite the heat."

Halloween Howl was overall a very positive Halloween event with a very family-oriented setting and feel. Further commenting on the event, Townsend stated that it was "it was safer than having your kids go out to a stranger's house for candy." His statement is agreeable, since there was just enough candy to match the amount one could get in a regular, nocturnal Trick-or-Treat but much safer with the daylight and their family accompanying them.

"It was pretty cool for a first year student," Townsend added. "It made me feel like part of the Rollins community."

thesandspur.org POLL

What did you feel about the Tunnel of Oppression?



- It changed my mindset on hatred and discrimination
- It was not effective in what it was intended to do
- I did not attend

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quotable

"This is the third bomb to strike Peshawar this month and is part of a larger offensive of over ten major recent terrorist attacks..."

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The Sandspur
The Oldest College
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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Swine flu infects college campuses in US

TJ FISHER
the sandspur

As of Oct. 28, 351 schools in 19 states closed during the previous week due to the H1N1 virus, better known as Swine Flu. Federal officials are urging schools not to close except in extreme cases. The number of students who have had Swine Flu is rising, and Rollins students became included in that number when the virus swept our campus at the beginning of the school year. On Oct. 26, a middle school in Connecticut closed after 120 students stayed home sick and administration sent home another 20 students by noon. Since the beginning of the school year, close to 600 schools have closed; if this number continues to rise, it will soon surpass 700—the number of schools that closed during the first outbreak.

The amount of students calling in sick to school is staggering in some areas. St. Charles East High School, located outside Chicago, had 800 out of 2200 students call in sick on one day, causing the school to close its doors. However, officials are debating whether closing schools is actually helping the outbreak.

Donna Lovell, the director of pupil personnel for Berea

Community Schools in Kentucky, feels that contagion is inevitable in schools.

She says, "Students are in such close proximity [to each other] and they're in two or three classrooms a day at two or three different desks."

Other officials argue that closing the schools is only prolonging the spread of the flu and increasing the probability of contracting the sickness.

There are several

problems with closing schools. The number one debatable issue is coursework. Some schools are posting lessons on the internet, so students can continue their schoolwork, sick or not. Other schools are strongly against this approach, claiming that the kids just need to rest and get better. The last thing kids want to do is homework when they feel sick and have a fever.



COURTESY OF MCT CAMPUS

AGHHH: Will you survive the assault of the Swine Flu?

Another issue is the pressure students feel while sick. If students are not allowed to go to school because they have the virus, their grades suffer the consequences. This is especially a problem for high school seniors applying to colleges.

Lastly, schools in urban and poor districts have many children who rely on free or reduced lunches in order to eat.

If they are at home, they often do not have food available to them.

Kids are always exposed to one another, even outside of school. They go to each other's houses. They go to the mall. They go to the movies. Consequently closing schools will not halt the outbreak of the Swine Flu, but many feel that closing is justified because it considerably reduces the spread of the virus.

Car bombing in Pakistan

BRENDAN MONROE
the sandspur

It was an otherwise typical day for shoppers and vendors in the eternally busy Mina Bazaar in Peshawar's old town. The city has long been the economic hub of Pakistan's northwest region and the plethora of tiny stalls and stores selling all manner of goods are testament to this. The market, one of the biggest outside of Islamabad, attracts visitors from neighboring Pakistani towns on a daily basis, and families and individuals routinely comb through the Bazaar's twisted alleys in search of a bargain.

The omnipresent humming of vendors shilling their wares and shoppers negotiating for cheap jewelry was silenced Oct. 28 by a thunderous car bomb that collapsed storefronts and overturned whatever stability the threatened region had left. Amidst the turmoil that erupted after the explosion, men rushed to the aid of women and children who lay buried under the rubble, the cries ringing through the congested alleyways.

"There was a deafening sound and I was like a blind man for a few minutes," said Mohammad Usman, who was wounded in the attack. "I heard women and children crying and started to help others. There was the smell of human flesh in the air."

This is the third bomb to strike Peshawar this month and is part of a larger offensive of over 10 major recent terrorist attacks that have left around 250 people dead. Despite this and the current high alert level for militant attacks in the country, authorities appear to have been unprepared for such an attack, with one eyewitness account claiming the lack of emergency equipment and transport resulted in rickshaws being used as ambulances. Initial estimates account for over 100 dead and more than 200 wounded in

continued. Pakistani Foreign Minister Shah Mahmood Qureshi said his government would not be deterred by the attack.

"Resolve and determination will not be shaken," Qureshi said. "People are carrying out such heinous crimes — they want to shake our resolve. I want to address them: We will not buckle. We will fight you. We will fight you because we want peace and stability in Pakistan."

The car bombing is thought to have been planned to coincide with Secretary of State Hillary Clinton's first visit to

and arms to the country to help in the offensive, putting in the words of Lt. Col. Mark Wright, "military assistance to Pakistan on a wartime footing." Secretary Clinton's visit served both to publicly demonstrate the U.S. commitment and also to chide the Pakistani government for not doing more in the fight against Al Qaeda.

"I find it hard to believe that nobody in your government knows where they are and couldn't get them if they really wanted to," Clinton said in an interview with assembled

Pakistani journalists. "The world has an interest in seeing the capture and killing of the people who are the masterminds

"...the deadliest bombing to hit Pakistan since 150 people were killed in Karachi in October 2007."

what is the deadliest bombing to hit Pakistan since 150 people were killed in Karachi in October 2007. The number dead is expected to rise as the narrow streets are cleared of rubble in the coming days.

Authorities speculate that the car bomb was detonated remotely from an offsite location and blame the bombing on Islamic militants who they say are attempting to avenge the army's offensive against the Taliban in South Waziristan. The government has deployed over 30,000 troops to the tribal region to remove insurgents and destroy suspected Al Qaeda bases. The Taliban had threatened to respond if the offensive, launched on Oct. 17,

the country. Appearing later in the day at a press conference in Islamabad with Foreign Minister Qureshi, Secretary Clinton pledged U.S. support for Pakistan's fight against Islamic militants. "This fight is not Pakistan's alone; extremists are committed to destroying that which is dear to us, to you and to all people, and this is our struggle as well," Clinton said, continuing, "Today we had more vicious and brutal attacks that killed more innocent people."

Secretary Clinton's visit comes at a time when the U.S. is investing heavily in Pakistan. To ensure the successful removal of Taliban militants from South Waziristan, the U.S. has recently sent helicopters

of this terrorist syndicate. As far as we know, they are in Pakistan," Clinton said. Northwest Frontier Province Information Minister Mian Iftikhar Hussain ensured that Pakistan is doing all it can in the fight against terrorism.

"We are hitting them at their center of terrorism, and they are hitting back targeting Peshawar," Hussain said, continuing, "This is a tough time for us. We are picking up the bodies of our women and children, but we will follow these terrorists and eliminate them."

One can only hope that Pakistan takes actions to match its rhetoric. It's the honor and vengeance those lost in Peshawar deserve.

The history of the collapse of the Berlin wall

BRENDAN MONROE
the sandspur

fascist regimes of years past. In an interview last week Mikhail Gorbachev, the former head of the Soviet Union, had this to say about the German unification.

"The Germans are a very capable nation. Even after what they had experienced under Hitler and later, they demonstrated that they could build a new democratic country," Gorbachev said, stating that he, along with Presidents Reagan and George H.W. Bush, collaborated to bring an end to a divided Germany and, later, to the Cold War.

I come to a lone section of the wall that has been left standing; graffiti covered and chipped away, all that remains of Eastern Europe's post World War II divisions. The tracks where the entire wall used to lie runs North and South in each direction invisibly separating the two halves of the city and for a moment I'm whisked back to pre-Gorbachev East Berlin, a place seemingly closed off to time and to outside influence. Russian is widely taught and East German troops keep watch with a careful eye over the city. The German film *The Lives of Others* tells the story of an East

"Twenty years after the fall of the wall, there is hardly any physical trace that it was once here."

which he issued his famous exhortation: "Mr. Gorbachev, tear down this wall."

For Americans the fall of the wall meant a crucial step towards the ending of the Cold War, but for the citizens of East Berlin the fall of the wall meant something much more resonating and longed after - freedom. At Berlin's Checkpoint Charlie exhibit, located at the former American sector entrance, there are many voices and stories of the plight of the East Germans and their struggle to escape through whatever means available. Whether it involved squeezing into a suitcase or attempting to ride a hot air balloon over the wall into West Berlin, the tireless, courageous citizens of isolated East Berlin did whatever they could to escape over the wall and into a free land.

20 years after the fall of the wall, there is hardly any physical trace that it was once here. Instead, walking the streets of a now united Berlin as I was fortunate enough to do over the summer gives one the opinion of a revitalized city that has only recently had the opportunity to stretch its legs and embrace the democratic ideals so long hindered by the communist and

Berliner whom a Stasi, German Secret Police, agent keeps under tight surveillance. The Berliner, a popular and respected writer, is secretly submitting articles to a West German newspaper telling of the harsh condition behind the wall and the abuse of liberties. The Stasi agent, so wrapped up in the drama of the writer's story, cannot bear to turn him in. When the wall comes down the two men's lives inextricably change and become linked even closer, this time in spirit. It's a touching tribute to the end of a real life saga and a reminder to never again allow ourselves to be divided.

John F. Kennedy, in arguably his most famous moment as President, visited Berlin and, like Reagan some 25 years later, delivered an eloquent, impassioned speech in which he delivered words that echo through the chasm of time and still resonate with Berliners today.

"All free men, wherever they may live, are citizens of Berlin, and, therefore, as a free man, I take pride in the words 'Ich bin ein Berliner.'"

Walking through the reunited streets of the German capital 20 years after the fall of the Berlin Wall those words still ring true.

Central Florida hosts a variety of winter events in the heat

SARAH GRIFFIS
the sandspur

As November rolls around, all it takes is a brief walk to the Rollins pool to realize that hopes for cable knit sweaters and toasty boots are pointless. Seasons do not exist in Florida. After all, 90-degree heat indexes do not exactly scream winter. Thus, Rollins students are subjected to hot, less hot, and rainy days. While sunny weather is often the reason people flock to Florida, it makes it a little difficult to get into the holiday spirit.

However, from Nov. 20 to Jan. 3, the city of Winter Park plans to transform a small part of Florida into a winter wonderland with "Winter in the Park," which will include the city's first ever ice skating rink.

The ice rink will be set up in Central Park's west meadow and will be open for daily use. Aside from ice skating, the city event will feature new entertainment each night, including various live musicians, surprise Santa visits, date nights, and the potentially hilarious "Politicians on Ice."

The hours of operation for the rink will be Monday through Thursday from 3 p.m. to 9 p.m., Friday and Saturday from 10 a.m. to 10 p.m., and Sunday from 12 p.m. to 6 p.m. The price for an individual to skate (all day) is \$10, including skate rentals. For groups of 10 people or more, the rate will be reduced to \$9.

If you are interested in driving a bit farther, you can visit ICE, at the Gaylord Palms resort. The Gaylord Palms is located south of Walt Disney World right next to I-4.

ICE is a holiday event featuring nearly 2 million pounds of ice created into fun slides and ice sculptures. You will be surrounded in a winter wonderland, and able to slide down ice slides, look at amazing images, and listen to holiday music.

This year ICE is themed after the North Pole and will feature a visit from Santa himself. ICE is considered by many to be the premier holiday attraction in Central Florida, and is sure to please all whom attend.

Parkas are provided as the temperature is quite chilly for Florida. At the end of the event, hot chocolate is given to warm up the guests.

ICE is open from Nov. 14 through Jan. 3. Tickets for ICE can be purchased for as low as \$18.99 at www.gaylordpalms.com. Tickets need to be purchased at least 24 hours in advance to secure the discount.



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Locked up, won't let me out

YONI BINSTOCK
the sandspur

these private prisons, all of the taxpayer money goes to highly inflated prices that are marked

Moore's 2009 film "Capitalism: A Love Story," many juveniles were sent to prison for years for

undeserving reasons, and were released only when the corporation allowed them to be. There were neither parole hearings nor any legal oversight by the state in these cases.

The most worrisome aspect of prison privatization is the inevitable emergence of a private "prison lobby,"

concerned not with social welfare but with increasing its shareholder value and profit margins. Sentencing guidelines, parole rules, corrections budgets, and new criminal legislation are areas in which private prison operators have a vested interest and could influence policy decisions. They could also benefit by manipulating public fear of crime.

Why do Americans lock up their undesirables? Has our society sunk to the level of warehousing the people who we deem unfit for our society? Our prison system does not often correct the behavior of criminals, and in the rare cases in which it did rehabilitate,



COURTESY OF MCT CAMPUS

PRIVATISM: Prison systems tend to not attempt to reverse or correct the behavior of the convicted criminals.

It is ironic that the most developed and democratic country in the world incarcerates more people per capita than any other country, according to a U.S. Senate report. As of 2005, there were 2 million people locked up in federal, state and county facilities, and although crime rates are down, the incarceration rate has gone up more than 600 percent since the 1970s. It seems that this rate has increased due to changing policies, not increased crime rates. Every day in the United States, 200 new jail cells are constructed. Black people are 7.8 times more likely to be imprisoned than whites when convicted of the same crime.

Prisons cost the country more than \$32 billion a year, and states are spending more money on prisons than education. Over the course of the last 20 years, the amount of money spent on prisons was increased

by 570 percent, while that spent on elementary and secondary education was increased by only 33 percent. On average, two out of three prisoners will return back to prison, and one in two will be back within a year.

Furthermore, today, a rising occurrence is the emergence of private prisons. In most cases, prisons are constructed, maintained and guarded by the state or county, but here in America, the spirit of capitalism has found yet another market. In many of

arbitrarily by the companies that construct private prisons, which works well for the state because it is one less cost and one less issue to deal with. Unfortunately, since there is no state oversight, there have been several cases of overworking, malnourishment, overcrowding, and other inhumane practices in prisons. The rise of private prisons (which began during the Reagan administration) coincided with a huge influx of prisoners, and for the first time the U.S. surpassed countries like the USSR and South Africa in per capita prison population. This was also the time of the introduction of the War on Drugs, which contained policies



COURTESY OF MCT CAMPUS

IN AMERICA: On average, there are 200 new jails cells constructed daily.

that instituted mandatory minimum sentences, tighter or no parole schedules, and tougher "good time" regulations.

The influx of prisoners is, in fact, directly correlated to the rise in privatization of prisons, because more prisoners means more money. The drive of privatization has reached such a point that even some juvenile prisons are being privatized, and in many cases connections between the judges and these companies have been well documented. In Michael

these programs were often canceled because fewer inmates meant less money. Crimes of passion aside, why do people commit crimes? What are laws, but a society's determinacy to maintain the status quo? In past eras, those who broke the law were often killed or sent to work camps, but in today's free market age, through the imprisonment of individual people, lots of money can be made, and what is the goal of our society but to pursue money?

The taco remark

BRENDAN MONROE
the sandspur

"Out having a taco." These four words look innocuous enough on their own, devoid of any seeming controversy. Now imagine a scenario that would find the utterance of these six syllables unacceptable and would result in the suspension of a long time ESPN broadcaster and former Miami Dolphins legend. Hard to fathom? I thought so, but this is exactly what happened to Bob Griese last month when, broadcasting a college football game between Ohio State and Minnesota, a graphic popped up announcing the leading five drivers in NASCAR's point race.

After one of the commentators inquired as to why decorated driver Juan Pablo Montoya was absent from the list, 28 year broadcasting veteran Griese made his ill fated pun. Montoya, he said, was "out having a taco." Lame? Yes. Incendiary and racist as some have claimed? Give me a break. Shortly after making the comment, Griese was taken aside by ESPN producers and ordered to apologize on air for the remark. He did. Twice. This was not enough to satisfy the bloodthirsty PC police waiting at the bottom of the altar. They wanted Griese's head. ESPN met them halfway, suspending Griese for the remark and issuing a statement through spokesman Josh Krulowitz saying that Griese "understands the comment was inappropriate." Inappropriate perhaps by comic standards, but by decency ones? I think not.

Asked later about the comment, the alleged taco-eater Montoya shrugged and declined to comment on the suspension, saying only that he had never heard of the former Miami Dolphins legend. Why did Montoya fail to elaborate? Because he likely did not give a damn. Who would? Apparently just a bunch of white ESPN executives who, hearing the comment in their air conditioned luxury box, let their own prejudices get the best of them and reacted prematurely to a racist inclination. To throw Griese under the bus for anything less than a lame attempt at humor is miscalculated and wrong. In the wake of the "taco" remark I had yet to see one Latino voice calling Griese's comments "racist." Rather, that was left to a few post-racial and enlightened white males who, gracing our television sets with their wisdom in an effort to show their own progressive thinking deemed Griese's remark "racist" and "derogatory." Now, was the man's comment stereotypical? Sure. Although Griese was a bit off on his geography as Montoya is from Columbia, not Mexico. Nevertheless tacos are an uncontroversial, universally loved food that millions of

Americans eat every day. One wonders if there isn't some latent hatred going on. If Griese had made the same reference in regard to a Spanish driver, "out having Paella" or to a German one, "out having a bratwurst" would it have received the same level of attention? I highly doubt it. The idea that taco somehow has a negative connotation associated with it seems that the problem is in stereotyping.

But this begs the question - is declaring a stereotype equivalent to racism? Let's consult the dictionary. The definition of racist is "a person with a prejudiced belief that one race is superior to others." Was Griese espousing this belief? Certainly not. He did not say that tacos were bad or that they are cheap, though they generally are, or that they were inferior in any way to hot dogs or hamburgers or any other kind of food. I imagine that Bob Griese probably even likes tacos, and enjoys one from time to time. I know I do. So then, it would be safe to say that rather than making a derogatory reference to Montoya based on a food that supposedly originates from his country, though it doesn't, Griese was merely taking an ill advised and futile stab at humor that likely had roots more in the somewhat humorous sound of the word "taco" and less in the fiction that somehow tacos are less than desirable.

The absurdity of this whole thing is not that Griese got suspended for a Seinfeldian taco remark, outrageous in itself, but that a group of white execs have it in mind to tell the rest of the world what is and is not racist so that they can feel more tolerant at the end of the day. The idea that merely stating a stereotype is a bad thing is utterly insane. Americans by and large like fast food and while I personally do not, I nevertheless would not be offended if a resident of another country were to joke that I was off getting a Happy Meal or a Whopper. I might think they were commenting on my weight, but even this American stereotype would not offend my sensibilities. Seriously, how absurdly politically correct do we have to get in this country before people wake up and realize that all of this mock racial sensitivity does, in fact, absolutely nothing to deter real racism? Rather, it empowers it to take root and sprout up in places where it never existed before. Defeating racism will not happen by banning all stereotypical references to a person's culture or country. The greatest enemy to racism instead is a lack of understanding and embracing of cultural similarities and differences. So whether you are a Montoya, a Gonzalez, a Black, Brown, Smith or Wesson, the next time you are out having a taco remember that racism cannot be found in a simple taco remark, and that you like tacos anyway.

Why Crist should be our Senator

TRAVIS CLINGER
the sandspur

As people hear about the political debate concerning the Florida Senate Race, questions arise as to who will win the Republican Primary. Florida Governor Charlie Crist declared earlier this year that he would be seeking the Senate seat, vacated by Mel Martinez. Marco Rubio, former Speaker of the Florida House, is also seeking this position. While both individuals have talents, Charlie Crist is the best candidate for the US Senate.

Charlie Crist has done a phenomenal job as governor of Florida and has had an incredible approval rating since he was elected. Crist has balanced the budget, cut property taxes, and greatly improved our education system. While many states experienced terrible financial troubles that resulted in higher taxes, Crist instead cut spending and made fiscally conservative choices. We need a person who can balance a budget and cut taxes in Washington. Charlie Crist is that person. Governor Crist has served in public office



COURTESY OF MCT CAMPUS

ALL APPLAUSE: Gov. Crist has served in public office since 1992.

since 1992 and therefore has far more experience than Marco Rubio, who was elected in 2000. We need an experienced leader in the United States Senate. Charlie Crist is that leader. Crist is the best candidate for the US Senate, and will undoubtedly help the country in bipartisan ways. Crist is ready to tackle the important issues facing the country today such as health care, climate change, and government spending. It is essential that we elect an individual who will not focus solely on partisan bickering, and Republican Charlie Crist has worked with Democrats before. The nation is facing dire problems and needs a person who has solved major issues by working with both sides of the aisle.

Next year, the Republican Party will decide who it wants to be its candidate for the United States Senate. The Republicans need to choose Charlie Crist, for the good of Florida and of the United States.

too many people take advantage of the welfare program. In fact, many people have more children just so they can get a bigger monthly welfare check. If some reasonable changes were made to the welfare system, we could lower the deficit and help people get jobs. First, individuals should be allowed no more than one year to be on welfare during the course of his or her life. A central database needs to be created so that those who receive welfare from state to state can be tracked and prevented from abusing the system. By limiting how long a person receives welfare, the government can continue to help those who have problems in their lives, but at the same time prevent people from abusing the system. Second, individuals who receive welfare should be free from any substance abuse problems. Drug tests should be mandatory. It is a shame that welfare money that is supposed to help feed starving children is instead being used on illegal drugs. If individuals test positive for drugs, they should be penalized by losing their welfare. If individuals are not willing to submit to a drug test, then they should not receive welfare. If this seems a bit extreme, think about the rules for having a driver's license. If

While the nation has been captivated recently by the enormous costs of President Obama's proposed health care plan, the staggering costs of welfare have been left out of the discussion. Welfare accounts for approximately 11 percent of the federal budget each year, and this does not include Social Security, Medicaid, or Medicare. Indeed, when those figures are added the number reaches around 53 percent. Yes, 53 percent of our federal budget goes to welfare, Social Security, Medicaid, or Medicare. The Department of Defense on the other hand, often criticized for its large budget, gets a mere 16 percent. The time has come to trim the welfare budget. It should be acknowledged that there is nothing wrong with the government providing a helping hand to individuals in times of need. However, there exists a major problem when a person becomes dependent on welfare and can no longer work for him or herself. Unfortunately, today

OPINIONS



SARAH GRIFFIS
the sandspur

When I mention Iceland, I usually receive a very perplexed look. "Why," people's eyes question, "did you just bring a small island nation into our conversation?" On occasion, I will get the response "Oh, they were the country that went bankrupt, right?" as if an entire nation declaring bankruptcy was a casual occurrence. Or, if I am particularly lucky, someone will make a Sigur Rós reference (If you do not know who they are, I suggest looking them up. Immediately.) However, back to the central question: why Iceland?

For those readers who are unaware, Iceland declared national bankruptcy last October, making it the first country to declare bankruptcy in the face of the international banking crisis. Still, the Icelandic economic collapse is no longer new news, so why should Iceland matter now? This small subarctic nation's economic troubles are significant for two reasons: one, because of what the collapse represents, and two, how the country is dealing with complete economic downfall.

A country declaring bankruptcy in itself should be astounding. Perhaps, if it was a small, third world country, it would be understandable (understandable, not acceptable). However, for a country so closely tied to Europe as a member of the EEA (European Economic Area), Iceland's declaration of national bankruptcy represents a global issue. Iceland went from being ranked as the most developed country in the world by the U.N.'s Human Development Index, as well as the fourth most productive country per capital, to having all three of its major banks systematically collapse in the course of a year. Unfortunately, the faster and higher one rises, the faster and further one falls.

What does this mean in terms of the global community? For one, countries need to approach development cautiously. As more countries rush to join the global economy, or, as consumers rush them, there is danger that they are setting themselves up for the short term only, so that, eventually, they will face a rapid crash as well. However, as much as it is a warning sign, Iceland's troubles are also a beacon of hope. Iceland is a model for

the sunny side of economic failure (ironic for a country that receives four hours of sunlight for a third of the year). In the 2007 Global Happiness Index, Iceland ranks as the third happiest country in the world. Of course, one would assume that after an economic crash, that would drop dramatically. Surprisingly, that is not the case.

Icelanders have managed to take failure and turn it into opportunity in the form of innovation. Iceland is located directly on the Mid-Atlantic Ridge, making it a literal hot bed for geothermal energy. Due to the high cost of importing products after the crash, Iceland has channeled its geothermal energy into greenhouses to grow products locally that would never normally grow in such a cold climate, such as bananas. Iceland is also experimenting with a geothermal opportunity that would put it back on the map—exporting hydrogen, one of the most promising sources of alternative energy. The economic crash has put Iceland in a position where it is free to refocus and redirect its energy (both literally and figuratively). As the saying goes, necessity breeds invention, and Iceland is hope that necessity is not necessarily bad.

Three steps to fix welfare

TRAVIS CLINGER
the sandspur

While the nation has been captivated recently by the enormous costs of President Obama's proposed health care plan, the staggering costs of welfare have been left out of the discussion. Welfare accounts for approximately 11 percent of the federal budget each year, and this does not include Social Security, Medicaid, or Medicare. Indeed, when those figures are added the number reaches around 53 percent. Yes, 53 percent of our federal budget goes to welfare, Social Security, Medicaid, or Medicare. The Department of Defense on the other hand, often criticized for its large budget, gets a mere 16 percent. The time has come to trim the welfare budget. It should be acknowledged that there is nothing wrong with the government providing a helping hand to individuals in times of need. However, there exists a major problem when a person becomes dependent on welfare and can no longer work for him or herself. Unfortunately, today

too many people take advantage of the welfare program. In fact, many people have more children just so they can get a bigger monthly welfare check. If some reasonable changes were made to the welfare system, we could lower the deficit and help people get jobs.

First, individuals should be allowed no more than one year to be on welfare during the course of his or her life. A central database needs to be created so that those who receive welfare from state to state can be tracked and prevented from abusing the system. By limiting how long a person receives welfare, the government can continue to help those who have problems in their lives, but at the same time prevent people from abusing the system.

Second, individuals who receive welfare should be free from any substance abuse problems. Drug tests should be mandatory. It is a shame that welfare money that is supposed to help feed starving children is instead being used on illegal drugs. If individuals test positive for drugs, they should be penalized by losing their welfare. If individuals are not willing to submit to a drug test, then they should not receive welfare. If this seems a bit extreme, think about the rules for having a driver's license. If

a person with a driver's license does not submit to a test for blood alcohol levels, then that person loses his or her driver's license. Welfare is a privilege, not a right.

Third, if a person is on welfare he or she should be required to participate in occupational training until he or she finds a job. In essence, instead of sitting around all day waiting for the welfare check to arrive, the person will have to take a class to better his or her occupational skills. Further, that person should be required to apply for jobs constantly while

on welfare. It is important to remember that the goal of welfare is to get people back on their feet and active in the job market as productive individuals.

By making these three changes to the welfare system, the United States could save billions of dollars. American taxpayers could see their hard earned money stay in their wallets instead of being wasted; the deficit could be reduced. The idea of a helping hand is not a bad idea, but unfortunately the system is being abused and needs to be reformed.

Increased need

COURTESY OF MCT CAMPUS

Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), the federal food stamp program, is seeing a rise in households asking for assistance.

Percent increase in households participating, Nov. 2007 to Nov. 2008

□ Less than 5 ■ 5.1-10.0 ■ 10.1-15.0 ■ 15.1-20.0 ■ More than 20



Students come together at the



BRITTANY FORNOF
the sandspur

As October ended, Rollins students threw away the carved pumpkins deteriorating in their rooms and stuffed their skeletons back into their closets. Within the blink of an eye, Halloween was gone almost as quickly as it came, but students did not waste one moment lamenting the passage of the much-anticipated holiday.

Instead, Rollins student-run organization All Campus Events (ACE) decided to throw a campus-wide party on Mills Lawn the day after Halloween. Dubbed the first annual ACE Fall Out Festival, this four-hour shindig featured numerous vendors from the Winter Park community as well as live entertainment for all of the Rollins community to enjoy.

The sound of chatter and laughter could be heard across Mills Lawn as Rollins staff and students enjoyed an afternoon of delicious food and good company. The atmosphere remained lively as various bands took the stage to showcase their talents. Local bands Embers Rising and SMB Project took to the stage first and Calahoney and Shawn Snyder, who were sponsored by the John Lennon Foundation, followed shortly after. Also, Eric Pagan (Class of 2012) showed off his mixing talent as he DJ'ed in between acts.

Local Winter Park vendors Tollas, Kata, mi Tomatina and Austin Coffee dished out delicious samples from their menus as other local businesses such as Rebounderz and Downeast distributed coupons to all guests. Throughout the afternoon, a few lucky festival attendees even won gift cards from Eden, Fiddlers, Mellow Mushroom, Downeast,

Powerhouse and Ravenous Pig as their names were drawn from the raffle.

The ACE Fall Out Festival also had a charitable purpose. In concordance with Rollins' initiative to break the Guinness World Record for the Largest Food Drive by a non-charitable organization over multiple locations in a 24-hour period, each local business in attendance made a donation to the Second Harvest Food Bank.

"Our main goal was to bring the campus and the community together for a fun event on Mills lawn," said Assistant Director of ACE Libby Anderson (Class of 2011). "We wanted to create an atmosphere of community by providing free food and live music for all. We are so excited that our inaugural event went so well and can't wait for next year's event to be even bigger and better!"

Those who attended the festival also had the opportunity to tour the John

Lennon Educational Tour bus, which is a non-profit mobile recording studio designed to give students the opportunity to create music and video projects.

The ACE Fall Out Festival culminated with the premiere of the film *Alternative Spring Break* documenting the trip to Detroit: The Motor-City Experience. This 40-minute film, which was produced in partnership with the John Lennon Educational Tour Bus, told the story of Rollins students and their staff facilitating the trip, as they discovered the truth about Detroit, Michigan.

"Watching the movie brought back a ton of good and difficult memories," said Aspen Fox (Class of 2011), a participant in the *Alternative Spring Break* in Detroit. "The trip was so eye-opening and enlightening. It was amazing to see the final product. I think it was important for the rest of the Rollins community to



est annual ACE Fall Out Festival



bus, because it showed the experiences of students could be a part of and opportunities they can take on the page of while here at Rollins." The ACE Fall Out Festival is the end of "Come Together" festival, which sought to promote experiential learning facilitated around the themes of social justice, community, cultural competency, leadership development and citizenship. The weekend was hosted in partnership with the John Lennon Educational Tour Bus and sponsored by ACE, CORE Student Affiliates, the Offices of Community Engagement, Explorations, Cultural Affairs, and Student Leadership.



AOT's Vera Bradley bingo

TIERENY LEDDY
the sandspur

Rollins' Mu Lambda chapter of Alpha Omicron Pi hosted their first annual Vera Bradley Bingo on Thursday, Oct. 29 to fundraise for The Arthritis Foundation, their internationally supported philanthropy. Bailey Robb (Class of 2011), AOT's philanthropy chair, explained that the proceeds from this particular event would go to children with arthritis living in the Central Florida area.

The girls transformed the back of the Cornell Campus Center into a bingo parlor. Participants could purchase one bingo card for \$10 for a chance to win the bigger Vera Bradley bags, and another card for \$5 for a chance to win the smaller Vera Bradley items. Most of the larger Vera Bradley purses and totes were donated by the sisters of AOT, whereas the smaller items were donated by The Primrose Shop.

Overall the prize table contained over 10 large Vera Brad-

ley bags and around 25 small wallets, credit card holders, and post-it note holders. The event seemed to be a success, as it lasted the full two hours, and Robb expects the event raised around \$600.

our sorority is all about!"

The sisters of AOT look forward to holding another philanthropy event in the spring, so look out in 2010 for the much anticipated event, "Pie with a π ."



VERA BRADLEY: The girls of AOT pose for a picture with the Vera Bradley prizes they gave away during the bingo game. The event took place at the back of the Cornell Campus Center, and it was only \$10 to play.

PHOTOS BY TIERENY LEDDY / the sandspur

The Sandspur Halloween extravaganza

DODIE O'KEEFE
the sandspur

On Oct. 29th the Sandspur staff held their first Sandspur Halloween Party. "I had a really great time, and it was nice to get to meet everyone on The Sandspur. Even though I work with them, there were still a lot of people that I had not met yet. People showed up sporadically throughout the night and



HAPPY HALLOWEEN: A few of The Sandspur men pose together in a photo at the Halloween Party.

the food was great, especially the cookies!" said first-year student TJ Fisher.

Travis Clinger, Sandspur news editor, reported that he thought the party was a huge success and that all the guests really seemed to be enjoying themselves. He also said that since this party went so well, he was interested in trying to

have a Christmas party event was great way to meet The Sandspur and talk ideas and suggestions for paper. Not was it an opportunity non-writing meet the staff an sn

lent opportunity to really to know each other. This was a great way to get into Halloween spirit before weekend. The Sandspur continue with its work on Halloween the Halloween Howl on Lawn. The staff definitely brought their spirit and enthusiasm that they had at the party with them to the Howl. Hopefully everyone had a fun safe Halloween, and make to keep looking for any upcoming Sandspur events.



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HOUSE OF BLUES

Hand sanitizer to the rescue!

DODIE O'KEEFE
the sandspur

Worried about catching swine flu? Willing to take every precaution to stay healthy? Hand sanitizer will do the trick, right? Not necessarily. Hand sanitizers have become so popular that they can be found

in every bathroom, hallway, classroom, eating facility, and countless public places across the country. Many people will use a squirt of hand sanitizer several times a day to try to prevent any bacteria from entering their bodies.

Recently, however, there has been a debate about whether hand sanitizer is actually beneficial to users, or if it kills too much bacteria, including good bacteria. Good bacteria, also known as probiotics, are found in many types of food

and in the body. This kind of bacteria is helpful in preventing many types of diseases, especially for diseases that occur in the intestinal region.

Hand sanitizer generally contains at least 60 percent alcohol, which does an excellent job in fighting viruses, but since it does not have a "good" or "bad" filter, it also kills all of the good bacteria it comes across.

In addition, the alcohol

60 percent alcohol will not kill harmful bacteria. This creates a dilemma: should the public risk killing good bacteria to kill the bad, or should they take their chances preventing and fighting illnesses like swine flu without the aid of hand sanitizers?

Luckily, there is an alternative method: Washing one's hands has been and is still an effective way to kill harmful bacteria while maintaining good bacteria.

Most people do not, however, wash their hands for the recommended 20 seconds.

If washing one's

hands for 20 seconds multiple times a day is not a realistic goal, then one may want to take the risk of continuing to use hand sanitizer.

Otherwise, consider trying to use hand sanitizer in the event that soap and water are unavailable, as limiting the use of hand sanitizers will improve overall health in the long run.

in hand sanitizers slows the growth of future bacteria on the hands. Of course, hands will always contain bacteria, but the constant use of hand sanitizer will severely diminish the amount of current bacteria and will slow future growth of bacteria.

Unfortunately, according to a New York Times article by Deborah Franklin, any hand sanitizer containing less than

"Any hand sanitizer containing less than 60 percent alcohol will not kill harmful bacteria. This creates a dilemma; should the public risk killing good bacteria to kill the bad, or should they take their chances preventing and fighting illnesses like swine flu without the aid of hand sanitizer?"

Rollins celebrates "Day of the Dead"

TIERNEY LEDDY
the sandspur

On Wednesday, Oct. 28, Ward Hall Director Tara Wilson, Erin Lloyd (Class of 2012), and Dr. Camahan's Psychology Across Cultures class hosted a Día de los Muertos event in the lobby of Ward Hall. This event included an altar with pictures of deceased loved ones, flowers, candles, skull cookies, pan de muerto (sweet egg bread), and other festive snacks.

As a follow up, Casa Iberia, the Inter-American and Hispanic Studies Center on campus, hosted a second Día de los Muertos event on Friday, Oct. 30th. Rollins invited Sebastián

his hometown. Sebastián is bilingual in Spanish and K'iche' (Quiché), so a professor from the Anthropology department translated Sebastián's speech into English.

He expressed how important Día de los Muertos is to his native country, and how it

the lives of lost loved ones. It was very important to Sebastián that he return home before Guatemala celebrates Day of the Dead on Nov. 1 and 2; these days are in direct connection with the Catholic holidays All Saints' Day and All Souls' Day.

Sebastián explained the basic ritual of Día de los Muertos is to wake up early with family members and venture to the gravesites of lost relatives. Once the families are gathered at the cemetery, they clean and decorate the grave-stones by painting the stones vibrant colors and decorating the surrounding areas with flowers and other personal items. The families then go home and prepare the whole year for the next Día de los Muertos.

Casa Iberia did a great job hosting this event and teaching the Rollins community about another culture. Let us hope they do it again next year.



TIERNEY LEDDY / the sandspur

DAY OF THE DEAD: The Day of the Dead celebration took place at Rollins on Oct. 28, 2009.

bastián Si Pop to speak about the traditions of the dead in San Juan Chamelco, Guatemala,

is primarily a happy celebration where families gather to celebrate (instead of mourn)

Who's who: Justin Voll

JEN ATWELL
the sandspur



COURTESY OF FACEBOOK

HHSQA: Justin Voll is the Hamilton Holt Student Government Association President.

Q: Please tell me a little bit about yourself.

A: I am a sophomore at Rollins majoring in economics.

Q: When did you realize that the Holt program was the best choice for you?

A: I graduated high school a semester early and it was too late for me to apply for the Arts and Sciences program, so I applied for Holt. I ended up enjoying it so much that I stayed in the program.

Q: What is a national news topic you think has run its course? What is an issue you

think needs to addressed?

A: I believe that the H1N1 virus is getting more press than it deserves. The virus has affected less people than the seasonal flu. I believe that more truthful coverage needs to be brought out about the health care bill and the great effect it will not only have on small businesses, but also the increase everyone will see in taxes to pay for the health coverage.

Q: Besides taking family pictures (yes, I found you on Facebook) and attending SGA meetings, what do you do in your free time?

A: I like to spend time golfing, wakeboarding, and socializing with my friends.

Q: Did you name your Blackberry? Do you have a computer?

A: No, I have not named my Blackberry, and yes, I have an overflow of computers.

Q: How do you want to change the Rollins Holt community as HHSQA President?

A: I want to bring more awareness to the program and spread the word on all the other great programs that Rollins has to offer.

Q: What is your favorite song? It will be played at all Senate meetings when you make your grand entrance...

A: I appreciate all types of music, and I do not think that I could choose one particular song as my favorite because I enjoy listening to everything.

Upcoming Events

HHA food drive

KRISTEN SCENDEL
the sandspur

Remember, the Helping Hands Across America Canned Good drive is going on now through Nov. 12! Every can collected and every dollar raised through the drive benefits Second Harvest Food Bank, which seeks to alleviate hunger for the 350,000 people in Central Florida at risk of going hungry each day.

Sodexo aims to replace last year's Guinness World Record-breaking drive statistics as the Largest Food Drive by a non-charitable organization over multiple locations in a 24-hour period with a new record on Nov. 12, 2009. In light of last year's overwhelming success, Rollins has been challenged to raise its contribution from 3,777 pounds to 10,000 pounds of canned goods.

Every student's help is needed to make sure that goal is reached! Be sure to do your part by placing cans in any of the collection boxes set up around campus or donating money through the Rollins website.

Helping Hands Across America is a nationwide canned goods drive sponsored annually by Sodexo, Rollins' dining services provider.

Golf Tournament

GUY HOPGOOD
the sandspur

On Saturday, Nov. 7, Phi Delta Theta is holding the 5th Annual Ro Cheadle Memorial Golf Tournament in memory of their deceased brother. Students can enter teams of four for a price of \$280 (\$70 per person). The registration fee includes golf at Forest Lakes Golf Club, a post-tournament banquet, and transportation to and from the club.

Prizes will be given for top teams as well as t-shirts for all participants. The tournament begins at 1:15 pm, with transportation leaving from Mills Lawn at noon. This year's event will benefit both the ALS Association and the Jessica June Children's Cancer Foundation. Phi Delta Theta has made it their goal to gain support from as many Rollins organizations as possible in the form of hole sponsorships.

Hole sponsorship is \$100 and the brothers would appreciate the donation to the two charities. Each sponsorship will include special recognition, signs on a specific hole, and mention on the entrance banner. The brothers hope to for the full support of the student body. Contact Guy Hopgood at 321-527-9376 or at GHopgood@rollins.edu.

You'll die laughing, or they'll kill you

TIERNEY LEDDY
the sandspur

The walls of the Fred Stone Theater were packed to the brim at 10:59 pm this past Friday night in anticipation for the RIP TAG show, presented by the Rollins Improv Players. At 11pm, thirteen RIPsters emerged, prepared to battle it out through short form improv games, each resembling the popular show *Whose Line Is It Anyway?* Friday's Halloween-themed teams were the Blue Zombies, Green Ooze, and the Wed Waa-wolves.

Lead by emcee Max Hilend, the twelve other RIPsters warmed up together with the game "Most Uses of an Object." This game challenges players to use an ordinary object (e.g. a coat hanger) in a unique way. After warming up the teams, two members from each were chosen to represent the teams in a deciding round called "Story, Story, Die." The team with the last player standing would have the right to go first and a bonus point towards their final total. This elimination-style game demanded individual players to continue a story when indi-

cated at, forcing players to think quickly. If they stumbled, stuttered, or repeated themselves, a cacophony of "DIE" would emanate from the audience, killing the player.

The remaining show consisted of three rounds, each team playing a game per round. After each game, four judges that were randomly selected at the beginning of the show rated the players on a scale from one to five (five being the best). Since the Wed Waa-wolves survived "Story, Story, Die," they



PHOTO COURTESY OF ELIZABETH WEISSTEIN
TAG, YOU'RE IT: The Rollins Improv Players are known for bringing a laugh into your life with their brilliant improvised comedy.

were the first to take the stage in the first round. Teams in the first round were asked to pull a name randomly from a hat; the first chosen was "Slow Motion Commentary." In this game, two

players are required to enact a fictional Olympic sport (in this case Paper Clip/Fax Machine Shuffleboard) in slow motion while the remaining two provide colorful commentary.

Green Ooze followed this game with another entitled Oracle, where the audience asked questions of the four players, and they would respond with each player providing answers one word at a time. The Blue Zombies closed the round with the holiday-appropriate game "Death in a Minute," where someone in a scene must die within a minute—in this case, in Starbucks.

At this point, Max tallied the scores—Green Ooze and Blue Zombies were tied for first, with the Wed Waa-wolves trailing only a few points behind. The remaining two rounds mimicked the first; in round two, teams chose a game to play and in round three, Hilend challenged them to a game of his choice. Other games of the night included audience favorites like "Should've Said," "Expert Double-Figures," "Animal Kingdom," "Pop-Up Story Book," and an uproariously hilarious round of "Sub-titles."

Though all three teams battled admirably, the final scores earned Green Ooze third place, the Blue Zombies second place and the Wed Waa-wolves first place.

Please join the comedy-saturated Rollins Improv Players during their next show November 6th at 1:00pm in the Fred Stone Theater.

Lambert cover controversy

TJ FISHER
the sandspur

American Idol season eight runner-up Adam Lambert just released the cover art for his first album, *For Your Entertainment*, due to be released Nov. 23. Fans are excited for his music, but the album's cover art is leaving them stunned. It has an overwhelming '70s era feel, with Lambert looking shockingly feminine. There has been an uproar on the internet criticizing the picture, saying it looks like a joke.

Some fans, especially white heterosexual males, are embarrassed to even buy the CD, which could hurt record sales dramatically. Although Lambert is outwardly gay, the cover is striking in that it intentionally screams many stereotypes associated with homosexuals. Although many fans have accepted Lambert's orientation, others took longer to warm up to it. The trouble lies with these fans. Those people who have been able to tolerate that he is homosexual may be turned off by the overt femininity of the cover, causing Lambert to

lose fans.

Obviously, the biggest question with the cover is whether or not America is ready for this sort of strong statement. But also what were Lambert's motives for having such a strong depiction of femininity? According to *Entertainment Weekly* journalist Mandy Bierly, Lambert confirmed that the album art was "deliberately campy." Lambert posted on his Twitter account that the cover is supposed to be ridiculous, and is "an homage to the past."

"Glad to have gotten your attention," Lambert said, addressing fans who did not understand the reference.

He went on to claim that it was a dedication to androgyny and rock-n-roll.

Although some of the response has been negative, many fans are beyond excited for the release, and stand behind Lambert 100%. Many embrace the homage to the past, and even though it is distinctly feminine, they commend Lambert's courage. Between coming out on the cover of *Rolling Stone* and this new cover art, fans feel that Lambert is standing up for his individuality, a trait which many find respectable.

Classified

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SERENA RYDER
is it o.k.
SERENA RYDER
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featuring the new single 'all for love'

Ask not for whom the Crow crows

SHELBY PHILLIPS
the sandspur

Fifteen years ago a legendary film premiered on the silver screen. This film forever changed the standards of what a dark, romantic, and gothic film should be. Exploding from the pages of James O'Barr's 1981 classic black and white graphic novel, "The Crow" changed the landscape of what a great adaptation of a comic book should be like.

The 1994 film also forever immortalized Brandon Lee, the man who brought Eric Draven to life on the silver screen. This film was Lee's first large project after a few smaller movies that helped propel him into the attention of producers working on "The Crow." Lee was quick to leap at the part, taking an instant interest in O'Barr's graphic novel, feeling that the story of "The Crow" needed to be told.

O'Barr responded to the sudden death of his then girlfriend by

enlisting in the service, where he spent his spare time working on what would eventually become known as "The Crow."

O'Barr bled his feelings of loss, tragedy, and anger on the pages before him, and they became his



COURTESY OF MCT CAMPUS
DARKER THAN THE BAT: Brandon Lee starred in the cult fiction movie "The Crow," which celebrates its 15th anniversary this year.

legacy.

Sadly, Brandon Lee was killed on set after a terrible accident during a scene where his character was supposed to be shot. It turned out the gun fired on Brandon was not filled with blanks but with live ammunition. In that moment, the man who was on his way to be-

coming a great and recognizable actor died during his greatest performance.

The story of "The Crow" follows the character Eric Draven as he hunts down the men responsible for killing not only himself, but also the rape and murder of Draven's fiancée, Shelly Webster. Resurrected from the grave, Eric Draven is given other worldly gifts and abilities and is allowed to hunt down the men who stole his life and his love.

The film, directed by Alex Proyas, has been celebrated for many years. O'Barr's love for the project and his friendship with Brandon Lee all culminated into the final product on the silver screen.

"The Crow" is a cult favorite, an instant classic not only for its dark themes, but for its show of raw human emotion. The graphic novel and movie continue to inspire new and current fans to greater heights of creativity into a darker world. Fifteen years later, "The Crow" continues to hold its tenacious grasp on the audience's psyche, leaving a legacy that will last forever.

Swelling with pride King's vampire

ERIK KEEVAN
the sandspur

Allow me to introduce you to The Swellers, a punk-rock band from Flint, Michigan. The most recent album by this Fueled by Ramen band, "Ups and Downsizing," was released Sept. 29, right after the band changed labels to join the Fueled by Ramen lineup. When the CD came to the Sandspur office, I knew that band would be worth checking out.

As with all Fueled by Ramen bands, The Swellers play traditional punk-rock music—simple chord progressions at a fast pace. That is not to say that the musicians lack skill; that is just the sound they settled on. Every now and then they surprise the listener with a quick solo mixed into the

rhythmic sounds of the guitars and drums. Nor is that saying that it is bad. As a rabid fan of basic punk music such as The Sex Pistols and Bad Religion, I am all for the fast paced music, but I understand that it is not for everyone.



COURTESY OF MYSPACE.COM
DOWN, DOWN, DOWNSIDE:
The Swellers pose for a publicity shot in Flint, Michigan.

The lyrics of lyricist Nick Diener compliment the music nicely, not seeming out of place amongst the rabid rock. Lyrics such as "This is for all my friends and family, something I need you to understand. The accident, the overdose, the suicide, whatever it was ... Took me sooner than we planned" from the song "Dirt," fit the melodramatic tone of the album. The lyrics are catchy, and you will find yourself singing along after hearing the album once. If you are a fan of rock music and the lyrics that go along with it,

this band will swiftly become a favorite of yours.

This is not to say that they are special or unique in any way. The Swellers are just another punk band with nothing to say, right up there with Emery and Blink-182. They do not call attention to any social or political problems; they simply play their music and hand it to you as if saying, "It is what it is." And people like this. Their latest tour has them opening for Paramore, a rather large act for a rookie band to be touring with. They also toured with such bands as Less than Jake and Streetlight Manifesto.

Don't get me wrong, I am not saying that you should not listen to The Swellers. I know that they have wormed a spot into my exclusive CD collection and I am happy to put them there, but I am just letting you know that when you listen to them, as I suggest you do, you do not expect much. If you like fast paced punk-rock with catchy lyrics, then you will thoroughly enjoy The Swellers.

SHELBY PHILLIPS
the sandspur

For the first time in a long time, American horror scribe Stephen King, will be co-authoring a new series published by Vertigo Comics, the adult line of comic books by DC Comics. The series, "American Vampire," is the brain child of Scott Snyder, who has been burning to publish a great comic book about vampires. This series will involve a new take on vampires and it will take into account that just like any other species, vampires evolve. And with their evolution comes new types of vampires with all kinds of new abilities.

The first five issues will be written by King and will deal with his character, Skinner Sweet. The stories will be told by King in 16-page installments. Alongside King, Snyder will write his own five-part story about the first woman bitten and turned into a vampire, Pearl. Snyder's story about

Pearl will center on her being a 1920's flapper and what is means for her to exist as a vampire. The story will be matched by equally great artwork by the ever-talented Rafael Albuquerque. Albuquerque has adjusted his artwork to reflect both storytelling styles and time periods. For King's story about Skinner Sweet, the artwork will have a grainy feeling to it with washed out grays and colors. For Snyder's story about Pearl, the art will reflect all the color and life that the roaring 1920's was famous for.

This is not King's first venture into comic books; his "Dark Tower" series has been published by Marvel Comics, along with "The Stand" and "The Talisman." This will be the first time King will be creating new material for a comic book.

So, look for "American Vampire" by Scott Snyder, co-authored by Stephen King and illustrated by Rafael Albuquerque to hit stores in March 2010, courtesy of Vertigo Comics!

France makes final stand against pirates

BRENDAN MONROE
the sandspur

In what is being called the world's toughest anti-piracy law, a French high court has ruled to enact an unprecedented "three-strikes" policy whereby an individual caught illegally sharing or downloading music could face a banning and suspension of internet rights for an entire year. The law puts France at the forefront of increasingly drastic measures by recording industries to crack down on illegal music downloading that has spiked in the last few years along with Internet usage. It is widely rumored that support for the groundbreaking legislation by President Nicolas Sarkozy's sometimes-recording artist wife, Carla Bruni, was a key factor in the law's passage Oct. 22 in the French Parliament. The ruling does not only raise alarm in France, where the notoriously freethinking residents have predictably soured in face of the new legislation, but in the United Kingdom and United States as well, where similar legislation has already been proposed.

In America, the Recording Industry Association of America (RIAA) has recently abandoned filing lawsuits against random individuals, a move that proved controversial and ineffective. Instead the industry is working with internet providers to allegedly give warnings to illegal file sharers and cut their access altogether if they refuse to stop. For the U.K., adapting a "three-strikes" policy identical to France's is inevitable and has garnered influential supporters and critics. British recording artists Lily Allen and James Blunt are two of the most prominent advocates

of the internet banning, with Allen stating that it would benefit struggling singer-songwriters who lose the most from piracy. Equally prominent musicians Ed O'Brien of Radiohead and Latin pop star Shakira have been just as forthcoming about their opposition to the measure, the latter saying that illegal file sharing brings her closer to her fans. The point Shakira makes is a good one that has been argued by proponents of file sharing for years. Indeed, many factors, such as poverty or limited

access to digital music, support this argument, and it has never been truer than in these economic times. Add to this the relative ease of illegal file sharing and it is little wonder that the recording industry has had such a difficult time combating the epidemic. The success of iTunes, Napster and of other legal file sharing sites is evident that consumer purchasing has shifted from record stores to the web and will not likely shift back. In reality, shopping in general has shifted to the internet, as has news and communication, transforming it into a necessary right in an increasingly technological world. Just ask the Finnish.

Last month, Finland became the first country in the world to declare broadband Internet access a legal right for its citizens. The legislative counselor for the Finnish Ministry of Transport and Communications, Laura Viikonen, said this of the internet:

"We think it's something you cannot live without in modern society. Like banking services or water or electricity, you need internet connection." Viikonen sums up the Finnish declaration thusly, "Universal service is every citizen's subject

ive right."

It is a position that is shared by the United Nations, and the governing body has been making a push for other countries to follow Finland's example and make internet access a human right. Amusingly, France has already done so, declaring in June that every citizen, regardless of income, should have internet access. It does not require a high-speed connection to see that France, with the ability to ban a citizen's internet usage for a year, is infringing on what

"It is estimated that sanctions under the new French law could result in over 50,000 individuals being disconnected from their internet."

the U.N. and other countries have deemed to be a universal human right. Highly ironic considering this is the country that gave us the Statue of Liberty and the French Revolution.

It is estimated that sanctions under the new French law could result in over 50,000 individuals being disconnected from their internet, and the director general of the French recording industry ensures that this "will have a strong deterrent effect" on those who download files illegally. The aforementioned Lily Allen agrees, supporting the bill that, like France's recently passed legislation, will determine internet rights based on the user's behavior. In advocating internet banning, a human rights violation by French, Finnish and U.N. standards, Allen is conveniently overlooking a recent report in her native United Kingdom that finds that on average, individuals that download and share music illegally spend roughly 50 percent more on music per year than their strictly legal downloading counterparts. I can personally attest to this.

Earlier in the year I "borrowed" a track from Allen's

newest CD, "It's Not Me It's You" and liked it so much that I bought the entire album on iTunes. I do not listen to the radio often, so it is likely that had it not been for that illegally downloaded track I would have never purchased the album. The music industry overlooks the usefulness of people like me, by painting any illegal downloader as a "pirate" who is simply "stealing." Rather than making me wish I hadn't downloaded Allen's song illegally, this proposed Internet banning instead makes me wish I had downloaded the entire album illegally. I am surely not alone in my thinking. An estimated 7 million users in the U.K. and vastly more in the U.S. illegally downloaded music last year, and to think that the threat of Internet banning is going to deter users from doing this is naive.

Virgin Media and Universal Music have timidly begun wading into this untested pool, announcing plans to launch a music service that would allow customers to download and keep an unlimited number of tracks for a low subscriber's fee of around \$30. Amidst reports that sales of digital music have for the first time sailed past the 1 billion mark, up more than 28 percent from last year, it is long past time the recording industry changes its business model.

Radiohead member Ed O'Brien is an opponent of rights violations and as such does not support internet banning. Rather, he advocates that the recording industry combat piracy by offering cheaper legal downloads and easier access.

"Record companies have to license out the recordings a lot more. You want to make it completely user-friendly for some-

body to be able to download something. Make it cheaper as well. Basically have more websites out there selling people's work." O'Brien continues with a push for education. "At the moment the industry is saying you get them to change their behavior by threatening them. We don't think this is realistic. Educate them and say, 'Listen, if you want a great vibrant music scene and your favorite bands to be able to carry on doing it, you have a responsibility to pay for some of the work that they've produced.'"

The music industry has for too long been willing to steal millions of dollars from otherwise good customers. Take Boston University graduate student Joel Tennenbaum. Tennenbaum is facing a fine that could be in excess of over \$1 million, for illegally downloading seven songs. That is seven songs, not seven thousand. All thanks to an act that gives the recording industry the power to charge up to \$150,000 per song downloaded.

Now that the RIAA has shifted to meting out Internet suspensions for illegal downloading they have crossed the Net Neutrality line, are interfering in the public sector, and legislating what many countries have deemed to be an unalienable right.

The only thing left to do then is to follow the example of the French. Not the French of 2009 but the French of 1789 who decided to rise up and protect individual rights against a monarchy bent on suppressing them. Once again, citizens of the world are called to rise up and protect their rights from a similarly oppressive regime bent on limiting individuals of their right to freedom of information and communication. The musical revolution is coming and looking for recruits.

November/December

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
8	9 Weekly Rock Climbing Trip 6:30 pm	10 Adis Vilo presents "The Role of State Govern- ments in Attracting Foreign Direct Investments" SunTrust Auditorium 7 pm	11 VETERAN'S DAY Weekly: SGA Senate 6 pm Rock Climbing Trip 6:30 pm	12	6 RIP Tag: Short Form Improv Fred Stone Theatre 1 pm Stradivari Quartet Tiedke Hall 8 pm	7 Stradivari Quartet Tiedke Hall 11 am
15	16 Weekly Rock Climbing Trip 6:30 pm	17 Adis Vilo presents "The Role of State Govern- ments in Attracting Foreign Direct Investments" SunTrust Auditorium 7 pm	18 VETERAN'S DAY Weekly: SGA Senate 6 pm Rock Climbing Trip 6:30 pm	19 International R-Journalist Skype Session Bush 120 at 5 pm Cabaret Annie Russell Theatre 8 pm	13 Cabaret Annie Russell Theatre 8 pm	14 Dance Marathon Cabaret at 8 pm Annie Russell Theatre Volleyball vs. Palm Beach Atlantic at 5 pm
22	23 Rollins Improv Players: Splintered Fred Stone Theatre 8 pm	24 Men's Basketball vs. Puerto Rico- Rio Piedras 7 pm	25 No School: Thanksgiving Break	26 No School: Thanksgiving Break	20 Cabaret Annie Russell Theatre 8 pm	21 Cabaret Annie Russell Theatre 2 & 8 pm
29	30	1	2		27 No School: Thanksgiving Break	28

Sandspurian of the Week >



TJ Fisher

for being eager to
always cover what
needs to be covered

Agassi admits Sunshine State Standings to drug use

TJ FISHER
the sandspur

Andre Agassi, renowned tennis player, has an autobiography coming out November 9. Seems tame, right? Wrong. On Oct. 27, a Sports Illustrated employee posted on Twitter information regarding Agassi's use of crystal meth, though the post has since been deleted. In Agassi's autobiography, he admits to having used crystal meth in 1997 during his career as a professional tennis player. Additionally, he acknowledges that he lied about his drug use to avoid a ban on his career. Following this information leak, Agassi has since admitted that his father used to give him drugs to take before tennis matches. These drugs included caffeine pills and possibly amphetamine speed, which is illegal. His image is further tarnished by the fact he kept quiet for so long. Although Agassi is a retired tennis player, some hope that the Association of Tennis Professionals (ATP) and the International

Tennis Federation will act responsibly and deal with this admission as a live case. Agassi claims that he thought the pills his father gave him before matches were Excedrin. Regardless, pills high in caffeine, including Excedrin, were on the banned list of substances until 2004. Officials believe that the tennis authorities should investigate every aspect and possible breach of the law by Agassi and his lawyers. These possible charges include taking illegal pills and lying under oath about his use of crystal meth. When Agassi failed his drug tests years ago, the ATP let the case slide and did not prosecute him, a decision that is now getting a lot of attention from critics. Additionally, many of Agassi's contemporaries, such as U.S. Fed Cup captain Mary Joe Fernandez, are shocked by the confession, as are many professional sports announcers and commentators. However also mixed in are feelings of admiration. It takes a lot of courage to admit such a dark secret.

MEN'S SOCCER	Conference						Overall					
	W	L	T	GF	GA	PCT	W	L	T	GF	GA	PCT
Rollins Tars	7	1	0	23	10	.875	16	1	1	53	16	.917
Tampa Spartans	7	1	0	26	8	.875	14	1	1	41	13	.906
Lynn Fighting Knights	5	3	0	18	8	.625	14	3	1	59	17	.806
Barry Buccaneers	5	3	0	17	10	.625	12	5	1	45	17	.694
Nova Southeastern Sharks	3	5	0	11	23	.375	8	9	2	28	35	.474
Florida Tech Panthers	3	5	0	8	15	.375	8	9	0	25	26	.471
Eckerd Tritons	3	5	0	15	19	.375	6	10	0	26	33	.375
Saint Leo Lions	2	6	0	11	18	.250	6	9	0	30	25	.400
Florida Southern Mocs	1	7	0	6	24	.125	1	12	1	10	48	.107

WOMEN'S SOCCER	Conference						Overall					
	W	L	T	GF	GA	PCT	W	L	T	GF	GA	PCT
Rollins Tars	7	0	1	22	7	.938	13	1	2	49	11	.875
Florida Tech Panthers	7	1	0	24	7	.875	14	2	1	51	12	.853
Florida Southern Mocs	6	2	0	18	8	.750	11	6	1	37	24	.639
Saint Leo Lions	5	3	0	21	15	.625	9	4	1	46	21	.679
Nova Southeastern Sharks	3	4	1	11	13	.438	6	8	1	19	21	.433
Lynn Fighting Knights	3	5	0	12	13	.375	9	9	0	40	28	.500
Tampa Spartans	2	6	1	11	16	.250	6	11	1	32	34	.361
Barry Buccaneers	2	6	0	10	14	.250	5	12	0	28	29	.294
Eckerd Tritons	0	8	0	1	37	.000	2	12	1	6	49	.167

VOLLEYBALL	Conference				Overall			
	W	L	T	PCT	W	L	T	PCT
Tampa Spartans	12	1	0	.923	25	2	0	.926
Saint Leo Lions	12	1	0	.923	25	3	0	.893
Eckerd Tritons	8	5	0	.615	18	9	0	.667
Nova Southeastern Sharks	6	5	0	.545	15	9	0	.625
Lynn Fighting Knights	5	8	0	.385	18	10	0	.643
Florida Southern Mocs	5	8	0	.385	14	15	0	.483
Barry Buccaneers	4	8	0	.333	13	10	0	.565
Florida Tech Panthers	2	10	0	.167	11	12	0	.478
Rollins Tars	2	10	0	.167	14	16	0	.467

CORRECTION:
In last Friday's issue of the Sandspur, the Sunshine State Conference standings boards for on page 11 were printed with incorrect statistics. Check the boards listed here for the updated statistics for men's soccer, women's soccer and volleyball.