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The threesome you WON'T tell
your friends about.

L&T PAGE 6

150 films later: a Florida
Film Festival Review

A&E PAGE 7

QUOTABLE

“That a substantial segment
of a religious group can get
its panties so twisted over an
animated depiction of a “prophet”
is simply idiotic and savage.”

OPINION PAGE 2

Volume 116 | Issue 24 Friday | April 23, 2010

Florida's Oldest College Newspaper, Est. 1894

PLAYBOY TAKES ON ROLLINS



MCT CAMPUS

TJ Fisher
The Sandspur

Rollins College is featured in numerous college ranking lists, demonstrating the prestige of our beautiful institution. Rollins is the number one Master's level university in the South and our MBA program is ranked number one in Florida, as well as 37th in the nation. But as of last week, Playboy added Rollins to another list:

Top Party Schools of 2010. This year Rollins ranked as the number seven party school and was noted as the number one small school when it comes to partying. According to the Website, this is what Playboy has to say about Rollins:

“It's not the size of a school, it's the commotion its students cause when they collectively rage. Rollins, in Winter Park, Florida, is the hardest-partying small school (1,785 undergrads)

in the country. Yes, it feels like a high school but one that convenes in the clubs every weekend.”

But how does this image affect Rollins College? Angela Stoubaugh (Class of 2013) says, “I think most students will be yelling ‘Yeah Rollins, let's go rage!’ but I feel like our trustees can't be too happy about that ranking.”

CONTINUED ON PAGE 5

“VIP Passenger Syndrome” Potential Reason for Polish President's Death

Brendan Monroe
The Sandspur

A mere couple weeks ago, Poland suffered its most tragic event since the Nazi invasion of 1939.

On April 10, a plane bearing Polish diplomats, bank and security officials crashed upon approaching Smolensk airport due to reportedly heavy fog. All 96 passengers on the flight perished, including Polish President Lech Kaczynski and his wife Maria along with scores of government officials. The crash left the country devastated, perhaps most of all because of the cruel irony that had led Polish officials to Russia in the first place.

The Polish delegation was flying from Warsaw to mark the 70th anniversary of the Katyn massacre, an event in which 22,000 Polish officers, policemen and civil servants were murdered at the hands of the Soviet Secret Police under the orders of Joseph Stalin.

At that time, the Soviets

placed the blame for the massacre on the Nazis and Hitler. It took the fall of Poland's communist government nearly 50 years later before the crime was rightly attributed to Stalin.

The pilot of the aircraft, ignoring demands by air traffic controllers to redirect to an alternative airport, tried to put the plane down amidst heavy fog and miscalculated, sending the aircraft crashing into the trees.

The exact reason for the pilot's dismissal of safety precautions is unknown and impossible at this time to substantiate but that hasn't stopped gossip mills from churning out numerous explanations for the pilot's actions.

The most recent explanation attributes the crash to “VIP passenger syndrome.”

Meaning essentially that the pilot refused the advice of those on the ground because President Kaczynski ordered him too. This theory has gained traction as of late because of a 2008 episode in which a furious Kaczynski reportedly screamed

at a pilot who disregarded his order to land their plane in then war-torn Georgia. President Kaczynski then tried to have that pilot fired for insubordination, which ultimately did not happen. The idea goes that this previous incident was on this pilot's mind when he decided to take the risk and land rather than risk incurring the wrath of the president who did not want to miss the commemoration.

Artur Gorski, a member of President Kaczynski's political party and an ally, has another explanation: in short, blame Moscow. His theory goes that Russian officials were weary of Kaczynski delivering a scathing rebuke of Moscow in his commemorative address and thus acted to try and make sure his plane did not land on time.

Russian President Dmitry Medvedev and Russian Prime Minister Vladimir Putin ignored this allegation, both promising an “objective and thorough” investigation of the crash, which they firmly believe to have been the result of “human error.”



COURTESY OF ROLLINS.EDU

Missing Altar Cloth “a desecration of a holy place”

Dodie O'Keefe
The Sandspur

This past weekend, the scarlet and gold altar cloth went missing from Knowles Chapel. It is suspected to have been stolen between Saturday, April 17 at 7:30 p.m. and Sunday, April 18 at 10:30 a.m.

Head of Campus Security Ken Miller stated that the perpetrator remains unknown. He did explain, though that in recent years (about three out of the past five), articles belonging to the chapel have gone missing at the end of the school year. Among these was a podium worth approximately \$4,000 that was eventually returned, as were the other missing items.

When asked about the value of the missing altar cloth, Miller replied that the cloth itself is worth about \$300-\$400, which is not the problem. It is the ethical issue of taking something from a church, whether one agrees with religion or not.

Furthermore, Miller believes that perhaps this crime may be due to an end-of-the-year prank, but if the individual is worried about returning it, due to consequence, he or she should just place the cloth in the chapel, anonymously. The more important issue is getting the cloth back, not the punishment. Although the individual may not get punished, he or she should realize that this act is highly disrespectful, and does not only affect Rollins, but the community as well.

Dean Powers expressed his extreme sadness and displeasure at the incident. He emphasized the complete disrespect the event represents, and stated

that the incident was “a desecration of a holy place.” Furthermore, Powers emphasized how bare the altar now looks due to this crime.

Alexandra Sol (Class of 2012) who regularly attends Mass at the chapel, said “I can't believe that someone would feel the need to commit such a disrespectful and hurtful crime. The Knowles Chapel is a sacred place that should be treated with reverence and respect.”

Additionally, from another perspective, Jenn Stull (Class of 2012), stated:

“Despite the fact that as a Jew, I cannot personally relate to the feelings of those who are affected directly by the theft, I still feel that it is deeply disrespectful, whether it be religious or non-religious, to take something that has value to other people.”

What many fail to realize is the impact that these hateful crimes have on the community. The stolen altarpiece will affect the entire Rollins community, in addition to surrounding community members who share their faith at the Knowles Memorial Chapel.

Furthermore, it demonstrates a serious lack of respect to not only those who are directly involved with the chapel, but also those on campus who take their faith very seriously. Anyone who has useful information regarding the incident should contact Dean Powers by e-mail at ppowers@rollins.edu or by phone at 407-646-2115.

Please take into account the distress that this incident has caused when making decisions regarding it, or future similar situations.

the Sandspur

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The Sandspur is published weekly on Fridays and maintains a circulation of 1,200 print copies.

The Sandspur is always looking for new members to join the team. The staff of *The Sandspur* are paid for their work and get to see their name in print. To inquire about open positions, please email Nzazulia@Rollins.edu.

The Editorial Staff extends an invitation to our readers to submit letters and articles. In order for a letter to be considered for publication, it must include the name of the author and be 400 to 700 words in length.

In considering a submission for publication, *The Sandspur* reserves the right to edit letters and articles.

Every Wednesday at 6 p.m. *The Sandspur* holds an article assignment meeting. All students are welcome to attend to learn more about *The Sandspur* and sign up to write articles.

Please send all submissions to NZazulia@Rollins.edu and AObnauer@Rollins.edu. All submissions must be received no later than 12 p.m. on the Monday prior to publication.

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South Park Creators Cross Muhammad

Brendan Monroe
The Sandspur

Our latest episode of religious intolerance in the Muslim world features a most combustible combination: "South Park" creators Trey Parker and Matt Stone vs. the radical Islamic Web site Revolutionmuslim.com. The situation arose after a post by Abu Talhah al Amrikee in which he condemned Parker and Stone for the show's recent 200th episode that depicts the Prophet Muhammad in a bear costume. As any individual who follows the news knows, depicting the Prophet Muhammad is apparently the equivalent of child rape to many Muslims and has led to death threats and brutal slayings before. Perhaps that is why this Web post is so troubling.

"We have to warn Matt and Trey that what they are doing is stupid and they will probably wind up like Theo van Gogh for airing this show," said the post that features alongside it a graphic photograph of the butchered filmmaker with his throat slit and a dagger stabbed into his chest.

For those who do not know, Theo van Gogh, the descendant of Vincent van Gogh, was a Dutch filmmaker whose 2004 documentary "Submission" was about the violence and abuse women suffer under Islam. He was brutally stabbed to death on the streets of Amsterdam the following year by a Muslim critic.

The post on Revolution Muslim goes on to say, "This is not a threat, but a warning of the reality of what will happen." Outrageously, the author then gives the address of Comedy Central's New York offices and the South Park production company in Los Angeles and embeds a video clip under it that shows a Muslim preacher calling for the murder of any and all that have "defamed" Muhammad. While he is speaking, photos of Parker, Stone and Theo van Gogh flash on the screen.

The whole incident would be somewhat laughable if it were not for the fact that this kind of thing has happened before. Instead it is a grim reminder of the threat that exists, not on the battlefield, but on our city streets and in the minds of

all too many who foolishly insist on remaining tolerant of intolerance.

The episode itself is strangely ironic now, in hindsight, because it includes a highly satirical discussion about whether an image of Muhammad can be shown. The "South Park" crew ultimately decides that it cannot, so they disguise Muhammad in a bear suit. Apparently they were not careful enough.

In an interview, the post's author said the purpose of his rant was to remind Muslims that insulting the prophet is punishable by death. He says his post "is not a threat" against Parker and Stone, but it denies an opportunity to dissuade other lunatics from harming the duo. That such a Web site can be allowed to operate while openly calling for "jihad" and death to "infidels," which the site has done, is an abomination and is evidence as to why, like the "Christian" hate church run by the Phelps family, openly hateful religious rhetoric advocating violence should not be tolerated and First Amendment rights should never shield such groups, unlike the recent Supreme Court opinion.

Of course, "South Park" does not pick and choose its opponents; it pokes fun at one and all. However, humorous depictions of Jesus, Buddha, and Shiva never resulted in calls for murder and the show's infamous episode trashing Scientology did not find Tom Cruise and John Travolta calling for Parker and Stone's heads. They did not so much as picket. That a substantial segment of a religious group can get its panties so twisted over an animated depiction of a "prophet" is simply idiotic and savage.

For now, we are left to wonder how Parker and Stone will respond. Jonathan Fasano (Class of 2011) is eager to find out.

"I can't wait to see what tonight's episode has in store. The South Park boys never fail to impress!" Fasano says.

Nothing about this story is particularly original and by television standards could even be called cliché. "South Park" makes fun of religion, and some Islamic wacko waves a finger and threatens death to the "infidels." Apparently "infidel" is code for "sane."



Offensive Remarks: A radical Muslim group has warned "South Park" creators Matt Stone (left) and Trey Parker (right) of the consequences they could face because of their depiction of the prophet.

The opinions on this page and in the opinions section do not necessarily represent the views of *The Sandspur* or *The Sandspur* Staff.

The Beagle's Nose

Yoni's take on the political environment of the nation and the world.



Yoni Binstock
Columnist

Be the Change You Wish To See

"Our problems are man-made; therefore they may be solved by man. No problem of human destiny is beyond human beings"

-John F. Kennedy

Climate Change. Biodiversity loss. Pollution. Starvation. Malnutrition. Corruption. Censorship. Gender and racial inequality. Genocide. Poverty. Nuclear proliferation. Fundamentalism. Homelessness. Lack of medical accessibility. Refugees. Natural disasters. Deforestation. Access to clean water. Terrorism. Religious intolerance. Misinformation. Slavery. Lack of political freedom. Animal rights.

These are but a fraction of the problems that we are facing in the world, and in order for humanity to survive we must work together.

On one hand, we are living in the most advanced time in human history with the eradication of many pandemic diseases, the diminishment of torture (for the most part), and the ever increasing standard of living.

But while many of us at Rollins get a world-class education and get to party on the weekends, millions of people are going hungry or are dying from preventable diseases.

While it is hard to help those people who live across the globe, we must strive to better the conditions of those less fortunate than us because, as Spiderman would say, "With great power comes great responsibility."

While many would argue that being selfish is good for the market and the "invisible hand" will take care of the distribution of resources, human evolution points out that our successes arise when we come together as one.

Be it a group of hunters coming together to take down a woolly mammoth or bringing the brain power of millions of people together through open source software, we are vastly superior when we cooperate rather than compete. I plead to you reading this article to make your life mean more to yourself and to others than

simply trying to acquire money.

Being a millionaire on Wall Street is enticing, but I promise you that it will not bring you happiness. Only when you become part of something larger than yourself will you find purpose in your life.

Besides being active in your local community or the world community, try to become educated about world events. This does not mean turning the news on while you brush your teeth.

There are a multitude of sources that provide you in-depth knowledge of what is happening in the world around you: *The Economist*, the Brookings Institute, *The New York Times*, and *Scientific American* to name a few. There are many in the news or on the radio who will try to shape your opinion through fear, aggression, sex and happiness. It is important to remember that the purpose of these organizations is to maximize profit, not to educate the public.

In two weeks time, I will be graduating and leaving my life at Rollins. My time here has been pivotal in shaping the man I plan to become. This summer I am going to India to help with developmental aid and next year I plan to attend Boston University Grad School in the field of sustainability and environment.

Rollins is full of bright individuals who only need the opportunity to do great things. I applaud those who have already taken the steps to make a difference in the world.

To those who have not had the opportunity or the motivation to begin their lives of change, I implore you to start a club or an organization today. I promise you will be surprised to see how many people share your same concerns about the world.

I want to thank all my professors for teaching me things that I otherwise would never have learned and to all my friends for the great experiences that made up my college career.

"Do not go where the path may lead; go instead where there is no path and leave a trail"

-Ralph Waldo Emerson

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Local Orlando Band Defines "Music for Everyone"

Emily Beardsley
The Sandspur

If you have been at Rollins for any significant amount of time, you have certainly noticed Orlando's local music scene. Though small and somewhat unclaimed by any particular style, the music's lack of uniformity makes way for an unmatched level of versatility.

Orlando's music scene is infiltrated with every genre of music and performance, from the Orlando Gay Choir to 30-year-old men playing grunge instrumentals at the Social.

It is this versatility, however, that opens the doors for bands that are not necessarily cookie-cut into any specific musical category—which is exactly what local band, Essence d'Âme, strives to be.

Essence d'Âme (French for Essence of Soul) is the conflation of hip-hop, funk, and jazz with accents of soul, pop, and blues. Their mission is very simple. It is to create music that does not follow any rules.

"We don't cater to any specific group of people, because music is for everyone, and our lyrics tell stories about life experiences that everyone can relate to, no matter what walk of life they come from," says Nick "Ridiculous Nick" Palmer, the band's first and founding member. "You can appreciate our music from a multitude of angles—just don't try and put us in a box."

The band formed in 2009 when Palmer hit a wall with his own music production. Playing all the instruments over sampled drum beats, he began creating his own so-called hip-hop in his home recording studio, "but all the rappers told [him] it was crap."

Frustrated at non-musical artists who seemed to be excelling despite a lack of talent, Palmer sent his S.O.S. via a Craigslist ad requesting "musicians for a unique hip-hop band." His first response was from 24-year-old MC True Rhyme, who impressed Palmer

with the "deep and spiritual" nature of his lyrics, and mind blowing speed and intelligence. The two paired up and slowly completed the band's final line up through classmates, friends, and word of mouth.

About a year later, the line-up now includes Jeremy Adams on the bass, Will Busby on guitar, vocalist Lou Magee, Ryan "Houston" Eiland on the drums, Ridiculous Nick on the keyboards, and of course, MC True Rhyme.

Since the band's first show in June 2009, which Palmer admits "wasn't great," Essence d'Âme has gained an admirable following and is arguably one of the most energetic and passionate local bands in Orlando.

Palmer describes the band's drive to improve with each show, developing not only in musicality, but increasing

— May 12 at The Plaza Theatre, hosted by Palmer's promotion company, Ridiculous Music.

Part of the band's greatest appeal is their ability to cut loose and have fun. In their live performances, they connect with audiences, posing for pictures, asking if concert-goers are "still awake," and reminding us to enjoy ourselves.

"You can appreciate our music from a multitude of angles—just don't try and put us in a box."

their fan base and their music business savvy.

Boasting a list of venues such as The Social, Backbooth, The Haven, and 57 West, the band is well on its way to a higher level of notoriety.

With shows this summer in Jacksonville and Atlanta and plans to record an EP at the end of the month, Essence d'Âme is poised to take 2010 by storm—starting with their next show

With an incredibly exuberant and energetic stage presence difficult to find in the typical selection pool of local bands, Essence d'Âme is most definitely worth checking out sometime this summer, next semester, or any time you find yourself in or around the greater Orlando area. As Palmer reminds us, "hip-hop music is alive—and more importantly—hip-hop music is for everyone."



Jamming: Essence d'Âme mesmerizes audiences with their energetic stage presence. KIRSTEN ZAREK

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From Folk Songs to Sci-Fi: An Interview with Janis Ian

Greg Golden
The Sandspur

Few entertainers begin their lives of fame with a somber, socially-charged folk catalogue and segue into writing short-stories bearing such titles as "Carter on Mars" and co-authored pieces like "Water-Skiing Down the River Styx." Janis Ian found her career as a singer/songwriter bloom with "At Seventeen," for which she won a Grammy Award in 1975 and has most recently appeared on the soundtrack of the 2004 film "Mean Girls."

Since she has released numerous albums and prose works, the latter ranging from her autobiography, "Society's Child," to entries in science fiction. Her 2002 article "The Internet Debacle" found her defending downloaders of free music when the RIAA began

cracking down. Before her April 30 concert at the Plaza Theatre, Ian was able to answer a few questions about her career.

TS: The Sandspur: Before you decided to pursue a career in music, when did you realize how big a place music had in your life?

JI: Janis Ian: At two and a half I heard my dad playing the piano and realized for the first time that it was actually a human being making that noise, and so I took lessons. From there, there was no turning back.

TS: What it is about music that makes it so unbelievable to be creatable?

JI: I think some people are just born to do certain things. Other people are born to be artists, others painters; it's just, music did it for me.

TS: What was the first album you bought?

JI: With my own money... Joan Baez, or Pete Seger, whose music was always around the house. I learned to play piano alongside [Baez' music].

TS: With experience as an author, how does your approach differ with songwriting as compared to prose writing?

JI: Apples and oranges, two completely different things—they are both different ways of expressing oneself.

TS: What are the differences in what you express through the two mediums?

JI: I don't even think like that, it didn't even occur to me... I just don't think about it

TS: What led you to write fiction?

JI: Michael Resnick published a short story and encouraged me, saying I should absolutely be writing short fiction, and I was absolutely convinced I shouldn't because

I didn't know how to, and he was convinced I already knew how to but just didn't realize it. So next thing I knew, there I was with a commitment and a deadline, and people who would be let down, and so I started writing it. That's the truth—bang-bang.

TS: Have you performed your poetry on stage?

JI: No, not ever. God knows—I don't see poetry as a spoken form. I know poets that do, but I also don't think of myself as a poet; I'm really a songwriter. I don't think I'm a very good poet.

TS: Your new album "Folk is the New Black" suggests an edge to the genre—how would you describe it?

JI: It's a take on the Madison Ave thing: "This is the new black, that is the new black" Folk music is very popular, and suddenly, "folk is

the new black," and is cool—what people are listening to. I think aside from folk music, rap music is the most political, certainly, certainly the most socially relevant, traditionally, at least in America. It usually has a certain bite to it.

TS: What messages are you getting at in the new album?

JI: I don't mean to sound coy or flippant, but I really don't think like that. It is what I live by, but I write what feels right, and it is just songs. Each song is an individual work, and they say what they say. I think that if there's any overriding message in my life, I think it's "Live and let live." I think my songs are pretty transparent, for the most part. Occasionally I'll wander off, but usually they're pretty transparent. It's right there in the song, and if not, you're welcome to put it there!

BSU and CSA Pool Party

Meghan Thomas
The Sandspur

Last Saturday found Rollins students hanging at the pool for some food, music and fun in the sun. It was the annual Black Student Union (BSU) pool party. This year BSU teamed up with the Caribbean Student Association (CSA) for a really successful event. The food was Caribbean themed, with coconut and jerk chicken, Jamaican beef patties, plantains, and mangos. Also, a DJ kept the party going all day with fun music that had a lot of students dancing and having a good time. Some students from UCF came to hang out, swim, and start a game that has

not been seen since middle school... four-square! Students nostalgically played in a tournament that lasted for the duration of the day. Robert Whetstone, advisor of BSU and well-known member of Campus Security, made a guest appearance, along with his family. Students from SGRho, BSU, CSA, and Spectrum were all in attendance enjoying the sun and good company.

Tonya Aaron (Class of 2013), a member of both BSU and Spectrum, stated, "I think it's really important for cultural organizations to team up to have fun events like this, it really promotes inclusion and helps Rollins become a more tight-knit community."



MELANIE WEITZNER

Spontaneous Four-Square: When the weather got a little too cold to stay in the water, students at the pool party resorted to playing four-square while listening to music from a live DJ set.



Continued from page 1

It would seem that the news has both a positive and negative effect on the reputation of Rollins. Most students looking for colleges and universities want a school that has the "work hard, play hard" aspect to it. They want a school that can give them a good education, but without missing out on life for four years.

Prospective students' parents may not be thrilled with the new ranking. How would most parents feel about sending their child to the number seven party school in the nation, especially according to Playboy.com? Probably not too pleased.

It is important to remember that this list is not an empirical study and is only based on the stories that students submit to the website from which the list

is comprised.

Though, the ranking could also be beneficial to the college. With Rollins' high rankings academically, beautiful campus, and fun reputation, more and more high school students could become interested in the college. Granted, no one wants a negative representation of Rollins to be seen, but the publicity Rollins is getting from Playboy is not explicitly negative. Nick Vasone (Class of 2012) commented on the list: "I think that it is pretty accurate for the description given; we are small but still know how to have a good time."



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Advice from Jenn

Jenn's take on our Rollins Campus and the world in which we live.



Jenn Stull
Columnist

Not The Good Kind of Threesome

In my definition, a "middle man" is someone who is constantly put in the middle of everyone's personal lives. This includes romantic and family relationships, school situations, job problems, pet issues, and pretty much anything that could do with a second opinion. Some see it as an important role to play within a friendship circle; however, it is a tiring and stressful job that should not be coveted by anyone.

It is a taxing profession to constantly be held responsible for finding the answers to everyone's personal dilemmas du jour. I have a theory about

This seems a bit incestuous to me, but in a community where options are limited these overlapping relationships will happen and we must accept this fact.

I have been to small schools my entire life. It seems when two friends get together it is impossible for them to avoid involving a third party. However, where is the line between being a helpful friend and literally doing all the work for a relationship you are not even a part of?

I feel as though people become so wrapped up in their own lives they begin to think that they really are the center of the universe; no one else has anything better to do than help them with their grand relationship disasters.

Now, I am not saying that friends should not be there in another friend's moment of need, but when your relationships with friends turn more into counseling sessions every time you sit down to dinner, then there is a problem. Having a middle man is the lazy way of getting what is needed.

The middle man is used to do the dirty work, the talking, the awkward defining of the relationship that those involved do not wish to get associated with. Then of course once the middle man has fulfilled their job description, the happy couple can skip off into the sunset, leaving the middle man with nothing more than a few kind words and a headache.

Here is the tricky detail

"If you use a middle man, you are not a bad person; you simply need to realize your relationships will be stronger if you take care of the problems yourself."

how the middle man came to be. They have a specific characteristic that draws others to open up and spill their inner most thoughts to them. They then request, no, REQUIRE a solution from you... the middle man. Yes, you will receive large amounts of praise and gratitude, but the altruistic feeling can only go so far; the middle man has feelings and needs too! This raises the question: who does the middle man go to when he or she needs a middle man himself? The middle man is much more complex than assumed.

Some often forget that the middle man is human after all. Now, before you write me off for being melodramatic, ask yourself: has not the description I have provided create allusions of a robotic friend?

One who is only there to cater to your every emotional need? Therefore, it is apparent that the middle man's feelings fall to the way side. The microscopic atmosphere at Rollins leads to friends dating within the same friend pool. Two close friends may even end up dating the same person during their time at Rollins.

about friends that use middle men: they do not know they are using them. It seems as though people can be completely oblivious to it and cannot for the life of them recognize the uncomfortable situation they are putting themselves and their friend in. As I said, there is a fine line between being a good friend and going way beyond the call of duty. If you are a middle man or have been in the past, you understand what I mean. It is a full time job that requires you to ensure everyone else's happiness but your own.

As much as you may fear hurting your friends, or being labeled as a bad friend it is important to speak out. Say when you need to step out of the equation. If you use a middle man, you are not a bad person. It is natural to want to seek help and comfort in times of distress.

You simply need to realize your relationships will be stronger if you take care of the problems yourself. Remember, one and one does not equal three so keep the middle man out in this small community. It is your world Rollins, I just write about it.

Louisa Gibbs
The Sandspur

Last week, the Rollins Student Labor Action Project (SLAP) hosted their first Week of Action at Rollins College. They dedicated each day to a different "ism," so that faculty, staff, and students could learn more about various social justice issues and how to be more active global citizens and responsible leaders. The leaders of SLAP, Louisa Gibbs (Class of 2011), Frankie Mastrangelo (Class of 2010), and Mimi Houston (Class of 2010) spent the semester working hard to collaborate with other student organizations to create a successful week.

The week was sponsored by the Society for Justice and Peace in Palestine, Voices for Women, Black Student Union, Tau Kappa Epsilon, Amnesty International, Spectrum, Residential Life, and the Office of Multicultural Affairs.

"We seek to not only raise awareness concerning how such oppressions are manifested, but highlight the various ways in which these 'isms' intersect," commented Mimi Houston, one of the planners of the Week of Action. The first day, Monday, April 12, focused on the theme of racism. From noon to 2 p.m., the Society for Justice and Peace in Palestine hosted a Peace Rally on Mills lawn.

There was a microphone for people to use for any means, whether to play music, read poetry, or to express themselves creatively. Most enjoyed creating posters for peace, which

are now hanging in the Cornell Campus Center.

In the evening, the Black Student Union hosted the movie "Maafa 21," a documentary about black genocide in 21st-century America. Event participants then engaged in a meaningful discussion about race at Rollins.

Tuesday, April 13 centered on sexism as its theme. Students of the class "Women and Globalization" conducted "The Bandana Project," a demonstration to raise awareness to violence against female farm workers, outside the Olin Library.

Then in the evening, a different group of students from the same Women's Studies class, in conjunction with Voices for Women, held the panel "Women's Work in a Global Economy." The panelists engaged the large audience with their personal experiences of sexism in the workplace.

Classism was the third theme looked at during the course of the week. A week prior, SLAP sent out a survey to the student-body asking, how much debt will you be in once you graduate from Rollins? SLAP made a "Wall of Debt" outside of Olin Library so that people could see how much money individuals would owe for their liberal arts educations. The aim was to raise consciousness to the large amount of debt that Rollins graduates often find themselves in, and to break the stereotype of all Rollins students being able to afford to go to Rollins independently. From the over 250 responses to the online survey, their total debt

was almost \$10 million.

In the evening on Wednesday, April 13, Amnesty International held a "Living Wage" panel in conjunction with many different departments. Professor Rock, Professor Koziel, and Professor Schutz participated on behalf of the Economics Department, Professor Tillman represented the Critical Media and Cultural Studies Department, and Professor Chong from the Politics Department and Professor Rogers from the International Business Department also participated. The event turned out to be so popular that some people were turned away at the door.

Thursday, April 15 was dedicated to bringing awareness to heterosexism. During common hour, Spectrum partnered with Tau Kappa Epsilon to present the trivia game show "That's So Gay!" Teams were asked questions about the LG-BTIQQA community to win prizes.

The evening programming focused on the idea of stereotypes of people with different sexual preferences. The panel "Breaking Down the Stereotypes," hosted by Spectrum and Residential Life, discussed the different perceptions of what it is to be homosexual. Faculty, staff, and students had in-depth and meaningful discussions on the subject.

The Week of Action reached out to many students at Rollins to spend some time learning about social justice issues. SLAP hopes to make the Week of Action an annual event at Rollins College.

A Finals Week Mental Check-Up

Praise Santos
The Sandspur

Over the next week, creatures with dark-rimmed eyes, hungry bodies, and heavy cargo will roam our campus: students studying for finals. It is that time in the semester when a focus on mental health is often neglected but necessary. As important as it is to stay mentally healthy in these trying times, the term 'mental health' has a stigma attached to it. When it is mentioned, many images come to mind such as shrinks, jackets of the unfashionable straight sort, and prescription drugs.

Mental health should instead be thought of as "getting through the challenges in life," enjoying relationships, and knowing what makes you tick and what makes you smile. By understanding yourself you can more easily take care of your mind.

Many of the hardships we go through, such as anxiety and stress, are perfectly normal. These feelings have the purpose of pushing us to get work done, warn us about dangers, and let us know what we do and do not enjoy in life.

Find what works best for you during these anxious times. For some, going on a bike ride can most effectively clear the mind. Others find that listen-

ing to music or picking up their beloved instrument can make their mind skip to a different beat.

If you do not play a musical instrument then bongos and the cowbell require little to no previous musical skills. Others have found a run, a warm bath, hot tea, or YouTube-ing as other relaxing techniques.

It is also important to notice how your diet can affect your mood. Be mindful of what you eat. Sure, that cookie seems to melt in your mouth and put a chocolate-covered smile on your face, but how do you feel after an hour or so? Is your mood affected by the sugar? Find your balance. Generally, you should stick to balanced, colorful meals and healthy snacks. And no, "Fruit Roll Ups" do not count as a fruit serving.

Sleeping is of the utmost importance. I know it often seems as though class is the best place to catch up on missed Zzz's than during regular sleeping hours, but our sleep is more crucial than we realize. Do not mess up that sleep pattern! Too little sleep and too much sleep can affect your body negatively. Plus, crankiness is simply not attractive.

If you find though that you are over-thinking or that your worries or stresses are interfering with your routine, for exam-

ple not being able to sleep or eat regularly, inability to concentrate at school, or difficulty enjoying time with friends, it may be time to get support. It helps to vent to a family member or a trusted friend. Others can share your load and help you see things from another, perhaps positive perspective.

It is wise to be mindful about mental health, in ourselves and those around us. Keep an eye out for friends going through challenging times. Encourage them to talk. Let them know that you care and ask if you can help lighten their load. Be there for them as they seek help.

We can all emerge from this semester alive and, believe it or not, well. Yes, it is possible. Be mindful of your mental health during this time. There is plenty of sun and relaxation to look forward to. And hey, if you are not graduating yet, in a few short months, we get to experience this week all over again.

If you are an Arts & Sciences student you can contact the Counseling and Psychological Services (CAPS) at 407-628-6340; Holt & Crummer students can use the resource of the Cornell Counseling Clinic (CCC) at 407-646-2134. Or you can find out more about mental health at visit www.halfonufus.com or www.ccvillage.buffalo.edu.

Café Hopping

Notes and Cultural Observations from the Old World to the New



Brendan Monroe
Columnist

An Offer You Can't Refuse

Nestled in the corner of a bustling shopping complex at Colonial and Bumby sits the Plaza Theater. This quaint, unassuming building stands alone, isolated from the rest of the complex and appearing remarkably regal—and for good reason. For 10 years now the Plaza has been home to the Russian Academy of Ballet, the

“...in a city as culture starved as Orlando, the opportunity to attend a prestigious ballet is a rare treat indeed.”

largest performing Ballet studio in Central Florida.

In celebration of their 10th Anniversary, the Russian Ballet of Orlando is presenting an International Ballet Gala on April 30, featuring internationally renowned dancers from Russia, Ukraine, Spain, the Czech Republic and many other parts of the world.

Why is this important? Because in a city as culture starved and lacking as Orlando, the opportunity to attend a prestigious ballet, stocked with world famous dancers and choreographers is a rare treat indeed. But to truly understand how rare, one must understand the history and passion of ballet, and of the pieces that came together to form this Academy.

Attempting to do just this, I swung by one weekday morning to the Plaza Theater to meet with the lovely and passionate Katerina Fedotova. Ms. Fedotova runs this studio, offering ballet classes to beginners starting at the age of three all the way up to professional levels. It is rather early and I am still adjusting to the idea of being awake when I stumble into Fedotova's studio. Greeting me with a smile, Ms. Fedotova quickly dispenses with my drowsiness, launching into an enthusiastic account of how the Academy was started. Born and raised in Kiev, Fedotova's parents are

something of celebrities in the dance world. Her mother, Irina Depler, performed at the prestigious Kiev National Theater of Opera and Ballet and was the first ballerina to earn the title of Principal Dancer in her first year at the company, right out of school.

Her father, Vadim Fedotov, also achieved success as a principal dancer and is in addition a highly lauded choreographer, two roles that have him touring around the world. This month marks their 40-year Anniversary and to mark the occasion Fedotova tells me the story of how her parents met. Vadim, a young and as of yet undistinguished dancer at the Kiev National Theater, had a hopeless crush on the beautiful, seemingly unattainable Irina, already a principal dancer in the company. Despite the odds Vadim asked Irina out... only to get rejected—again, and again, and again. Until finally one day his persistence paid off and Irina accepted. A month later the two were married. It is a fascinating story and one that has left quite a mark in Fedotova's life.

As we sit she shares about the students that mean so much to her and the progress they have made in the years. One thing is perfectly clear: Vadim's persistence has definitely rubbed off on his daughter. The passion Fedotova has for dance and for her students is evident in every story she shares and in her studio's every detail. On the studio's spring floor, she points out a slight dent where a long time student jumped before launching into 17 consecutive pirouettes. By comparison, Mikhail Baryshnikov's record was 11. Speaking of the internationally famous Russian ballet dancer, Katerina recalls her parents having him over at their house multiple times while she was growing up.

“He's a good friend.” She says. But individual fame and success is not something that Fedotova teaches to her students. “Our students perform on stage with the most famous dancers in the world,” Fedotova explains. “But everyone is on the same level. My students have to learn respect for one another. Great education comes not from what you have but what you offer.” Thanks to Fedotova and her parents, not only do they offer a chance for ballet students to achieve their dreams, they also offer an opportunity for those of interest in the arts to take part. The next program, the International Gala, takes place at 7:30 p.m. Friday April 30 at Northland Church and will feature an array of world famous dancers and breathtaking dance routines. Tickets range from \$10 to \$45 and can be purchased on Northland's website www.northlandchurch.net/events. For all other information please visit www.russianballetforlando.org.

Fate's Warning Rocks '80s Style

Vernon Meigs
The Sandspur

Progressive metal legend Fates Warning reached the closest to the mainstream in their entire career when they released “Parallels” in 1991. The album spawned two videos and graduated the band from playing at clubs to joining big names on tour and performing on legitimate stages. Airplay of the band was increased and many new fans introduced themselves to their work. In a long string of reissues with bonus tracks and live footage, the reissue of “Parallels” has arrived in 2010 with live tracks, demos, and a DVD with interviews and live footage.

Fates Warning was founded in Hartford, CT in 1983 and started their first albums with an Iron Maiden influence, but was beginning to show signs of progressive rock by their third album, “Awaken the Guardian,” leading them to eventually be dubbed originators of progres-

sive metal. The odd time signatures, technical playing and epic structure of the songs in 1988's “No Exit” increased their popularity, but the following release “Perfect Symmetry” set the standard for technical and progressive metal and their overall signature sound.

After their “Perfect Symmetry” tour, Fates Warning returned to the studio to try a different approach to music. As described in the bonus DVD of the reissue, this was the point in the band's career that the lineup at the time was really beginning to know each other. “Parallels” was a much more accessible collection of songs than they had ever done before, with a great amount of emphasis on melody; when the band was cutting demos for the album, they were advised to add something heavier to balance the sound. From this was born the rocker “Life in Still Water.”

Fates Warning's lyrical concepts were never totally consistent; their first albums up to

“Awaken the Guardian” were more fantasy and mythical oriented, while “No Exit” and “Perfect Symmetry” dealt with psychology, society, and personal issues. “Parallels” continued the progression of personal subjects, and as can be told by the album opener “Leave the Past Behind,” had to do more with positive self-reflection, and to venture into new territory. The single “Eye to Eye” sounds more like a relationship song, while it was said to be inspired by the connection they have had with their fans. “The Eleventh Hour” was dubbed unanimously by the band as a very representative Fates Warning song, in that it has everything each member can give its fullest: prominent bass, technical guitar dueling, soaring vocals, stylistic shifts, and a well-drawn out structure. The overall sound of the album was also said to have been a natural progression from the single “Through Different Eyes,” which amidst the technical and progressive songs that made the rest of the album, was a standout that was very accessible. “Parallels” was said to be a transition between “Through Different Eyes” to their new incarnation.

Mastered to very clear sound quality from the start, the eight songs on the album were very pleasing to the ears to anyone with a taste for the 80s style of metal music that was flourishing before grunge took over. The live tracks, the demos, and the 1992 footage of New Haven, CT was thus far the best quality of their live archives. Anyone with an ear of the nostalgic may gain a great deal from giving this album a listen and discover the sound that is Fates Warning.



Fates Warning: Guitarist Frank Aresti tears up the stage on tour with Fates Warning at the Headway Festival in 2005.

Reviewing the Florida Film Festival

Brendan Monroe
The Sandspur

After 10 days, nearly 150 films, and countless packages of Cranberry Rasinets, the curtain has closed on the 2010 Florida Film Festival. I must say I am somewhat relieved. After all, keeping up a schedule where I watch a minimum of four films a day can be exhausting. But looking back there is little doubt that I am all the better for it!

As is the case in any festival, some films were good, some bad; some revolutionary and others bloated with wasteful excess. I have compiled a list of both for your reading pleasure. Here are some that, when released, you will not want to miss, and others that you better hope to God that you do.

1. “The Girl With The Dragon Tattoo”

Appropriately enough, the best film in this year's festival, a Swedish thriller adapted from Stieg Larsson's exceptional novel, has already garnered a release date of May 7 at the Enzian Theater. Without giving anything in this tense, provocative thriller away, I will simply say that you would be a fool to miss it!

2. “Wild Grass”

It is the most bizarre, unusual, undeniably “French” film I have ever seen... and one of this year's best! Love it or hate it, (and you are bound to do one of the two) you cannot deny that Alain Resnais has pulled off something extraordinarily unique and original with this, the most quintessentially perfect festival film. No film at this year's festival sparked as much debate or disagreement as this one, a bright, acidic meditation on obsession and desire. The last scene in the film will have you scratching your head, asking yourself, did I really see what I just saw? The answer? Yes. And for better or worse, you will never forget it.

3. “The Secret of Kells”

A remarkably beautiful journey which takes place in an excitingly new world of animation. Nominated for Best Animated Film in this year's Oscars, “The Secret of Kells” deserved to have won that prize. It is the best the category has seen years.

4. “Don't Let Me Drown”

Riveting and heartwrenching, “Don't Let Me Drown” won the Audience Award for Best Narrative

Feature. For telling what could have been a clichéd story in a totally, unique way, Director Cruz Angeles deserved it.

5. “The Lottery”

Easily the best documentary in this year's particularly strong class, “The Lottery” shares the plight of Harlem schoolchildren who struggle to succeed in a country where all too often, what school you go to determines everything. By taking a fresh, political angle on the issue, “The Lottery” is a winner!

6. “Mid-August Lunch”

Breezy, fun, delicious... in other words, what Italian Cinema should be! One word of advice, do not come on an empty stomach!

7. “How I Met Your Father”

Actually a short Spanish film shown as a part of the International Shorts Program, How I Met Your Father manages to convey in only 9 minutes what the majority of feature length films fail to in two full hours. It is sexy AND has heart!

8. “Welcome”

A wonderful drama about a soft spoken French swim coach who decides to give lessons to a Kurdish refugee, a decision that changes both of their lives.

Sunshine State Conference Victory Over Tritons

Dodie O'Keefe
The Sandspur

This past weekend, the Rollins baseball team had very successful trip to St. Petersburg. On Friday, April 16, the men beat Eckerd 11-8. In another victory this past Saturday, Rollins took down Eckerd again with a score of 18-6. If you were unable to see these games live or on video, do not worry because the Tars will be playing again this Friday, April 23, Saturday, April 24, and Tuesday, April 27.

On Friday, they will be at Barry at 5:00 p.m., and the game will be on live video

and audio. Then on Saturday, they will be at Barry again, at noon. Finally, on Tuesday, the Tars will play at Florida Tech at 3:00 p.m.

On another positive note, the Women's Softball team had another victorious weekend. This past Friday, April 16, the girls took down Eckerd 7-2, at a home game.

On Saturday, April 17, in a doubleheader, the Tars won both games with scores of 10-0 in both games. Good job Tars!

If you missed out on these games, the Tars will be playing on Saturday, April 24, at 7:00 p.m. vs. Barry, and on Sunday, April 25, at 1:00 p.m.



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APRIL

23 friday

The Senior Student Art Show Opening Reception will take place in the Cornell Fine Arts Museum from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. April de Angelis' "Playhouse Creatures" will be performed in The Annie Russell Theatre at 8 p.m.

24 saturday

April de Angelis' Playhouse Creatures will be performed in The Annie Russell Theatre at 2 p.m. and again at 8 p.m. Masters go to the Movies will take place in Knowles Chapel at 7:30 p.m. The Rollins softball team will be competing against Barry at 7 p.m.

25 sunday

The Spring Arena Concert 2010 will take place in The Alford Sports Center at 7 p.m. Be sure to get your tickets online! Only \$5 each! Masters go to the Movies will take place in Knowles Chapel at 3 p.m. The Rollins Softball team will be competing against Barry at 1 p.m.

26 monday

The Annual Academic Awards Ceremony will take place in Bush Auditorium at 3 p.m. Rollins Immersion: End of The Year Celebration event will take place at 4 p.m.

27 tuesday

Chef Mai Pham will come to Rollins and host the Asian Street Market at 11:30 a.m. in The Cornell Campus Center. The Orchestra Concert & Music Department Awards will take place at 7:30 p.m. in Keene Hall. The Rollins Softball team will be competing against St. Leo University at 7 p.m.

28 wednesday

College of Arts and Sciences Reading Day will take place all day. The Rollins College Debate Team will be competing against Cambridge University Debating Society in Keene Hall at 7 p.m. The Rollins Softball team will be competing against St. Leo University at 11 a.m.

29 thursday

Final exams begin.

30 friday

Final exams continue. The Rollins baseball team will be playing against Palm Beach Atlantic at 1 p.m.



Sandspurian of the week TOBIAS

This Eastern Screech Owl was saved by the Back to Nature Wildlife Fund after he was hit by a car and sustained a wing injury. To help them nurse injured animals to return them to the wild, visit www.btnwildlife.org.

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