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The Sandspur

At Rollins we
COME OUT
WITH
PRIDE



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ISSUE

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Understanding Dining Costs

by Marnie Carlson
esandspur

Two weeks ago, *The Sandspur* featured an article about the discrepancy between the prices of items at the C-Store, 7-Eleven, and Wal-Mart. As shown, C-Store prices are often double those found at Wal-Mart. On top of the expensive C-Store prices, many students on campus have complained about the price of the food in the cafeteria. Themed meals often cost anywhere from \$6 to \$10 per plate, with additional items costing even more (a small salad is \$2.39, a 6 oz. ladle of soup is \$1.89, and most desserts are \$3-\$5 each).

Students living on campus will be here for approximately 112 days. They buy a meal plan that provides them with roughly \$2057 to spend on food per semester. On average, that gives a student \$20 a day for meals. Many students ponder the following question: is that enough?

Gerard Short, general manager of Dining Services, addressed this and other questions concerning the Rollins meal plan. First, he stated that the meal plan is only designed for 15 meals a week. He found that the majority of students go home on weekends and leave for classes, making 15 the average number of meals a student will eat on campus. But is it still possible to live off of this plan if you are on campus all the time? Short answers yes, on the basis that the student smartly budgets. There are cheaper alternatives like The Grille and Diane's Cafe that are available to everyone.

Students also wonder: why does the Rollins meal plan differ from many other food plans across the country? Many other colleges have all-you-can-eat plans, including the University of Central Florida, whose seven-day-a-week, all-you-can-eat plan costs only \$1700, a significantly less amount of money dedicated to food when compared to the Rollins meal plan. Why is there such a difference in price?

Short provided two reasons for the declining meal plan: first, it builds community by allowing anyone in the cafeteria, not just people who pay at the door; second, because of feedback from students. Dining Services has sent several student groups to other colleges' all-you-can-eat programs and has received an overwhelmingly positive response from students.

Students have consistently stated that they prefer quality over quantity. The quality of food in the cafeteria is going to cost more money than other colleges because they do not have the same quality that can be found at Rollins. Many other colleges do not have sushi, while Rollins serves salmon and lobster bisque, both unheard of in college foods.

Going back to last issue's campus food debate, if quality costs more, then why is it that the C-Store products are more expensive compared to 7-Eleven or Wal-Mart when they all sell the exact same product? Why is there a price difference?

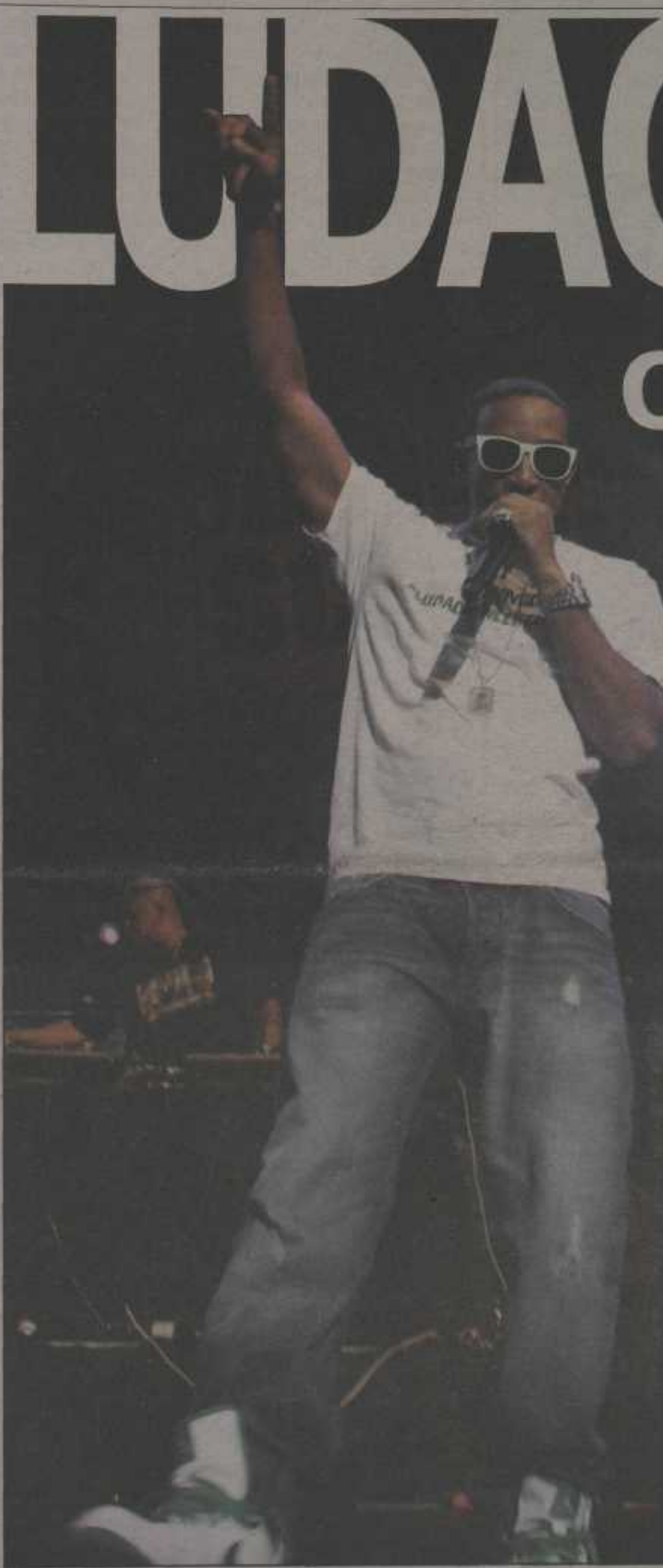
Again, the answer is surprisingly simple and logical. While the C-Store may only be able to buy a crate of Ketchup from Heinz throughout a semester, Wal-Mart can promise a few hundred dollars in the same amount of time. Wal-Mart will cut a deal, while the C-Store will not. Sodexo has buying power over Pepsi and Coke, so bottles of pop at the C-Store will always be set at a highly competitive price when compared to Wal-Mart and other grocery stores.

In essence, Short takes pride in the dining program at Rollins, and states that students "will not see [it matched] anywhere else in the state of Florida. Rollins is a service provider to the students." If students want to see changes in the dining services on campus, students simply need to speak up. Dining services is listening.

LUDACRIS

ROCKS

ORLANDO



CONCERT COVERAGE:

- ▶ VAMPIRE WEEKEND
- ▶ LUDACRIS
- ▶ LMFAO

* GO TO PAGES 6 & 7

Do You Know Where Your Tuition Goes?

Julia Campbell
The Sandspur

Over the years, students have played the game of guessing how much landscaping costs the school. Some guess hundreds, others thousands, and there are always those students who have heard rumors that Rollins spends \$1 million a month to maintain Mills Lawn. These figures are mere guesses, but it makes one question the costs and expenses. So where does all of that money go?

Campus Facilities is split into three operational departments from most expensive to least: housekeeping, maintenance and buildings/grounds. The truth is that groundskeeping is the cheapest portion of the Facilities budget, while the most money goes toward housekeeping. Scott Bitikofer, head of Campus Facilities, explains that the housekeeping costs are more than the lawn care because "we have three times the staff in housekeeping than in grounds."

Additionally, Facilities has the following two maintenance funds: the operating fund and the capital fund. The operating fund is set aside for what is already expected for the school year, including the constant upkeep of the landscaping and the cleaning of the buildings. This year, the operating fund totals at about \$100 million. The capital fund, on the other hand, is saved for bigger projects. Over the summer, 21 apartments at Sutton Place were renovated with new plumbing, carpeting and other amenities; the funding for that renovation came from the capital budget. For other major projects such as the Rex Beach makeover, the school uses bond proceeds, source gifts, and occasionally combines the former with portions of the capital budget.

As for the food catered to the students every day, it is pricey, with approximately \$5 million spent a year.

▶ CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

America Discourages Travel to Europe



SOLDIER SURVEYS THE STATION: A soldier patrols the Eurostar high-speed train connecting London to Paris in response to the ongoing travel alert.

Kari Smith
The Sandspur

On Oct. 3, the U.S. State Department issued a Travel Alert for Europe. The government states that intelligence indicates al-Qaida and other terrorist organizations "continue to plan terrorist attacks" on Europe. This warning is not very helpful for people traveling in Europe since it does not mention a specific country or region, but does serve as a reminder for travelers to remain vigilant and to continue to be cautious and avoid complacency while abroad.

A Travel Alert is not the same as a Travel Warning. Travel Warnings are issued when a nation or region becomes unsafe and unstable, and may indicate that U.S. travelers in the region will have less access to assistance from the government than they can expect under normal circumstances. Travel Alerts are warnings of a potential security threat and are generally shorter-term. The Travel Alert on Europe will expire on Jan. 31, 2011 if it is not renewed.

Many of our friends and fellow Rollins students study abroad each semester. What impact does the Travel Alert have on them?

Giselda Beaudin, director of International Programs, states that this semester 112 Rollins students are studying abroad through Rollins Programs as well as affiliate and non-affiliate programs in Britain, France, Italy, Prague and Spain. She has e-mailed the students, advising them of the alert and including quotes from the State Department website, *The New York Times* and the United Kingdom's *Guardian*. Beaudin also warned students to be especially cautious in tourist areas or public transport and to always carry their emergency

contact info with them.

No student, so far, has replied to the e-mail, and only one parent has called to inquire about what would happen if students had to return to the U.S. before the end of the semester. Such a return would disrupt students' education, and Rollins would have to find ways for the students to finish the semester with the credits the students need, but safety does come first and Rollins will return students if they are in danger. For Rollins affiliate programs, the affiliate institution would make the decision to send students home. Students' travel insurance does cover them for political evacuation. Unless an incident occurs, the Travel Alert will not affect the spring programs.

The State Department website is not very specific about the threat or if the government will be able to eliminate it, but it reassures citizens that: "We continue to work closely with our European allies on the threat from international terrorism, including al-Qa'ida. Information is routinely shared between the U.S. and our key partners to disrupt terrorist plotting, identify and take action against potential operatives, and strengthen our defenses against potential threats."

Besides taking "every precaution to be aware of their surroundings and to adopt safety measures to protect themselves when traveling," the State Department suggests for travelers to register their travel plans with the Consular Section of the U.S. Embassy.

The Alert can be found at http://travel.state.gov/travel/cis_pa_tw/pa/pa_5171.html. The Web page has links and numbers to other government resources and contacts. The Government travel tips are at http://travel.state.gov/travel/tips/tips_1232.html.

LGBT Teens Bullied to Suicide

Annamarie Carlson
The Sandspur

On Sept. 22, after discovering that his Rutgers University roommate, Dharun Ravi, and friend, Molly Wei, live-streamed him in a sexual encounter with another male student without his knowledge, Tyler Clementi committed suicide by jumping off George Washington Bridge. On Sept. 19, when Ravi initially set up the webcam, he posted the following statement on Twitter: "Roommate asked for the room till midnight. I went into Molly's room and turned on my webcam. I saw him making out with a dude. Yay." Two days later, he tweeted his 150 followers to "chat" him on iChat, an instant messaging site that would provide them video feed of what his roommate was doing.

As if this was not bad enough, this is the fifth similar suicide in the past few weeks by a member of the lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender (LGBT) community. All the suicides have been caused by the bullying of their peers based on their sexual orientation.

Entertainer Ellen DeGeneres went through her own massive crisis when she came out of the closet in the mid-1990s.

Her sitcom was cancelled after six years, without notification; she had to read it in the papers. She had no further offers, and close friends stopped calling. She dealt with the massive problems that occurred, and she moved on, eventually becoming more popular than she ever was originally.

In reaction to the recent series of suicides, DeGeneres spoke out adamantly about how things need to change. "This needs to be a wake-up call to everyone that teenage bullying and teasing is an epidemic in this country, and the death rate is climbing. One life lost in this senseless way is tragic, four lives lost is a crisis. And these are just the stories we hear about - how many other teens have we lost, and how many others have suffered in silence?"

The following statement was made by the Office of Multicultural Affairs and Spectrum on the alarming number of suicides: "As a campus community, we need to provide support and help to those students who are being bullied, harassed or 'put on show' based upon sexual orientation, as well as accept the sad premise that students can be discriminated, bullied, and harassed by individuals

based upon an explicit or implicit sexual orientation. We need the help and support of Multicultural Affairs, Safe Zone, and Spectrum. We are able to combat this and be a supportive group for our students."

Actor Neil Patrick Harris gave these words of advice to people facing similar situations. "For the love of Pete, no reason to harm yourself. If something is going bad, talk and be proud of who you are... be proud." Chris star of *Glee*, also shared of advice. "Know that your friends, that you are loved, that you are not alone... it gets so much better."

At Rollins College, students who are facing similar hardships are advised to visit CAPS (Counseling and Psychological Services) located in DuBois Hall.

Students can also visit Spectrum, which strives to support the gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender community at Rollins. Spectrum meets Thursday at 5:15 p.m. in room 120. Students can also visit the Trevor Project, a national organization for crisis suicide prevention efforts. 866-4-U-TREVOR.



CANDLELIGHT VIGIL IN MEMORY OF CLEMENTI: The Rutgers campus mourns the loss of the college student Tyler Clementi, a student who committed suicide after being bullied based on their sexual orientation.

The Rollins Funds Broken Down

Continued from page 1

Again, however, the money is not only spent on food, but on the staff as well, with about 42 percent going toward the food and 40 percent going toward the labor; the rest is spent on janitorial items and potential replacement needs. When asked about the high price of the food in the cafeteria, Gerard Short, general manager of Dining Services, responded that "we operate a more upscale program [than other colleges]... That makes it more expensive." Of course, no one wants to spend excessive amounts of money on food, and Short agreed, saying that the service "struggles with the rising cost of food and labor."

Unfortunately, finding out which department is the most expensive is impossible because it is classified information. Bill Short, assistant vice president

of finance, explained, "We don't even share that information with other departments." Short reiterated what Bitikofor said by adding, "Most all of our expenses go into salary. Sixty-two percent of our money goes to paying people." Like most non-profit schools, Rollins thrives mostly off of donations from alumni and other people. "We take donations to help support our operations," Short said, going on to say that most of the donations are restricted. This restriction means that donors choose how Rollins spends the donated funds, and the school is legally bound to use the funds solely for that purpose.

Along with taking bets about how much the upkeep of Mills Lawn costs, there is a constant comparison between Rollins' expenses and those of other local schools. At schools like St. Leo University, food service is supplemented with tuition.

Stetson University has a expectation that food service bring in an income.

Rollins makes no money from Dining Services, but it is run by a private company, Sodexo. However, it is Rollins' tuition is much more expensive than that of not-for-profit schools, and Rollins financial aid packages are not as large with the total amount of aid awarded being \$13,068,706 and Rollins offering \$7,265,374. Still, Beaudin pointed out that Rollins' decisions based on the profit, not the profit, so while it may be more expensive, it is typically worth the price.

There is no doubt that college is expensive and Rollins is no exception. But it is reassuring to know that expenses are distributed. Students may now rest easy, half of their tuition goes toward Mills Lawn.

The New Tea Party

A debate on its merits

PRO

CON

Ed Leffler
The Sandspur

The most famous tea party in American history is clearly the Boston Tea Party, when a gang of American political activists stormed British ships and dumped the entire cargo of tea overboard to protest taxes. The Tea Party of today is actually an acronym for Taxed Enough Already, recalling both the original act and its purpose. The two

"The Tea Party is the new and rising party with much to offer, such as privatizing Social Security."

"parties" are related in that, like the American colonists, some current Americans feel they are taxed too much. The Tea party is known for its grassroots appeal and its hard line, right-wing conservatism.

The Tea Party is the new and upcoming party in the United States. Its mission states: "The impetus for the Tea Party movement is excessive government spending and taxation. Our mission is to attract, educate, organize, and mobilize our fellow citizens to secure public policy consistent with our three core values of Fiscal Responsibility, Constitutionally Limited Government and Free Markets."

Many Americans are opposed to the Tea Party because of its hard-line beliefs and radical viewpoints with regards to gay marriage and abortion rights. Americans do not understand that the current two-party system has too many problems and needs to be abandoned.

The Democratic Party supports the idea that the U.S. is a place where anyone can come, live, and be taken care of by the country for the rest of his or her life. The Republican Party has abandoned true conservatism and instead has become a more "tasteful" party by softening its views. Both parties are filled with corruption that continues to diminish our nation and deprive the American people of a voice.

The Tea Party is a strong, new voice that is free of the corruption of the "old" parties. It has the guts to adopt the radical conservatism that we need to save this country from political ruin and stagnation. To counter the Democrats, the Tea Party will say, "We just cannot continue to support everyone. America is the land of opportunity, so if you can get a job, then get one! That way work

ing people do not have to keep making minimum wage to support their families, only to have some of that wage taken out for Social Security, which will pay you to lounge around and not get a job!"

To the Republican Party, the Tea Partiers would say, "You have abandoned the ideals for which you once stood. You are letting the Democrats turn our society toward Communism, and allowing our economy to revert to a primitive form of socialism. You have become clouded by corruption and have allowed yourself to be contorted into 'Washington Politicians,' who will do anything to make sure their pork barrel legislation is passed so they can get re-elected. You have left Washington without a party that fights for lower taxes and fiscal conservatism. You have let the right wing decay as you slowly slip into the center, where you will eventually fester. Join us and see the wrongs that you have done, return to the path of righteousness, and restore yourselves to the party of fiscal conservatism, limited government and free markets. Let go of the 'How can I make a quick buck?' or 'How

Jon Smith
The Sandspur

I only have one problem with the Tea Party. Beyond it, I can understand their desires for a slower, less Liberal government. After all, our country is going through tough times and no matter what, the ruling party always alienates the other. I can understand, even support, many of their morals. Their conceptions and views on fiscal responsibility are important in an age when even liberal supporters are starting to question the spending habits of our government.

What stands out as a flaw in the Tea Party is its irrationality. Not all tea-baggers are crazy, gun-wielding, anti-progressive,

If the people who represent the most radical perspective are placed into the foreground, the crazies who have problems with homosexuals; mosques in New York; the theory of evolution; socialism, that creeping disease that will surely engulf America; or whoever generally degrades into babbling over a microphone in uneducated and ignorant ways, then the people who actually are educated,

"Unless the Tea Party can find a way to return to solid ground... then that essential quality of the Tea Party—its patriotism and responsibility—will be lost behind a flood of uneducated nonsense."



OCTOBER 18, 2010 – NOVEMBER 1, 2010
TEA PARTY EXPRESS IV
LIBERTY AT THE BALLOT BOX

TEA TIME: Thanks to the support of Sarah Palin and other high-profile politicians, the Tea Party grows nationwide and receives national media attention. Their political positions and outward expression—which they intentionally purport to inspire comparisons to the Boston Tea Party and the nation's founding fathers—inspire questions about their legitimacy.

can I get re-elected?" attitude and stand up for what you know is right!"

All in all, the Tea Party is the new and rising party with much to offer, such as privatizing Social Security, ending government bailouts, lifting government restrictions on the market, and limiting the constitutional power of the government to interfere with the life of the individual; the true spirit of America! Join the Tea Party! Your Founding Fathers did!

anti-human equality wackos; many, I would say most, of the members of the Tea Party movement are stable and conscious citizens of our beloved country. However, just as the radical militant Islamists create and enforce stereotypes about terrorism that pervert their region, so too do the few Tea Partiers who are in truth radical, gun-wielding, anti-progressive, anti-human equality wackos pervert and distort the true meaning behind the Tea Party.

the necessary liberalism in today's government. Yet, what needs to be understood is that unless the Tea Party can find a way to return to solid ground where compromise, negotiation and educated dialogue are espoused instead of shuttered, then that essential quality of the Tea Party—its patriotism and responsibility—will be lost behind a flood of uneducated nonsense. That is a message that should ring true to every political party, not just the Tea Party.

The Sandspur

Florida's Oldest
College Newspaper
Established in 1894 with
the following editorial:

"Unassuming yet almighty sharp, and pointed, well rounded yet many sided, assiduously tenacious, victorious in single combat, and therefore without a peer, wonderfully attractive and extensive in circulation; all these will be found upon investigation to be among the extraordinary qualities of *The Sandspur*."

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The Sandspur Editorial Staff extends an invitation to all readers to attend weekly article assignment meetings every Wednesday at 6 p.m. and sign up 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.

Please send all submissions to rollinsandspur@gmail.com. All submissions must be received no later than noon on the Monday prior to publication.

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The Boy Who Cried News

Ed Leffler
The Sandspur

A recent trend in the news and media today is the increasing number of "alternative news sources." Many of us have heard of the *National Enquirer*, *Globe Magazine*, and others; and see their headlines when we go through the line at our local grocery store: "Oprah Secretly Gay!", "Bush to Build his Own WMD," "Amy Winehouse Secretly a Man!" These particular headlines and ones similar to them may be immediately dismissed as obvious poppycock. One of the more prevalent sources of "alternative news" is an online website known as The Onion, which features headlines such as "I'm Afraid We Will Never Win in Afghanistan Unless Central Command Gets A Pinball Machine" and "Colorado Wildfire Spread to Moon!"

This article was in fact inspired after I came to our weekly article assignment meeting and suggested writing an article on something that I thought was interesting and that in fact turned out to be fabricated. I asked if I could write an article discussing what turned out to be an article from The Onion, titled, "Study: Americans Get a Majority of Exercise While



TV TO TALK ABOUT: *Jersey Shore* has many elements that bring more drama than is needed into the show. The trash talking and juicy gossip is forced and out of touch with reality. Leffler argues viewers need to realize that real people's lives are nothing like this.

Drunk." I saw this article posted on someone's Facebook page and thought that it was actual news.

This occurrence is not limited to me. The prevalence of these tabloids and the growing

popularity of The Onion and other sites is a sign that people have not become uneducated, but that the general populace has become obsessed with juicy gossip! Why has this happened, one might ask? Popular culture

and its raving reporters and their feigned gonzo journalism are to blame.

TV, with its programs like *TMZ*, *Jersey Shore*, *E! News*, and others, encourages the actors to speculate or "gossip" about

the other actors on the show about things that are going on in the news, which may or may not be accurate. Entire segments of these shows are devoted to actors on their own in an interview style room simply talking to the camera about something like whether Nikki just broke out with Jessica's boyfriend or how Teresa is going to break up with her.

Life as we know it has become dramatized; even the news has seen television and reality shows that emphasize the drama of people's daily lives. This is a bad thing to think of who's who and what and how things are going on is slowly eroding our social norms. Teenagers and adults alike have become focused on "making a splash" wherever they go. People will act out in the classroom, at school, hanging out with friends, or anywhere else. People have for thousands of years struggled with their quest for self-identity.

Do people's lives need to be further complicated by the media that, while searching for a good story, they have to deal with the firestorm of drama that has soaked our society? Every day needs to detox and get rid of all of the drama that our society has been soaked in. Our lives are complicated enough!

Who Knows if We Can Wait for Superman?

Lauren Silvestri
The Sandspur

It is time that America stops turning a blind eye to our faltering education system, and the latest documentary hitting theaters, *Waiting for Superman*, forces Americans to do just that.

The film centers on five children, each from different towns, who are not able to reach their full potential at their flawed public schools so they are forced to apply to charter schools. The problem is, there are many more applicants than spots available at all these schools, so what solution is chosen? To have a lottery. I am not kidding; the fate of thousands of children and their families is given to luck.

The film focuses on revolutionary educational leaders Geoffrey Canada and Michelle Rhee. Canada, born and raised in the South Bronx, is the charismatic creator of Harlem Children's Zone, a charter school that promotes a "cradle to college" approach to education. Canada promises to supply these students with support from early childhood education throughout their college career through services such as cheap health care, healthy meals, after school programs and small classes. He has brought national attention to charter schools which use public funds but usually offer better opportunities for students.

While many praise Canada for his innovational system and his determination to give disadvantaged youth a middle-class education, people criticize the fact that despite the whopping \$16,000 spent per student, there has not been a great rise in test results. We should not be rely-

ing on charter schools as the answer to our public education woes; there are thousands of children who are not fortunate enough to have a choice in their education and must attend the local public school. We need to find out why students are failing in these schools and how we can solve the problem in a cost-effective way.

Rhee is trying to do just that as chancellor of the District of Columbia's public school system. She created controversy by closing down schools and firing hundreds of teachers and principals. She also proposed a revolutionary idea of eliminating teacher tenure and giving them bonuses based on their achievement.

Hopefully the choice would solve the problem of having so many ineffective teachers who are given tenure a few years after teaching, since once they are given tenure it is nearly impossible to fire them, no matter how poorly they perform. It is an odd predicament - about one in 57 doctors and one in 97 lawyers lose their licenses, but only one in 2500 teachers lose their credentials. Studies have shown that teacher performance is one of the most important factors in student achievement, so the fact that principals and superintendents cannot fire teachers proven to be inadequate is extremely frustrating. Unfortunately, the Washington Teachers' Union refused to even vote on the subject. On Oct. 13, Rhee resigned from her position but wants to continue changing the system.

Another issue the film brings up is our school system's method of tracking students. Usually schools group students based on initial performance

and they remain at that level throughout high school. These groups of students commonly receive the less-proficient teachers and are not given the proper college preparatory skills and never achieve their full potential.

Eighth-grader Emily from prosperous Silicon Valley has this problem. Her local high school features the tracking system, and since Emily struggles in math, her parents fear she will remain in this lower track. She applied to a nearby charter school that does not have this system, and luckily she was chosen in the lottery.

But some of the other children featured in the film were not so lucky. Three of the children were not chosen. Take, for example, fifth-grader Daisy in East Los Angeles. She is a very determined and bright young girl who dreams of becoming a doctor or veterinarian; however, she lives in an impoverished part of town and the local public high school is one of the "dropout factories," where two-thirds of the entering class does not graduate.

She applied to the prestigious Kipp L.A. Prep charter school, but lost the lottery. Her road to medical school is much more difficult now.

It is truly heartbreaking to watch this film and see the disappointment in the children's faces who are not as lucky as others. It is embarrassing for a nation that prides itself on equal opportunity and free education to supply such a school system. And while politicians may not want to spend money on education now, there will be damaging effects for that decision in the near future. Already

the annual cost of an inmate in prison is more than double what is spent on an individual public school student. And by 2020, Bill Gates estimates that only 50 million Americans will be qualified for 123 million highly skilled jobs. We simply cannot afford to invest our money in prisons and not education.

I encourage all of you to see this compelling and eye-

opening movie. It proves that we can no longer hope for a "superman" of some sort to rescue us from the mess we have created in our educational system.

We need to voice our opinions and start small to eliminate some major injustices, because we can no longer rely on the lottery to determine our country's future.



A FAIR LOTTERY?: The subject of the film deals with an alternative way of allowing students to get into charter schools. Instead of traditional application processes, the schools are accepted to the schools based on a lottery system. Many viewers are critical of the method, even if it has some merits.

Judge Impedes “Don’t Ask”

Amir Sadeh
The Sandspur

On Sept. 9, U.S. District Court Judge Virginia Phillips issued a landmark decision, stating that the policy of “don’t ask, don’t tell” was unconstitutional because it violates due process, freedom of speech, and the right to petition the government for redress of grievances guaranteed by the First Amendment. Last Tuesday, Judge Phillips ordered the military to immediately stop enforcing its ban on openly gay soldiers. With this ban rides the hopes of many who believe that this will be the end for the 17-year-old “don’t ask, don’t tell” policy. The Justice Department attorneys had 60 days to appeal said injunction and two days after the decision had been brought down, they requested an emergency stay of the federal judge’s decision.

The government wants the federal court in California to

“... an orderly transition to a policy allowing openly gay men and women to serve in the military.”

grant a stay of injunction which would remain in effect throughout the appeals process, stating that the stay would allow for “an orderly transition to a policy allowing openly gay men and women to serve in the U.S. military.”

President Obama, though supporting an end to the pol-



INJUNCTION JUNCTION: Judge Virginia Phillips imposed an injunction on the military’s “don’t ask, don’t tell” policy, halting the dismissal of openly homosexual soldiers.

icy, believes it should happen through a “Democratic effort in Congress to repeal the law,” instead of an executive order or in the court system. Though men like Defense Secretary Robert Gates and Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff Adm. Mike Mullen have all voiced support for the ending of said policy, there has been opposition to said overturn of the policy, namely from the GOP, with Senator John McCain going as far as saying he would “absolutely” filibuster any measure put forth in the Senate to repeal “don’t ask, don’t tell” during the lame-duck session following the November midterm election.

Many on the opposition think a change in the policy, especially in such a rapid manner, will be a detriment on the troops’ morale and “battle effectiveness.” Gay rights advocates, have urged service members to avoid revealing their sexuality, fearing that the injunction could be tossed out during the appeals process.

With the appeals process in effect, the case would now go to the U.S. Court of Appeals for the 9th Circuit, and either side could then take it to the U.S. Supreme Court. As of right now, the “don’t ask, don’t tell” policy is over, yet it may be a while before we know if it is permanent.

Sodexo Adapts to Unique Diets

Julia Campbell
The Sandspur

For most people, the term “celiac disease” means nothing, but it is a major part of the everyday life of Samantha Sylvester ‘14. Since she was an infant, Sylvester has been dealing with her condition.

For those who have never even heard of celiac disease, it is an autoimmune digestive disease that damages the small intestine and interferes with the absorption of nutrients from food. To put it simply: if people

“I am also impressed at how well Dining Services has handled the situation; it cannot be easy to come up with safe meal options”

with celiac disease consume anything with gluten, their small intestine will attack itself and make them sick. And for those of you who do not know what glutes are, they are proteins found in foods processed from wheat. So for people like Sylvester, that means no wheat, barley or rye.

Here at Rollins, Head Chef Gustavo Vasconez never had to deal with cooking for a person with celiac disease. Before orientation, Sylvester and her roommate Christine Perreault ‘14, also with celiac disease, contacted Dining Services to inform them of their dietary needs. “We

established a system for gluten-free food,” Sylvester explained; now, any food that is safe for the two first-years to eat is marked with a blue sticker. The dining staff is much more conscious of thoroughly washing down all surfaces, changing their gloves and not accidentally mixing any glutes into what is supposed to be a gluten-free meal; Sylvester said that if she or Perreault ever become ill due to cross contamination, all they have to do is call Vasconez and he will fix the problem.

I have to admit, I was quite surprised that in all these years, there had never been any celiac-sensitive students at Rollins; maybe that is just because I have several family members who have been diagnosed with the disease so I have been aware of it for a few years now.

However, I am also impressed at how well Dining Services has handled the situation; it cannot be easy to come up with safe meal options for Sylvester and Perreault while also cooking for the rest of the school. The staff has done a great job. It cannot be easy for the girls to be the only two people in the student population who have this condition.

I am just pleased that the dining staff acted so quickly and effectively to provide for them; according to Sylvester, the C-Store brought in gluten-free food and Vasconez did an immense amount of research so that by the time they were moved in, he was well versed in celiac disease and fully prepared to suit their needs.

Classics Present Challenges but Offer Great Rewards

Alan Nordstrom
The Sandspur

There is something about the ordinary process of schooling that leads students to believe that the purpose of it all is to “get through,” to be done with one course after another—signed, sealed, delivered to the transcript, and then forgotten.

“Great literature grows as you grow and thus deserves revisiting throughout your lifetime.”

Good teachers, however, believe otherwise. Because I teach literature and language skills, I will speak from my perspective, though I think teachers in other fields would make comparable cases in terms of their own disciplines.

When I introduce students to Chaucer, Shakespeare or Milton, for instance, I mean for them to begin a lifelong friendship with these authors, not a nodding acquaintance soon to be dismissed. Any such writer, established as a “classic,” has earned that status by delighting auditors and readers over cen-

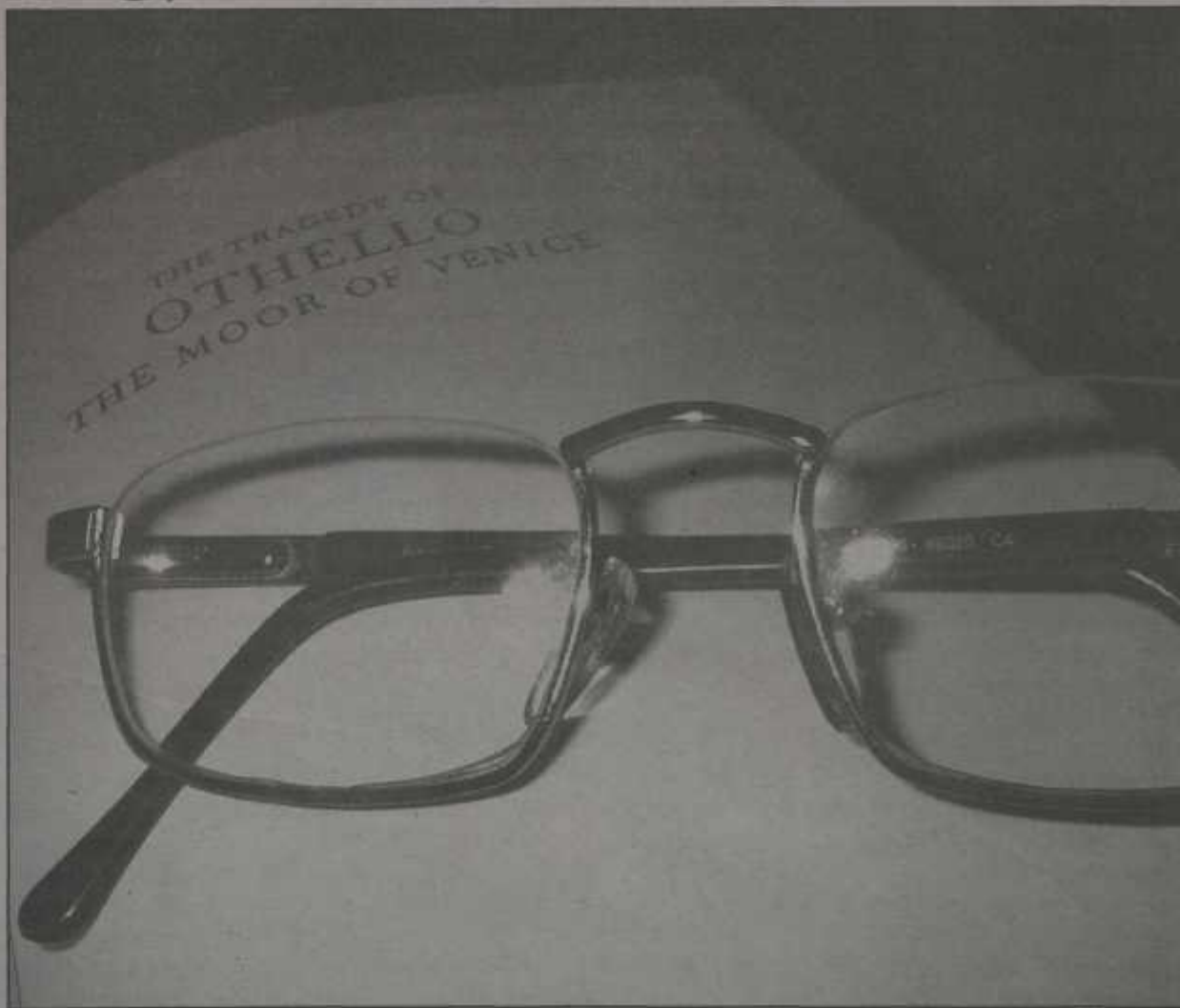
turies, even while challenging them to appreciate the complex and subtle artistry in language more fully with longer acquaintance.

“Been there, done that,” a checklist attitude, does not apply to great writing any more than it does to great friends, both of whom reveal more of their qualities and virtues through long and intimate association.

It is true, however, that Chaucer, Shakespeare and Milton, along with other “Greats,” present off-putting challenges to newcomers, though not so formidable as learning a foreign language. Chaucer’s Middle English does take mental labor to adopt, but it sounds more foreign than it reads.

Two hundred years later, the Early Modern English of Shakespeare and Milton presents lexical novelty (lots of bygone words) but uses grammar and syntax we comprehend without much trouble. All three of them are poets and thus wield language lyrically, language that sings with echoing resonance and meter, a physical delight to hear intoned.

Amazingly, great literature grows as you grow and thus deserves revisiting throughout your lifetime. A poem or play you first met in high school or



A REAL PIECE OF WORK: Many of the great classics like Othello, The Canterbury Tales and Paradise Lost can be enjoyed again and again by any reader, no matter the age.

college, if it is great, will not seem quite the same once you have accrued more tender feelings and hard knocks with age, or just seen more of life’s variety

through both direct experience and wider reading.

Hang in there is my point. After meeting any of these luminaries, add them to your li-

brary, befriend them on your mental Greatsbook, and check in on them from time to time throughout your life. Watch them ripen with age.

VAMPIRE WEEKEND

mesmerizes Orlando

Greg Golden
The Sandspur

"All I do is win, win, win no matter what" pounded through the amplifiers as Vampire Weekend bounded onto the stage Oct. 11 at Hard Rock Live. However unfit the entrance seemed for the surging indie-rock band, the group seems the type to cherish moments of unexpectedness. With a sound that marries the tings of a Casio-sounding keyboard and mandolin-like electric guitar with, on their most recent album *Contra*, African-pop beats, the band has carved out a particular sound and an audience that loves it.

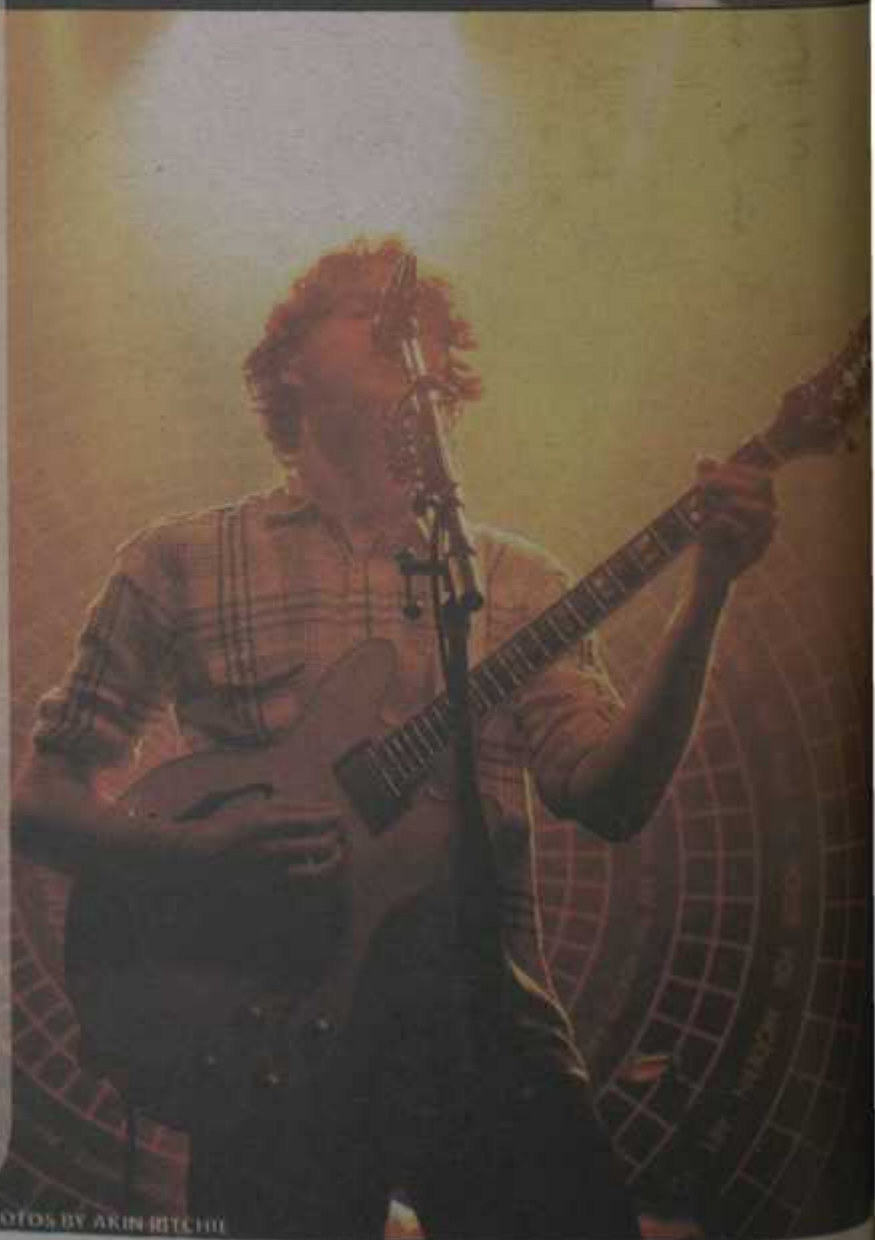
The Very Best performed as the first opener, an African group whose ties to Vampire Weekend include a cover of their "Cape Cod Nwassa Nwassa" and being joined by the band's frontman Ezra Koenig for the vocals of "Warm Heart of Africa." The Very Best's set found lead Esau Mwamwaya's jubilant singing over beats that quickened as the set continued, steadily enlivening the crowd. Assisted by a DJ that brought to life traditional sounds from the singer's home of Malawi, Mwamwaya jumped around excitedly and worked hard to involve and entertain the crowd. Occasional attempts at call-and-response with the audience went awry—more because they were misunderstood than ignored—but it did not dampen his demeanor.

After a lengthy job of setting up rotating tetrahedrons, Beach House followed with a longer, less energized set. Despite being in complete contrast to the faster-paced headliner, the "dream-pop" band played their slower collection of songs to an interested audience, with the bass turned high enough for everyone to feel the beat through thumps in one's chest. Though they did have geometric shapes lit behind them, the band's technical display seemed to be on a tight leash—as one would expect of an opening act—but they combated it well by setting up at the front of the stage, fostering their connection through intimacy instead.

Vampire Weekend followed, jumping across the stage to begin an 80-minute set and performing with high energy to a crowd hopping and shouting lyrics throughout the show. Their technical aspects shined, the lighting shifting between calamitous strobes and calm colors as it synced with riffs and drum peals as precisely as though reacting to the sound.

In contrast to the upbeat, innocent sound, a few times I found myself quoting Bret McKenzie of Flight of the Conchords, thinking, "Can I please have a look at the lyrics?" Not to call the band out on their abstract lines, but they put their Columbia educations to use in "Oxford Commu" and other hits.

The only thing missing was their playing something outside of their discography, whether an unrecorded song or a cover. Hearing a familiar song in Koenig's voice—predictable wavers and all—would have really given it an entirely new quality. In order to experience a better-paced show from the group, it might be worth it to wait until a few more albums provide added variety to their work: when that happens, though, it might be too difficult to get a ticket.



PHOTOS BY AKIN BITCHIE

"Boktoberfest" Brings Germany to Florida

Kari Smith
The Sandspur

Saturday, Oct. 16 was Boktoberfest at Bok Tower Gardens in Lake Wales. The Gardens opened at 8 a.m. and featured free admission, live music, German food, activities, lectures and a plant sale.

Bok Tower Gardens is a 250-acre National Historic Landmark located on Iron Mountain, one of the highest points in Florida. The park is named for Edward W. Bok and the 205-foot carillon Singing Tower. The Gardens were commissioned by Bok in 1921 and landscaped by Frederick Law Olmsted, Jr.

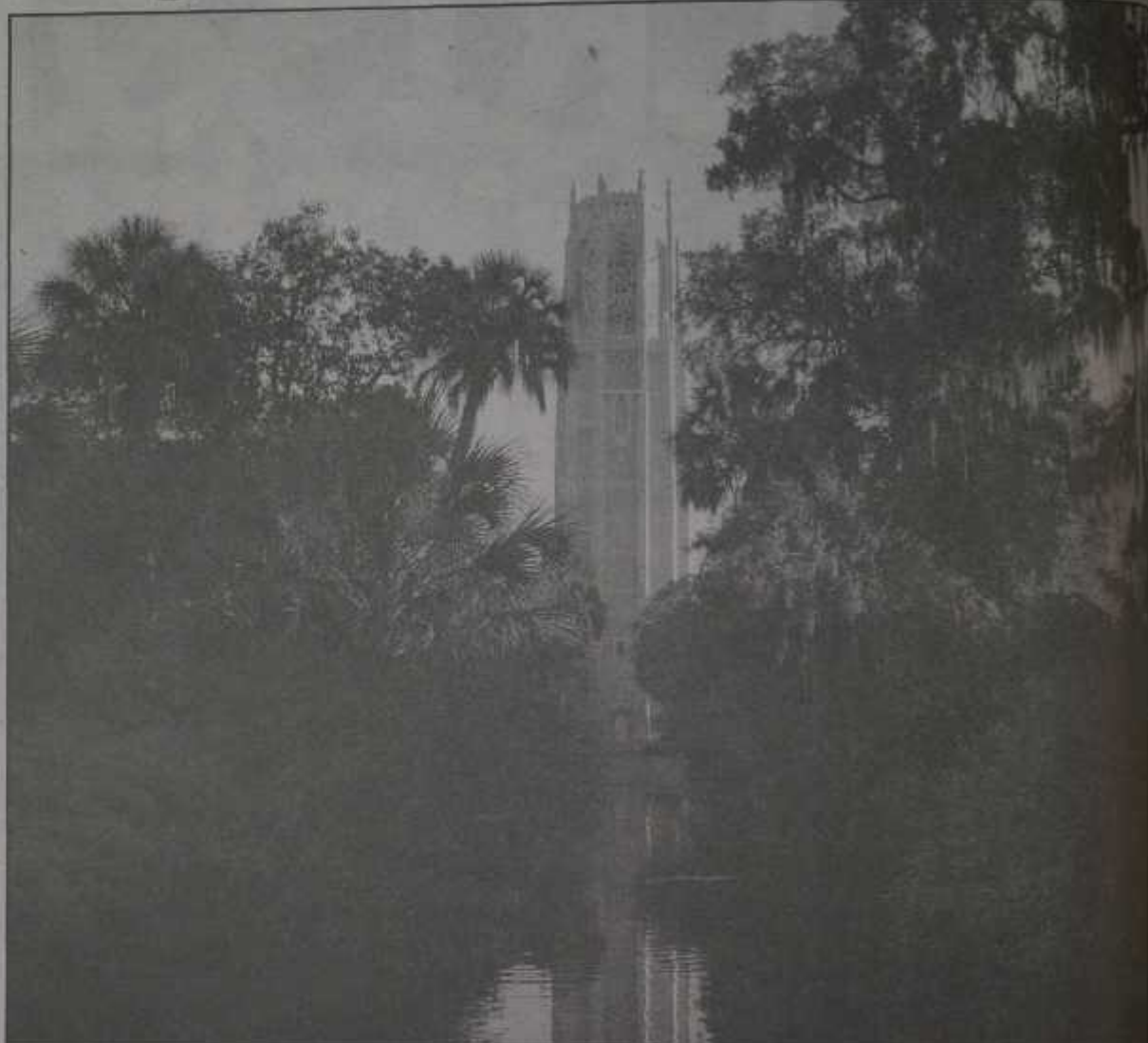
In addition to the Gardens, the property also includes Pine Ridge Trail and Pinewood Estate. Pine Ridge Trail loops the property and features pine trees, native plants in the area's natural sandy soil, and views of the surrounding orange groves and three geocaching locations. Pinewood Estate is a 20-room mansion and the 1930s Mediterranean Revival style home of industrialist C. Austin Buck. Pinewood Estate can be toured most days for an additional admission price.

During Boktoberfest, children could climb trees, paint pumpkins and have their faces painted. Adults were offered a selection of beers and wines,

traditional Oktoberfest sausage, and educational lectures given by the plant vendors. The vendors sold a wide variety of items, including native plants, bonsai, olive trees and orchids. One of the more unusual plants was the Tillandsia, more commonly called the air plant, which is not planted in soil but can be attached to any medium and watered a few times a week. Although there are many types, most grow in bundles of spiky leaves gaining beautiful colors when the plant flowers. The best features of Boktoberfest, however, are the gardens themselves, which can be enjoyed at any time of the year.

Popular elements of the Gardens are the giant Victoria Water Lilies in the Reflection Pool near the Tower. The five-foot lily pads have long spikes on their undersides and are strong enough to support a child. Also at home in the Reflecting Pool are two swans, and food is available for purchase for visitors to feed them. Down the path from the Reflecting Pool is the "Window by the Pond," a little building with a giant window in one wall and seats from which visitors can watch a pond and the creatures that live in and around it.

On Saturday, visitors had a laugh when a squirrel jumped from the edge of the pond to a



CELEBRATE BOKTOBERFEST: Located in Lake Wales at one of Florida's highest altitude points, The Bok Tower hosted a celebration Saturday. The festivities entailed free admission, free food, live music, plant sales and various other activities.

nearby bird feeder and nearly onto a bird. Both were startled, the bird flew away, and the squirrel leaped back to shore, al-

most nose-diving into the pond. Seconds later he bounced right back to the birdfeeder before observers could blink.

For more information about this you can check out Bok Tower Gardens online www.boktowergardens.org.

A Glimpse Behind the Scenes of Rollins Dining Services

Julia Campbell
The Sandspur

Every day I go into the Campus Center with an expectation for there to be food available for me and, thus far, I have not been disappointed because there are always a variety of choices. Perhaps it has been due to my preoccupation with my classes and other activities that I have never really given a second thought to what goes on behind-the-scenes of Dining Services. However, Sept. 13, I was given the spectacular opportunity to learn more about the goings on in the kitchen long before any students are even thinking about eating.

In an informative presentation put on by Dining Services, Director of Dining Services Gerard Short began with a detailed description of the difference between an all-you-can-eat plan versus Rollins' on-card system. Due to this system, Short said, "We are able to offer a higher quality of food." To further prove this, Head Chef Gustavo Vasconez talked about the intricate food ordering process that he goes through. In order to ensure the highest quality Sodexo, the company that runs Dining Services, makes deals with other companies so that it will receive the best food at the best price. Another key element in the ordering process is ensuring that all of the food is packaged, shipped and received at the appropriate temperature so that they "don't break the chain of quality."

I never realized how much

work goes into just receiving the food, let alone preparing it; just as much effort, if not more, is put into cooking each and every meal. The kitchen staff always works very late into the night cleaning up from busy dinners. They arrive early the next morning to begin cooking so that breakfast will be ready to be served promptly at 7 a.m. when the hall opens. The staff does not seem to mind this laborious work, as Vasconez explained, "We have a group of people doing something that they love to do."

After listening to the speakers at the presentation describe the copious amount of work that goes into the entire Dining Services process, I will certainly be more appreciative of everything I eat. Now I know that all of the food presented to me has been carefully selected, delivered and prepared so that I will receive the best possible nutrition. I have also developed a newfound respect for the dining staff because I now know the amount of work that goes into keeping my classmates and I well-fed. One thing is for sure: never again will I assume that the magical food fairy summoned my meal with a sparkling magic wand; there was a lot more effort put into it than just a little mystical pixie dust.

So, the next time you go to the Campus Center, remember all the hard work and trouble that goes into making our meals and know that you are eating good food at a good price at a great school.

Honor Code Gets a Social Life

Julia Campbell
The Sandspur

Everyone knows about Rollins' Academic Honor Council; almost every professor requires his or her students to write out the Academic Honor Code on tests and papers prior to handing them in, and it is understood that if students violate the Code, they will appear before the Council.

Perhaps fewer students are aware that there is also a social honor council that dictates the Code of Conduct. According to Dr. William Boles, chair of the Student Life Committee, "The Code of Conduct defines the expected social behavior of students at Rollins." If the Code is broken, the violator will be subjected to one of three types of hearings: one-on-one; student panel; or one faculty member, one staff member and one student. This process is almost identical to how the Academic Honor Council structures their hearings.

However, neither of these Councils are new organizations, and the Honor Code as well as the Code of Conduct are easily accessible to all. Still, to simplify things, there will soon be an overarching statement that will umbrella both systems, known as the Statement of Honor. The Statement will encompass all of Rollins' values while uniting the two councils.

The question is: why did Rollins wait so long to create such a statement? As Boles explained, "Essentially, we real-

ized that we already have strong means of addressing honor violations (academic and social) and we wanted to create a statement that represents what Rollins values."

Unfortunately, the Statement of Honor is not yet ready for release. "While the Statement of Honor has been approved by the Student Life Committee, the Academic Honor Council and SGA, we are currently in the process of making some changes in regard to clarifications requested by

"Essentially, we realized that we already have two strong means of addressing honor violations (academic and social) and we wanted to create a statement that represents what Rollins values."

College lawyer, so it will again be going back to all the groups to get their agreements affirmed. Boles. Until the statement has been reapproved, it will not be revealed. Regarding any new statement, the Academic Honor Code is posted in every classroom and the Code of Community Standards can be found at <http://www.rollins.edu/csr/policies/code.htm>.



COURTESY OF ROLLINS.EDU COMPLIMENTS TO THE CHEF: Students dine at the Campus Center daily, but tend to have little regard for what goes on behind the scenes. Head Chef Gustavo Vasconez explains how the food on campus gets from the kitchen to our plates.

Yoga Helps the Busy to Relax

Julia Campbell
The Sandspur

The mantra was, "Take a nice, long, deep breath," as Lenny Barret led members of the faculty and staff through a series of relaxing yoga poses. Every Wednesday, the Office of Multicultural Affairs (OMA), hosts what it calls a "Rejuvenation Break" at the Knowles Chapel. The break is led by Barret, a current Holt student and a certified yoga instructor. The concept of a relaxation class for the faculty and staff was created by Barret, who, according to Rachel Luce, assistant director of OMA, "wanted to thank the faculty and staff for all the hard work they do." And so, for two semesters, Barret has donated a portion of her time to help the Rollins College faculty relax.

Barret is extremely involved here at Rollins; she is enrolled in the Holt program, and her son is an Arts and Sciences student. Barret was aware that there were yoga classes offered at the Alford Sports Center, but she wished to offer something a little different, something that would provide techniques on relaxation to the faculty and staff without taking too much time from their already extra busy schedules. Luce provided an explanation, saying, "[Barret] wanted to do something where the faculty and staff would feel comfortable doing yoga and breathing exercises." By organizing the Rejuvenation Breaks, the faculty and staff could definitely feel comfortable relaxing privately in the middle of their work day. Barret does these sorts of things for other organizations as well, providing 10-minute relaxation breaks during long business meetings.

While the chapel seems like



COURTESY OF R-NET
RELAX AND REJUVENATE: Yoga instructor Lenny Barret provides a healthy break in the busy schedules of faculty and staff.

a strange place to hold a weekly yoga-type class, it was the only available venue Luce and Barret could find during the week. The gym is in constant use between team practices and the steady stream of fitness classes offered for students. While it is true that the classroom gets a little crowded, even with all of the tables and chairs pushed back to the walls, that does not stop people from showing up. Despite the lack of space, the popularity remains high. "People will e-mail me to see if it is still going on," Luce commented in regard to the popularity of the classes. Still, she firmly believes that the breaks would be even more popular if more space were available, which is why Luce and Barret are currently seeking a new venue for next semester. "I just feel like there would be tons more people if we had more space," Luce affirmed. Hopefully, they will find a more appropriate venue soon, then Barret can guide even more faculty and staff members into some much-needed relaxation.

Leaders Emerge with Purpose

Annamarie Carlson
The Sandspur

On Oct. 19, the participants in the Emerging Leadership Institute (ELI) had the opportunity to meet many Rollins' leaders, Interim Provost Joyner and Dean Karen Hater during the Leaders' Dinner in the Galloway Room. ELI is a Rollins Immersion Program taking place this weekend in inner-city Orlando that was organized by X-Club, the Office of Student Involvement and Leadership, and the Office of Community Engagement. Eighteen first-year and sophomore students were selected to be members of the ELI class of 2010.

All the participants are thrilled to have this unique, exciting opportunity and are anxiously awaiting the weekend. Mitch Verboncoeur '14 stated, "I'm stoked. This program seems like a great way to exercise my global citizenship and responsibility to make a meaningful impact on my global community." Amy Teixeira '14 is also excited. "Leadership is the basis for success; I am excited to be an integral part in the success of the Rollins community."

Jennifer Ritter '13 is also looking forward to the program. She applied for ELI "because I am already in several leadership positions, and it seemed like a good idea to get some experience outside of my comfort zone."

Hater and Joyner gave a few words to help kick off the evening. After congratulating the students on their wise decision to attend the weekend, Dean Hater went on to describe college as a laboratory, "a chance to try new skills and hone in on those skills in order to be able to go out as comfortable adults." Provost Joyner also gave words of congratulations. She described the core to leadership as "knowing who you are and to be intentional about whom you are becoming."

Throughout the meal, the younger students had the opportunity to talk with a variety of leaders on campus representing different organizations including Student Government, J.U.M.P., *The Sandspur*, and fraternities and sororities as well as the students and staff who are running the weekend retreat and subsequent Leadership Ally Program.

For the next two semesters, the students participating in ELI will work with a faculty or staff member to confront an issue on campus. The combination of the ELI experience and collaboration with a faculty member should allow the participants to become better leaders; in the words of Meredith Hein, "leaders with a purpose."

Alexis Riley '13 is looking forward to the leadership skills she will develop at ELI and the opportunities it will provide for her and the Rollins' community. "It's very exciting to participate in an integrated learning experience with so many prominent leaders on campus that I would not have met otherwise. Interconnectedness is often integral to the over all success of campus organizations. By facilitating this process, ELI is providing the campus with promising leaders and more unified organizations."

Everyone, both the participants and leaders, are looking forward to this weekend's immersion trip. One of the facilitators of the program, Raghavendra KC '13, is looking forward to the aftereffect of ELI as well. "ELI is just the beginning."



JENNIFER RITTER
GET TOGETHER IN GALLOWAY: The Galloway Room provides a space for students from The Emerging Leadership Institute to come together and meet and greet with other on-campus leaders. This affords students the chance to learn from organizations:

Look at your wallet.
Now back to this ad.
Now back to your wallet.
Now back to this ad.

Are you missing that thing you need which you can exchange
for goods and services?

Would you like to become gainfully employed, such that your wallet will
burst with that thing you need to do those things you want to do?

This ad is now an opportunity.

Write, photograph, and/or please sell ads for *The Sandspur*.

We do.
So will you? You tell us.

Email rollinssandspur@gmail.com for more information.

Here at Rollins, People Come Out With Pride

Meghan Thomas
The Sandspur

Sunday, Oct. 10 was a bright, sunny day at Lake Eola with 70,000 people gathered all the way around the lake, but not merely to enjoy the sunshine. The day marked the sixth annual Come Out with Pride parade around Lake Eola.

According to police estimates, around 70,000 people came to watch the parade—a record-breaking number. Rollins also broke a record, with 61 people from the college marching in the parade, up from 33 last year. Spectrum (Rollins' gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgender, ally group) has been marching in the pride parade for the past three years, but this year had the biggest turnout. Rollins students, staff, faculty and even alumni carpooled over to Lake Eola, armed with lime-green t-shirts that boldly stated, "Pride, We Got It," rainbow face paint, pins that declared "Love is Love," feather boas, beads and even dogs dressed up in their rainbow finest. Rollins Spectrum and its supporters made one of the biggest, largest and loudest groups at the parade, larger even than Stetson and UCF, and rivaling the groups from Universal Studios and Disney. The excitement among the students, faculty and staff was contagious, and everyone was smiling and shouting through-



MEGHAN THOMAS

SAY IT LOUD, SAY IT PROUD: Christopher McCauley '11 marches excitedly in the crowd as he participates in the Come Out with Pride parade and represents Rollins College. This year, Rollins close to doubled its participation, outnumbering students from UCF and Stetson.

out the parade. Rollins alumni watching the parade in the audience cheered specifically for Rollins, pleased to see such a loud and proud group marching. One unnamed alumnus in the crowd declared, "A few

years ago, this never would have happened! Congratulations, Rollins!"

Other participants in the parade included the infamous Sisters of Perpetual Indulgence, Equality Florida, Macy's, Hope

and Help, candidates for Governor of Florida and the Florida Senate, and floats from gay clubs like Pulse, Revolutions, Parliament House, and the soon-to-be opened Mr. Sisters. The main speaker for the event

was Olympic Gold Medalist Greg Louganis. He spoke of recent suicides of lesbian, bisexual, transgender students due to bullying. A high school student came away from suicide after meeting him at a book signing. Other speakers included Mayor Buddy Dyer and Governor Rick Scott. Lowe, the openly gay mayor of Gainesville spoke as well.

There were performances and celebrations into the night. The pride and excitement was only Spectrum, but also the tire 70,000-strong audience was breathtaking. For Rollins to have a presence in such a crowd was exhilarating; people all along the parade route pointing in amazement at the lime-green army of Rollins Spectrum, cheering and hoping for the small school with a big heart. Kelci Reyes-Ortiz '13, vice president of Spectrum, stated, "I am so proud that Rollins stood up to support Spectrum with pride and especially in light of all the recent media about suicides, harassment of LGBT students. The support for Spectrum heartens me and lets me know that at Rollins, we come with pride!"

For more information, contact Reyes-Brannon at sbrannon@rollins.edu or Spectrum's website at www.rollins.edu/multiculturalaffairs/orgs/spectrum.htm.

MSA & RIP Team Up

Sponsored show explores misunderstanding

Julia Campbell
The Sandspur

On Sept. 17, the Muslim Student Association (MSA) sponsored a Rollins Improv Players (RIP) show based on the theme of misunderstanding. The show started the usual cast of characters improvising scenes while also incorporating suggestions collected from the audience prior to the show regarding their views on misunderstanding, clarity and fraternity and sorority life. While most of the scenes contained the usual fast-paced RIP humor, such as when Dr. David Charles (Dr. D) of the theatre department proclaimed, "I'm a cross dresser, Shannon, I'm not gay," there were also more somber moments that reflected on how prevalent and unfortunate incomprehension can be.

Following the show, the chairs in the Fred Stone Theatre were rearranged into a circle and Dr. D facilitated a discussion about personal stories regarding misunderstanding. Though at first people were hesitant to open up to one another, one man's story ultimately broke the ice and after that, the conversation flowed pretty easily. He told about a young white boy who was bullied by a few black kids; afterward, the boy was reluctant to share this with anyone because he did not want to come across as racist toward black people. The man concluded that racism can go both ways: "people forget that racism can be reversed... it is a universal thing."

The rest of the discussion touched upon other misunderstandings, including culture, religion and sexual orientation. Alexis Riley '13 shared a story about one of her former teachers who was a lesbian. Riley said that at first she was apprehensive about having a gay teacher, but once she got to know the teacher, her opinion completely changed. "Once you get to know someone," Riley said, "You realize how beautiful they really are." Some outside visitors also offered their tales of misunderstanding. One young Muslim woman spoke of being subjected to extra attention at airports and how in grade school other kids teased her for her apparel. However, since then, she says, situations have improved, and she does not let those sorts of things bother her. "I think part of [overcoming prejudice] is it helps to be confident in yourself."

In most cases, misunderstandings are blown out of proportion and if people were less into labeling themselves as a way to find their identity, there would be less incomprehension in the world. So whether one assumes that Dr. D is from England because of his accent or someone has erroneous beliefs about a person based off of his or her sexual orientation, misunderstanding is a common occurrence in the world; maybe if RIP hosts more shows like this in the future and people in general become more aware of common misconceptions, eventually there will be no more misunderstanding anywhere.

AASA Educates Through Ethnic Desserts

Jackie Chan
The Sandspur

On Wednesday, Sept. 29, the Rollins community celebrated the Chinese Mid-Autumn Festival. As part of the festivities, Rollins invited about 20 international students from Disney's intern program to campus.

Hosted by the Office of Multicultural Affairs (OMA) and the Asian American Student Association (AASA), the evening began with an invite-only dinner at Ward Hall with an array of freshly cooked Chinese food, such as rice cakes, chow mein, glutinous rice balls and fried rice, among other traditional Chinese dishes.

Students from Rollins and Disney were eager to meet and greet one another and after just one hour of mingling over delicious and exotic food, they all were taking pictures, hugging and exchanging contacts. It was an environment where all students were quick to make friends.

The celebration opened up to the rest of the Rollins community when it moved to the Campus Center in the evening. As in previous years, many desserts from Southeast Asia were served, including Mooncakes, a token symbol of the festival, and halo-halo, a popular Filipino shaved ice and milk dessert served with an array of toppings. Those who stopped at the stand were not intimidated to try the foreign foods and were rewarded with a pleasant experience.

Besides the food, a big hit at



ENJOY A MOONCAKE: Students from the Asian American Student Association prepare their traditional desserts as they prepare for the Mid-Autumn Festival.

the event was the stand where the Disney interns and Rollins students wrote people's names in Chinese calligraphy. Hongjin Du '14 was exceptionally enthusiastic, holding up the sign, "Get your Chinese name here!"

Jon Perry '14 was excited to meet people and try foods at the stand. He says that Rollins is doing "a really good job at exposing students to global citizenship" and that the inter-

national cuisines and the Peace Festival are great ways to improve awareness of different cultures and issues.

Stu Anderson '14 said "making more international friends" during high school is glad that Rollins is "helping gain that back." Anderson said that he hopes to see Rollins do more to "integrate multiculturalism with [the] Asian student populous."

Fred Mascherino is Doing Some Terrible Things

Lauren Silvestri
The Sandspur

The chorus sings, "we're doing terrible things," in their self-titled song, but Terrible Things seems to be doing just the opposite of that in their self-titled debut album. "We got the band name from this song, after which I rewrote all the lyrics to the song to fit the band better," says lead guitarist and vocalist Fred Mascherino. "It's all about redemption and second chances."

"There may be the underlying theme of the fires, but all of the songs speak about a variety of topics."

The concept definitely relates to the band, whose members all came from other successful acts. Mascherino was the lead guitarist for Taking Back Sunday, but left in 2007 to pursue other interests. He met up with former vocalist and guitarist for Hot Rod Circuit, Andy Jackson, and then they found ex-Coheed and Cambria drummer Josh Eppard. They decided to record the album with just the three of them, but bassist Brian Weaver, formerly of Silvertide and Automatic Fire (both bands I highly recommend you check out), has joined them for the tour. "I had been begging Brian to play with me for a while now," recalls Mascherino. "Finally he had time to, and lately we had just been using people



RYAN RUSSELL

ROCK IT OUT: Fred Mascherino, of Taking Back Sunday fame, returns to the music scene with his new band, Terrible Things. The trio aims to bring their sound back to rock n' roll's classic roots.

to fill the spot, but we're taking Weaver more seriously."

The album is loosely based on a very terrible thing that occurred in Mascherino's hometown of Coatesville, Pennsylvania. During the period between 2008 and 2009, there were a total of 49 arson fires. "I love my hometown, and my brother still lives there. It really disturbed

me what was happening and it was very emotional. I counsel myself by writing so I just started to write songs about it," Mascherino says. Jackson's house burned down a few years ago (in Alabama), so he could also relate to the theme.

There may be the underlying theme of the fires, but all of the songs speak about a variety

of topics. "Lullaby" describes Mascherino meeting his wife in California but then having to drive back to Coatesville. His favorite song on the album is "Up at Night." "We did something [on this song that] we hadn't done in the past, I think it sums up my life and the fires the best."

After singing backup vo-

cals for Taking Back Sunday, Mascherino is excited to be back in front and center. It is the "real me," he describes. Even though all the members found fame in other bands, none felt the need to redo their pasts. "We don't have expectations—it's brand new," says Mascherino. He mentions influences such as Led Zeppelin and Tom Petty and explains that the band "wanted more straightforward rock than anything else we've done."

I was fortunate enough to see the band live at The Social Oct. 6 during the first week in of their two-month tour opening for Mae. Mascherino opened by describing to the crowd the tumultuous start the band was having. It turns out their bus broke down earlier and Jackson, who does backup vocals, lost his voice. But it did not hinder the performance at all. They sounded even better than they did on their album, helped by Mascherino's great stage presence.

Mascherino is extremely optimistic for the band's future. "This is the best band I could play with. I want to be playing with them in 10 years. I'm always excited to be up there performing with them." Mascherino went on to say that they are trying to bring back an exciting, old-school sound, and they will not disappear anytime soon. "Our goal is to bring rock back," tells Mascherino, with a gleaming and anticipated look burning in his eye. "We want guitar solos, drumming, unlike anything, harmonies... something I haven't heard in a long time."

The Breakthrough Theatre Goes to School

Annamarie Carlson
The Sandspur

To be honest, at the end of the first act of The Breakthrough Theatre's production of *Catholic School Girls*, I wanted to leave. The theatre itself annoyed me; I felt as if I were sitting in someone's old converted living room. The stage was small with only one set of lights (which not only illuminated the stage but the audience as well, and was very distracting), and there was no main curtain (so every time crew members ran across the stage in black to change something, everyone could see them clearly).

The first act was cute; the actresses excellently portrayed children at various ages. However, in my mind, the script was a little too harsh. It captured the ugliness of childhood and the cruelty of little kids. The older audience members laughed while the "kids" on stage picked on one another. After recently watching my sister go through this "playful" torment and not coming out as happy-go-lucky as the girls on stage, I could not find the behavior funny at all.

With that said, I am glad I stayed. The second act began in middle school, the truly awkward age that we all have to go through. Jenny Ornstein portrayed Colleen, a dark character who is constantly fighting to be queen of the classroom.

At this point, the audience was finally able to see Colleen's true personality. Ornstein performed a gut-wrenching monologue about her embarrassment at getting her period for the first time in front of the entire class, ending with the girl sobbing as she makes her way off the stage. The topic was rough, but Ornstein pulled it off with flying colors.

Although I loved Ornstein's performance and I could relate to Toni Claire's portrayal of Wanda, Megan Borkes '10 as Elizabeth truly stole the night.

A recent Rollins alumna, Borkes commented on what an integral part her experiences here played in her performance, "Because Rollins has such a small theatre community, it helped to have a lot of stage time to get used to how grown-ups perform. It taught me people skills as well—how to work with people of all different methods."

Beginning with her innocent question in second grade, "Sister, was Jesus a Jew?" to questions about herself and God's existence in eighth grade, Borkes' story became the focal point of the show.

After her grandmother's death, Borkes' character enters the chapel and pours her soul out in an emotionally charged speech to God, ending with "You don't even exist." Borkes' emotion pours out of her per-



ANNAMARIE CARLSON

THANK THE LORD: Megan Borkes '10 (left) steals the show with her portrayal of Elizabeth, a girl whose belief in God is slipping.

formance, drawing the audience in with each word. At the end, when she begins talking as an adult at a party many years later about her experiences as a Catholic school girl, her character finally shows maturity and closure that proves Borkes' talent.

Borkes has hoped to perform in *Catholic School Girls* since high school. "I was very excited to hear they were auditioning for it. I always wanted to do that first monologue when she was explaining all the misconceptions about the Jews. It was fun to do just because I got to act like a second grader. The

message [of the show] is important though—it has a sense of hope at the end. Elizabeth's journey is very moving."

Borkes has been interested in acting since elementary school and loves performing on stage. "You get the immediate actor-audience relationship. When you are on stage you can get the energy off of the audience. You can gauge the audience's emotions." Although she is currently still auditioning, she has come to the realization that continuous auditioning is part of the life of the working actor.

Catholic School Girls contains life lessons that taught Borkes

about her own relationship with church. "I have been a strong agnostic ever since I stopped going to Catholic Church. After this performance, I re-evaluated what a strong force faith is to people. It is good to believe in something, whatever it is. You have to have something you can fall back on and believe in."

If you are interested in theatre, I recommend visiting the Breakthrough Theatre for its next performance, *The Insanity of Mary Girard*, which will be running Oct. 28-31. Overall, *Catholic School Girls* ended up being an excellent performance. I am very glad I stayed.

Sunshine State Conference Standings

MEN'S SOCCER

	W	L	T	WIN%
Rollins	9	2	2	.769
Barry	7	2	3	.708
Saint Leo	9	4	0	.692
Florida Southern	8	4	1	.654
Tampa	9	5	1	.633
Lynn	8	5	0	.615
Nova Southeastern	7	4	2	.615
Florida Tech	5	5	2	.500
Eckerd	6	7	0	.462



VOLLEYBALL

	W	L	T	WIN%
Tampa	19	3	0	.864
Barry	11	3	0	.786
Florida Southern	16	5	0	.762
Lynn	15	7	0	.682
Rollins	15	7	0	.682
Saint Leo	10	9	0	.526
Florida Tech	10	12	0	.455
Nova Southeastern	10	12	0	.368
Eckerd	6	13	0	.316

WOMEN'S SOCCER

	W	L	T	WIN%
Rollins	9	2	1	.792
Nova Southeastern	8	3	1	.708
Florida Southern	8	3	2	.692
Tampa	9	5	0	.643
Florida Tech	6	5	0	.545
Saint Leo	6	6	1	.500
Lynn	5	5	2	.500
Barry	6	7	1	.464
Eckerd	2	12	0	.143



DROPPING THE BALL: The Women's team slid four spots this week in the NSCAA/HendrickCars.com Division II National Ranking after a double-overtime loss to Lynn University, and is now ranked 9th. Following a victory over St. Xavier and double-overtime draw against Barry University, the Men's team dropped to 7th from their former slot at 6th.

Upcoming Events

22 friday

RIP Show, "Cut To..." at 1 p.m. in the Fred Storie Theatre.

Men's Soccer, versus Florida Tech at 7 p.m.

23 saturday

Inside the Artistic Process: A Talk Back with Jaron Lanier, in Knowles Memorial Chapel at 7:30 p.m.

Men's and Women's Swimming, versus Team Orlando at 1 p.m.

24 sunday

Inside the Artistic Process: A Talk Back with Jaron Lanier, in Knowles Memorial Chapel at 3 p.m.

25 monday

Men's Soccer, at Palm Beach Atlantic in West Palm Beach, Fla. at 3 p.m.

Men's Golf, Rollins Invitational all day in Ocoee, Fla.

26 tuesday

Men's Golf, Rollins Invitational all day in Ocoee, Fla.

26 tuesday

Volleyball, at Tampa University at 7 p.m.



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THIS YEAR'S EVENT CONTAINS POSTER ADULT CONTENT SUCH AS VIOLENCE, SMOKING, AND DRUGS.