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CAMPUS

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ERIN BRIOSO

Rollins students and faculty sit on the panel for a Diversity Dialogue discussing transgender awareness on campus.

CAMPUS

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COURTESY OF ROLLINS.EDU

Nathan Offen visits Rollins to share his firsthand account of Holocaust experiences.

QUOTABLE

“... if you choose to send material in, you need to be comfortable with having your name associated with the content. If you can stand behind your articles, so can we.”

LETTER, PAGE 2

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this day in
HISTORY



ASSOCIATED PRESS

December 1, 1824:

The House of Representatives is given the task of electing the president when no candidate received a majority vote.

The Sandspur

Volume 118, Issue 8

thesandspur.org

Thursday, December 1, 2011

Florida's Oldest College Newspaper, Est. 1894

Julia Campbell
The Sandspur

It's that time of year again. Finals are looming around the corner and the increasing stress levels are palpable on campus. Olin library is now open 24 hours to accommodate everyone's study schedules and even so, a student is hard-pressed to find an empty corner in which to study.

According to a survey from The Princeton Review, in conjunction with Wrigley, more than 85 percent of American and Canadian college students admit to feeling increased stress during exam time, in many cases leading them to make less healthy choices such as snacking on high-calorie foods, drinking caffeine, and late-night study sessions.

It is true, right now there are more students walking around drinking Red Bulls and toting venti cups from Starbucks than during any other part of the semester.

Students and professors alike are feeling the effects of crunch time as deadlines for papers and exams approach. "Who isn't? I just feel like there are so many papers as well as so many exams to do — it is just a lot of work. I am stressed over whether I have enough time to go over what I need to go over," said Rachel Gonzalez '15.

Other students agree with Gonzalez. "The most stressful

time in my life is finals week. I am unable to live a normal life. Instead I am forced to become a reclusive hell-bent on getting the highest grade I can," said Chris Taylor '14. "How that's been deemed productive, I'll never know. Teachers seem to think it works — I sure don't."

However, some students either do not feel stressed or are choosing not to let it get to them. "I am not stressed," said Ray Estavillo '14.

It is important to find a way to cope with the stress, especially during the last week of class-

this type of time management: "I'm trying to write a page of each of my papers a day so that I can get them done early without having to do them all at once."

Besides the question "When will all of this be over?" another common inquiry among

“ It is important to find a way to cope with the stress, especially during the last week of classes. ”

es. "I deal with the stress of exams by setting a to-do list a few weeks before and trying to get as much done as possible as early as possible," said Annamarie Carlson '14. "By getting everything possible done early on, I am better able to focus on larger assignments and harder exams later." Taylor is also employing

students is "What is the point?" Why do schools make students have exams on at least three months of material at the end of the semester?

"I understand the point of exams: to help assess your knowledge and what you learned all year, but they are frustrating to deal with at the

end of the semester," said Carlson. "I wish there was some way to reorganize the year so that students had more time to balance everything."

The most important thing for students to do is maintain a healthy lifestyle. While it is easier to grab a cup of coffee or an energy drink and skip a meal, that does nothing for the body.

Rather than stay up all night and rely on caffeine to boost you in the morning, try managing your time so you get a good night's sleep and eat balanced meals.

Sleigh bells are ringing, angels are singing and students everywhere are stressing. Either way, there is not much time left, so keep it together until the end and you will be fine.

Fighting for Feminism

Erin Brioso
The Sandspur

When famed feminist and activist Gloria Steinem, along with numerous esteemed veteran feminists like Patricia Schroeder and Muriel Fox, visited in October, the Rollins community was abuzz with talk of feminism.

In order to assess the impression that this diverse group of women made at Rollins, the Lucy Cross Center for Women, along with various other sponsors, held a women's forum to discuss feminism and its climate on campus.

Voices for Women, a group of strong-minded individuals, began the forum with a heated debate about whether or not feminism is relevant today. To begin, Liz Ibarrola '14, stated, "The perception is that we have

achieved equality and that is a huge reason as to why feminism is still completely relevant today."

Throughout the discussion, the audience and the panel went back and forth on issues of pay equity, violence against women, voter's oppression, abortion and discrimination against minority groups in the polls.

Some spoke specifically to the atmosphere at Rollins. "It's especially apparent [on the Rollins campus] that women pressure other women into the gender roles that exist today," said Moriah Russo '13.

An audience member reiterated this sentiment by calling out that she was not a Barbie doll, and that the stereotypical view of women here at Rollins is to look a specific way and wear a certain type of shoe. However, the general consensus was that

Rollins is making huge efforts for equality — one of the major points being the weekend of feminist events with Gloria Steinem. Assistant Professor of Art History Kimberly Dennis outright expressed her distaste of the climate women face on Rollins' campus.

"Not to be a downer, but the state of women on this campus is very disappointing and frightening. They're disempowered; however, there are outliers — but women conform to these norms of femininity," she said. "I worry that when we put ourselves into that box, it gives so few options and it seems like the most appealing way to be a woman."

During the question and answer period, the audience — which consisted of students, faculty, staff and friends of Rollins — voiced its concerns and

hopes for what Rollins should be working toward. It was noted rather emphatically that female faculty members receive 82 cents less to the dollar than male faculty members, and female staff members receive 94 cents to the dollar less than men, which equates to over \$3,000 a year.

Dr. Gail Sinclair, executive director of Winter Park Institute, admitted that from her own personal experience, she had to fight very hard for her salary and only when she had a female administrator were things adjusted equitably.

"I don't know if Humanity ever gets where it is needed to be, but I know that we're making the fight and I think that's more important."

continued on
PAGE 6

Fulbright: A Great Way to See the World

Monica Mayer
The Sandspur

It's on the tip of many seniors' tongues: Fulbright. Although most underclassmen may be unfamiliar with the term, almost all seniors have heard of it, either because they are applying for it themselves or they know someone who is. So what's the big deal about this scholarship that has everyone so worked up?

The mission of the Fulbright program, which is sponsored by the U.S. Department of State, is, according to its website, to "provide funding for students, scholars, teachers, and professionals to undertake graduate study, advanced research, university teaching, and teaching in elementary and secondary schools." These research and teaching opportunities are offered in a vast and diverse range of countries, and applicants are able to choose both the country and program they feel is the best fit for them.

This opportunity to travel to virtually anywhere in the world is the most attractive feature of the program for many students, since they are seeking international travel experiences. For Alia El-Assar '12, one of the motivating factors for applying for the scholarship was the ability to expand her cultural horizons. "I applied because I don't want to go straight to grad school — I'd like to take a gap year or two and do something meaningful in my time overseas," said El-Assar, who is applying to do research in Rabat, Morocco. "I heard about Fulbright, and I thought it might be a good chance to explore the world and my interests." El-Assar already had an interest in Morocco, which influenced her decision to apply there. "I really wanted to apply to Morocco because I studied abroad there during the spring of my junior year and I really loved it," said El-Assar. "I made a lot of friends there and a lot of questions arose about Moroccan culture and society that I wanted to explore, so I thought a research Fulbright grant would be perfect for Morocco."

Another student, Marci Phillips '12, had similar reasons for applying to the country of her choice: China. "I was already applying to the Johns Hopkins University in Nanjing, and had done most of the research for going to school out there," she said. "By doing the research grant for Fulbright, I could combine my efforts."

Like El-Assar, Phillips has previous experience in the country she is applying to. During the fall 2010 semester, she studied abroad in Shanghai, China. "I do want to become fluent in Chinese — as a hard language, it's going to take me a while, but the best way to practice is to immerse myself in the language," said Phillips. "Even if I don't go to school [in China], the Fulbright gives me a chance to go there."

Indeed, many students are influenced to apply for the scholarship by their study abroad experiences at Rollins. Other students, however, choose to apply to places in which they have no travel experience. Bradleigh Lore '12 is one such student. She is applying for the Fulbright teaching scholarship in Nepal, a country which is completely new to her. "Asia is one of the top continents I wanted to travel to and Nepal seemed like an interesting culture," said Lore. "I'm really interested in the religion." Lore was also attracted to the country from a social justice angle. "[Nepal] is one of the poorest countries in Asia, and I wanted to go somewhere where I felt like I'd really be making a difference," she said.

Like Lore, Nic Ramos-Flores '12 decided to apply to a country with which he had little familiarity. "As a bicultural individual, I find that I rarely encounter situations where I feel out of place," he said. "I chose South Korea in order to have a non-Western experience in a culture that I know very little about." Ramos-Flores had a specific interest in applying for the teaching scholarship in the country. "South Koreans are the seventh largest immigrant population in the U.S. With the constantly changing face of the American classroom, I feel that understanding the fish-out-of-water sensation many immigrants encounter when they come to the U.S. is important to be the best teacher possible."

Between the opportunity to earn a prestigious award, receive a research or teaching grant, and travel to another country, the Fulbright program is a wonderful option for highly motivated students with an interest in international travel. The application process is long and difficult, but the rewards it can reap certainly make the hard work worth it in the end.

Check out
thesandspur.org
for a look at the application process

Tough, but Worth it

"The application process was nerve-racking and a little long, a personal statement and a research proposal accompany the application and transcript. Then the application goes to the first round, through the U.S. They decide who to send on to the second round, during which each individual country decides who they will take. The waiting was killer, as applications are due in October and I didn't find out I received the Fulbright until May, two days before graduation! Though arduous, it is completely worth the shot. I didn't think I would get it, but here I am. My best advice, just be yourself. Most of all, make sure you tell the country why you chose that country specifically. They want to hear why you are interested in them!"

—Meghan Thomas, Class of 2011

What in the World is Going On?



1 After having economic sanctions levied against it by members of the Arab League over the weekend, Syria has also been condemned by the United Nations. According to a UN report, the nation's security forces have committed systematic "crimes against humanity" through their method of cracking down on anti-government protesters. An independent panel conducted a study that says civilians — including children — have been murdered, tortured and sexually assaulted. Syria has condemned the Arab League's imposition of sanctions, which include an asset freeze and an embargo on investments, but the country has not responded to the UN report.

2 An explosion killed three people and wounded 27 at a southern Philippines hotel on Sunday, an official said. Sheila Covarrubias, a spokeswoman for the mayor's office, said the blast took place at the Atilano Pension House in Zamboanga City. Among the injured were several wedding guests, she said. The cause of the blast was not immediately known, but a bomb squad was sent to the area. However its work was initially hampered by a fire that followed the explosion, Covarrubias said.

3 Colombian President Juan Manuel Santos announced Monday that one of Colombia's most wanted drug traffickers, Maximiliano Bonilla

Orozco, alias "El Valenciano," has been captured in Venezuelan territory. Santos thanked Venezuelan President Hugo Chavez during his visit to Caracas for the capture of Valenciano, who is allegedly a member of the Los Paisas cartels. The U.S. State Department said Valenciano operated a transnational narcotics organization that distributes cocaine from Colombia through Guatemala, Honduras and Mexico to the United States. The Department offered up to \$5 million as a reward for information leading to his arrest or conviction.

4 Vote counting began in the Democratic Republic of Congo Tuesday after over 30 million voters made their way to the polls this week. It was the nation's second postwar election. After facing many logistical problems, at least four people died after gunmen attacked polling stations in the second city, Lubumbashi, officials say. In the opposition stronghold of West Kasai, polling stations were reportedly set on fire by voters angry at long delays but the capital, Kinshasa was generally peaceful. Some 22,000 UN peacekeepers are stationed around the country and are expected to help prevent any outbreaks of violence. Though the vote count has begun, final results are not expected for several days.

Compiled by Amir Sadeh

OPINIONS

Letter From the Editor: With Regard to Anonymity

Rollins College,

In this semester's first issue of *The Sandspur*, I addressed you to say what the paper planned to do for you, the reader, this year. However, I'm coming back to you at the end of the semester with a plea from your editorial staff. Recently, I received a letter from an anonymous faculty member. The content of the letter was a passionate and well-written response to the censure, a topic that *The Sandspur* has covered several times this semester. I had originally planned on running the letter as an article and sharing the perspective from a young faculty member. However, after careful consideration, it seemed that running an anonymous letter would cause *The Sandspur* to lose credibility.

We at the paper feel it's very important to maintain the trust of our readers. By publishing an anonymous letter, it sends a message that we publish material that does not have someone standing behind his or her words and, therefore, we cannot stand behind the words either. Yes, all of our opinions articles come with the disclaimer

that the words do not reflect our ideas or the ideas of the college. Despite this, without a name to associate the words with, I do not feel comfortable publishing.

This is in no way meant to be discouraging to members of the community who wish to

"We have always been, and will continue to be, an open forum for well thought out opinions on topics and events that probe our campus."

send in Op-Ed articles. In fact, we encourage everyone who has an opinion on the topic of the censure or any other matter to send in an article to submit@thesandspur.org at anytime. But, if you choose to send material in, you need to be comfortable with having your name associated with the content. If you can stand behind your articles, so can we.

One specific note I want to point out from this anonymous letter is that everyone should have a say. We agree, and that's why we support the submission of articles. We have always been, and will continue to be, an open forum for well thought out opinions on topics and events that probe our campus. I hope that the goals proposed in the first issue of the paper this year have been fulfilled. Next semester, we hope to continue in our efforts to improve *The Sandspur* with every issue. If you ever have any questions about *The Sandspur*, feel free to email chief@thesandspur.org. Remember, *The Sandspur* is made up by the voices of the Rollins community. Without you, the readers and writers, we cease to exist. Thank you for your continued support and look forward to another exciting semester of Rollins College news.

Jennifer Stull

—Jennifer Stull
Editor-in-Chief

Learn How to Make Money Off Facebook

Lauren Silvestri
The Sandspur

Since the explosion of social media networks like Twitter, Facebook and various blogs, the opportunities for obtaining a public relations career continue to grow. Communiqué, the student chapter of the Florida Public Relations Association (FPRA) at Rollins, serves to make students aware of those opportunities.

On Nov. 15, Communiqué organized the Professional Networking Round Table. During this round table, students interested in public relations and communications had the opportunity to talk with Communiqué chairs, advisors and industry professionals from around Central Florida.

It is one of the events the group organized to attain the goal of its mission statement, which explains, "Communiqué is dedicated to providing opportunities for Rollins students to gain valuable 'hands on' experience in the communication field, learn from experienced professionals, expand resumes while still in school, and to become distinguishable in the chosen field."

The event was part of a major project for the students in COM 315: Event Planning and Communication.

Holt Student Rob Soviero found the experience surprisingly simple. "Because we effectively utilized every possible resource on the Rollins campus, it made the event an easy one to organize," he said. "[Communiqué advisor] Dr. Planck's guidance helped us realize that Rollins has every resource needed, from catering to printing service, to produce such an event without needing a large budget."

The first speaker of the night was Amanda Forbes, president of the Orlando Area Chapter of FPRA and senior account executive of Fry Hammond Barr. She encourages anyone who is interested in a career in public relations to join FPRA. You can find more information at www.fpra-orlando.org.

Rollins alumnus Justin Braun '09MBA'11, spoke next. He is now the manager of social and Web communication at ActivEngage, Inc. It was definitely reassuring to see a recent Rollins graduate with

a successful career despite the bleak economy. Braun suggested reading blogs like HubSpot and said, "You will screw up — everyone does. But you need to remain calm."

Roy Reid is partner/vice president of Consensus Communications, a PR firm. His career spans 25 years. As Reid spoke, he stressed the importance of perseverance and leadership in difficult times. He told audience members to turn in their best work first and to have a vision.

Wendy Jo Moyer explained how she originally took a job she was not very interested in, but used the position to network with others and to gain more opportunities. She is now the communications manager at Workforce Central Florida, a group which helps Florida residents find jobs. She realized that even though "you won't get your dream job right after school," every experience counts. "Never stop learning," Moyer said.

The last speaker was Christina Morton, account executive of Digital Media at CBR Public Relations. She started her PR experience while still in college and encouraged the audience to do the same in order to achieve a head start.

All five speakers work with social media in their jobs, and all enjoy careers that vary every day. Each speaker also mentioned, multiple times, that a career in PR is about two things: knowing people and networking.

Soviero was proud of the event he and his classmates created. "It was important because we had five professionals who work in the communication field, giving students an honest look into their careers and what it takes to fulfill a career in public relations, marketing and social communications," he said afterward.

I strongly encourage anyone who is even slightly curious about the fields of public relations and communications to see what Communiqué has to offer. You can join the organization on Rollins' Get Involved website, and you can contact its president, Rachel Mayfield '12, at rmayfield@rollins.edu for more information.

What Does the "T" in LGBT Mean?



THE WOMAN WITHIN: Davina Hovanec describes her personal gender journey during the most recent Diversity Dialogue.

Erin Brioso
The Sandspur

On Nov. 15, Shayla Alaminio '12 hosted her first Diversity Dialogue, "The T in LGBT," with the support of Pinehurst Cottage and the Office of Multicultural Affairs. This dialogue dealt with the transgender community and the specific issues it faces.

Transgender is an umbrella term for people whose gender identity, gender expression, or behavior does not adhere to that typically associated with their biological sex. Gender identity refers to a person's internal sense of being male, female, or something else; gender expression refers to the way a person communicates gender identity to others through behavior, clothing, hairstyles, voice, or body characteristics. Often the abbreviation "trans" is used to describe a transgender person.

While transgender is the generally accepted term used in these situations, not everyone whose appearance or behavior is gender-nonconforming will identify as a transgender person. The ways that transgender people are talked about in popular culture, academia and science are constantly changing, particularly as individuals undergo a growing awareness, knowledge and openness about transgender people and their experiences.

Dean of the Faculty Dr. Jennifer Cavanaugh, who opened this Diversity Dialogue, mentioned that "binary gender roles do not do a good enough job explaining who we are, and the roles that dominate society today are the ones reinforced everywhere — by what Happy Meal toy you receive, which movies you watch, and which fairy tales you're told."

The panel discussion began with the question, "What has been your journey as a trans person?" Gina, a trans

woman, relayed her story from childhood. As a teenager, she was the captain of the football team and prom king, taking stereotypical male roles, but the need to be feminine grew as she got older. She said, "It was either kill myself or transition into a female." Another panelist, Davina, stated that before she made the change, she would "use computers to escape reality," keeping the woman she was on the inside separate from the man she was on the outside. "The identity was already there—it was just my body I needed to change," she said.

This Diversity Dialogue was meant to unearth the reasons why "T" is the invisible letter in the LGBT community. The panelists were in unanimous agreement in the belief that the "T" should be separated from the LGBT "alphabet soup" entirely.

Amelia, a trans woman on the panel, explained, "Gay, lesbian, and bisexuality are all things that are contingent on sexual orientation. Being trans isn't; being trans is a body and mind thing." In addition, many of the panelists agreed that being trans is a medical condition in that there is something wrong with their physical bodies, which in turn causes trauma to their minds.

It was mentioned that some of the hardest things about being a trans person are feelings of isolation, being honest and accepting with oneself, and having the financial means to be able to make the transition. The understanding of the "T" in LGBT is something society has neglected for so long, and is something the sponsors, and panelists of this diversity dialogue are working to combat. As Cavanaugh put it, "We only begin to understand the wonderful confusion of the reality of gender when we start to examine the social construct of gender itself."



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 is always looking for new paid employees. To inquire about open positions, please email chief@thesandspur.org.

The Sandspur's Editorial Staff extends an invitation to all readers to attend weekly article assignment meetings every Monday at 7 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 submit@thesandspur.org. All submissions must be received no later than 5 p.m. on Friday.

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Editor's Note: Travel prices based on a Dec. 9 departure date and a Jan. 15 return date. Gas prices based on the mileage of a mid-size SUV.



"Get money, get presents, get strange looks, and have fun. The one boring thing I'll be doing is ringing up people at Panera."

-Steven Penaranda '14



"Going back to Tennessee and hanging out with friends. In January, I am going to the Philippines for my cousin's wedding."

-Caitlin Acap '15



"I am going to New Orleans with Rollins Relief and New York City for Christmas and New Year's. I am excited."

-Sofia Macias

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greyhound.com

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orlandoairports.net

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expedia.com

NO PLACE LIKE HOME FOR THE HOLIDAYS

After innumerable sleepless nights at Club Olin, there is one wonderful thought on everyone's mind: winter break. Even just the idea of this much-needed downtime from classes is enough to get most people to breathe a sigh of relief in mere anticipation. With a week or less left until the majority of the campus community members start their journeys heading back home or to their holiday destination of choice, *The Sandspur* brings you a look at winter break by the numbers and a sampling of what some of your peers will be doing before we catch up again in 2012. The first issue of spring semester will be out on stands Jan. 26, but until then, best wishes for a great winter break!

compiled by *The Sandspur* editorial board

Survivor's Story Inspires Rollins

Shayla Alamino
The Sandspur

Nathan Offen, an 88-year-old survivor of the Holocaust, brought his memories to life in the Bush Auditorium Nov. 16, giving a formal presentation to students and faculty members on his experience in concentration and forced labor camps.

Offen grew up in an impoverished neighborhood in the heart of Krakow, Poland, and spent most of his time playing soccer with the other neighborhood kids to pass the time. He attended public school and Hebrew school from a very early age. As a teenager, he was proactive and handy around the neighborhood. His voice trembled slightly as he talked about the transition from his childhood to the German invasion. He said, "I heard shooting. I ran home. I wanted to see my mother. I saw the [Germans] herding the people in the train. I saw my mother and sister in the crowd. That was the last time I saw them." There was a sympathetic

silence in the room as he spoke in detail about the loss of his family, the labor in the camps and the liberation.

However, there was warmth in his eyes when he spoke about the moment he knew he was going to survive. "I look through the window and I see tanks approaching. Tanks with white stars on it. 'A star?' I thought. 'This must be the Russians'. But it was the Americans that came in. The Americans came and they took me from the barracks, and I was holding onto that piece of stale bread and I wouldn't let it go."

Weighing barely 60 pounds, he was immediately taken to a tent hospital and put on a bed with clean sheets, where he was pumped with glucose and the nurse brought him chocolate. Offen smiled faintly during this recollection, exclaiming, "Chocolate!" Still holding the chocolate in his hand, he fell into a deep sleep, which he described as euphoric. He continued, "I felt so good. But, when I woke up, 90 percent of the people

[who were also in the tent hospital] died. I strongly believed that I would survive."

Offen shared that the American captain who saved him became his lifelong best friend, and he later honored Offen as an honorable member of the 11th Armored Division. The two traveled together for many years, speaking out about their experiences. His best friend passed away recently.

Offen also emphasized his feelings of hope for future generations. "I like talking to young people. You are the future. I don't like talking to old people because they think they know everything," he said.

Offen's memoir, *To Life: A Story of Survival*, features a colorful and vibrant illustration on the cover. The colors in his paintings continue to be very important as they serve as a deeper metaphor for his outlook on his life. Students and faculty members were deeply touched by Offen's presentation and stayed after to thank and meet the survivor.

Erin Brioso '14 is one of the students who was affected by Offen's story. "It was incredible but in a terrifying way. I just couldn't quite wrap my mind around how anyone would be able to go through watching people drag your mother and sister away," she said. "I had never seen or met a Holocaust survivor before this event, and honestly it just made the experience that much more real to me. It has always been this distant shadow on the world's history, and it didn't really have a relation to my life personally. However, after seeing him, I just feel like I'll never forget anything that he said or his life specifically."

Life Through a Feminist Lens

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Others argued for an adequate day care center for female faculty and staff with children, an important issue since there are more women employed on campus than men. The goal is to take baby steps in order to combat the stereotype of bra-burning, men-hating lesbians, argued an audience member. It is an uphill battle.

Morgan Williams '13, stated, "It's hard to identify as a feminist here. There's not enough people here fighting for this, and if we're the only ones showing up to these events, then who are we talking to?"

The second panel of the day consisted of Rollins students, faculty and staff. Michael Cardwell '13 immediately said that it is impossible to talk about women as one group; people should pay specific attention to all of the various groups of women on campus (i.e., women in the Holt school, women in A&S, etc.).

In the case of Holt women, a strong argument for the attendance policy was issued. The purpose of the Holt school is to allow people with other commitments — families, personal and business — to have a chance at bettering their futures with a night school education.

"Adhering to the attendance policy in place for Arts & Science students is a complete violation of the mission the Hamilton Holt School represents," argued Holt students.

Another issue that arose was the unaffordable and subpar health care benefits that are

offered to Holt students.

One student commented that because she could not afford to buy the Rollins insurance, the Health Center would not treat her. This woman stated that she had to go to an abortion clinic with people picketing on the streets and calling her a murderer in order to receive an annual women's exam. Something must be wrong here — both in our Rollins bubble and out of it.

Laura Berk '12 believes there has been exponential progress since she first arrived at Rollins. However, she has a feeling that people are at the point where they feel like everything is kind of good right now.

Cardwell agreed that the majority of student leaders at Rollins are women. In fact, he continued, many of the same women are doing everything, though — just "wearing different hats, fitting different roles." Berk suggested targeting the women and men who do not think there is any problem in order to get them out of their comfort zones and into a place where they could actually learn something.

On the brighter side, as Sinclair stated, "Small can be mighty. Grassroots movements can be some of the most influential."

That is the ultimate goal for Rollins. With the help of organizations like Voices for Women, the Lucy Cross Center for Women, the Office of Multicultural Affairs, and many other smaller groups on campus, progress is possible at Rollins, and the community can show that feminism does matter.

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Twilight Disappoints Again

Annamarie Carlson
Staff Writer

Twilight: what you watch when you want to drain the life out of a perfectly good evening.

Not only were countless 13-year-old girls pouring into the theaters at midnight on Friday, Nov. 18, but so were many members of the Rollins community.

The next morning, Facebook was littered with pictures of Rollins students and staff posing in front of cardboard cutouts of Robert Pattinson as Edward Cullen and Taylor Lautner as Jacob Black in their local movie theaters. Women nationwide bonded over their love of sparkling vampires and six-pack ridden wolf-boys.

After hearing how wonderful the movie was for the 50th time, I decided to go see it the Friday of its release. I had not been impressed by any of the *Twilight* films so far, but this one had to have something going for it, right?

Wrong.

Breaking Dawn was horrifying. Throughout the film, I felt like I was the one having the baby — not because of how engrossing the plot was or because Kristen Stewart was a believable pregnant teenager; rather because of the constant spouts of intense boredom, the dismaying moments where I either had to laugh at the stupidity or cry because I chose (and in this case paid) to put myself through this hell, and the sweet relief when I was able to walk out of the theater with all of the pain, blood and disgust behind me.

Although Lautner is still as hot as he was in *New Moon*, the horrifying voice-over mimicking the wolves talking to one another ruined any hope for this traumatizing film. Rather than portraying the excellent scene in the novel — when Jacob breaks away from Sam's pack to protect Bella — the filmmakers managed to create a confusing screenshot bouncing between different wolves, all while the audience is bombarded with various sounds and voices that simply do not come across as remotely believable.

For a series that prides itself on special effects, it seriously fell short.

Stewart still stinks as an actress. I don't know how it is possible to be paid millions of dollars to stand still and have a pained look on your face, even when you are supposedly with your soul mate, but she has managed to do it four times now, with one more movie in the works. I suppose I should be congratulating her rather than putting her down.

For a real-life couple, the sex scenes between her and Pattinson were unbelievable and managed to make me uncomfortable due to their awkwardness. If that is what it is like when the two of them try to forcibly show passion, I can hardly imagine how pathetically bland it is in real life.

Normally after each *Twilight* film, I make an effort to rent it from the library and watch it with my family at home. But after experiencing *Breaking Dawn* once, I would prefer to experience childbirth rather than have to watch it again.

Lulu Leaves Much to be Desired

Vernon Meigs
The Sandspur

Could it be that *Lulu*, the collaborative album between Lou Reed and Metallica, is the worst release of the year?

Experimental rock musician Lou Reed is mostly known for his involvement in The Velvet Underground, an art-rock band that performed on and off from the mid-1960s to 1996. He has also gained a reputation for a solo career consisting of eclectic rock music with elements of noise and avant-garde. Knowing this about Reed's career, the last thing on anyone's mind would be a collaborative effort with the household name in metal music, Metallica. However, the idea had been entertained by both parties as early as 2009.

When the project came to fruition in early 2011, it was declared a "recording project" and not a commercial venture. The result, *Lulu*, has received fiercely negative reactions by fans and critics since the first audio sample was released. The album was regarded by various sources, including Metacritic, as a failure long before it was released in its entirety. According to the *Rolling Stone* article "On the Charts: Justin Bieber Annihilates Loutallica," sale figures for the album showed that it sold a mere 13,000 copies in its first week of release.

Amid Internet chatter citing disappointment and anger toward the album and its musicians, the question became: does *Lulu* have any saving grace?

The concept of *Lulu* is based

on Frank Wedekind's two plays which form a pairing entitled *Lulu — Erdgeist* (Earth Spirit) and *Die Büchse der Pandora* (Pandora's Box) — which were controversial in their own right during 1894 and 1904, respectively, for perceived misogyny and violent content. The album does not execute the subject matter in the form of a story but loosely references it. In over 80 minutes of music across two discs, it feels like Metallica and Reed took thematic elements from the original *Lulu*, reiterated

"There is a lot to dislike. However, this is not the worst album of the year."

them in modern tongue, and rearranged songs written for the plays in an attempt to make them flow wholly. The best song on the album, closer "Junior Dad," seems to feel out of place because it is unrelated to the original ending of the story, which involved Jack the Ripper killing Lulu and her lover. However, bloodletting and Jack are referenced in "Pumping Blood."

Reed repeats lyrics seemingly on his own accord, which can be unbearable if the lines are vulgar or crude. In its own context, this has the potential for success, but not always.

Musically this is true as well. The bulk of the song "Mistress Dread," for instance, consists of a fast, monotonous rhythm. The song "Little Dog" is poorly composed as nothing

musically significant is going on. The instruments are mainly acoustic, but it does not even sound ambient or mellow.

Metallica frontman and rhythm guitarist James Hetfield's vocals are diminished to the role of occasional backing vocalist. The lyrics he was given can be downright embarrassing, especially his yelling of "I am the table" on the song "The View." Strangely, that lyric is not printed in the booklet. This brings into question the involvement of Metallica as a whole in this, as *Lulu* calls for music that is more rhythmic, sometimes ambient, and in the background. Why would two rhythm guitars be necessary, since most of the time Kirk Hammett does not do lead guitar work or solos?

The positive aspects of this album include its production, which was an improvement over Metallica's last album, *Death Magnetic*. In terms of a rhythmic, narrative approach to music, *Lulu* does manage to work, with "Mistress Dread" having an ambient quality to its monotone consistency. The negative qualities of *Lulu* are its overt vulgarity, repugnances, repetition of phrases minutes too long, and lack of variation in Reed's vocals.

Lulu is difficult to defend. There is a lot to dislike. However, this is not the worst album of the year. A bad album has to be boring. *Lulu*, ironically with all its repetitive aspects, piqued my curiosity from start to finish. This record was an experiment brought to the masses inevitably by Metallica's fame, not because it is 2011's worst album.

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STETSONLAW



Women's Basketball Success Prepares Tars for Tough Conference Play



ROLLINSSPORTS.COM

BASKETBALL: Tars Forward Jasmine Cohen '14 was a key player in the success throughout the 2011 season. With a 5-1 record, the Tars are entering a tough conference schedule but they could make it to the championships.

Robert Salmeron
The Sandspur

The women's basketball team has begun the season with a strong 5-1 record, its only loss coming to last year's Division II National Champion Clayton State. This year's team is poised for a successful season after the Sunshine State Conference named the Tars first in its preseason polls.

"The ranking was really encouraging. This year's team has a lot of talent and chemistry" said Kristina Mings '12. "We also returned a number of experienced players from last year who know the system."

The Tars lineup plays a four out, one in offense, which takes advantage of the amount of talent on the team. The team has five seniors, two of whom are currently starting, while five substitutes are regularly used.

Ashley Jones '15 transferred from Mississippi State University and was once named Florida Player of the Year while attending Lake Howell High School in Casselberry, Fla. Jones has also led the

team in rebounding in two games and is already leaving her impact on the scoreboard, leading in scoring against Johnson C. Smith University.

"I expect for us to continue to work hard, get better and for our coaches to continue coaching well," said Jones. "With that being done, we should be very successful."

The Tars play under the strong, veteran leadership of head coach Glenn Wilkes Jr., who is currently ranked 39th in the NCAA (in every division) amongst all active coaches. Wilkes Jr. is the son of Florida Hall of Fame coach Glenn Wilkes Sr., who coached at Stetson University. Currently, Wilkes Jr. has 553 wins in his 26 years here at Rollins.

The Tars are coming off a victory against non-conference opponent Johnson C. Smith University. The Tars were down by 17 points at one point and rallied back to force overtime.

This tough non-conference win is set to propel Rollins into a tough conference schedule. First on the schedule is the University of Tampa, in which a win would propel the Tars into a top 10 national poll ranking.

UPCOMING EVENTS

01 thursday

Who's Who on WPRK: 4 - 5 p.m.

02 friday

Last Day of Academic Classes

RIP Presents: Cut-To: Winter Break: Fred Stone Theatre, 1 p.m.

Jump for JUMP: Meet at Mills Lawn, 11 a.m. - 2 p.m.

Christmas Vespers: Knowles Memorial Chapel, 6 p.m.

03 saturday

9th Annual Winter Park Holiday Parade: Park Avenue, 9 a.m.

Women's Basketball vs. Florida Southern: Alford Sports Center, 2 - 4 p.m.

Men's Basketball vs. Florida Southern: Alford Sports Center, 4 - 6 p.m.

04 sunday

Catholic Mass: Knowles Memorial Chapel, 8:30 - 9:30 p.m.

05 monday

Start of Final Exams

06 tuesday

Rollins Evening B.A. Information Session: 6 - 7:30 p.m.

Want The Sandspur to feature your group's events on our calendar? Email them to submit@thesandspur.com

Overheard

A collection of quotes from the Thanksgiving break.

“

"I am thankful for sleeping, without it people would annoy me for 24 hours a day rather than just the 14-16 they already do."

— a Rollins Dad

“

"Why don't you get some highlights and LIGHTEN UP?!"

“

"I saw the Footlose remix with your aunt and it was terrible."

Nice attempt at using the word remix Mom, but no.

just sayin'...

A collection of anonymous rants and raves from students around campus. Submit your own to submit@thesandspur.org.

Something is wrong when, over break, my mom sings a song bragging about how she got a Pottermore account before me.

If I am homeless when I get older, I am going to live on Mills Lawn since I paid for it.

Season 6 of Dexter is disappointing.



this week's
WEATHER

THURSDAY
HIGH: 72 PARTLY CLOUDY
LOW: 56

FRIDAY
HIGH: 76 MOSTLY SUNNY
LOW: 61

SATURDAY
HIGH: 76 PARTLY CLOUDY
LOW: 63

SUNDAY
HIGH: 76 PARTLY CLOUDY
LOW: 68

MONDAY
HIGH: 78 PARTLY CLOUDY
LOW: 58

TUESDAY
HIGH: 78 PARTLY CLOUDY
LOW: 52

WEDNESDAY
HIGH: 68 SUNNY
LOW: 52