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The **Sandspur**



**THE PRESIDENT'S VISIT
CAUSED QUITE THE RUCKUS**

BY AMIR M. SADEH & BEN ZITSMAN
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SEXUAL ASSAULT IN OUR SOCIETY PAGE 9

WHO YOU'LL MEET AT ROLLINS PAGE 5



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 Monday at 5:30 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 the Friday prior to publication.

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NEWS

POLITICAL STUDENTS & SPIRITUALITY PROJECT

Student Dems praise grant initiatives

David Matteson

Designer

House of Representatives member Geraldine Thompson addressed a group of Rollins students on Wednesday, Aug. 22 in regards to Pell Grants and President Barack Obama's educational policy.

Members of the Rollins College Democrats welcomed Thompson to Winter Park as she spoke about the importance of Pell Grants to students.

These academic awards based on financial need supply 8 million students with the means to attend college, according to whitehouse.gov.

"For some students, the Pell Grant is the difference between going to college or not going to college, or going to the college of your dreams or just settling for a college," Thompson said.

Holt Student Melissa Maniau '14 also addressed the small number of students who met in Central Park. She reinforced the idea that Pell Grants helped her afford a Rollins education.

"I wouldn't be able to afford to go to Rollins without the Pell Grant. I am very appreciative of those initiatives and those policies, because I love Rollins," Maniau said.

Both Thompson and Maniau discussed Obama's initiative to improve the education system.

The Health Care and

For some students, the Pell Grant is the difference between going to college or not going to college, or going to the college of your dreams or just settling for a college,

- Representative
Geraldine Thompson

Education Reconciliation Act help increase the Pell Grant funding by investing more than \$40 billion in student aid, which doubles the amount of funding available since the President took office in 2008. It will increase the maximum Pell Grant award to \$5,975 per student according to non-partisan Congressional Budget offices. Thompson and Maniau both felt that electing Republican candidate Mitt Romney would be a mistake in regards to education funding.

As both speakers stated, Romney's education plan includes borrowing money and "shopping around" to find the most affordable school. Maniau feels that the most affordable school is not always the right school for students.

"The problem is shopping around doesn't always cut it," Maniau said. "I don't know what world Mitt Romney lives in, but not all of our parents



Jamie Pizzi
Though speaking to a small audience in Central park off Park Avenue, Representative Geraldine Thompson spoke adamantly on President Obama's education policy and stance on Pell Grants.

have a few thousand dollars lying around for us to borrow."

Romney faced criticism from the Obama campaign for his "shop around" statement this summer. Obama used the line directly when voicing his concerns regarding education in a speech last week.

"Gov. Romney didn't say anything about grants or loan programs that have helped millions of students earn a college education. Here's what he said, 'The best thing I can do for you is to tell you to shop around.' To shop around... That's his answer to a young person hoping to go to college," Obama said to an audience in

Reno, Nev.

The higher socioeconomic status of many Rollins students and families may allow them to "shop around," as Thompson addressed in her call to action.

"Wherever you are on the socioeconomic scale, Pres. Obama understands the importance of education and the importance of getting prepared for the future. So if you are fortunate enough to come from a family where you don't have to worry about paying your tuition, you then have an opportunity to help others," Thompson said. "We all have to make an investment in the future of education."

Task Force aims at individual spirituality

Melanie Weitzner

Production Manager

Dean Powers, along with a select group of faculty and interested students, will head a Task Force on Spirituality on campus that focuses on individual self-discovery.

The genesis of the project came about in discussions Powers and President Duncan had regarding their shared concern over what degree of self-learning students completed before their graduation from Rollins. Despite engaging in academic learning and athletic performances, Duncan was concerned that students were not receiving the opportunity to learn about

themselves.

"We want students to graduate with a grasp on their self worth," said Powers. "Wouldn't it be a failure for Rollins if a student went through four years and never explored their inner worth?"

Commissioned by Duncan, the Task Force on Spirituality is not a faith based project. According to Powers, there already exist both faith based and social justice based "spiritual" groups on campus, but an inner spirituality group is missing.

"This is not faith based spirituality, which I call an 'up reach,'" Powers said about the Task Force in an e-mail to interested faculty. "nor is it a social action based spirituality which I

Wouldn't it be a failure for Rollins if a student went through four years and never explored their inner worth?

- Patrick J. Powers,
Dean of the Chapel

call an 'out reach'. It is to be a cognitive based spirituality, which I call 'in reach'."

Powers envisions the Task Force as a way to provide multi-pronged opportunities for students to explore this "in reach". One of his ideas include free weekend retreats where stu-

dents can focus on reflecting on the "big questions" (Who am I? What am I doing here?) rather than partying or engaging in their usual social lives that don't permit this kind of self-reflection and, as Powers calls it, "soul building". Other ideas are to invite speakers to discuss topics of inner spirituality, host book clubs, and promote more on-campus activism.

As of now, the Task Force is still in its beginning stages. According to Powers, any expenses for this project and its activities would come from discretionary funds.

This week's cover illustration
by Carolina Casal

Letter from the editors

If this is your first time picking up a *Sandspur*, then we'd like to welcome you to Florida's oldest college newspaper. If it isn't, then you might notice it looks a little different; very different, actually.

We've both been a part of *The Sandspur* since freshman year. As seniors, over the last three years we have watched the newspaper transform from its traditional format to a more modern, visually appealing publication. Despite this great progress, there was always something missing.

We accept we are a weekly publication run by a small student staff at a small school. As a media outlet, we aren't quite an exhaustive source of breaking news around here. That's what Facebook is for. That's what campus-wide e-mails and R-Net stories do. More than anything, *The Sandspur* has always been driven by features highlighting engaging stories, and by human interest pieces—not just campus news and sports events. Our old format didn't fit us. *The Sandspur* looked like a news daily, but read like the weekly paper it was.

So we explored different options, and finally decided on the new format (a newspaper-magazine hybrid) you now hold in your hands. This new format fulfills everything we felt was missing from the paper's previous layout:

1. It allows for feature stories to be presented not just more prominently, but more creatively as well.
2. It's more fit for a grab-and-go read. Its more compact size allows readers to stash it in their book bags or purses, and hold onto it to read throughout the day.
3. It will spark interest within the student body, and encourage engagement with their on-campus newspaper—it will foster a spirit of community.

We understand Rollins is all about its history and traditions, and *The Sandspur* is a part of that. This publication's previous format had gone unchanged for over a century. But just because something has always been a certain way doesn't mean it has to stay that way forever. More than ever, we are a generation that understands the need to be adaptable to the constant flow of change. And that's what our shift in format reflects.

We are excited for the coming year, and to exploring the potential of our new design. We hope that you will join us in this excitement and you will continue to stick to *The Sandspur*.

Hana Saker

Hana Saker,
Editor-in-Chief

Melanie Weitzner

Melanie Weitzner,
Production Manager

High Fives of the Week

1. Place to grab lunch

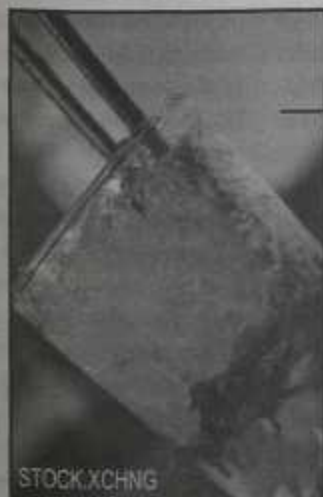
Burger-Fi
Recently opened on Park Avenue, this simple eatery has something delicious for everyone.

2. Our most played

Get it Started by Pitbull & Shakira
Finally, the Latin king and queen join forces.

3. Happy Hour choice

Watermelon Mojito
Refreshing enough for hot weekend nights
4 large mint leaves
1/2 lime
1 tablespoon superfine sugar
4 ounces seedless watermelon, cut into 1/2-inch cubes (about 3/4 cup), add a small wedge for garnish
2 ounces white rum
1/2 cup ice cubes



STOCK.XCHNG



Melanie Weitzner

4. Starbucks drink we're craving

"Raspberry Cheesecake"
The white chocolate mocha is supplemented with a few shots of raspberry. Add whipped cream and vanilla sprinkles if you're feeling extra indulgent. (Ask for it at Dianne's!)

5. What we're looking forward to

The end of rainy season
That hurricane day was great (Thanks Isaac) but trudging to class during a monsoon doesn't benefit anyone.

College sparks mental growth

Alan Nordstrom

Writer

When you come to college you enter the realm of "Higher Education," the aim of which is to cultivate the higher capacities of your mind. You are here to develop your mind because mentality is the most distinctive characteristic of human beings. "I think, therefore I am," said Rene Descartes, the philosopher, yet he spoke for all human beings, possessed uniquely among earthly creatures with brains that can wonder and ponder, speculate and suppose, analyze and theorize, imagine and create. "What a piece of work is a man," exclaimed Hamlet, "how noble in reason, how infinite in faculties."

When you come to college for a "liberal education," to study "the liberal arts and sciences," your proper aim is to liberate the potentials of your mind by activating your latent powers for thought and action that lead to wise deeds: to the realization of what is valuable

for yourself and others. Although you may harbor a different conception of college that simply reflects the curricular program and tallies course requirements to be checked off, that concept reflects the letter but not the spirit of Higher Education—which is really about the growth of your mind.

You should view each course you choose or are required to take in both your general education and your major/minor programs, for how it will exercise and develop one or another mental skill, one or another cognitive or affective faculty of thought, as well as how it will inform you with not trivial data but significant knowledge.

College can initiate and accelerate this kind of mental growth in you, but college ends in a commencement, not a conclusion; which is to say that college, rightly undertaken, prepares you to continue learning and developing your mind, autodidactically, directing your own course of learning, for the rest of your life.

Emily Kelly

Writer

Kicking off the new year, freshman were greeted last week by the overbooked schedule of Fall Orientation. While I understand Rollins good intentions of assimilating the first-years into the college culture, orientation was overbearing.

Every hour, on the hour, there seemed to be some event scheduled for first years, whether it was a meeting, a show, or an assembly, freshman were constantly bustling about, having essentially no down time. Consumed with feelings of fatigue, I became frequently overwhelmed by the constant shuffling.

The schedule was so packed that the first night I spent in my dorm room I realized I hadn't even had a minute to put sheets on my naked mattress. Not only were the freshman handed schedules that they were expected to abide by, but parents too had their own list of events to attend. These conflicting schedules allowed nearly no time for freshman to spend with their parents.

Now some students may have been pushing their parents out the door, primed to party, but

others would have liked to spend some more time with mom and dad.

Despite Rollins attempt to make the transition into college life smoother, Rollins scheduled too much time for freshman to spend with their RCC classes and neglected to allot any time for floor mate or roommate bonding. Now that Orientation is over, I've realized that I have yet to meet my neighbors whom I've been living next-door to for days. Among the countless events scheduled for Orientation was SPARC day: a day of community service geared to help freshman bond with their RCC classes.

The idea of SPARC day is fantastic, but as a result of poor scheduling, SPARC day took place at 8:15 AM, the morning following the Mentalist show, which ran well after the scheduled 12:30 AM.

Inevitably, the first-years were exhausted from the late

night on the eve of SPARC day; to expect a crew of teenagers to partake in a day of free manual labor is one thing, but to keep them up late with a mandatory event the night prior is just wicked.

Looking back, I spent most of Orientation feeling drained and dehydrated; the whole weekend felt like a bad hangover.

Looking back, I spent most of Orientation feeling drained and dehydrated; the whole weekend felt like a bad hangover.

- Emily Kelly

Misguided approach to laudable intentions

Brena Bergman

Writer

Freshman summer reading, *Half the Sky*, gets mixed reviews from audiences. Some students are left feeling overwhelmed with an abundance of problems and insufficient possible solutions. Bergman argues authors fail to heed even their own advice.

Accompanying each incoming freshman class is a new reading assignment. This year's, *Half the Sky*, challenges past

and present societal norms as Nicholas Kristof and Sheryl WuDunn chastise American ignorance and demand an increased involvement in education to ultimately free the female race.

Normally, it is the book that gives the students some problems; in this case, it is the authors. Whether considering the overwhelming opinions of the authors or the impractical solutions they propose, students are dissuaded from becoming involved in the gender-based oppression currently troubling millions of women worldwide.

Students argue that the au-

thors are too biased, preventing the reader from receiving an impartial story and then drawing his own conclusions. Others claim that the authors inaccurately blame a country's problems on the corrupt government, rather than the culture or religion of the countries.

Throughout the novel, the authors propose an increased involvement, advocating myriad remedies; however, students found the methods of starting an organization or traveling to that specific country to be too extreme to partake in.

Kristof and WuDunn's inability to propose realistic goals discourages the readers from becoming active or making a difference in their own community. In addition, the countless, extravagant solutions that they do suggest may have malignant effects on the populations of these particular countries, as they do not consider the impact of their unwanted intervention.

Asking one woman in Riyadh, and finding that "we

don't want anybody fighting for us—and we certainly don't want anybody feeling sorry for us," Kristof and WuDunn have the audacity to still encourage the involvement from America (Kristof and WuDunn 154).

Discounting years of culture and tradition, Kristof and WuDunn advocate American involvement rather than understanding. Hypocritically ignoring the various quotes in their book from Americans and non-Americans alike begging for the United States to come see these foreign countries and understand the reasons behind certain customs before providing assistance, Kristof and WuDunn's good intentions result in their blatant disregard for the opinions of the women in these developing countries.

Kristof and WuDunn remain too concerned about solutions that they fail to heed their own advice, instilling much agitation in their readers.

While discussing the novel, another drawback seems to be

the infinite number of anecdotes provided by the authors.

Usually examples would increase the credibility of the argument and enable readers to better relate; however, in Kristof and WuDunn's case, the interminable stories supersede the impact of individual circumstances. Subsequently, WuDunn and Kristof, rather than gaining support from their audience, anger their audience through their relentless demands for assistance.

In conclusion, a novel that was supposed to focus on the oppression of women worldwide resulted in the majority of the students perceiving the book as too antagonistic and outspoken.

As most students know, Kristof and WuDunn will be visiting the campus in a few weeks, most probably to discuss their book and advocate involvement in eradicating women oppression.

The question that remains, however, is how the students are going to receive the authors.

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August 30, 2012

Skip the icebreakers

The dating world is complicated and Rollins is no exception. The key to deciphering this new environment is knowing your target before you strike.

The four girls you will meet at Rollins and how to get them to go out with you:

By Jamie Pizzi

Girls that go to the library to socialize

You will never find this girl alone. She is constantly surrounded with other girls who look, talk and dress just like her. This is the girl who chit chats and takes photo booth pictures on her computer, despite choosing to sit in the designated quiet floor of the library. If politely asked to, "please be quiet" she will probably stare you down and make rude comments about you to her friends as you walk away. This girl can be intimidating since she is never found without her pack. Finding her alone will take some effort, but when you eventually do, stand your ground. But don't worry; she is not as scary without her posse.

Sporty Girls

This is the girl who you see at the gym working out with her teammates every day at the same time. You know this because that is the main reason you go to the gym every day at the same time. She does not get dolled up for class every day, but that doesn't stop you from wondering what she has on under her sweats. Resist the temptation to take her kayaking or hiking on the first date (so sporty girl cliché) give her a chance to dress up and really feel like lady, maybe even swing dancing. Okay, at least take her someplace nice on Park.

Girls that go on the pole at Roxy (every time) self-explanatory

Miss Over Involved

She is president of over five clubs, plays some type of sport and has a 4.0 GPA. She has friends all over campus and is already planning her internship for two years from now. This girl does not eat a sandwich without planning it out first. Some may classify her under "type A" or think she may need to get a life, but this is probably the girl who you will be working for in ten years. You may need to wait a few months before her schedule can fit you in, but by then you will have ample time to think of the most perfect date on the planet.

The four guys you will meet at Rollins and how to deal with them:

Bros

This is the fellow who comes off as unafraid to approach anyone. He is the leader of the social scene and commander of all attention at the party. You will most likely find him bragging about how much he can bench and asking the most inebriated girl in the room to "feel the guns." This is also the guy who comes off extremely nice at first, but will proceed to make out with your friend minutes after asking for your number. Approach this bro with caution; he is not good boyfriend material. If you aren't looking for a commitment, however, feel free to peruse.

Guys that walk around with no shoes

These are the guys who refuse to take to-go boxes from the campus center and read National Geographic magazine for fun. Strange as this may seem, it eludes a certain amount of quirkiness that you may find appealing. He may also be seemingly over invested in saving the environment or growing his own garden. Organic is his middle name. The only qualms you may experience with having a guy like this around is the constant smell of cannabis that will end up on your clothes. It is hard to get out. Next time you see him, ask him if you can accompany him to the farmer's market this weekend. He will be in his element, and you may even get a free bagel out of it.

Future Senators

This is the guy who enjoys wearing a suit to class, not on presentation days. He is most likely majoring in Political Science, Economics, or International Business. He is the most opinionated in class and not because he is concerned with gaining participation points. He may seem cocky because of this, but on the inside he is dying to be acknowledged for his vast intellect on The US's current political landscape. Perhaps ask if he would like to discuss GDP over coffee someday?

Club Kings

We all know and love this guy. You may not see him in class too often, or even around campus for that matter. He might as well be nocturnal. You will see him, however, valet parking his Audi downtown and stepping out in his finest attire. He never waits in line. He slips the bouncer a crisp fifty and heads straight to VIP. He purchases at least one flaming bottle to attract attention to himself, almost like a sort of club mating call. He will buy you as many lemon drops as it takes to get you to be his "club queen," but only for one night.



David

"SEX IS LIKE THE SECRET INGREDIENT TO LIFE. IT MAKES EVERYTHING BETTER."



Jamie

"RELATIONSHIPS AREN'T TOUGH. WITH THE RIGHT MINDSET, ANYTHING CAN WORK."



Steven

"I'M NEVER AFRAID TO WRITE ABOUT ANY TOUGH SUBJECT."

AMAZING CHAMPION

LIKE SUPPORT
PROGRESS
HONOR
OPPORTUNITY
LOVE
INSPIRATIONAL
CAMPAIGNING
LUCKY



QUITE THE OBAMA COM

COMPILED BY AMIR M. SADEH
WRITTEN BY BEN ZITSMAN

August 2, 2012: It would have been a hot, still summer afternoon like any other at Rollins, if not for the protestors. They were gathered in front of the SunTrust Plaza parking garage, across the street from a gutted Bush Hall, waving signs. On some signs were written slogans supportive of Republican nominee Mitt Romney. On some were written slogans critical of incumbent Barack Obama—on more. Among the protestors was Dan Berlinger '13, chair of the College Republicans of Rollins College—"to give Republicans a voice," he said. He was there, presumably, because Democrats already had a voice on campus that day: President Obama was due to speak in the Alford Sports Center a little before 3:00 p.m.

August 2, 2012: Protestors and President aside, just a normal afternoon at Rollins College.

Hours earlier—around 6:30 a.m.—spectators started lining up outside Alford. Soon, the line had spilled onto the sidewalks lining Fairbanks Avenue and, by midmorning, it had reached the school's main entrance at the intersection with Park Ave. And if nine hours—nine hours in stultifying, Florida-in-August heat, the only reprieve from which were intermittent, Florida-in-all months downpours—seems like a long time to wait for a 30 minute address, that's because it is. But many people standing in line to see the President speak had been waiting a lot longer than nine hours. They'd been waiting two weeks.

Obama was originally scheduled to speak at Rollins two weeks earlier, on July 20th—the same day James Holmes, during a midnight showing of *The Dark Knight Rises* at a theater in Aurora, CO, killed twelve moviegoers and injured nearly 60 more. The President, who'd been campaigning in Florida, postponed his speaking engagement and returned to the White House, to lead the nation in mourning. It would be fourteen days until ticketholders could put their tickets to use.

Many in the community were glad to be afforded another opportunity to see the President speak. Others were less pleased. On Rollins' Facebook page, a link announcing Obama's decision to reschedule his speech was met with several negative comments.

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“THE A A TEXT SPEECH ROUSING EXACT STUN AND BUT DIFFER

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most striking of which read, “I really had hoped we dodged this bullet,”—a grim pun made in light of the shootings in Aurora. Barack Obama was every bit as polarizing at Rollins as he was everywhere else in the country.

On the afternoon of the 2nd, the sun was omnipresent—was obstinate in its refusal to cut the assembled crowds a break. And Steve and Holly Gauthier were undiscouraged: They had been waiting several hours to see the president and, despite the punishing elements, they were excited. “We like Obama,” Ms. Gauthier said. “We’d love to hear him speak.” Meanwhile, across the street, Dan Berlinger

and the other Rollins College Republicans were joined by Tea Party delegations from both east and west Orlando, and a group of UCF College Republicans. While the Gauthiers and a few thousand others filed into the Alford Sports Center, the Secret Service restricted protestors to the parking garage.

Just before 3:00 p.m., Barack Obama ascended the steps leading to a lectern custom-built a day earlier. The President was ecstatically received, eliciting the same cheer—“O-BA-MA!”—he has since his keynote speech at the 2004 Democratic National Convention. In his speech, the President vowed to fight for the working class, expressed serious doubt Mitt Romney cared much about doing the same, and asked God to bless the country and everyone in it. The address was a textbook stump speech, simultaneously rousing and anodyne—exactly like a Romney stump speech in tone, and similar in content. But given to a slightly different end.

“Inspirational as usual,” said Derrick Boissette ’15, a member of a Democratic organization on-campus. Given Boissette’s activism for President Obama’s party, it would have sounded like a peculiarly ambivalent verdict, but it seemed to be shared by all in attendance. In his remarks following Obama’s address, Rollins College President Lewis Duncan said, mildly, “It’s very nice for Rollins to share in the democratic process.” And it is.

The opposition was bitter and intransigent, the supporters were filled with breathless enthusiasm, and the speech itself was—decent. Pretty OK. Eloquent or whatever. If the President’s visit was any indication, political participation means desperately wishing being passionate about something can make that thing worthy of your passion. And, like Dr. Duncan said: It’s nice, that wish.

NEGATIVE
UNEMPLOYMENT
UNFORTUNATE
DEBT
CRITICAL
ROMNEY
PROTEST
EXCUSES
BIAS



ILLUSTRATION BY CAROLINA CASAL

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August 30, 2012

The steep price of education

Colleen Wilkowsky

Writer

As a new semester begins here at Rollins, there is one frustration that draws the student body together: the price of textbooks. Every year, it seems the prices creep higher and higher. Nationally, the estimated cost of textbooks is about \$1,000 per student per year. Here at Rollins, it seems the prices are even worse. In order to graduate on time, a student must take an average of 17.5 credit hours per semester. This means that most students take at least four or five classes.

In most cases, professors expect students to come to class with the required textbooks the first week of class. Online, textbooks are far more affordable than they are at Rollins campus bookstore. For example, I purchased an Interpersonal Communications textbook last week for \$158. Afterwards, I went online and found the same book for \$77.

It is clear then, that the campus bookstore relies on the fact that students do not have the time to wait for books to be shipped and must resort to paying extreme markups for the same product.

Amanda Cianci '14 stated that she buys her textbooks online because they are extremely cheap in comparison to the bookstore.

Likewise, John Rust '16 told me, "I bought my books on Amazon to help my parents out a little bit and save some money." With the economy these days, many students are budgeting to save that extra dollar. When I asked the bookstore for a comment, I was told that all questions must first be approved by the home office.

Many students will purchase a textbook for temporary use while waiting for a cheaper copy to arrive in the mail. This causes the bookstore to actually make a lot less money in the long run. But, what if the bookstore just priced books reasonably to begin with?

If books were priced competitively with those online, students would have no reason to shop elsewhere. If all students shopped at the campus bookstore, Rollins would actually make far more profit. In a successful business, satisfaction of one's customer is key. As a whole, the Rollins student population is not satisfied with the practices of the bookstore. History shows that customers simply will not stand for such practices for long.

In order to prosper, a business must rely on honesty and integrity. With all of the other options students now have for obtaining books, the bookstore may have to alter its practices in order to maintain its clientele on campus.



Getting the Words Right

Rollins New: \$17
Amazon New: \$10
Rollins Used: n/a
Amazon Used: \$4

Satire TV

Rollins New: \$24
Amazon New: \$18
Rollins Used: \$18
Amazon Used: \$17

The Nuer

Rollins New: \$45
Amazon New: \$36
Rollins Used: \$33
Amazon Used: \$22

Chemistry in Context

Rollins New: \$170
Amazon New: \$95
Rollins Used: \$127
Amazon Used: \$75

Anthropological Theories

Rollins New: \$138
Amazon New: \$104
Rollins Used: \$104
Amazon Used: \$89

prices taken at time of press

Group solicits democratic response

Holly Tanyhill

Writer

I was not sure what the Democracy Project was when I first heard it mentioned. I knew it was political; exactly what it had to do with democracy or who was involved in this Project was unclear. I sought answers and found them on the third floor of the Mills building when I spoke with Sarah Elbadri and Brock Monroe.

The goal, simply stated, is to involve the students in the process of democracy. The desired effect is to impact the history of America. The Democracy Project wants to help create voters who are engaged, highly informed on the issues and ready

to lend their voices to affect America right now.

So how does a project with such a simple goal achieve such a huge impact? First, by registering an impressive 15 percent of the student body to vote. During Community Fest and through other specifically targeted efforts, The Democracy Project has been hard at work spreading the word about TurboVote.

They have informed students that through TurboVote they can register to vote, get an absentee ballot and update their address. They also informed students that by registering with TurboVote, through

Rollins tabling or rollins.turbovote.org, they are entered for

a chance to win an iPad.

The second way to achieve the goal is to host a Presidential Council. This council will consist of leaders from the various groups and clubs here at Rollins. Through dialogue, the council will seek to engage the student body in the process of government by determining what information is needed to make all students feel empowered to exercise their voices. Hopefully through this dialogue, partnerships can be formed that will help create a real world culture, where students understand what it means to be a global citizen. Former Congressman Lou Frey and Former Florida House of Representatives member Dick Batchelor

will be on hand to answer questions for the council. The Presidential council will be held Sept. 15.

Finally, the Democracy Project has planned "Rally Rolly to the Polls" for Saturday, Nov. 3, and Election Day Tuesday. First time voters and veterans of elections past will walk to the polls in a spirited event of harmony and fun.

Not excited about democracy right now? Maybe it's because you can't fathom that one vote could change the course of anything significant, then consider this:

- In 1800, one vote kept Aaron Burr from becoming President. That one vote elected Thomas

Jefferson.

- One vote gave statehood to California (1850), Oregon (1859), Washington (1889) and Idaho (1890)

- In 1920, women won the right to vote by passage of the 19th amendment to the Constitution.

Tennessee, the last state needed to pass the amendment, ratified the amendment by one vote

If you can't wait until November to have your voice heard, like us on facebook/RollinsDemocracyProject and tell us what you think about any issues significant to you.

For more information, contact Brock Monroe at bamonroe@rollins.edu

Far from home

Keeley O'Connor

Writer

International student Keeley O'Connor '15 shares her tips on how to combat homesickness and make speedy adjustments to new surroundings

Everyone knows that moving to a new school and community can be difficult, especially if you're from a different country. As part of the international student community, I know that culture shock can have a big effect on us as we leave home and arrive in a new environment.

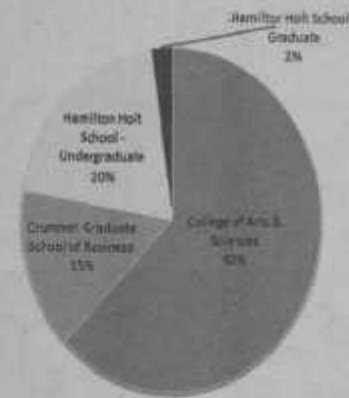
I am an international student from Honduras and, from my experience here at Rollins, I've collected a few pearls of advice, along with helpful tips from some of my international friends that can enable you to adapt here on campus.

The first tip I cannot stress enough: GET INVOLVED! A great way to make new friends is to join clubs and be active on campus. I joined the Latin American Student Association (LASA) and met other students on campus that were from Central and South America as well.

Kenneth Finlay '15 from Venezuela says, "Joining in on campus activities is the easiest way to interact with other people." Final thought? Get out there and join on-campus activities and clubs. You'll be building relationships with fellow students and it never hurts for your resume.

Nikki Marks '15 from Jamaica says, "Every place has its own stories and adventures and it is up to us to create and find them." This is a great piece of advice because there is so much to do and so much to look forward to here in our little corner of Winter Park.

So if you feel like staying in your room all day and talking to your friends on Skype, you might want to think twice. Get out there and meet new people



R-Net

The largest portion of international students enrolled on campus are in the College of Arts & Sciences. They make up 63% of all international students.

and join in on activities around campus. You are embarking on a journey that might possibly define the rest of your life. Make the most of it.

Enrique Buck '14 from Honduras says, "Make yourself at home, because everything is close enough here to get to and people are friendly." The first few days of college might seem like a bizarre dream, but when you network with people and take the time to learn from your surroundings, you might be surprised by the little things that facilitate the transition.

My friends and I recently found a restaurant that serves Central American food and it made us very happy to know that we had somewhere we could go that felt like home and was so close to campus.

Luigi Pedrinola '15 from Brazil recommends, "Play a sport that you might have played at home and you will find people who have similar interest[s]." For Luigi, that was soccer.

It's only the second week of school and yet there is so much going on around campus already. It might seem overwhelming, but if you get out there and find ways to stay involved, you might just find your home away from home.

Violation raises questions on sexual assault

Emily Kelly

Writer

In the wake of an on-campus sexual assault, many questions arise as to how the devastating social issue could be avoided

Just days after fall orientation, an incident of sexual assault was reported to Campus Safety. The recent event that took place at McKean Hall poses a pivotal question for us as a community to consider: Why isn't awareness enough?

Prior to the incident, a meeting was held for all incoming first-years that featured an improv group campaigning for sexual assault awareness through the use of comedy. Corresponding with this show, the summer reading book *Half the Sky* graphically depicts untold stories of sexual assault victims. Despite this sexual assault awareness duo, why was awareness not enough?

It is essential to consider that all cases of sexual assault are not cut and dry. The classic rape scene that society has conjured up takes place at night, in a dark alley, and is committed by a deranged stranger.

Despite these preconceived assumptions, most sexual assaults happen on familiar grounds and two-thirds of all assaults are committed by a familiar face.

This raises the question: Why does society hold these preconceived assumptions while the statistics clearly show otherwise? It is easy to pin the blame on the media; television shows such as *CSI* and *Criminal Minds* have essentially trademarked the classic rape scene. The smoke-and-mirror scenes that these shows depict have

skewed reality and allowed people to believe that they are an accurate portrayal of the issue.

But the issue's roots run deeper: We, as a society, like to believe that only deranged and socially underdeveloped strangers are capable of something as nightmarish as sexual assault. It is easy to convict the outcasts of society and label them as rapists.

However, the task becomes much more ambiguous when the rapist is the boy or girl next

door; nobody wants to believe that the honors student or the star athlete would be capable of such evil. Thus these cases are often cast aside, with 54 percent of them going unreported to avoid tainting a so-called polished image.

Another issue is that of breaking the conventional

idea of sexual assault.

By definition, sexual assault is unwanted sexual contact that stops short of rape. This means that sexual intercourse does not have to take place in order to classify an incident as sexual assault.

Instead, actions including unwanted sexual touching or verbal sexual harassment fall under the category of assault, and it can even happen within the confines of a relationship; your partner is not your personal sex slave.

Until we can let go of these false assumptions that have deeply embedded themselves into our culture, awareness will never be enough to put an end to sexual assault.

If society continues to turn the other cheek when the premises of the sexual assault do not fit into the cookie-cutter profile, they could add to the 97 percent of rapists who never spend a night in jail while their victims become another statistic.

By the Numbers

1 in 4 women will be sexually assaulted before exiting college

80 percent of sexual assaults are committed by an acquaintance of the victim

35.3 sexual assaults occur among a group of 1,000 female students on a campus in a six month period

50 percent of sexual assaults are committed under the influence of alcohol

74 percent of perpetrators of sexual assault consume alcohol before committing the crime

76 percent of high school boys (many of whom were planning to go to college) felt forced sex was acceptable in some circumstances

statistics taken from the Bureau of Justice

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R-Big Event: go big, go home

Ben Zitsman

Writer

I didn't know what the R Big Event was until I was a part of it. I didn't know the location of its venue until I was there. I didn't know what I was getting myself into last Friday evening, when I walked into the Cornell Campus Center: I just wanted to get some pudding. And instead, I got swallowed by a lamely executed showcase of Rollins' various on-campus organizations—the culmination of five days' worth of soul-killing scholastic chipperness (Rollins' Be a Part from the Start Week.)

The heat was stifling, the noise deafening; space was tight enough to make it unclear where one display ended and another began. There was no pudding to be found. Just two weeks earlier, Rollins College had successfully played host to a sitting president, yet, somehow, the R Big Event was a train wreck.

After narrowly avoiding being trampled by a few dozen freshmen—they were standing outside WPRK's booth, each interested in DJ-ing his or her own dubstep show—I ducked gracefully out of the building. A minute or so later, I was sitting

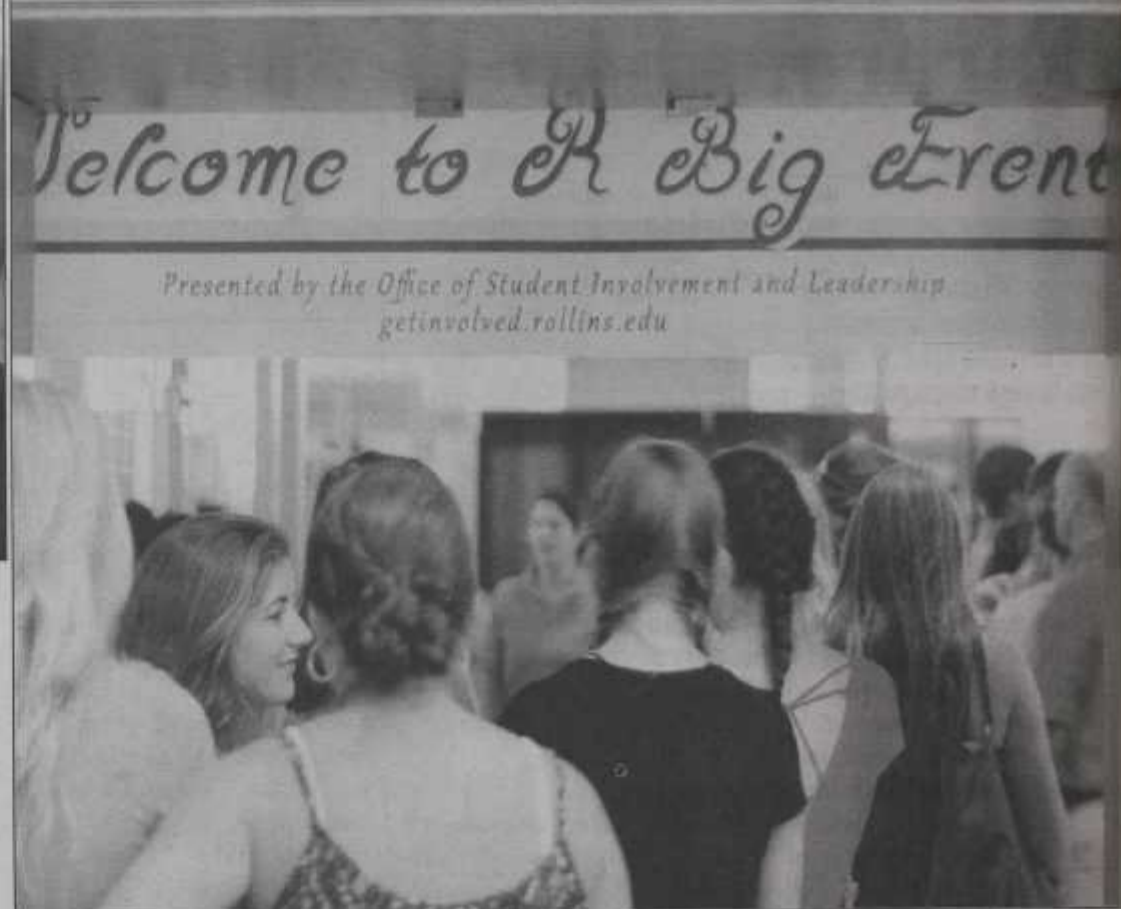
at a picnic table outside Dave's Down Under, wondering how the Event had gone so wrong.

It wasn't really a question of how, though—I knew just how the R Big Event had been ruined: its venue had been changed. In years past, the Event had been held in the Alford Sports Center, a space about twice the size of Cornell and twice as well-ventilated.

In comparison, the Campus Center was a wildly ill-advised choice—no match at all for the crowds. The question was why such a poor choice had been made. Why had there been a change of venue?

Why: According to a source at the Office of Student Involvement and Leadership, the actual entity responsible for the R Big Event, to cement the Cornell Campus Center as the focal point of campus life at Rollins.

On paper, the decision looks logical enough. And it is logical—it just also happens to be extremely impractical as well. What would be the practical approach? I have absolutely no idea. The best I can offer is this piece of advice: When trying to lend a building a sense of vitality, make sure your efforts do not make the place feel hostile to life.



CAMPUS COMES ALIVE FOR R-BIG EVENT. Students interact and discover how to get involved with the various clubs and organizations that Rollins has to offer. Clubs and organizations not only offer students the opportunity to engage in campus life, but also to make new friends and find new passions.

Kevin Griffin



FRED TURNER PLAYS A SHOW IN FRONT OF AN ENTHUSIASTIC CROWD His down-to-earth lyrical messages of hope seem to resonate well with listeners.

Courtesy of Fred Turner Publicity Page

From the Olympics to Rollins

Erik Keewan

Writer

"Let's Begin at the Beginning..." Frank Turner starts his sophomore album, *Love Ire and Song* with this simple phrase—and what a beginning it was. Starting his career with underground success as frontman for the post-hardcore band Million Dead, Frank Turner has turned his own ire and integrity into a wonderfully accessible folk-solo project. And while *Love Ire and Song* was released four years ago (two follow up albums have been released since), the lyrics and themes found in the album are as pertinent to today's climate as they were when they were first penned.

Starting with hardly any following (as any artist does), Turner has achieved international success in the wake of his most recent album *England Keep My Bones*, headlining a show at the historic Wembley Stadium as well as playing for the opening ceremony of the Olympics.

While his inspiring rags-to-riches story alone warrants Rollins' interest in Frank Turner, the guitarist/vocalist has so much more to offer the community. His everyman lyrics make poetry of the every day, creating wonderfully accessible, intricate melodies to hold his listeners captive. The ire of his early punk days has not been lost, but rather tempered, allowed to mature to streamlined melodies of

loss of youth and passionate call to arms.

In recent weeks it has become apparent that a visit from Frank Turner could be easily achieved. Ryan Lambert '13 has been communicating with OSIL to try and bring Frank Turner to Rollins. When asked why he has been crusading for Turner, Lambert said, "He's actually in our budget and is definitely a rising star in the music world. Frank Turner sings about being young, chasing your dreams, and celebrating life and living with your friends. What better fit could there be for Rollins?"

While his lyrics are softly coaxing our hearts to action, his folk-influenced acoustic rock calms the mind. Gone are the often alienating effects of the punk movement (though, to be fair, they were SUPPOSED to alienate you). Replacing them are the intricate guitar and piano that has become his style.

To help bring Turner to Rollins, Lambert has worked with a group of friends and fellow Turner fans to convince OSIL of the good that Turner could do for our school. E-mails have been sent, arguments have been made and breaks have been taken, all in the name of enlightening the campus of the impact that Turner can make.

"But more can always be done. Other people can help the cause by talking to any REP or IFC members you might know and telling them that Frank is

the man we need and sending in support emails to any acquaintances or leaders of those organizations," Lambert said.

But no matter what, there are always things that you can do to support artists such as Turner. The simple act of looking up his songs on YouTube supports him, and sharing his work with friends will add even more support. His work is a testament to the fact that one person's voice can make a difference and that poetry has not been lost in the music of our generation.

Manchester Orchestra leaves the 'Orchestra' at home

Ben Zitsman

Writer

Last Friday afternoon, the Atlanta-based band Manchester Orchestra played a short, in-store set at Park Avenue CDs. I showed up a little late and missed the band's first couple songs, but if I had been there from the start, it wouldn't have mattered—it still would have felt like I had only seen part of the show.

Manchester Orchestra sounds, essentially, like Lynrd Skynrd. Sure, frontman Andy Hull's hyper-nasal whine owes a lot more to Gerard Way (that asshole from My Chemical Romance) than it does to Ronnie Van Zant, but still, same facile Southern Rock guitar licks, same needless Hammond organ, same basic idea.

But while Lynrd Skynrd never seemed to worry about its lyrics and trusted itself to get a song's meaning across, Manchester Orchestra seems a little more skittish. Andy Hull seems to fancy himself a literate songwriter because he sometimes includes words with over two syllables, employing unconventional methods to help said lyrics stick. Like children's choirs. On Manchester Orchestra's most recent LP, 2011's *Simple*

Math, three songs out of ten feature a choir to help hammer choruses home. And the more a band relies on children's choirs, the more depleted they sound when playing small gigs in record stores. With Manchester Orchestra, live performances will always leave audiences with only part of the show.

All the same, Hull performed in full stadium rock mode. He was easily the most energetic person in the room, which was endearing, but in a decidedly pathetic way. But that alone couldn't save the set. At some point during the band's last song, I began to turn a lyric from Manchester Orchestra's chief musical muse in my head: "If I leave here tomorrow, will you still remember me?" When it comes to this band's live performances, I could think of only one answer to the question: Not if I can help it.

The more a band relies on children's choirs, the more depleted they sound when playing small gigs in record stores.

- Ben Zitsman



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Men's soccer salvages tie

Dylan Howeller

Writer

In their final preseason game before the start of the 2012 season, the 20th ranked Rollins men's soccer team welcomed Webber International University (WIU) to Cahall Sandspur Field on Friday, Aug. 25.

The Tars came out strong in front of a sizeable home crowd, creating good opportunities

early in the first half, but were unable to convert their chances.

Though they controlled the run of play for much of the early part of the game, Rollins fell behind on the score sheet in the 38th minute after a terrific one-man effort by Webber's Jose Netto '14 as he beat Rollins' Keeper Anthony White '14 just inside the post.

The second half began just as poorly; despite several good

looks at the WIU net, poor marking and rebound control allowed Webber's Leonardo Cid '15 to bury one of the away team's few chances in the 55th minute.

However, just a minute later Rollins was on the scoreboard and back in the game as 6'5" Tucker Hume '16 out-jumped the WIU keeper for a 50/50 ball and headed it home to the back of the net.

It seemed that Rollins had finally put the missed opportunities behind them when Walker Hume '16 beautifully finished a Joe Crowley free kick just five minutes later to knot the game at 2.

The 6'5" twin brother of Tucker Hume headed Crowley's well-placed free kick to the bottom right corner of the Webber net.

Things looked even more

promising for Rollins as WIU's Andy Hernandez '14 was shown a second yellow in the 72nd minute, forcing his team to play with ten men.

Unfortunately, the Tars could not convert the go ahead goal and the match ended in a tie.

The Rollins men open their regular season Friday, Aug 31 at 8 p.m. with a home match against Embry-Riddle.



Kevin Griffin

The players work hard to begin the season on a high note. Despite the ending score resulting in a tie, the Tars showed much finesse in their plays.

Calendar of Events

Aug 30 THURSDAY

- Resume Writing Workshop, 2:00-3:00 p.m., Fairbanks Building Career Services Offices

Aug 31 FRIDAY

- Volleyball v. Kentucky State, 2:30-4:30 p.m., Warden Arena
- Men's Soccer v. Embry-Riddle, 7:00-9:00 p.m., Barker Family Stadium
- Volleyball v. California (PA), 8:00-10:00 p.m., Warden Arena

Sep 1 SATURDAY

- Volleyball v. Pace, 12:40-2:40 p.m., Warden Arena
- Volleyball v. Minnesota State University Moorhead, 8:00-10:00 p.m., Warden Arena

Sep 2 SUNDAY

- Worship Service, 11:00-12:00 p.m., Knowles Memorial Chapel

Sep 3 MONDAY

- Labor Day. No classes!

Sep 4 TUESDAY

- Student Life Committee Meeting, 12:30-1:45 p.m., Campus Center, Warden Dining Room
- Rollins College Democrats Meeting, 6:00-7:00 p.m., Orlando Hall

Sep 5 WEDNESDAY

- Resume Writing Workshop, 4:00-5:00 p.m., Fairbanks Building Career Services Offices

Want your group's event to be featured on an upcoming calendar? Contact submit@thesandspur.org