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The **Sandspur**

VIRGIN
6

**Behind
the stigma
of being a
college virgin.**

Sexperts, page 4



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

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NEWS

CAMPUS HAPPENINGS

Delta Zeta and Pinehurst unite against drunk driving

Keeley O'Connor

Writer

The week of Oct. 15 was Alcohol Awareness Week at Rollins.

Delta Zeta and Pinehurst Cottage hosted "Drunk Goggles on the Porch" in order to promote alcohol awareness and foster understanding about the effects of alcohol, especially when driving is involved. The drunk goggles used at the event had different levels of inebriation; the stronger the goggles, the "drunker" you were. The students wore the goggles while riding bicycles, proving that drinking distorts your perception and severely decreases your motor skills.

Before being allowed to ride the bicycle and wear goggles, students had to sign a consent form because of the risk involved with the simulation. Some students who rode the bicycles were not able to go very far without falling or running into objects; other students had a hard time even walking and needed the assistance of their friends.

This activity helped finish off Alcohol Awareness Week with a fun event that displayed the seriousness of driving under the influence. Delta Zeta, along with Pinehurst, baked treats and had "mocktails," inviting everyone on campus to come enjoy and learn more about the effects of alcohol.



ALTERED PERCEPTION Elen Clark '15 and Wes Harrington '15 ride around campus wearing drunk goggles. Pinehurst and Delta Zeta held the event to warn of the dangers of driving under the influence.

"Village" satisfies and disappoints

Scott Novak

Staff Writer

This year, Rollins has successfully managed to transfer almost all of its lab equipment into the trailer park known as "Science Village."

Katia Chadaideh '15, a biochemistry major, said, "When I first heard that we were going to be moving into portables while the Bush building was being renovated, I was a little anxious. I thought that labs would be really disjointed and that [the classes] wouldn't flow as easily as they should. But overall, the change hasn't come with many problems. The walk is a little farther than we're used to, but because Rollins is so small, it's not that big of an issue."

Dr. Thomas Moore, Archibald Granville Bush Professor of the Natural Sciences, said that the curriculum of students has not been greatly altered by the temporary incapacitation of Bush.

Dr. Moore said, "The only concession that we made with moving into portables is that people graduating within the next two years [don't] have to fulfill a lab requirement, simply because we [can't] teach enough labs for non-science majors."

The idea of renovating Bush has existed for a while. "When I came here in 1999, we were talk-

ing about it," Dr. Moore said, "so it's probably been about 15 years." The move to the Science Village was planned a whole year prior to the actual move, and the moving process itself took roughly 4 months.

Dr. Luis Martinez, a Visiting Associate Professor of Chemistry, said that the Science Village has "been a good working solution, considering the constraints time-wise and the needs that we have with regards to our curriculum. Knowing the kind of limitations that we had with regards to both space, equipment and supplies, we worked very hard this year in chemistry to ensure that the students who took our labs could still get the kind of understanding and experience to fulfill their curricular needs."

However, due to the limitations of the portables, some modifications to the labs have taken place.

Dr. Dick Gregor, a Visiting Assistant Professor of Chemistry, said, "To be honest, there is one piece of equipment we couldn't move into the portables: a nuclear magnetic resonance spectrometer (NMR). We had one on the third floor of Bush, but it is too heavy to run in a trailer. It requires a very solid foundation, liquid nitrogen and liquid helium, so we put that in storage and are using an NMR at the Sanford Burnham

Medical Research Institute."

Although the trailers have presented some challenges, professors like Dr. Gregor have made the best of the situation. He likes how almost all the science offices are grouped together in one trailer because it allows him to interact with professors he didn't normally see before.

Melanie Leon '15, a biology major, asserted, "Considering the circumstances, the Science Village is a good alternative. It's definitely not as nice as Bush and it's much more difficult to have classes there, but the portables are okay."

The problems with the Science Village center mostly around maintenance. "We have had to move classrooms a number of times because the air is broken, and it's so humid that when you touch the table it's wet," Leon said.

Dr. Moore said, "Anytime you have a move of this magnitude you're going to have issues, but we've managed to work them all out. Every problem we came up with we've addressed fairly quickly."

The Science Village has forced the faculty to be even more creative in how they carry out their labs. Dr. Gregor is one example of this scientific ingenuity.

Students need a vacuum

line in organic chemistry, general chemistry and biochemistry. Normally, this vacuum is created by running water through a tube, but water can not be accessed in a trailer since there are no drains. Faced with this dilemma, Dr. Gregor came up with a solution that is even more efficient than the old vacuum system.

"I went to Home Depot over labor day with my grandchildren and stumbled across some cross-linked polyethylene tubing," Dr. Gregor said. "For about \$300, I bought enough of this to build a system where each student has his or her own vacuum port. This is all hooked up to a single vacuum pump, and each student controls the vacuum with the ball valve. The valve pulls vacuum for filtration or pumping away solvents. The tubing is normally used for re-plumbing houses, so it's very inert to chemicals."

In the future, Dr. Gregor may publish his invention in schools that are forced to move in trailers or are located in the third world where people don't have access to a lot of water.

The renovated Bush building will be completed on July 15, 2013. Leon said, "I am ridiculously excited for the new building. The plans look amazing. It'll totally be worth it - if they get it finished on time."

Breaking it down

Ben Zitsman deconstructs five key quotes from the final presidential debate, critiquing and fact-checking along the way.

Ben Zitsman

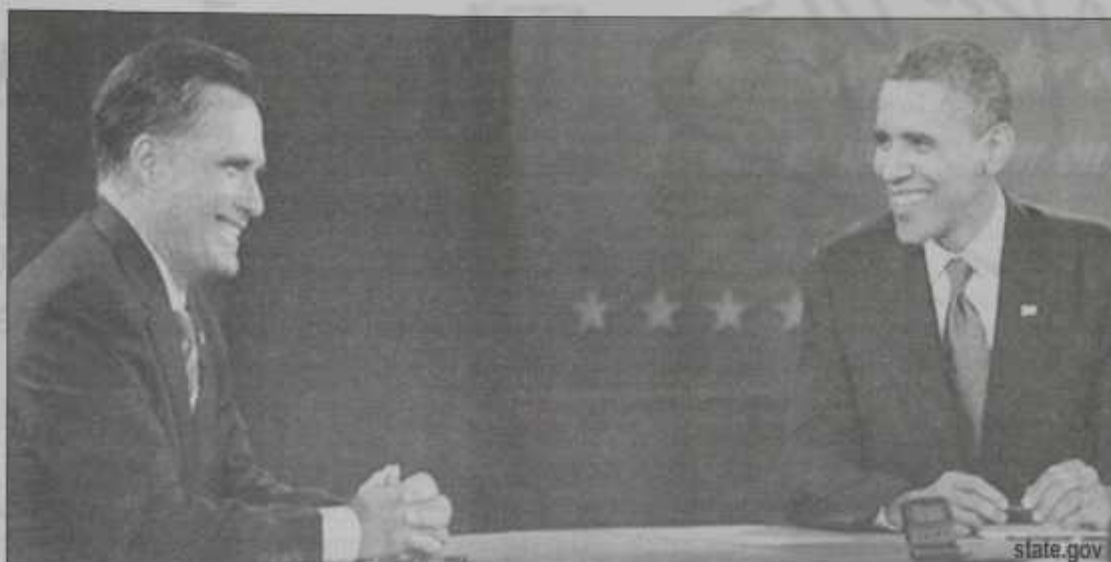
Features Editor

1 "We have in—in Egypt, a Muslim Brotherhood president. And so what we're seeing is a pretty dramatic reversal in the kinds of hopes we had for the region."
—Mitt Romney

This is and isn't true, and in that order. Egyptians did elect as president a member of the Muslim Brotherhood named Mohammed Morsi. And President Morsi hasn't shown himself to be that supportive of most American interests.

He refuses, for example, to use the word "Israel" in his public statements—this when both presidential candidates cite their steadfast support of Israel, and their commitment to its security. He was also entirely silent when Egyptian protesters attacked the American embassy in Cairo, though he did direct the Egyptian embassy in Washington to take legal action against the parties responsible for the film (about the Prophet Mohammad, totally inflammatory, offensive to pretty much everyone ever) that allegedly sparked the riots. The guy appears to be no great fan of the United States.

But President Morsi's election is in no way a reversal of America's hopes for the Middle East. Morsi was elected democratically. And God knows America has long hoped for democracy to flourish in the



Middle East—it's to this ostensible end that we've started wars there.

A democratic Egypt is what the U.S. government was hoping for in early 2011, when President Obama pressed Hosni Mubarak to step down from 30 years of autocratic rule. More importantly, it was the hope of the hundreds of thousands of Egyptians who protested in Tahrir Square.

Our hopes for Egypt have been realized, if not quite in the way we'd planned, and that's fine. Egypt's hopes for Egypt also appear realized. And that's better.

2 "Syria is Iran's only ally in the region. It's their route to the sea."
—Mitt Romney

Yes. Aside from the Gulf of Oman and the Caspian Sea, both of which border Iran di-

rectly. And the Persian Gulf, which not only borders Iran directly but was also named for the country, back when it was Persia. Syria is Iran's route to the Mediterranean Sea, though, or at least its most direct route—but who says they're trying to get there, anyway? Except for, you know...Mitt Romney.

3 "And what I now want to do is hire more teachers..." —Barack Obama

President Obama also wanted to talk domestic policy which, when he made this proclamation during an extended discussion about America's schools, was just what he was doing. In all fairness, Mitt Romney seemed eager to discuss domestic policy, too. It was Romney, after all, who talked at great length about his sterling reputation among small business-owners. His desire to keep

the discussion confined to our shores made a little more sense than Obama's.

It's on foreign policy issues, after all, that Romney's supposed to be at his weakest. And maybe that's true, but I wouldn't really know: on foreign policy, Romney just sounded a lot like his opponent. He expressed full-throated approval for the killing of Osama bin Laden (well, obviously.) He also painted himself a strong supporter of drone attacks on high-value military targets, which have increased substantially under Obama's presidency.

And he echoed Obama's position on our begrudging acceptance of Pakistan as an ally. Why the President was so down to talk about teachers, I'm not sure.

Perhaps moderator Bob Schieffer put it best when he said, "I think we all love teachers." Yep.

4 "We have things called aircraft carriers, where planes land on them."
—Barack Obama

Included instead of Obama's "bayonets" zinger because it was much more condescending. The President was in this debate, as he was in the one preceding it, kind of a douche to Governor Romney. This was probably to make up for his somnolent performance in his first debate with Romney. All the same, both candidates' reliance on the rhetoric of short sentences—those easily reprinted by journalists and easily digested by the public—underscores the truth of this final quote from the debate:

5 "This is the height of silliness!"
—Mitt Romney

Sure is, Governor. These debates aren't going to change anyone's mind—voters' minds are already made up. As for those much-vaunted, much-courted undecided voters? I'm pretty sure their existence is a myth. Either that, or they're stupid. Either way, this debate, like all debates, was theater. Nothing more. And very silly indeed.

6 These debates aren't going to change anyone's mind — voters' minds are already made up.

High fives of the week

This week's high fives come courtesy of Arts & Entertainment Editor Erik Keenan.

1. Place to grab lunch

Siam Garden
While a little out of the way, the fantastic blend of traditional and modern Thai dishes make up for the short drive. And price is not an issue, a full meal will run you only around \$10.

2. Most played

"Oh Love" by Green Day
They've returned after two years with their latest album *Uno!*. "Oh Love" features the traditionally strong song writing and catchy lyrics Green Day has become known for, transitioning from their punk roots to the power-pop-punk they are today.

3. Happy hour choice

The Sonic Screw-Driver
1 1/2 oz. vanilla vodka
1 1/2 oz. Blue Curacao liqueur
6 oz. clear lemon-lime soda

4. Looking forward to...

Halloween.
Whether you enjoy the spooky, or prefer the nostalgic nature of the holiday, Halloween has something for everyone. Get your costume ready, and enjoy as many parties as possible!

5. Starbucks beverage

None.
Why drink the over-reached chain foods coffee when you can find a smaller coffee house, or, even, make it yourself? You will find the quality vastly increases as you depart from the chain's burnt beans.



Sexperts

They do exist!

It's not a myth: virgins do exist at Rollins, and without shame. Guest writer Meredith Connelly sounds off on her experience (or lack thereof) as a nineteen-year-old virgin.

David



David Matteson

Designer

Let me begin by apologizing to you, the reader. Over the past year, we the Sexperts have spent an ungodly amount of energy writing to you about having great sex. We've taught you how to navigate through the Rollins stereotypes, sext safely and even how to have dorm sex. Yet, we have neglected a very large percentage of our readership by forgetting to mention one of the most popular forms of sex: not having it at all.

Virginity. Before this column, the term was so peculiar to me and the concept was one I had nearly forgotten. To me, a sexually active individual, virginity was a sign of the plague. Something to be avoided at all costs. After all, aside from some unusual fetishists, no one likes sleeping with someone who is deemed sexually ignorant.

So in order to write about virginity, I had to hunt down a virgin. This was the most difficult task I have ever faced here at Rollins. Not because there is an absence of virgins on campus, but because no one is willing to claim the fact that they choose not to have sex. Everyone I spoke to about guest-writing this column asked if they could do so anonymously. And speaking in terms of journalistic ethics, anonymity is the ultimate sign of cowardice.

Finally, I spoke to a friend about writing her thoughts on the matter. Demonstrating her strong sense of character, she never asked me to withhold her name. She is brave and rational, and her voice is strong. But before I leave you to her, let me put forth a call to action. Never let social ignorance and illegitimate stereotypes hold you back from voicing your opinion. If you're a virgin, be proud. In this way, we may all be able to shirk our misconceptions and fears.

My name is Meredith Connelly, I am nineteen years old, and a virgin. If that first sentence sounds a bit like the opening of an Alcoholics Anonymous meeting, I apologize, but I think that speaks volumes about how American col-

lege students perceive virginity. Many of you may be surprised by the fact that I chose to not write this article anonymously, but I simply do not care whether the entirety of Rollins College—or at least those that read the Sandspur—know the inner workings of my nether-regions. And why do we care? Why is it that whenever a person my age admits to being a virgin, the first thought that comes to mind is: Okay, so what's wrong with her?

I know of a few other people on campus with "No Admittance," signs hung down south, but few that are willing to talk about it openly. Perhaps this is why the most common reactions I receive upon divulging my nineteen-year dry spell to other students are shock and utter disbelief. Most women are initially surprised, but understand my reasoning. Men—or boys, let's be honest—often refuse to believe that someone who looks and acts like me is inexperienced in the bedroom. Sometimes it can be flattering, as in, "A girl as pretty and confident as you could never have made it through life without having sex." Disbelief can easily turn hurtful, however. I recall one instance when a boy at my high school would pester me on a daily basis to divulge the names of people I had slept with, refusing to believe my claims of virginity.

Perhaps some people view sex and confidence in one's sexuality as interchangeable, but in my experience, the two are entirely removed from each other. Popular media and film seem to emphasize this connection, depicting women as either coy and seductive or inexperienced and naive. But why does it have to be one or the other? The relationship between having sex and being sexy is akin to the age-old argument of the chicken and the egg—which comes first depends on who you are talking to. In my case, being comfortable in my sexuality has come far before any actual shenanigans down south. Just ask anyone who has ever gone dancing with me and you will soon discover that there is no way to tell me apart from all the sexy people. There is no virgin bell around my neck, no sign on my forehead reading, "Sexual Muggle." Confidence and an incontrovertible sense of humor—not a penis—are the only ingredients I need to feel in tune with my sexuality.

After the initial shock of discovery has worn off, I will often be asked a simple, one-word question that comes with a very complex answer: "Why?" I have a fairly high opinion of myself, and as far as I am concerned, my virginity is not

so much a lack of physical or emotional appeal, but more of a lack of trying. That is not to say that I have imposed celibacy for some deep, spiritual reason. Dating, sex and all their friends have always tended to fall by the wayside in my life, replaced in importance by grades, my art, achievements, and personal identity.

There were opportunities which I could have taken, had I been brave enough, but in truth, the real reason that I remain a virgin is fear—sheer, bloody fear of the unknown. It is not the prospect of the actual process that frightens me—I lived with a doctor for eighteen years and thus have a firm grasp on the basics—but the fear of what might happen afterward. In my mind, sex is a game of Russian roulette, where you can end up ankle deep in diapers or herpes instead of with a smoking bullet in the head.

Expectations are yet another round in the clip. Though I have been involved in a few, short relationships in the past, my current lack of play has also translated into a lack of serious romantic involvements. In my prior relationships, if they can be called that, I was often pressured for sex early in the game. At times I felt as if I should just give in to these demands, if only to have the experience of losing my virginity done with, in a manner of speaking. Aside from the obvious problem this creates—turning sex into an ordeal, rather than a positive occurrence—I felt that if I gave into sex, I would be continuously pressured for it. I still believe that after the proverbial cobwebs are cleared out of my vagina, sex will become an expectation, a duty, and therefore not an enjoyable experience.

On top of that, it just seems like so much effort. Call me lazy, but if you tell me I have to shave from head to toe and go secure several different types of birth control just to roll around in a bed with some guy, it had better be a pretty awesome experience. Otherwise, I'm demanding a refund.

So no, I'm not on the lookout for sex. I'd be lying to you if I said I never wished I had taken steps long ago to remedy the situation, but my personal convictions always outweigh any regret I might feel. True, I never paused while playing with my collection of Polly Pockets as a child to fantasize about what it might be like to be a virgin pushing twenty, but frankly, until I feel as if I'm missing something in my life because of my virginity, I don't think I'll take steps to amend it. Until that day, I think I'll be fine taking the scenic route to sex.

Wrongfully convicted

Pre-Law program hosts Innocence Project and William Dillon, an innocent man sentenced to prison.

Amir M. Sadeh

Writer

Imagine being wrongfully accused of a crime you didn't commit. You've had your rights trampled on, your name defamed and even the ones you love don't believe in your innocence. Worst of all, the system, upheld by the mantra of "innocent, until proven guilty," has failed you, right in front of your eyes, and there is nothing you can do about it.

Last Wednesday, Oct. 17, the Pre-Law program at Rollins (advised by Dr. Eric Smaw) hosted members of the Innocence Project and William Dillon at Rollins College's Winter Park Plaza, to talk not only about the purpose of the organization, but

You've had your rights trampled on, your name defamed and even the ones you love don't believe your innocence.

also for Dillon to tell his harrowing tale of being wrongfully tried, convicted, and sentenced to prison, spending 28 years for a crime he never committed.

Due to shoddy police work,

intimidation, deceit, and a plain disregard for the evidence at hand, Dillon had a case created against him that had been full of erroneous accusations.

He always maintained his innocence and never would have dreamed that on Aug. 17, 1981, he would be convicted for the killing of James Dvorak, whose beaten body was found on Canova Beach, in Brevard County.

Within the first hour of his arrival into Florida State Prison, usually reserved for more hardened and serious criminals (such as those who have committed multiple murders – but by no means for someone who ordinarily had a clean record), Dillon was attacked by five men. For years he suffered from

Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD), yet through it all, he never allowed his situation to break him.

He wrote letters to many organizations, churches and anyone else who would listen, until finally the Innocence Project gave a lending ear. They took over his case, reviewed the facts and petitioned the courts in Florida to test the DNA of the supposed bloody shirt that was a key piece of evidence in tying Dillon to the murder of Dvorak.

The results proved that it was not, in fact, not his and after a six month process, Dillon's charges were dropped in December 2008 and he was finally free. The story of William Dillon is tragically by no means unique. There have been hun-

dreds of prisoners who have now, decades later, been released due to the efforts of organizations such as the Innocence Project and through the methods of DNA testing.

Their efforts are not only greatly appreciated to the wrongfully convicted, but show just the amazing good those interested in a career in criminal justice and law can do.

At the end of his presentation, William Dillon made it known that even after all this time, "I believe in the justice system." Yet he did offer this key piece of advice for anyone who may begin to see themselves in a similar situation such as he.

"Lawyer up," he said. It's "well worth the money to get a good attorney."

Art professor reveals roots and inspirations

Carina Schubert

Writer

Dana Hargrove is chatting and laughing with Josh Almond, Assistant Professor of Art, when I enter her office on a Wednesday at noon for my interview.

I notice some of her artwork leaning against the walls which I have seen on her website. The door stays open. Casually dressed with her curly long hair falling on her shoulders, she sits relaxed in her chair and enthusiastically answers questions about her life.

Born in Dundee, the fourth-largest city in Scotland, Hargrove always wanted to become an artist, but she never intended to become a teacher. "I always thought I wouldn't be a teacher because I was too shy and nervous of people," she explains.

But after finishing her Bachelor of Fine Arts in Scotland, that changed drastically when she did a teaching assistantship at Southern Illinois University in order to finance her Master of Fine Arts studies there. She realized that she wanted to become a teacher and applied for jobs in both Scotland and America.

She "gambled" with her future and didn't know where she was going to be for the rest of her life. When she got her first

teaching position at Rollins, Florida became her new home.

She has now been working at Rollins College for nine years and she loves her job as a teacher. "She is very passionate about arts, which sometimes you don't often see in professors," says a student in her 2D and Graphic Design class.

While Hargrove showcases her Scottish roots, she also has roots in Africa. Her British grandparents went to Rhodesia where her mum grew up on their own chicken farm. When her mother left in her 20s to earn an English degree, she gave birth to Hargrove and decided to stay in Scotland. "So, actually, when I was growing up I didn't have a lot of Scottish history or culture in my house," Hargrove says, "instead it was African music and African text."

In 2007, she spent three months in Cape Town where her father and her sister live and she had an exhibition there. This summer she was in Scotland for 10 weeks because of her Scottish boyfriend-turned-fiance. "So that makes it harder but, ya know, he just asked me to marry him, so he is actually going to move here," she says casually. The wedding is planned for next July in Scotland, but they have decided to live in Florida.

Hargrove concerns herself



Courtesy of Dana Hargrove

with the "clash of nature and culture" and says, "I think of myself as a landscape painter artist."

Scotland, with its dichotomy of natural beauty and man-made industry played an important role in her work. When she moved to America she started to see landscape from a different point of view and worked on the contrast between Scotland and America. "I put that culture shock into my work and made work that was about the new American landscape of everything being all brand new and seeming to look the same

and that developed into thinking about commercialism and capitalism."

Hargrove was lucky enough to get a contract with the Bridgette Mayer Gallery in Philadelphia, which has represented her since she started her job at Rollins. The gallery also had her apply for the National Young Painters Competition where she won the 2009 William and Dorothy Yeck \$10,000 First-Place Purchase Award.

Clearing her brain and leaving the job for a couple of hours is essential for her to find a balance between teaching and be-

ing an artist. "You have got e-mails coming in from students all hours of the day, you got to get jobs done, you got to get grades done, you got to plan and prep for the courses for the next week," Hargrove explains. "So you are busy. But it's good to be busy. I hate to be bored."

What she really likes about the art department is that all studio art professors are practicing artists and have shows all around the world.

"Students might not know we are having shows all the time and making art all the time. We are very busy."



All Photos by Kevin Griffin
EXPLOSIVE (Top) Actors Zach Zebrowski '15 (left), Alexis Riley '13 (middle), and Jamaica Reddick '14 (right) recreating *American Gothic*. **(Middle)** Characters Jules and Jo covering up bashfully after an unexpected confession. They meet after she answers his misleading Craigslist ad. **(Bottom)** Riley praising the resilience of her fish ancestors. She occasionally steps into the exhibit to comically give her perspective.

Comedy meets doomsday in alumnus-directed play

Emily Kelly

News Editor

Despite what its ambiguous title may suggest, *Boom!* is not an action-packed, special effects-ridden production, but rather a comical spin on the classic doomsday scenario. A student production of Peter Sinn Nachtrieb's raunchy and vulgar comedy, *Boom!* has seduced audiences across campus. But behind the sex and excessive profanity, *Boom!* touches on the value of religion and fate.

The play is set in a single room, involving three characters who live in a world that is, unknowingly, about to be struck by an apocalypse to wipe out humanity. The only two that will survive are our main characters, Jo and Jules, who, by fate, are trapped together underground in Jules' apartment-laboratory. The unlikely couple first crossed paths when Jules posted an online ad: "sex to change the course of the world." Jo, a journalism student looking for a story, answered the ad, expecting a night of hot, random sex. Disappointingly, she discovers her sexy, random lover is Jules: a neurotic marine biologist who has an infatuation with fish.

"Jules' goal is to have one huge moment in his life, and that is the

culmination of the play," says Zach Zebrowski '15, the actor who played Jules. His infatuation has led him to believe that the irregular behavioral patterns of fish indicate the end of the world is near. Pursuing this observation to its fullest extent, Jules has taken extreme measures to ensure that he, after the apocalypse has struck, will repopulate the world, thus saving humanity. However, his plan to repopulate directly involves Jo, and specifically, her uterus. Aside from Jo's anxieties about motherhood and babies, there is one minor hiccup in Jules' plan: he is undoubtedly gay.

As the two fated souls find themselves assuming the roles of Adam and Eve, *Boom!* touches on the value of religion. Jo, who has long given up on writing her riveting story about random sex, quickly adopts a pessimistic identity: after finally accepting the fated apocalypse, she begins to believe doomsday was God's doing. Carrying out his wishes to wipe out humanity, Jo attempts an unsuccessful suicide. Jules, a left-brained scientist, casts out the idea of God and instead sees a seizing opportunity to write his own story into the history books. The divine contrast between the two characters creates a dynamic couple that face the possibility of adopting roles in a modern-day story of creation.

The third character, Barbara, is perhaps the most complex of all since her backstory is unclear and what is known is embellished. Barbara appears to be employed at a museum-like institution, set in a time thousands of years after the

apocalypse. She functions as both guide and operator of a futuristic room that reenacts the story of Jo and Jules to both entertain and educate audiences.

Her mannerisms, near-robotic, resemble that of a perky schizophrenic, matched by her starchy suit paired with violet stilettos. Barbara may at first appear to be crazy, "but the thing about crazy people is, they're not crazy at all" explains Alexis Riley '13, who played the role of Barbara. As she reiterates to the audience, she is passionate about her stories; Barbara acts as our narrator, playing God by pushing buttons that, unknowingly to them, dictate Jo and Jules' every action. Barbara is trusted to command the fates of the couple, but after an accidental slip-up, she changes the course of events.

"If I hadn't been in the play, which I was incredibly grateful to be, I would have liked to watch it," says Jamaica Reddick '14, who played the role of Jo. As all great productions end, *Boom!* leaves audiences swimming with unanswered questions.

The divine contrast between the two characters creates a dynamic couple that face the possibility of adopting roles in a modern-day story of creation.

Graphic by
David Matteson

BurgerFi: A fresh take on an old standby

Sarah Walker & Taylor Thomas

Writers

BurgerFi is not your typical burger joint. It's a great option for Rollins students when the Campus Center is closed at night, or for anytime students want to eat off campus. The quick delivery of food and availability of space inside are definitely two of the bonuses of BurgerFi. From the menu to the atmosphere, this restaurant promises a fun time.

BurgerFi is most famous, obviously, for its burgers. Most burgers are made from all-natural Angus Beef, but there are a few alternative burgers that are made from quinoa. For the vegetarians out there, they do not

have many options. But BurgerFi does have what they call a VegeFi burger, which is a quinoa burger served on a whole-wheat bun or on lettuce in place of a bun. Each burger comes out with a signature BurgerFi "stamp" on it, and this heightens the uniqueness of BurgerFi.

Usually all the burgers are cooked well-done, but sometimes you can have them served a little overcooked, and therefore they are a tad crunchy.

In addition to burgers, they also have "Hipster Dogs," or simply, hot dogs with multiple variations. One of the fan favorites is the Texas Chili Cheese Dog, which is your typical chili cheese dog, but with Rex hot sauce on top. For sides you can

get Fresh-Cut Fries, Crispy Onion Fries, or Onion Rings. From experience, the Onion Rings are very good. The Fries can be a bit unreliable: sometimes they are good, and sometimes they are less than average.

For dessert, there are many different things you can get. They have Frozen Custard, Cupcakes, Shakes, Sundaes, Ice Cream Cones, Pie and Floats. They have a lot of comfort food, so from dinner to dessert, you might want to limit yourself to a few of their many options. Some classic desserts are also available at BurgerFi, such as Key Lime Pie and Root Beer Floats.

For drinks at BurgerFi they have a Coke Freestyle Machine, which is a machine that has over

100 options of drink to choose from. Just from selecting Coke as your drink of choice, the machine pulls up Coke, Cherry Coke, Cherry Vanilla Coke, Vanilla Coke, Raspberry Coke, Lime Coke and Orange Coke.

BurgerFi's overall atmosphere is modern, but with a slight retro twist. When you order at BurgerFi you are given a buzzer, similar to some other restaurants. BurgerFi adds a unique twist, however. The center of every table has a square where you put the buzzer down, and this tells the waiter or waitress where you are sitting.

The music at BurgerFi is always a topic of conversation, and tends to be somewhat retro. People of all ages are likely to

recognize what is playing over the speakers, and it is always entertaining. BurgerFi is really open and welcoming, with seating available both indoors and out. It is also a green restaurant, using earth-friendly practices such as recycling.

This BurgerFi is one of nine open restaurants, and 14 more are coming soon. Out of these 23 franchises, a total of nine of them are to be located in Florida. We like BurgerFi, even though it is sometimes unreliable. Overall, the food is usually good and we would recommend going. It is inexpensive, quick, easy to go to and has a fun atmosphere.

Alum combines beer and entrepreneurship

Stephanie Garcia

Staff Writer

Whether one is experimenting in brewery or finding a new beverage obsession, Goodbre.ws is a free online source for beer exploration. Gaining press buzz from Lifetracker and Huffington Post, the network of brewery was made possible by Rollins Alum, David Celis.

Currently living in Portland, Celis is an aspiring neuroscientist and web designer for New Relic. During his time at Rollins, Celis majored in Computer Science, was a part of the Honors Degree Program and graduated summa cum laude in the top 5 of his class.

In 2010, he founded Goodbre.ws to help beer enthusiasts like himself uncover new beverage adventures. Initially, the creative venture was a result of his honors thesis while in the Rollins Computer Science Program.

"My thesis was to create a recommender system using likes and dislikes instead of more traditional numeric rating systems [seen] on sites like Yelp, IMDB, Netflix, or Amazon. I came up with Goodbre.ws as a real-world application for my recommender system precisely for the reasons listed above: the alternatives were too complex," Celis said.

Spanning flavors and brands, the site provides a wide

spectrum of brew possibilities. Goodbre.ws enables users to keep track, rate and review an array of beverages.

The site gives users an inside look into the world of brewery by focusing on preferences. When signing up, users complete a profile on what beverages they have tried, liked or disliked. Based on individual information, the site recommends brews specific to their tastes and connects users according to their similar ratings.

"Rating and reviewing beers can be daunting; many beer sites go beyond the standard five-star rating scale and users are expected to rate beers on look, smell, taste and mouthfeel. Goodbre.ws is much simpler: you tell us what you like and what you don't," Celis said.

Another feature allows users to add beers to the "fridge." One can move favorites to this folder and revisit the list later. Other components on the dashboard include a list of the Top 100 Beers—complete with style, APV and brewery location. Goodbre.ws is a convenient service for those both dabbling in the brewery landscape and searching for beverage variety.

Elaborating on the most difficult aspect of developing site, Celis describes challenges of marketing his product when his expertise lies in programming. To acquire users, Celis submit-

ted comments about goodbre.ws on beer forums and asked publications to give commentary on the site.

Though facing these obstacles, Goodbre.ws eventually received its wave of publicity and site reviews allowed membership to skyrocket.

While the site jumped from 200 to 7,000 users, the software took a hit, and the success of Goodbre.ws was both exhilarating and stressful.

"With thousands of people suddenly visiting goodbre.ws, there were periods where the site would be very slow. There became a gigantic, unmanageable backlog of people waiting days for recommendations that never came. It was very stressful, but also very exciting," Celis said. After passing this milestone, Celis looks forward to the evolution of Goodbre.ws and introducing new features to the site. Among his plans are creating an iOS application to increase accessibility and providing a more social environment for users. Both ideas correlate to connecting members, filtering their beverage choices,

Find something you're passionate about and create something around it.

- David Celis

and applying it specifically to location.

"I want to turn Goodbre.ws into a social website and introduce an aspect of keeping track of what your friends are drinking. I've had a few users who live in Australia complain that they can't find any of the beers they were recommended. It would be great to have goodbre.ws draw more of a focus for local beer," Celis said.

Celis attributes the success of Goodbre.ws to his personal ties to a site. He created a product that he would use and enjoy constructing. Above

all, Celis advises students with aspirations in site development to tackle a project according to their individual passions.

"Find something you're passionate about, and create something around it. Create something that you'll have fun creating. Create something that you'll have fun using. Create something for yourself."



Go to bed. Love, Scott

Scott Novak

Staff Writer

We've all been there. You have a paper that's due tomorrow, a party at Roxy that you absolutely must go to and a pile of laundry that you wish you could pay someone else to do for you. Yet somehow, you manage to accomplish all these items on your to-do list that night, but at a terrible cost—sleep.

The next day, no matter how much you love your classes or how interesting the professor's lecture is, your eyes keep drooping shut, and you want nothing in the world more than a good nap. How is a poor college student to cope with such first world problems?

I could suggest that you stop procrastinating and improve your time management skills, but that wouldn't be worth even writing about. Instead, here are a few tips to help you stay awake in class so that you can maintain your active lifestyle.

1. Stock up on Starbucks Frappuccinos.

These are lifesavers, and they're available all over campus. As long as you don't have a high resistance to caffeine, one bottle will do the trick.

2. Exercise.

A little bit of physical activity works wonders for your mental awareness. If you can't think of a way to exercise during class, then you're not being creative enough. Get up, say you're going to the bathroom, run around the building three times and then go back to class. If people ask why you're sweating, just tell them you had some bowel trouble.

3. Try taking notes with your other hand.

It'll make things more interesting. Scientific studies show that you're able to pay more attention when you're interested in whatever is happening around you. Also, it might help you become ambidextrous, which is always a crucial skill to have in today's job market.

4. Tally the words your professor likes to repeat.

Almost every professor

has one or two words that they can't avoid using at least five times per lecture. In my experience, these words can range from "juxtaposed" to "sexy," so be prepared for anything. Once you find that word, make a tally of how many times your professor repeats it. If your tally passes ten, reward yourself with a donut.

5. Pick up a new skill set while taking notes.

After all, college is all about bettering yourself, right? Try to perfect your cursive, memorize your multiplication and division tables, or develop your hidden talent as an artist.

6. Use pain to jolt you awake.

Not for everyone, but it works. Wear a rubber band around your wrist and give yourself a snap whenever you feel like you're nodding off. Or make friends with the person who sits behind you and get him or her to whip you every time you start to snore. If you're into S&M, I recommend the latter, since you definitely won't be falling asleep if you're sexually aroused.

7. Write in the corner of every page of your notebook how much money you are paying to sit there and listen to your professor.

Once you realize how much student loan debt you'll have to pay off once you graduate, chances are you're going to want to make that debt worth it by actually listening to your professor. If your parents are loaded or you're on a full scholarship, ignore this tip and visualize cats meowing you awake instead.

I really wanted to give you ten tips on how to stay awake in class so that I could title this article "Ten Tips on How to Stay Awake in Class." There's something so catchy about the number ten. The Top Ten Billboard Hits, the Ten Commandments, Ten Lords-A-Leaping... it's a pleasing number.

However, I don't plan on staying up past 12:30 tonight and using my own advice about how to stay awake in class tomorrow, so all you get is seven. You're welcome.



Use your voting power to make a difference in this election. The world is watching.

A new perspective on voting

Lauren Silvestri

Writer

Choosing to study abroad at Lancaster University in England was one of the best decisions I have made at my time at Rollins so far. The opportunities I have had travelling around Europe have been incredible and the "Uni" itself never leaves me with a sense of boredom; the British are quite fun.

Underneath all the incredible experiences, however, lie new perspectives on the world at large and in particular, America. I expected to learn so much more about the United Kingdom and other cultures (which I definitely have), but I did not realize how differently I would come to view my home country. I now wholeheartedly believe the best way to learn more about your culture, morals and values is to leave your comfort zone for a little while. My goal is to share some of the "light bulb" moments I've had while in the U.K., and to encourage everyone to expand their minds as well.

Much to my relief, the fear of combating anti-Americanism is unnecessary where I am staying. I am greeted with enthusiasm, and most people who have

visited the States were more than satisfied with their stay.

To my surprise, American politics are huge in Europe, especially in regards to the upcoming election. The British generally are far more interested in our politics than their own.

In fact, Lancaster University recently hosted a debate on the looming US presidential election. "American candidates just seem so much more sensationalized than our own," my British friends say. It is not just the British; many other international students at the university share this interest in our politics. I met a German student the other day who is specializing in American Politics within his History major. "The Presidential election of 2000 initially caught my interest with your politics," he says. "It amazes me that in your country someone who wins the popular vote may not win the actual election."

On a daily basis, I am asked what political party I associate with, who I am voting for, and why abortion, health care and gay rights are still such major issues. Many non-Americans watch our debates, read our political articles and watch *The Daily Show* frequently.

Two main "A-ha!" moments came out of these observations. Firstly, I feel more compelled than ever before to be actively aware of our politics. I need to know our candidates' policies in depth, I need to check various political reports often and I definitely need to vote in this election. If so many people care outside of the US, then I certainly should care and use my voting privilege. I ordered an absentee ballot and voting has been made so easy, there is no reason not to vote.

Secondly, I should know more about other governments as well. It embarrasses me how much other non-Americans know about our politics, yet I knew little about theirs. We owe it to ourselves to remain updated on all the world's happenings, since learning about other governments strengthens knowledge of our own. For instance, after learning more about the U.K.'s health care system, I have been more able to develop opinions on universal health care in America.

For my fellow Rollins students back in the States, I encourage you to use your voting power and make a difference in this election. The world is watching.



Press Site of Summit Entertainment

UP AGAINST A WALL Logan Lerman (right) and co-star Emma Watson bring the magic of adolescence to the screen in *Perks of Being a Wallflower*. Known for their roles in conventionally magical films, they bring the fantasy with them into this realistic story.

Perks stays true to adolescent staple

Albert Cantu

Writer

It took me a long time to work up the courage to see this film, not because of the content, but because I was terrified that it was going to unabashedly destroy my perception of the book.

The Perks of Being a Wallflower may soon join the ranks of great American novels along with *The Catcher in the Rye* and *To Kill a Mockingbird*. The book portrays 21st century society through the eyes of a child in a manner both honest and hauntingly resonant. Everyone can relate to it and everyone will be touched in at least some small way. Please, please do yourself a favor and read the book. You will not regret it.

Fine. But what of the film?

Directed by the original author, Steven Chbosky and starring Percy Jackson, Hermione Granger, and a young Keanu Reeves, the film captures the struggles of a standoffish teenager as he deals with sex, drugs, prejudice, love, relationships and the *Rocky Horror Picture*

Show.

I am glad to say that my reluctance was for naught as Chbosky's adaptation brilliantly recaptures the spirit of the original work and brings this touching story to a new audience. I cannot recall the last time I felt such profound, genuine emotion from a movie, and for that reason *Perks* is high in the running for my favorite film of the year.

Chbosky's cinematography is competent, yet unremarkable, which allows for a tighter focus on the story and characters. I did find it interesting, however, that the film's universe seemed to be an idealized, perhaps even romanticized, depiction of small town America.

I wouldn't go so far as to say the bright colors and clean, crisp use of line and space suggest a cartoonish element, but

the apparent lightness of atmosphere contrasts nicely with the sometimes morbid subject matter and keeps the tone from becoming too grim.

Logan Lerman as Charlie and Ezra Miller as Partick both deliver outstanding performances. These young men have bright futures in the industry, judging by their ability to in-

It's not as though her performance was bad by any means, but when compared to the knockout performances of Lerman and Miller, she's a Hershey kiss to their fondue fountain.

Concerning the story, the film is similar to the novel, intricately incorporating multiple story lines as seen from Charlie's perspective. However, I did

want to see a more in-depth view of the Charlie's family dynamics and the consequences of certain events. For instance, the novel portrays Charlie's

father as a much more emotional and fragile man than how he appears in the film. As such, Charlie's relationship with his parents is almost completely omitted.

Likewise, the interactions between Charlie's immediate family and his extended family could have been further explored and would have provid-

ed more context into Charlie's shyness. The only real qualm I have about the film is that its charm and meaning may not bridge the generational gap between us millennials and our parents, for the simple reason that they may not have the same perception of high school and of American society as we do.

Then again, it's not really for them; it's for us. The novel, and naturally the film, was intended to capture a specific place in time where unique struggles and conflicts occur which resonate specifically with our generation.

If you're like me and are worried that the film will ruin your perception of the novel, *cough* *Vampire Hunter* *cough* rest assured that it will not. If you're emotional be prepared to cry, and if you're cerebral be prepared to think. You might just find that there's a little piece of Charlie in you, and when you find it, *The Perks of Being a Wallflower* will remind you that you're not alone.

★★★★★

I am glad to say that my reluctance was for naught, as Chbosky's adaptation brilliantly recaptures the spirit of the original work and brings this touching story to a new audience.

fect the audience with authentic emotions, which I haven't seen in films for a long time.

Strangely, the supposed heavyweight, Emma Watson, delivers a somewhat stilled performance and seems to be holding something back, perhaps for fear of letting slip her British accent which keen ears might pick up on at certain parts in the film.

Students engage with authors in winter program

David Matteson

Designer

The Winter with the Writers program offers students a fresh take on contemporary fiction and poetry. Last year, I was an intern for the program and worked with incredible authors like Paula McLain, author of *The Paris Wife*. Through critique, I learned ways to improve my own work from these distinguished writers. This is not only a chance to build one's resume, but also an opportunity to grow as a creative thinker. Interns spend time analyzing the works of the visiting authors in an academic setting and preparing for the readings. Overall, I am glad I took part and I encourage others to apply.

Applications are due by Oct. 29. For information e-mail Dr. Carol Frost at cfrost@rollins.edu.



Courtesy of R-net

AUTHOR READINGS

Paula McLain and Carl Hiaasen visited Rollins as part of the 2012 Winter with the Writers season.



David Matteson

Author voyages the world through word

Camilo Garzon

Writer

On Oct. 17, Rafael Courtoisie gave a lecture titled "The Adventure of the Word," derived from one of his essays with the same name. He is one of the most distinguished Latin-American authors and has written more than 20 fiction novels, including *El Mar Interior*, *El Mar Rojo*, *El Mar de la Tranquilidad*, *Cadáveres Exquisitos*, *Santo Remedio*, and more than 19 re-compilations of poetry such as "Contrabando de auroras," "Instrucciones para leer ceniza" and "Todo es poco."

He has also been a teacher of film theory and Latin-American literature in certain European universities, in the Universidad Católica del Uruguay and Escuela de Cine del Uruguay. He considers himself a poet, even when writing essays and novels.

Courtoisie titles his essay "The Adventure of the Word" due to his own "travels." He says, "Uruguay is a small coun-

try with a big heart, found between two friendly monsters (well, brothers): Argentina and Brazil. And as I couldn't travel that much, I travelled through the word."

In the essay version of the lecture, Courtoisie referenced his grandfather reading poetry of Becquer, stories by Poe and novels of Verne when he was growing up.

He always remembered Captain Nemo as a person "sick of idealism and power" and continued stating that "power is a special kind of illness, one of the worst ones."

To him, a novel is "a device of virtual reality...and although it is a device, it doesn't need batteries." A writer is a god whenever he is writing, and he must therefore be patient with his creation.

One can also enjoy one of the artifices of literature, being someone else, until the book ends. A very important example he used of this was the character Raskolnikov from Dostoyevsky's *Crime and Punish-*

ment, saying that after we read about a guilty man we are redeemed by life. For Courtoisie, "Writing is a miracle; you just have to be prepared for it to strike you."

"The word, since the beginning, was the most important thing," said Courtoisie. He established that there are two ways to write: writing something that is meant to be read and something that is meant to be seen. The one to be read is always in the form of novels, poetry or essays, but the other one is meant to be seen, as in theatre and cinema. He demonstrated this by reading part of Quentin Tarantino's *Reservoir Dogs*.

Courtoisie finished the event by reading multiple poems featured in his poetry compilations and a short story. Thanks to a request from the audience, he also read two more poems in Spanish. It is a complete honor to have a figure of this greatness, with such humility, visit Rollins College. Courtoisie showed us that there are still authors that write literature.

Not another food documentary

The grim story of common workers fighting against a giant corporation.

Albert Cantu

Writer

Released in 2009, Swedish documentary *BANANAS!* chronicles the struggle between Dole Fruit Company and Nicaraguan plantation workers concerning allegations of sterilization caused by banned pesticide DBCP. I expected an epic tale of an oppressed people's search for validation in the face of an 'evil' corporation. The actual story, however, is far more grim.

We've all heard the stories of massive corporations exploiting workers, and unless you're Ayn Rand, we root for the oppressed masses. In that respect, the film maintains the status quo. The difference is that this time around, no one wins.

Director Frank Gertten employs some above average cinematography to create a visually engaging film. I hesitate to call this documentary a particularly frank or honest portrayal of Nicaragua however, because people and places seem to be romanticized in a way which suggests some kind of nobility through suffering.

The juxtaposition of the natural beauty of the country and the tragic strife of its people suggests that they are vulnerable and portrays the predatory Dole Fruit Company as the next Cyberdyne.

Compelling characters pepper the film, including charismatic attorney Juan J. Dominguez and his hard-nosed and sardonic partner Duane Miller. The faces of Dole, CEO David DeLorenzo and attorney Rick McNight, are portrayed as an incompetent sociopath and warmongering bully-for-hire, respectively.

Gertten wants our sympathies to lie with the downtrod-

den, but instead of showing us proof that the Dole big-shots were objectively unscrupulous, we get caricatures which we are subtly told we should hate. Superficially immoral and shallow baddies aside, there is still enough substance left to satisfy.

Gertten does an admirable job of humanizing the issue and I felt genuinely saddened when a plantation worker broke down and cried when he was told that he would never be able to have children. I also enjoyed how the Nicaraguan people were almost personified as a whole through Byron, the son of a deceased plantation worker. Byron, a young man wise beyond his years, describes the conflict between his countrymen and the corporation as "a war" and asserts that "The general doesn't care who dies. He only wants to win."

The legal battle, the most substantive action, is engrossing in its own way but at the same time feels unsatisfying because no real conclusion is reached. Without spoiling too much of the plot, the bittersweet ending reminds us that in this day in age, the golden rule is "he who has the gold, makes the rules."

I recommend the film to fans of other well-directed documentaries like *Exit Through the Gift Shop* and *Jiro Dreams of Sushi* and for those interested in social activism, will not disappoint. For those simply in search of entertainment, this flick might break up the monotony on a rainy afternoon. If curiosity prevails, be sure to stick around through the end credits for a quirky remix of the film's theme song which is sure to make you smile in the spirit of Portal's "Still Alive."

I expected an epic tale of an oppressed people's search for validation in the face of an evil corporation. The actual story, however, is far more grim.

★★★★☆

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October Calendar of Events

THURSDAY 25

- 4:30 p.m. Paragon School Halloween Event, Mills Lawn
- 5:00 p.m. Social Networking: The New Way to Job Search, Career Services Offices
- 6:00 p.m. CFAM: Gustave Baumann Documentary, Cornell Museum
- 6:00 p.m. Department of Communication Community Speaker Presentation, SunTrust Auditorium

FRIDAY 26

- 12:00 p.m. Balancing Home and Work Seminar, Olin Bib Lab
- 1:30 p.m. Friday Prayers, Mills Hall
- 6:00 p.m. Latin Night: Multicultural Market & Dance, Galloway Room

SATURDAY 27

- 12:00 p.m. Women's Basketball v. Ava Maria, Alford Gym
- 1:00 p.m. Women & Men's Swimming v. St. Leo, Alford Pool
- 2:00 p.m. Halloween Howl, Mill's Lawn
- 5:00 p.m. Men's Soccer v. Florida Southern, Sandspur Field
- 7:30 p.m. Women's Soccer v. Florida Southern

SUNDAY 28

- 11:00 a.m. Sunday Worship Service, Knowles Memorial Chapel
- 3:00 p.m. Modern Masterworks, Knowles Memorial Chapel
- 8:30 p.m. Catholic Mass, Knowles Memorial Chapel

MONDAY 29

- 5:00 p.m. Zumba, Alford Sports Gym
- 6:00 p.m. The Sandspur General Meeting, Mills Hall
- 7:00 p.m. U.S. Ambassador-at-Large for Global Women's Issues Melanne Verveer Visit, Knowles Memorial Chapel

TUESDAY 30

- 6:00 p.m. Rollins College Democrats Meeting, Orlando Hall
- 7:00 p.m. Barry Estabrook and Tomatoland, SunTrust Auditorium

WEDNESDAY 31

- 12:30 p.m. The Lucy Cross Center's Birthday Celebration, Chase Hall 101
- 1:00 p.m. Resume Writing Workshop, Career Services Offices

HAPPY HALLOWEEN!

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