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The **Sandspur**

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PAGE 7



The Sandspur

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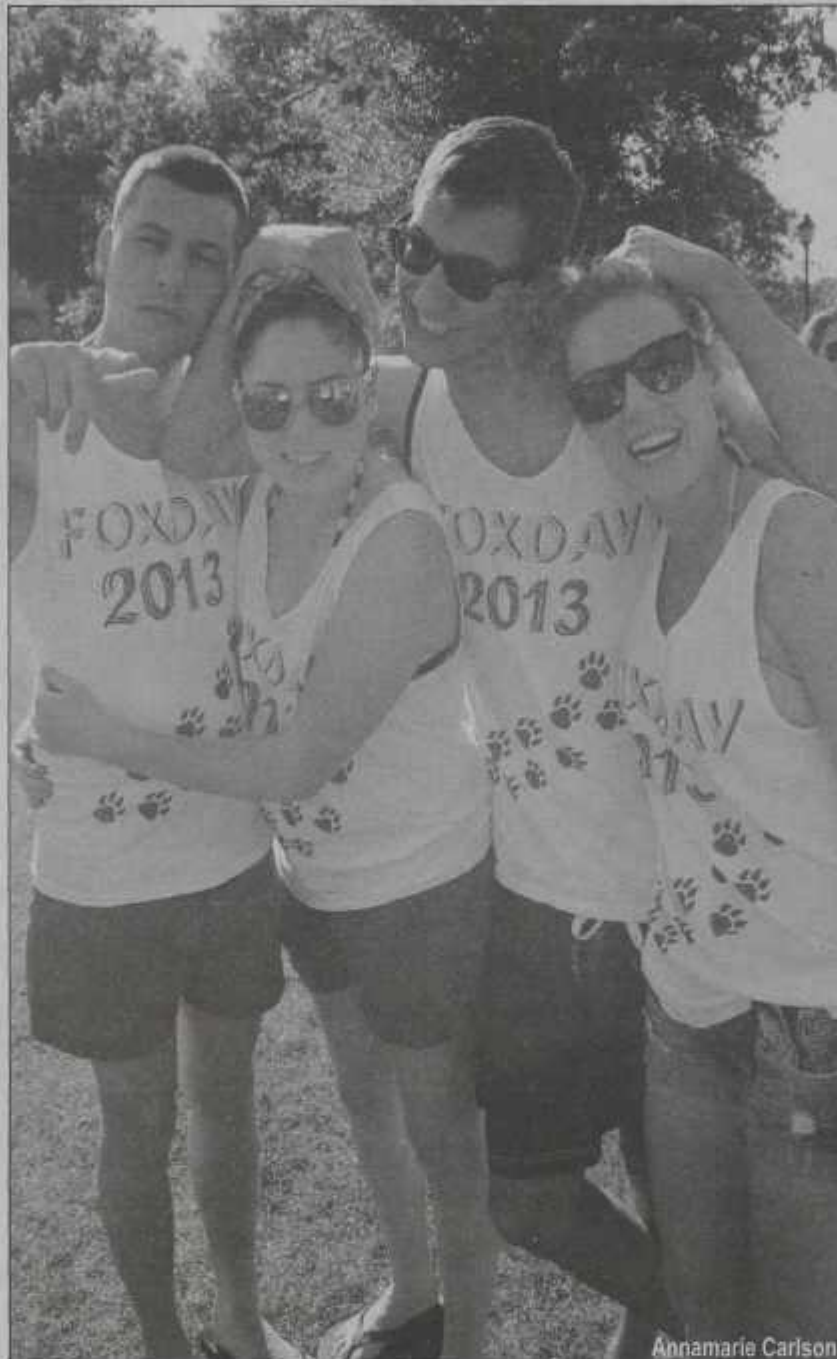
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NEWS

GET FOXY

On-campus Fox Day festivities



Annamarie Carlson



Hongjin Du

While some students ventured to far off beaches, several kept their off day local. From paddle boarding to rock climbing, a pool of ice-cream to a picnic on Mills Lawn, the on-campus festivities for Fox Day had options for all Tars to enjoy. On April 2, the day of suspended classes included a slip 'n slide on Olin Lawn and a henna artist station, as well as unlimited Park Ave Pizza and drinks provided by Shipyard.



Annamarie Carlson

thesandspur.org

SPORTS

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NEWS

April 4, 2013

Teach for America

Hana Saker

Editor-in-Chief

One of the most admirable and rewarding acts is to provide someone else with something you have, something they might not otherwise be lucky enough to receive. Graduating from college affords students this opportunity, and five Rollins students, all of whom are seniors in the class of '13, are making the most of that chance.

Roxy Szal, Melissa Manley, Sarah Mills, Carlee Hoffman, and Amy Uhl took the first step towards this goal by applying for highly competitive Teach For America positions. Even more notably, all five students gained acceptance into the program, significantly beating the odds of the national acceptance

rate which typically hovers just around 10 percent.

Teach For America is a non-profit organization whose mission, according to their website, is to "eliminate educational inequity by enlisting high-achieving recent college graduates and professionals to teach" for at least two years in low-income communities throughout the U.S.

The application process is a rigorous one: it is first comprised of an online application, followed by a phone interview, and a two-hour online activity. As finalists, each of the applicants were required to travel to either Jacksonville or Gainesville to complete an all-day interview, including undergoing a personal interview, teaching a five-minute lesson plan, and en-

gaging in group activities.

Three of the five students have decided to accept their offers from TFA - offers which come inherently attached to an assigned placement in one of close to 50 locations around the country. Szal, Manley, and Mills, whose respective placements are located in the Rio Grande Valley in Texas, Chicago, and North Carolina, will be going through teacher certification process before beginning their work in the classroom, including the five-week summer training program. Although the other two, Hoffman and Uhl, assigned to New Orleans and Jacksonville, respectively, are declining their offers, they will instead be participating in different gap-year teaching programs.

The teaching position is not an easy one, often requiring many extreme social and environmental changes. When asked why she decided to apply and subsequently accept the job offer, Szal expressed a cautious and realistic attitude, but still remained noticeably enthusiastic: "There are a lot of things I could have done after college, but I was looking for a way to use the skills I was given to make some meaningful change. I know the job is going to be hard on me emotionally because the educational gap is going to turn into something I have to face and fight in my classroom every single day, not just something I read or learn about... But if I can even make a slight impact down in the Rio Grande Valley to try to close the educational gap a

little and make my students feel more confident, I think I would consider myself successful."

All five students gained acceptance into the program, significantly beating the odds of the national acceptance rate which typically hovers just around 10 percent.

OPINION

DEFENDING FREEDOM

Straight thinking with Olin's new free speech column

Camilo Garzon

Writer

Let's use the metaphor of an ancient sacred temple as an embodiment of literature. In it we can see a quirk in the architectural plan. It is sustained oddly by only two columns; one is more modern than the other, the other one is more realistic in its design. It might be important to note that both are crumbling and are in severe need of repair. This begs the question: how do these pillars still sustain the infrastructure?

Now imagine the temple is in the midst of heavy construction around it - in all directions. These newer constructs are more contemporary and cheaply made edifices being built in favor of renovating the ancient temple.

Literature, an art-form that uses speech as its basis, is ideally free. Free speech is necessary as its cornerstone. For the purposes of this article, in an American context, it is also a column to a country that claims to defend freedom. At Rollins, the first Professor of Ancient Languages, William Webster Lloyd, sent a letter fifty years after his retirement to Hamilton Holt about "Straight Think-

ing," a letter that can be found in Olin's archives today.

This article is my deconstruction of the concept of "straight thinking," freedom of speech, and their relationship to Olin's new "Freedom of Speech Column", located right in front of the Bookmark Café. The new "Freedom of Speech Column" has two white boards and two cork boards, alternating between each face of the column, with an additional two famous quotes printed on it.

Speaking to Jonathan Miller, director of Olin Library, the library staff had the idea to use the column for the purpose of "freedom of speech." Why this column? Miller told me that originally they wanted to get rid of it, but to do so would cost them over \$5 million. However, as awkwardly placed as it is, the column sustains a crucial structural foundation in the library. So that option is thrown out the window. The column itself is structurally vital, yet completely inconvenient. Does it sound familiar? Free speech is the same way too.

Free speech is, as the column in the library, "awkwardly" in front of your face. A library is an institution fundamentally based on free speech.

However, I want to specifically discuss how one can use free speech. Miller said the staff is not designing a library for just conventionally studied ideas to be understood by a student. A student must come to terms with contradictory viewpoints during their studies, something Lloyd advised Holt to keep in mind.

For free speech you need access to conflicting information. With respect to what can be written on the column, Jonathan answered: "Everything goes". However, the US Supreme Court does set limitations and guidelines on freedom of expression and speech. For example, individual communities can regulate how or when obscenities can be used, if at all. The other significant guideline comes from the "You can't yell 'fire' in a crowded theater" story.

However, if you really need to, you could write the word "FIRE!!!" on the column. But how long can messages on the column be left up? Do you simply replace less favorable texts with better ones, or do you arbitrarily erase everything after a certain time period? There are still some rules that have to be added, however, the freedom

of speech column is continually being used by people in the library. For the ones that are not using this mode of expression but feel the urge to cut it down, I must say that: we're in college, and even here, the ways of using free speech are still quite taboo in certain mindsets; we must use what we have available to publish our personal doxa.

What can be published?

What can be written? What can't? What is politically correct?

My invitation is simple: we must use the outlets we have available - like The Sandspur and the library's column - to express our unfiltered opinions freely. I am referring to an approach where open dialogue is dialectical. That is my sincere hope.



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THE BEGINNING OF THE END

Mary Catherine Pflug

Dr. Jana Mathews

Last week, I went to Lip Sync, happy to finally become a part of a Rollins tradition. I had heard good things from my upperclassmen friends, and for once, I was generally motivated to attend a Rollins function rather than guilty for not being involved enough, my typical reason for attending events on campus. I arrive, grab a seat with some friends and wait for the entertainment to begin. Six short routines later, I left. Bored.

Back at my room, I googled Rollins Lip Sync and the results were far different from my live experience. Past routines were well coordinated, and if not, they were undoubtedly hilarious. The crowd was rowdy, the music was exciting, the participants wanted to be there and it seemed as if it couldn't get any better than this. And just maybe it won't.

The recent changes with Greek life on campus just might mark the beginning of a transformation in the way students think about life on campus. The mass exodus of groups being pushed off campus, the lackluster Lip Sync, a President decidedly anti-Greek, and the increase in busts by Winter Park Police of off-campus frat parties are all evidence of a quickly changing atmosphere that students need recognize and understand.

Like it or not, the traditions here at Rollins in some way, shape, or form rely on Greek organizations for their success. Lip Sync, fueled by large student groups that have the infrastructure to make something like that a success; Fox Day, with its past legends of Rollins-sponsored beach shuttles that morphed into TKE party buses and beach extravaganzas; Pancake Flip, largely attended by on-campus students and Greek students. By pushing these groups off campus, Rollins is losing key participants that make these traditions succeed. Change is undoubtedly a constant, however I see no budding traditions that are poised to step into the shoes of the faltering ones.

What does the future of Rollins' social life look like? Shall we continue down our current path: a slow removal of every Greek organization until none remain? Would it turn into a web of off-campus Greek organizations that inhabit surrounding neighborhoods, whose members only enter campus for classes and the occasional campus center meal, taking with them the few traditions Rollins can claim as their own? Or could it be marked by a rise in special-focus groups transforming frat houses into academically oriented eating-house-esque spaces, the administration's sad attempt at a pseudo-Princeton?

Looking toward the future, those with power need to consider what makes Rollins unique and embrace it. This school is unlike any other out there. People come here for a reason, and part of it is the Greek life and social atmosphere. The Bro Kings I know that go to state schools of tens of thousands of students have nothing on some of the characters here. Greek organizations breed leaders. Those who are not Greek benefit too, because the events like Greek Week, parties, and charity events are fun and extra-inclusive.

Those who come to this school know what they are getting into. Google Rollins and we all know what pops up in Urban Dictionary and where Rollins falls on *Playboy's* list of top party schools. In reality, these stereotypes aren't entirely true. But there are people that are attracted to the idea of it and they come here for that reason. Rollins represents an atmosphere and lifestyle that you can't find at any other institution of higher learning. Clearly this lifestyle can and does include learning, as evidenced by the success of graduates.

Fraternities and Sororities, though by no means perfect for everyone, play a huge role in the traditions here at Rollins. And as an unaffiliated Rollins student, I unbelievably find myself advocating for these organizations. Even though I don't quite understand them, nor see myself participating in them, I recognize their importance and value for this school. I only hope that administration can as well, and soon, before the traditions I have barely begun to call my own fade away.

Student and Faculty
voice their opinions
on the recent
Greek crisis and
the shaky future
of these important
organizations
at Rollins.

Within the past decade, two Rollins fraternities—Alpha Tau Omega and Phi Delta Theta—have been removed from campus housing due to college and national violations. This already devastating blow to Greek life was compounded last week by the news that two more Greek organizations will be losing their houses at the end of this school year. While some would say that the Greek system has reached a crossroads at Rollins, I would argue for the stronger claim that it is in full-blown crisis. I enter into the conversation about the status of Greek life at Rollins not as a former collegiate sorority member (I attended an undergraduate institution that did not have a Greek system) but as a professor who strongly believes that a thriving Greek system is critical to the continued vitality of the entire College.

For the past three years, I have had the privilege—for that is really what it is—of serving as the official faculty advisor to one sorority on campus, and as an unofficial advisor to another. In these capacities, I have chaperoned numerous formals, mixers, and service projects, sat in on dozens of business meetings, and shadowed two groups of first-year students

as they went through every stage of the sorority recruitment process. While I am certainly not privy to every aspect of Greek life at Rollins, I have attended enough sorority events to state unequivocally that the good that Greek organizations do on campus far outweighs the bad.

The College requires all student organizations to have faculty advisors, yet our role in relation to these groups is not clearly defined. One of the reasons why I have invested so much time working with the sororities on campus is so that I could serve as an advocate for them in exactly this kind of situation. However, I recently was informed that faculty advisors do not have a voice in the judicial hearings that govern the Greek organizations that they advise (I would like for this to change).

If I could speak to the judicial board deliberating the fate of Kappa Kappa Gamma, I would ask that its members look at this sorority—and, by extension, all Greek organizations—through a lens that is much larger than a list of the flaws of individual members. For every thing that members of campus sororities and fraternities do wrong (some infractions that land these groups in hot water are serious, but many are trivial and silly), there are hundreds of things that they do right. In their haste to document all the times when sorority members screw up, fall short, or otherwise act their age, the folks at the organizations' national headquarters and at Rollins sometimes miss the awe-inspiring acts of service and gestures of kindness that permeate Greek culture on campus.

For example, I have seen women drop everything and fly across the country the day after Christmas to comfort a "sister" who had just lost her mother; I have watched a freshman who felt invisible find a forever ally and cheerleader in the form of a "big;" I have had RCC students change their minds about transferring to a different college after going through the recruitment process; and I have watched a group of seniors miss their last sorority formal to watch a sister's sporting event.

In a million smaller ways, I have seen the women of Rollins' Greek community encourage, uplift, and inspire their classmates—both within the Greek system and outside of it—to live into their potential as campus and community leaders. Whenever groups convene to strategize ways to modify and improve campus culture, sororities and fraternities make an easy target because they are so visible, and because popular culture has conditioned us via *Animal House*, *Legally Blonde* and *Old School* to think of their members as vapid and two-dimensional. While there is always room for improvement, it is worth remembering that Rollins is a great place to gain a higher education—not in spite of its Greek system, but because of it.

Love goes political: fate of gay marriage to be decided by Supreme Court

Amir M. Sadeh

Writer

For those who study political science, there are certain landmark cases that are drilled into our heads in nearly every class we take: *Marbury v. Madison*, *McCulloch v. Maryland*, and *Plessy v. Ferguson* just to name a few. Even outside the study of politics, ask any American to name a famous Supreme Court case and they probably be able to at least answer with *Brown v. Board of Education* or *Roe v. Wade*. These court cases are more than names separated by a "v." but they make up the fabric of our nation's democracy. The defendants and prosecutors of each case that is lucky enough to be

heard by the Supreme Court have traveled a long and arduous journey to have their writ of certiorari be granted. The nine justices that make up the

from that moment on and generations more to come.

The Prop 8 and DOMA cases that were heard last week also have the same clout of importance behind them, as they will not only define what marriage means, but also speak to issues such as

how the vote goes, the decision will lay precedent of great magnitude.

The Supreme Court has the arduous task of not only upholding the values of justice and liberty, but they also must be cognizant of public opinion, especially when a changing of the tide begins to occur. For every case that the Court hears, it's legitimacy in the eyes of the nation's people is always put to the test. Yet I do not say this to imply that this sways their vote one way or another — going against the popular opinion in the South was what ended segregation and the policy of "separate but equal." But the reality of context of the case, makeup of the Court, and time in which

a specific court case is seen can have a significant impact on the final outcome. If this case was heard just 10 years ago, with 53% of Americans being against gay marriage (as opposed to the complete opposite in the affirmative direction now) could easily have changed the future outcome of this June's decision.

Very rarely are we lucky enough to be witnessing history in the making. And that's just what this is: historic. No matter the decision, the motto still reigns true: Where will your views stand when the history books about this issue are written in 50 years? Will you be able to explain why you believed what you did when your grandchildren ask, "Why?"

Will you be able to explain why you believed what you did when your grandchildren ask, "Why?"

Supreme Court have tough decisions to make in each one of these cases, for it's not just a single person or few groups of people that are affected by their final decision, but in fact, they impact every single American

state's rights and equality. Speculation as to how they will vote has ranged from striking both laws down as unconstitutional to potentially sidestepping the issue entirely and punting it back to the states. Yet no matter

For love or for money

Sexpert David discovers that the modern "gold-digger" might not be so modern after all.

David Matteson

Designer

It all started with a close reading of Christopher Marlowe's "The Passionate Shepherd to His Love," which may seem like a particularly dull place to begin a sex column, but as I read the 16th century poem and began to think about the narrator's dubious intentions, I realized that embedded deep within the verse was an idea relevant to contemporary society.

The poem is essentially some lower class shepherd dude trying to get it in with his sexy girlfriend (my apologies to the English department for this rash summary). Of course the guy flowers it up with some metaphors and nature imagery, but essentially this shepherd just wants to hit it and quit it.

But the idea for this column didn't dawn on me until I started to think about the class constructs present within Marlowe's time. Elizabethan culture had strict rules on class separations, with the powerful, ruling upper class and the uneducated,

illiterate lower class (I'll apologize to the History department for that synopsis). That's when I had my Jimmy Neutron brain blast—If the lower class was driven by these primal sexual urges (case in point Marlowe's shepherd), and the upper class was focused on hooking up with powerful and noble suitors, then who is truly in love?

The idea that class constructs affect our most intimate relationships is a concept still in existence. Sure, we may have traded noble blood for sports cars and trust funds, but the idea is still the same—always marry up. This notion dismantles the concept of love, and bears the question: are we all gold diggers?

I started to run through a mental Rolodex of my friends and their current significant oth-

ers. Lindsey, who I consider my older and wiser friend, is currently seeing a guy who is pursuing his medical career with a residency at Florida Hospital. Sure, he is decent looking, but she has definitely done better. I said just that when she showed me a picture of him on her iPhone.

mine also seem to have subconsciously considered financial security when they coupled up. In fact when I started to think of all of my friends who are currently in relationships, I realized all of them were dating someone within a similar or higher-class bracket to themselves.



David

Her response was to frown and offer the justification, "He's going to be a doctor. And whomever he gets engaged to is getting his grandmother's antique engagement ring. It was recently appraised for 95 grand."

While Lindsey's intentions may seem clear, other friends of

So I started to consider that maybe all of my friends are just gold digging sluts, but quickly I pushed that idea to the back of my brain because it can't be entirely true. Of course an anthropologist would sum the whole thing up to the fact that the reason all of my friends are

with financially secure individuals was because my cultural outlook is limited to financially secure people. But I think it's an inherited concept, passed on from centuries of class constructs and unwritten rules of civility.

Even my single friends seek out partners with similar socioeconomic backgrounds. My friend Sean is always refusing possible suitors because of the cars they drive. His rule is: if they can't trump his Lexus, then why should he even bother? Or there's my friend Amanda, who refused to give some guy her number because he bought her a PBR when he went to the bar for drinks.

I wish I could conclude this column on some high note that rallies for love in the fateful decision between love and money. But the need to procure financial and class security within our relationships seems so ingrained in our cultural perceptions that I don't think I can refute it. So to hell with love, I'll settle down with anyone who clears 250K a year.

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KICKED

The status of TKE and KKG

by Melanie

Here's the thing about small schools: word travels fast. And when word travels fast, rumors travel faster. So it was no surprise that when two prominent Greek organizations' activities were suspended this spring semester, allegations and claims as to what exactly happened to put them in such a detrimental state spread rampantly. Recent announcements made about the two organizations' housing arrangements rekindled the rumor mill.

Last week, both Tau Kappa Epsilon (TKE) fraternity and Kappa Kappa Gamma (KKG) sorority were notified that they would be officially losing their campus houses (Pugsley Hall and Rollins Hall respectively) for the upcoming academic year. Both Greek organizations are still recognized by Rollins and will continue to remain active during their absence from their respective houses.

TKE was put on summary suspension after being charged with violations of alcohol and recruitment policies. Summary suspension put a freeze to the fraternity's ability to freely meet and hold chapter sessions. As an organization, TKE could not meet unless they registered the event prior with the school while all social and philanthropic activities were not allowed.

"Members are extremely saddened about the loss of our house," said Pete McGoldrick '13, Vice President of the Interfraternity Council and member of TKE. "It represents our brotherhood and it shows our social and active presence on campus."

KKG found themselves in a similar situation when sanctions were also placed on the organization after allegations that the sorority wishes not to disclose at this time. Like TKE, KKG was unable to hold meetings without registering them with the school first and all traditional social events were off limits.

"I missed out on a lot of crucial parts this semester," said Randi Alberry '13, President of KKG. "I entered that her's and other senior's experience at Rollins tarnished their time and contributions put into the sorority during their last semester. 'We can't make our Greek experience part of our Rollins experience anymore.'"

Both organizations will reapply

for housing on campus. They are working to appeal the sanctions that caused their sanctions in the first place.

The prevalence of the tension between the two organizations' dismissals is the overall perception that these cases were mishandled by Rollins' office and administration.

TKE members have been taking active roles in campus community organizations. They initiated an appeal to have an action plan implemented, approaching the school to improve on campus. "We're going to improve our campus," said McGoldrick. "We're going to fight as hard as we can to get Pugsley back because it's a better and stronger house. We're moving towards a better house going to fight as hard as we can to get Pugsley back because it's a better and stronger house."

Before receiving their house expulsion, the school took steps to rectify their actions. Members reached out and participated in a part of several campus events. However, their actions were not enough. "It's hard because we're not Rollins. Though the school holds a physical location, the president is certain of the school as they move forward. The school will continue to be a school."

The prevalent tension between the two Greek organizations' dismissals is the overall perception that these cases were mishandled by Rollins' office and administration. The school has no official policy on the handling of cases such as these. A vast majority of student organizations were confused about why sanctions were placed in the first place and what was being made against them. "We don't know much

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OUT:

KG's housing situation

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been going on," said Miller Bowron '13, a member of KKG. "We've been kept in the dark by Rollins and national." According to Bowron, the sorority found out they were in trouble a few days after this semester's bid day and since then, constant secrecy has plagued the placement of their sanctions. "The decision [to take away the house] was unfair because no concrete examples were given for why we lost it. It's not fair to the people putting so much time into the organization." Miller also cited OSIL's lack of communication with their faculty advisor as evidence that the organization was being kept in the dark and out of the loop.

Alberry echoes Bowron's frustrations, citing the length of time it took the school to provide its reasons for house dismissal. "It's taken all semester to get the allegations against KKG," said Alberry. "It has been hard for the girls and it has taken a long time for us to get any answers." As of April 1, Alberry was finally made aware of the allegations.

TKE members also recognized the school's lack of transparency in the sanctioning process. According to McGoldrick, it took about 6 weeks until the fraternity was made aware of what violations were being cited for their sanctions.

Additionally, there is a prevalent attitude amongst the two Greek organizations that the crimes committed do not fit the punishment.

"None of the allegations happened at the house," said Alberry.

"I appreciate that [the school] didn't just kick out the fraternity," said Aaron Tanyhill '14, TKE member. "But I don't think they realize how big of a deal the house is. They see it as a resource, not as an organization's home."

While Greeks are left confused about Rollins' handling of the housing situation, the school itself shows mixed feelings towards Greek life.

"The school has misconceptions about what Greeks do," said McGoldrick. "When one thing goes wrong they focus on that and forget all the good we do. It's like the school is saying 'we love when you hold all these events and support your philanthropies' but when something happens, they don't have our backs."



The sex talk

Lauren Silvestri

Writer

Promoting alternative types of sexualities than the monogamous heterosexual couple is (thankfully) becoming more prominent in our society, and Rollins' Spectrum organization serves to spread tolerance for every individual on campus regardless of sexual orientation or gender. Included in Spectrum's LGBTQIPAA is "asexuality," however, asexuality is often overlooked and misunderstood. On March 26, "The Birds and Bees," a discussion group on human sexuality, held a discussion specifically pertaining to asexuality to bring more awareness to the campus.

Niki Inclan '14, co-president and co-founder along with Dilsia Fernandez '14, shared how "The Birds and The Bees" originated: "We took an intersession class on U.S. Sexuality with Dr. Russell in 2012 and greatly enjoyed the way Dr. Russell moderated open conversations in the class. We had very conservative freshmen students and more liberal upperclassmen in the class, yet the dialogue always remained respectful and enlightening. Dilsia and I wanted to continue those kinds of talks so we started a sex-positive discussion group."

Each discussion revolves around a certain sexually related topic that usually is not mentioned in mainstream me-

dia or culture. "We talk about everything pertaining to human sexuality: sexual activities, sexual health, orientation, identities, kinks, fetishes; you name it. What Dilsia and I don't know, we research alongside our members," says Inclan. "The point is to provide students with a safe, judgment-free place to share their thoughts, ask questions and the opportunity to discuss sex as a normal, healthy part of life."

During the discussion about asexuality, a Rollins student opened up about his own asexuality and explained that, "An asexual person is a person who does not experience sexual attraction." Asexuals, however, may still desire a romantic relationship. Therefore, it's difficult to determine whether asexuality should be considered a sexual orientation. The student admitted that the main advocacy website, The Asexual Visibility and Education Network (AVEN), helped him connect with other asexuals.

Currently, only one percent of the population is believed to be asexual, but there is a great possibility that this number is higher. One of AVEN's top priorities is to gain more visibility for the asexual population. The student's openness and vulnerability was extremely admirable. The discussion was small and intimate, and everyone felt comfortable asking questions and expressing their opinions.

Diaries of a transgender



Courtesy of Dr. Michelle Stecker

LIFE IN TWO GENDERS A mother, a bestselling author, and a transgender, Jennifer Boylan speaks openly to students about the issues faced by the transgender community. Audiences were also treated to a reading.

Scott Novak

Staff Writer

Jennifer Finney Boylan, New York Times bestselling author of the memoir *She's Not There: A Life in Two Genders*, visited Rollins College last week. Boylan gave a talk on March 28 at 330 West Fairbanks focusing on her life experiences as a transgender person and the issues that the transgender community currently face in society.

Boylan opened her talk with an emphasis on the importance of telling stories. To illustrate this point, Boylan described an email she received after she appeared on the Oprah Show to discuss her book. The email, from a lady in Nebraska, was meant to praise Boylan, but said, "You almost seem like a person someone could actually know."

"Almost," Boylan joked.

Boylan went on to explain that most people think of transgender people as something other than human beings, primarily because most people don't know (or don't know they know) that many people who are transgender. For this reason, stories play a central role in transgender activism. "When you tell a story, people see you as human," Boylan said.

The author noted how gays and lesbians have leveraged the art of stories to their advantage.

Gay and lesbian characters in books and in television have become increasingly common, which helps to shift public opinion on sexual orientation in their favor. The same phenomenon, however, has not happened in the transgender community.

"What we need," Boylan remarked, "is that TV show where the trans-person is as boring or uninteresting as the gays and lesbians." Boylan also said that "a lot of trans-people are worried that their fight for marriage equality is sucking up a lot of oxygen" in the current LGBT movement.

The audience was treated to two readings from Boylan. The first was a short story, "In the Early Morning Rain," which appeared in the *It Gets Better* book compiled by Dan Savage. The story described Boylan's struggle with her identity as she contemplated whether or not to jump off a cliff. The directness of her voice and the eloquent clarity of her words moved many to tears.

It soon became clear that Boylan was not just a writer and an activist, but a singer and a comedian as well. She belted out the song "In the Early Morning Rain" as part of her reading in a powerful voice tinged with an Irish lilt, and although the topics she spoke about were often solemn, the readings were surprisingly hilarious.

The second reading was the last scene from Boylan's upcoming book on parenthood, entitled *Stuck in the Middle With You: A Memoir of Parenting in Three Genders*. The two major themes in the book, according to Boylan, is how Boylan's male to female transformation helped her boys become even better men and how every family is a nontraditional family.

When it comes to Boylan's own family, most of them have been accepting of her as a female. Boylan's conservative, evangelical Christian mother, who had been in her eighties when Boylan became a female, embraced her and said, "Love will prevail."

"My mother was my biggest fan until the day she died," Boylan said, demonstrating that support can be found in people who would stereotypically be thought of as hostile to the LGBT community. Boylan's sister, however, cut off all connections with her for a decade, but Boylan reports that they are now beginning to repair the relationship. "In the end, I'm for forgiveness and love," Boylan said.

Toward the end of her talk, Boylan addressed what allies could do to support their transgender friends. "What you can do is listen," Boylan said. "Be a friend. React to someone's difference with love."

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Puppies in Pinehurst, kitties in Corrin?

Kate Barnekow

Copy Editor

Look, I really like my cats. With a total of seven of them back home in Texas, I'm well on my way to becoming a crazy cat lady—something I'm totally fine with. But the 1,100 miles separating me from my furry friends can be frustrating, and I've often found myself contemplating the plausibility of hiding a kitten or tiny dog in the armoire in my room in Elizabeth (don't worry or write angry letters though, I would never do that). But having a pet at school would be nice. Familiar pets can help make the transition from home to college easier, relieve stress (NCM's famed Puppies and Cupcakes, anyone?), and add a cute factor to your life that most roommates just can't provide (no offense to my own; she's adorable).

From Caltech in Pasadena to Florida's own Eckerd and Stetson, colleges across the country have begun to recognize this and include a pet-friendly housing option for students living on campus. The guidelines vary, though most include an application process of some sort, restrictions on weight and breed of dog, and recognition of and clear procedural processes to deal with potential issues such as noise, allergies, and safety concerns.

Many students have expressed interest in having such an option available at Rollins. Most students I spoke with were enthusiastic about the idea, but also exhibited a clear understanding of the multiple potential issues. Many worried that the animals would not have enough room in any of our current housing options, that full-time Rollins students might not have the time or the maturity level to care for an animal, and that a college campus with a thriving, well, social scene, might not be the safest home for a pet.

Leon Hayner, Director of Office of Residential Life, is aware that there exists a hope for pet-friendly housing on

campus, but is also understandably cautious about implementing such a program too rashly. He's discussed it with the Rollins Dean of Students, Director of Facilities and Vice President and been in touch with individuals at institutions that have already implemented such programs. He characterizes Rollins' current position on the issue as a "wait and see kind of mode," while we weigh individuals' desires and needs against the needs and desires of the Rollins community as a whole. Pending feedback from peer institutions on issues such as facilities concerns (carpet vs. hardwood flooring, shared air conditioner vents, etc.) and the health and wellness of the on-campus animals will likely play a significant role in Rollins making a firm decision one way or another on the issue.

It is unlikely any current Rollins students will see pet-friendly housing implemented on campus, but such a program is not an impossibility. So for now, it looks like I'll have to be satisfied with my mother's patient compliance with my request, as we skype, to carry the computer around the house to each one of the cats.



Simply Film

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A Weekly Review of New Movie Releases

Thinking of catching a movie this weekend?
Albert lets you know whether or not that
\$10 movie ticket is worth it.

Albert Cantu

Staff Writer

Olympus Has Fallen

After the estrogen-fueled extravaganza that was *Spring Breakers* I needed something to balance out the old hormones—something with lots of bullets and explosions and blood. Enter *Olympus Has Fallen*—a decidedly masculine affair. 2013 is going to be a big year for action movies, so the question arises: will *Olympus* be able to bring something new to this charred and bullet-riddled table or will it soon be forgotten amid the cavalcade of mediocrity?

Directed by genre veteran Antoine Fuqua, the man behind *Training Day* and *Shooter*, *Olympus* tells the story of a North Korean assault on the White House in which the president is captured and forced to divulge certain classified information concerning the U.S. nuclear

stockpile. Mayhem ensues and disgraced ex-secret service agent Mike Banner is the only one who can save the day. Direction is generally functional and Fuqua proves that he still has the knack for action with tight, fun-to-watch firefights and engaging visuals.

Olympus stars the world's sweatiest man, Gerrard Butler, as the aforementioned Mike Banner who is charged to protect the president, played by Harvey Dent (Aaron Eckhart), fresh from his stint as Gotham City District Attorney. Morgan Freeman also lends his talents and vocal chords to the production as Speaker of the House Alan Trumbull.

The film is generally well acted and I'm convinced that Butler is incapable of appearing anything other than sincere on-screen. Oddly, Freeman of all people seems strangely detached from the proceedings. I get that he's supposedly trying to keep a level head amidst the greatest crisis in U.S. history,

but I can't help but feel that he comes across as unconcerned and kind of seems to be phoning this one in.

The thing that I find weirdly inconsistent about the whole affair is that while the action and acting are done both earnestly and, barring some of the more incredible fight scenes, relatively realistically, the plot line is just ludicrous. North Korea, after all, is a country that literally cannot feed its population. Simultaneously financing a sleeper cell operation that would have no doubt cost obscene sums of money, required decades to plan and successfully execute, and warrant a technical know-how beyond the skill of even the most ambitious C.I.A. operative just doesn't make any sense. If, however, you're willing to suspend your disbelief enough to pretend that maybe SPECTRE is behind the whole thing, then perhaps an immersive experience isn't wholly out of the question.

Another point that the movie

has in its favor is the absolutely brutal depiction of violence. Its gunfights don't come off as heroic or exciting, but actually terrifying, adding a welcome sense of weight to the fate of the characters. North Korean commandos execute wounded Americans while the camera is in the prime angle to capture the brains splattering across a nearby wall. Civilians aren't spared either as a gunship opens fire on the unsuspecting crowds below, and bullet impacts seem to have a tendency to send up geysers of flesh and blood. On the other hand, blood geysers can only continue to register on an emotional level if they are used in moderation and aren't being shoved in our face literally every five seconds. Overuse kills impact, as it does in every medium.

For all of its positive aspects, the film really doesn't have any memorable unique selling points. Frankly, I found the whole experience kind of bland and unsatisfying, like be-

ing served a single piece of dry toast when you paid for a three course meal. I found myself trying to anticipate a plot twist that never came, like Morgan Freeman secretly being evil the North Koreans breaking into the White House to wish the president a happy birthday. Predictability plagues the plot, and none of characters are interesting or dynamic enough to warrant anything more than a superficial engagement in the pretty lights and the explosions flashing on the wall.

Ultimately, *Olympus* falls victim to the sizzling brand of mediocrity. It's a competent but wholly unremarkable little action flick that in all likelihood will, or at least should, be looked over in favor of *Spring Breakers* or *Stoker*. My guess is that it will very quickly be forgotten in the white noise of machine gun fire emanating from many other interchangeable action movies coming out this year.

★★★★☆



Make some noise for those who can't

Making Lives Better hosted the much anticipated event Rock4Poverty on March 28. The fundraiser featured local artists who showcased their talents while raising money for service projects in Nepal.

Rock4Poverty was a huge success! We raised more money than we did last year, over \$2,100! And so many people came out to support! It was really great seeing not only familiar faces, but unfamiliar too! Because that means Making Lives Better's mission and purpose is becoming more widely known and that's what's important.

-Erin Brioso '14, Co-organizer



Ivan Moreno

Rock4Poverty was a great experience for songwriters like me to showcase songs that my peers haven't heard before. A lot of people don't know that I write my own songs so it was nice to have a venue to show that side of myself.

-Jordan Carlson '15, Performer

Quotes Compiled By Lauren Silvestri

Get your fox face on

Fox Fest is right around the corner on April 13 and the band lineup has been revealed: The Bright Light Social Hour, Jacuzzi Boys, Levek, Saskatchewan, Girls on the Beach, and the Groove Orient. Having never heard of any of these bands, I took it upon myself and do some research. Here's what I've dug up:

Briefs and Quotes Compiled By Daniel Udell

Fox Fest 2013 Band Previews



Photo Courtesy of The Bright Light Social Hour

The Bright Light Social Hour

Lively, fun, and not afraid to be silly while rocking out. The Bright Light Social Hour is an American rock band from Austin, Texas and named 'Best Indie Band' at the 2010 Austin Music Awards. Songs of interest: "Back and Forth" and "Shanty;" the band is easily findable on YouTube.

Jacuzzi Boys

Soft rock, beachy, and summery. Jacuzzi Boys is a Miami-based three-man group founded in 2007 consisting of guitar, bass and drums. Check out "Glazin'" on YouTube for a sample.

Levek

Trancy and rocking hints of 70's groove with very modern house ambience. Atmospheric, instrumental, synth-heavy, indie-house, psychedelic dance; all of these describe the pleasant surprise that was Levek. Many of the songs are worldly and inspired by the tropics and new age house/afro-punk. I could easily see myself jamming to this on Fox Day on the beach with a drink in hand. My personal favorite and recommendation of what I've heard thus far of the visiting bands. Check out these songs on YouTube: "Look On The Bright Side," "Loon & The Lion," "French Lessons," and "Heave Ho."



Photo Courtesy of Levek

Saskatchewan

Synthy and low-key, the epitome of mellow. If you need to take a nap in between the more energetic bands, this is what you'd want to fall asleep to. "Possession," a teaser for their upcoming album, is available on the band's bandcamp website where you can name your own price (or freely download) their music. You can also check out their tumblr page at ssktchwn.com

Girls on the Beach

A throwback to 50's surf rock ala The Beach Boys. There are elements of blues and rock there amidst the filtered, Sepia-tone sound. Check out the song "Something Wicked," available on the band's bandcamp website where you can name your own price (or freely download) their music.

Q&A

Chuck Magid

Member of The Groove Orient

The Groove Orient is actually a Rollins-based group that consists entirely of current students. I sat down with one of the members, Holt student Chuck Magid, to ask details on the project.

Q: How'd the band start?

A: The band started because we went to every meeting where they were organizing the concert. I really wanted to play no matter what. So we put together this kind of super-group of music majors from the school and made this group where - none of us have ever played together before - but we all respect each other and know everyone involved is the best we got. We got two bass players, two guitar players, one playing organ, a drummer... we took a bunch of talented people from the music major and said, we're all gonna sing, we're all gonna play each other's songs. We're all gonna write songs. We kinda just put together this super group in the past month and a half and we got signed up.

Q: So you guys have never played a gig together before?

A: This will be our first opening gig.

Q: So how often do you guys get to practice?

A: We practice a few times a week. I'd say we have about five rehearsals where we're writing out charts. We're now all getting together. We're all gigging - we all have busy schedules. I'm working at a recording studio half the time. I know two guys are playing in multiple bands. Half the band does jazz night at UCF. We're all very active in the music community in Orlando and Winter Park. We all know a lot of people too, so we're going to bring out all the fans from our respective groups and really hype up the set and show.

Q: So how many people are in the group? And where did the name come from?

A: There's eight to nine people in the group. We call it "The Groove Orient" because we've

all been playing our instruments forever - I've been playing since I was around six. We all know what we're doing. We're all excited to play together without the school's guidelines. It's us running the show.

Q: Sound-wise, are you guys aiming for one particular sound or are you guys all over the place?

A: It's all over the place. We do everything from rock ballads, then we do stuff like alternate tuning acoustic based stuff that breaks into a Latin break, like a real funky Latin thing. We're doing everything from Latin to rock to jazz to blues to world music. We're gonna have a lot of percussion. We don't want to limit ourselves because we've been training all our lives. The primary focus in the Rollins Music Department is on classical and jazz. One of the guys in the band, Tommy Shugart, just got Best Blues Guitarist in the city of Orlando, and he's playing organ and keyboard in the band. He's a freak. He's one of the best musicians I've ever met. I'm super excited to be in this band - we're gonna see how many gigs we can get after this because this is the start of something big.

Q: How many of you are on vocals?

A: We're all going to be singing. We all brought a handful of songs to the table. We all have certain ways that we want them to be done and we have these twists. We're really going for that anthem jam-band feel - we want everyone to sing with us. If we all sing, then how can the crowd resist?

A: How many of your songs will be originals and how many will be covers?

We're doing all originals. We might add a cover in the middle of one of our originals. We might be jamming, and then next moment you think, "Wait, isn't that-" and then just like that we go back to our originals.



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WEEK PREVIEW

THURS.

April 4, 2013

- 12:30 PM, Master Class, Keene Hall
- 4:00 PM, Ronald McDonald House, Tars Plaza
- 6:00 PM, Women in TV: I Dream of Jeannie, Chase Hall

FRI.

April 5, 2013

- 1:00 PM, RIP Tag Mania!, Fred Stone Theater
- 1:30 PM, Paragon Prom, Mills Memorial Hall
- 4:00 PM, CFAM: First Friday, Cornell Fine Arts Museum

SAT.

April 6, 2013

- 12:00 AM, Sailing SAISA Championships (Multi-Day Event)
- 10:00 AM, Women's Tennis v. Barry
- 1:00 PM, Baseball v. Barry

SUN.

April 7, 2013

- 11:00 AM, Sunday Worship Service, Knowles Memorial Chapel
- 8:30 PM, Catholic Mass, Knowles Memorial Chapel

MON.

April 8, 2013

- 8:30 AM, Student Employee Appreciation Coffee Break, Darden Lounge
- 6:00 PM, The Sandspur Student Newspaper General Meeting, Mills Memorial Hall 5th floor

TUES.

April 9, 2013

- 12:00 PM, Student Employee Resume Writing Workshop, Mills Memorial Hall
- 11:00 PM, RIP Show, Cut To... The Final Stretch, Fred Stone Theater

WED.

April 10, 2013

- 11:30 AM, Rollins CEO End of Year Banquet, Mills Memorial Hall
- 12:00 PM, Student Employee Professional Head Shots, Bieberbach Ried