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The **Sandspur**

PARTY?
SCHOOL?

PAGE 8



The Sandspur

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College Newspaper

Established in 1894

with the following editorial:

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

The Sandspur Editorial Staff extends an invitation to all readers to attend weekly article assignment meetings every Monday at 6 p.m. and sign up to submit letters and articles. In order to be considered for publication, the name of the author must be included.

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

Please send all submissions to submit@thesandspur.org. All submissions must be received no later than 5 p.m. on the Friday prior to publication.

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NEWS

CAMPUS REACTS

Supportive response to Boston tragedy



Dean Patrick Powers responds to the heartfelt campus support and participation in the April 19 Boston Mini Marathon:

I want to shout out a heartfelt thanks to Hein Nguyen and the Chi Psi fraternity brothers for organizing this wonderful event in record time. Thanks also to the Rollins men's chorus for their inspirational rendition of the National Anthem. And, of course, to the hundreds of extraordinary Rollins students who participated in the run. I have never in my 20 years here have felt such a warm and supportive response. At a time in my life and in the lives of my sister's family who were all grievously injured in the Boston Marathon, this was a reassurance that the power of love and compassion far outweighs the malice and vileness of a senseless tragedy. I will always remember the energy, generosity and kindness of all those who made the Mini Marathon such an example of the ever reliable heartbeat of this college when one of us needs a boost. You are the best.

Sandspur shoutout: WPRK no longer student-run

WPRK 91.5's student staff feel that they have lost their once-held control of the station since the school's hiring of a General Manager. We at The Sandspur sympathize with our fellow student media group's current situation and lament that their passionate staff is no longer as involved as they wish they could be. Below is the letter their Station Manager sent out to faculty last week:

To Rollins College faculty,

First, the students of WPRK would like to thank Rollins College for conducting a search for a WPRK General Manager.

After countless meetings with administration, the students of WPRK have been informed that WPRK is no longer a student organization. WPRK will become a business and that the new General Manager, who has worked with the organization for only three months, would restructure the organization and be in charge of all station decisions. Furthermore, we were informed that we will no longer make influential changes or decisions in station affairs, we will not hold any real authority, and that we have run the station into the ground with our leadership. Our new General Manager, Dr. Shearer, told students that he will choose the new staff, make all decisions for the station, and will not allow any feedback from students; ultimately, hindering students from the educational experiences WPRK offers.

Dr. Shearer has created and focused on his vision for the station without any student consultation. He is now changing student programming; keeping specific students out of important conversations; and blatantly suggesting that students, who have been involved in the organization for over three years, should quit. Now two students on the Executive Board have resigned and three oth-

ers will not return to the station next year. Other students, as well as community DJs, have refused to continue their involvement under WPRK with the recent changes in leadership. The issues of WPRK's tense work environment between the students and the General Manager have been brought to the attention of the Office of Human Resources and the Dean of Students.

As one of the oldest student organizations on campus, WPRK has contributed not only to the Rollins community, but to the Winter Park community and greater Orlando community as well. WPRK is disappointed with the lack of communication and collaboration that the Rollins administration offered to the students who have invested so much into a student organization. We respect and value the guidance that a General Manager should offer to the station, but we wish that a General Manager would respect and value the experience of a student staff that has led and operated the station for so many years.

Many of us have found a home and true sense of community in WPRK and we ask for your support and assistance in allowing WPRK to continue to be a student-run organization.

Best regards,
K.C. Korge, Station Manager

Legal dream dismissed

Reform bill shatters hopes of legal immigrants as the "Dream Act" solely applies to undocumented residents.

Rebecca Hamilton

Writer

My parents brought me to the United States from Scotland when I was twelve years old, hoping for better educational opportunities for me. I was listed as a dependent on their Investor Treaty Visa. Because I have now lived in Florida for so many years, I am fully assimilated with the American culture; I support American sports teams, sing the National Anthem, refer to America as "home" and even speak with an American accent. Knowing the lengths my parents went to in order to provide me with the best opportunities possible, I have never taken my education for granted. I have been educated as an American and have always performed well in school, helping me gain a full-ride academic scholarship to attend Rollins. But my F1 visa, along with my "American Dream," is due to expire as soon as I graduate in May 2015 because there are currently no pathways to permanent residency or citizenship for the thousands of immigrants in my situation.

There are other immigrants who, like me, were brought to this country when they were young children who are due to be given a path to citizenship through the Dream Act. This act is part of the new comprehensive immigration reform bill proposed by the Senate "Gang of 8" last Wednesday, April 17. There is just one difference between those who would be covered by the act and myself: I was brought to this country legally. As the bill is currently written, only those children

brought to the country without documentation will be allowed to stay under the Dream Act upon completing their higher education, while those here on legal visas will be faced with deportation back to their "home" countries—places which they may barely remember and may not identify as their "home." This means that while a child brought to the country at the same time I was without documentation could be allowed to stay upon graduation, I will be faced with deportation.

I believe that it is a moral imperative to include legal im-

As the bill is currently written, only those children brought to the country without documentation will be allowed to stay under the Dream Act.

migrants in the Dream Act. Failing to do so will not only export thousands of talented, educated young minds to competing countries, but also set a double standard in immigration.

I currently have an online petition (via Change.org) asking Senator Marco Rubio to include legal immigrants in the Dream Act to allow us to stay in our country as hard-working and productive members of American society. Please e-mail me at rahamilton@rollins.edu for the link to add your name to the petition, which will remain open until May 2.



Courtesy of MIT.edu

Bouncing back from Boston

In light of the recent Boston Marathon tragedy, Suarez discovers that reflecting on a national tragedy can spark a newfound perspective on charity and compassion.

Ana Suarez

Writer

The Boston Marathon of Massachusetts, the world's oldest running marathon, is held every year on the third Monday of every April, on Patriot's Day. It is usually a day of celebration, charity, health, and most importantly, unity amongst its participants and viewers. However, on Monday, April 15, 2013—the 116th Anniversary—175 people were injured and 3 were killed, including an eight-year-old boy. The question remains from those spectators in the streets and at home: what

happened in Copley Square that day? There were 2 explosions. That's all it took to put America on its heels and watch in horror as an event, frighteningly similar to that of 9/11, unfolded before its eyes. An eerie repetition of the same headlines on the news has been circulating on television screens and computers since the event and the country is realizing that our impenetrability has now been revealed as a mere falsehood.

Terrorist attacks, whether domestic in origin or products of foreign adversaries, are sporadic in nature and specifically targeted to a helpless and innocent demographic in order to evoke thoughts of vengeance and feelings of defeat. Nevertheless, these massacres have been increasing in number and notoriety, with the same victims

as targets: the blameless. The Newtown Elementary School shooting, the bomb threat at University of Central Florida, and now this—all within 6 months of one another. It seems as though the world we live in is becoming more and more dangerous, and with UCF right around the corner of Rollins' campus, the threat is inching ever closer to home. But what is there to do about the problem? "There needs to be an unbreakable sense of community, inclusive of all people," my sister, a

There were two explosions. That's all it took to put America on its heels and watch in horror as an event, frighteningly similar to that of 9/11, unfolded before its eyes.

recent UCF graduate, told me. I looked at her baffled that she thought that a sense of community could prevent these kinds of events from happening. "I didn't say it would prevent it," she replied to my inquiry. "I just think we as a society need to realize that this is the world we live in now, and no amount of security or gun control is going to stop people from targeting children, students or anyone else."

At first, my sister's suggestion seemed naïve and indirectly related to the problem. However, with further thought on the matter, I have to concede and agree that she's right. We live in a world where we possess the technology to destroy life with not even a second thought, and unfortunately, that's usually the way we go about it. If someone has the desire and the will to inflict pain on a monumental scale, he or she somehow finds the means. When put like that, it makes the whole concept of perseverance sound hopeless, which is exactly what this sort of violent attack intends to evoke. But events like this past Friday's Mini Boston Marathon organized by Rollins in support for the victims and Dean Pat Powers, The One Fund For Boston which donates food and money to the families, or even when you see someone being nice to someone else, are all examples of the contrary.

Family bias aside, my sister is right. Strength in the community is what aids in the prevention of these domestic acts defining who we are. Whether you were a Rollins runner in the marathon, or you sat comfortably at home reading this paper, a good dose of compassion, empathy and charity can stop what happened on April 15 from defining who we are, and instead, pave the path of what we as a national community intend to be.

I just finished looking over the pages of my last issue as Editor-in-Chief, and I feel surprisingly unemotional about it. Ambivalent, sure, but not the sadness I'd expected. Maybe it's because I've barely slept this week, in this last concerted effort to write my papers and ace my finals. As a senior, I have only a set amount of days left on this campus, but it doesn't feel like it. I've learned more than I can explain in my time here: not only in my classes, but as I moved up the ranks here at The Sandspur.

More often than not, this newspaper consumed my life – swallowed it whole.

And although it hasn't quite hit me yet that my time here is done, I can finally say, without reservation, that I enjoyed every second of it. Over the past four years, I think I might have spent more time in this newspaper office than anywhere else, on or off campus. It wasn't what I expected, to say the least, but now I can't imagine my college experience without working for the paper.

I'm proud of all we've accomplished this year, and even more proud of the staff that has consistently put out a great publication each week. I'm incredibly thankful for everyone who has taught me, and everyone I've been able to teach.

Having a voice in our community was meaningful beyond measure.

Sincerely,
Hana Saker
Editor-in-Chief

Years after I graduate, frame my diploma, and burn my (biodegradable) cap and gown, my memories of Rollins College will be synonymous with my time on the staff of The Sandspur. Being a part of this organization was, without a doubt, the highlight of my college career.

It was here where I found out what I was really passionate about and learned invaluable life and work skills that I could not have gained anywhere else. I got to work with students that were driven and motivated to produce a quality product that we could be proud to call our own. Our small staff and hidden office became a home away from home for me throughout my four years.

If I could offer any advice to current or incoming students, I'd tell them to find a niche on this campus like I did and make the most out of that experience. Looking back on my Sandspur years, I feel a true sense of accomplishment and pride in the hard work and commitment I put into it. I'm grateful for everyone who was a part of this experience and wish next year's staff the best of luck; I know they'll do me proud.

Sincerely,
Melanie Weitzner
Production Manager

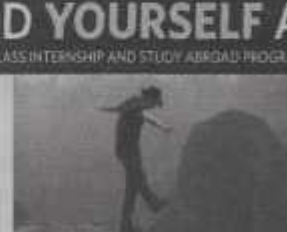
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Letters from the seniors

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Doubtful election violates democracy

Armando Santin

Writer

Venezuela currently has no legitimate president. Nicolás Maduro is underqualified to serve in the highest civil office in the Republic of Venezuela. His only professional experience outside of politics is driving buses and has no education beyond high school. This, however, is not why I refuse to recognize his victory in the April 14 elections. I believe in democracy: if the Venezuelan people speak at the voting booth and the voice of the majority says "Maduro for President," so be it. The problem, simply, is that the will of the people is indeterminate at this point. The election may or may not have been fraudulent—there is no concrete, reliable evidence to prove the affirmative—but what is certain is that there is doubt. There is doubt as to whether voting records were collected and compiled correctly; there is doubt as to whether all votes cast were legitimate; and there is doubt as to whether the integrity of the system was maintained throughout the suffrage process.

Were all voting records

properly collected and compiled? The Venezuelan people cannot know with certainty because, as Globovisión reports, 535 voting machines (which register every elector's vote and produce an electronic tally) were reported as malfunctioning on the day of the election. These irregularities affected approximately 189,982 votes, according to *El Nacional*, a major national Venezuelan newspaper. This figure represents about 1.2% of the popular vote, which becomes significant considering that the vote difference between Maduro and the opposition candidate Enrique Capriles was of 1.8%, according to a Venezuelan national news corporation, Globovisión. A further source of doubt regarding the compilation of votes is the forcible removal of table witnesses (citizens that oversee and verify the suffrage process) from 286 voting centers, all of which were of the opposition party.

Were all the votes cast legitimate? Maybe, but there is the equal possibility that they were not. A concern that the opposition voiced in a formal complaint to the National Electoral Council is that there over

600,000 people in the voter registry that are deceased. Why are they on the registry? Were votes cast in their name? In Venezuela, a citizen's vote is secret; the possibility of fraud, however, is a sufficiently compelling interest to investigate these names and the voting behavior associated with them. When a person over 120 years in age casts a vote in an election (the Guinness world

There is doubt as to whether the integrity of the system was maintained throughout the suffrage process

record for age is 115), there is reason to investigate the legitimacy of that vote.

Was the integrity of the electoral system maintained throughout the suffrage process? There is no certain answer. 564 voting centers, according to Globovisión, reported abuses of the system of "assisted voting," which is designed to allow physically handicapped and illiterate citizens to cast their vote. Voting regulations allow for voters

to register an assistant that will help them complete their suffrage process should they not be able to do so independently for the reasons above. What they do not allow is systematic assisted voting. That is, a person may not be an assistant for more than one person.

Photos and videos taken at various voting center throughout the country show systematic assisted voting taking place. A voter requesting an assistant should know and trust his or her, and each assistant should be registered under one and only one voter. If a voter cannot read or otherwise understand a voting ballot and he or she is helped by a person unknown to them and is essentially told which buttons to press and which ovals to darken, the integrity of that vote is breached. According to *El Nacional*, the use of systematic assisted voting affected 1,479,774 voters nationwide (about 10%).

As a pre-law student, my rejection of the 2013 Venezuelan Presidential election results centers on the validity of the process, which I dispute, not on the results themselves. In a

court of law, a criminal defendant cannot be convicted of an offense unless his or her guilt can be proven beyond a reasonable doubt. That is, even if absence of guilt cannot be proven, a shard of reasonable doubt prevents conviction. This high standard is set because society values the rights of the individual and makes their curtailment an especially important matter. A conviction with the presence of doubt violates the rights of the defendant and erodes the validity of those that all people hold. Similarly, the right of a people in a democracy to cast a meaningful vote and elect their leaders in free and fair election is a matter of paramount importance and deserves the highest standard of protection.

Deciding an election in the face of reasonable doubt violates the rights of all the citizens that voted and erodes the meaning of those rights for the youth that will earn them in the future. The results of the election are uncertain, and a total recount is necessary to preserve the rights of the Venezuelan people and the principles of democracy, upon which the Venezuelan constitution is built.

Close your books, take off your pants

In the hectic week approaching finals, nude aerobics can improve mental and physical health by relieving stress.

David Matteson

Head Designer

As finals approach and stress levels soar, prepare yourself to be loaded down with a slew of health related garbage advice: eat a full breakfast, sleep eight hours a night, don't party too much, and don't drink like a frat boy.

In the spirit of all of these healthy public service announcements, I am sharing my own means of staying stress-free—have lots and lots of sex. While there are a million health benefits to having protected sex, taking time to have a romp is surely more fun than skipping out on weekly partying. So before snorting Xanax to survive your busy day, check out this list of health benefits for having a nice roll in the hay.

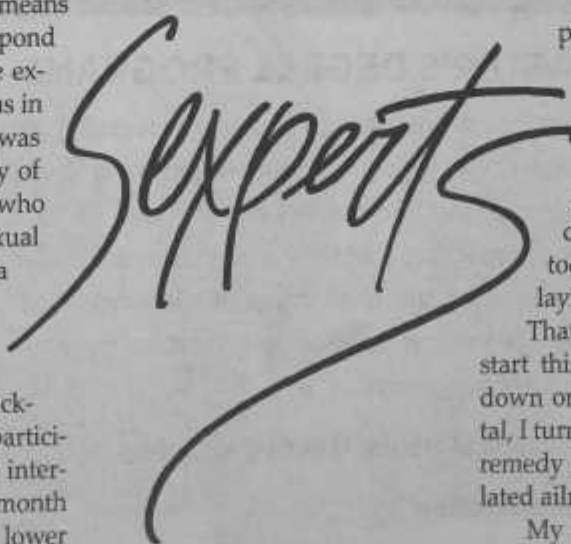
Sex gives you endorphins.

Endorphins make you happy. The truth is sex does have a positive effect on the production of endorphins. It also improves blood pressure, which means students are able to respond to stressful situations like exams and oral presentations in a calmer manner. This was proven in a Scottish study of 24 women and 22 men who kept track of their sexual habits over the course of a month.

When placed in such stressful situations as public speaking and tackling math equations, the participants who had the most intercourse throughout the month managed to maintain a lower blood pressure. See, science can be sexy!

Sex also boosts immunity by increasing the production of immunoglobulin A, which helps

prevent catching a cold prior to a week of mandatory attendance. Further, in a half hour session of mild intensity, two lovers can



each burn 85 calories. There really is a never ending list of health benefits when it comes to sex.

But facts are boring, and of-

ten times hard to believe. So in order to test my theories, I decided to have more sex during a very stressful school week.

With deadlines approaching for essays, blog posts, and final projects, my entire month of April felt stressful. I've tried everything to calm down, from taking one too many happy pills to laying out by the pool.

That's when I decided to start this experiment. Cutting down on my daily cigarette total, I turned to sex as my natural remedy for curing all stress related ailments.

My partner and I started slow—an increase in kissing and physical contact—and worked our way up—by Friday it was four orgasms a day. At the end of the week, I definitely

felt an improvement in my self-esteem, and our relationship felt refreshed.

It wasn't easy at first to set aside my required reading for a half hour session of naked aerobics; in fact, I found myself pondering on the academic things I could accomplish in that time frame. Eventually sex worked itself back into our daily routines.

At the beginning of the year I wrote that sex was the cure for everything. I originally intended that as meaning any emotional ailments plaguing a relationship. Now I understand that sex also improves one's mental and physical well being.

So as finals week dawns upon us, be sure to eat a healthy breakfast and get some sleep, but also try to perform one of the most natural human behaviors: fuck.

Dear Class of 2013, Congratulations on your upcoming graduation!

Love, *The Sandspur*



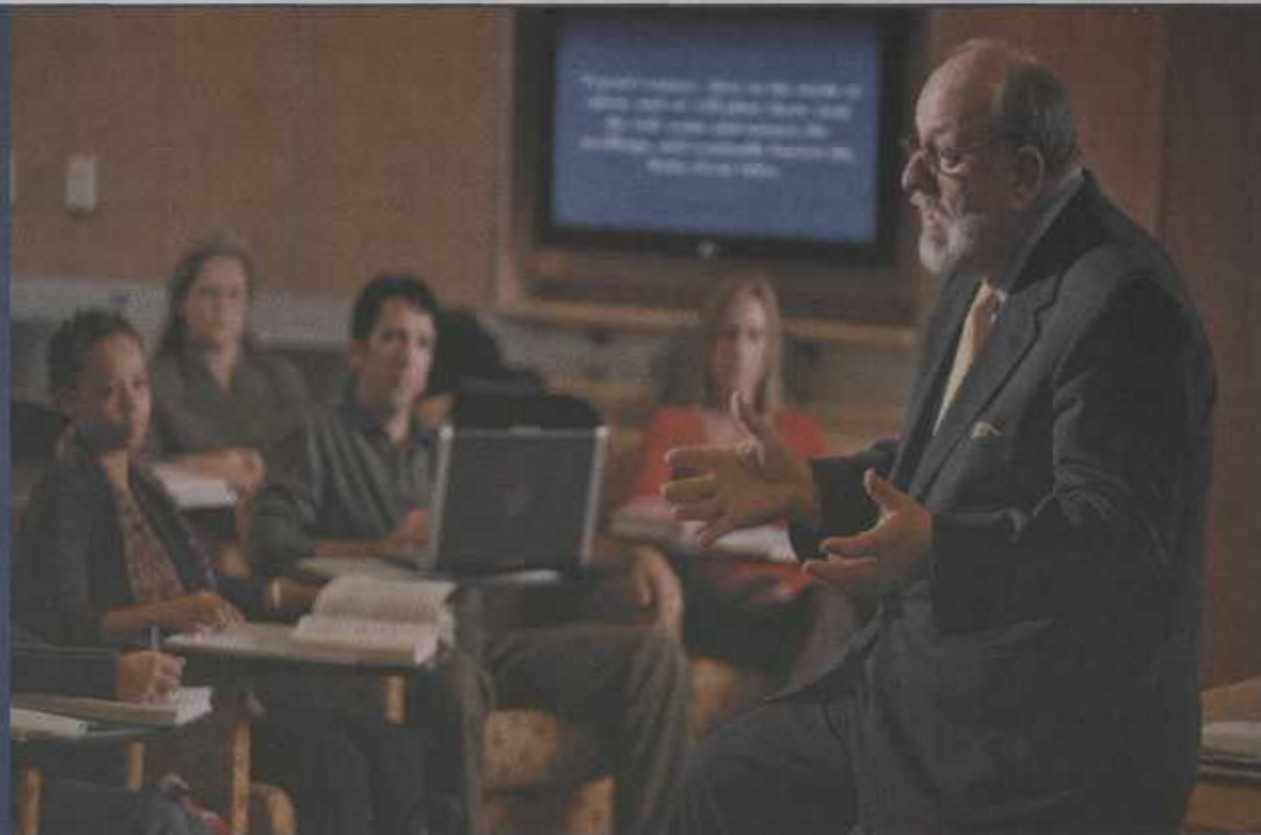
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ROLLINS
EVENING

Sandspur exclusive: Bush building tour and preview

by Mary Catherine Pflug

I should have worn better shoes, I think to myself. Since my enrollment at Rollins, slipping my way through this soft, spongy dirt is quite possibly the closest I've come to connecting with nature and my cloth loafers aren't cutting it. I'm not talking about an immersion trip here, nor is this a review of a biology class field trip. I present to you now an insider's look at my adventure of touring the under-construction Bush science building.

Mr. Scott Bitikoffer is my guide. His excitement for the project is contagious and I along with my two fellow Sandspurians, Annamarie and Hongjin, are swept up in his enthusiasm. We look the part for this insiders tour: official with our bright safety vests and gleaming white construction helmets. Annamarie and Hongjin are armed to the teeth with photography equipment and I am absolutely ready with my notebook and extra pen.

"Bush was designed as an interdisciplinary science facility," Mr. Scott begins. "The goal was to reduce the idea of the man-made divisions in the science fields by housing all of the sciences together. The center is designed to teach sciences the way they really are, interconnected." As we enter in a side door, there is plenty of evidence for this statement. Every classroom has large windows and the main labs surrounding the sparkly atrium (yes, atrium... get excited) have at least one wall that is completely glass. Even the faculty offices promote connectivity and interaction, with configurations of two, three, and four offices surrounding a common student space.

We continue down the hall and Mr. Scott begins to talk about safety. He points out the dozens of hoods and explains the complicated pressure control systems of the labs, explaining how the building controls the airflow in and out of rooms by adjusting pressure automatically, keeping any "bad" air from travelling down the hallways and into other parts of the building. The entire building is 100% fire sprinkler installed.

Moving to the next room, we step across floor coverings into a half-finished classroom and the lights automatically come on, sensing our presence. The entire building is filled with occupancy sensors, automatically adjusting A/C based on number and activity of people in a room, along with turning lights off when rooms are empty for longer than 20 minutes. This feature is just one of the many ways Bush is designed to save energy. The building has several rainwater rooftops and a 12,000 gallon cistern that collects and filters rainwater for use in toilets. The environmental consciousness continues even outside the building with a stormwater basin complete with an attractive boardwalk and cypress trees between Bush and Warren. The building itself is structurally designed with the future in mind, including plain classrooms with the infrastructure to transform into labs if needed and enough IT space to serve as a backup for the Rollins network.

The structure of the building is open and the interior thoroughly modern. The atrium is the heart of the building, and from our vantage point on the second floor balcony we can easily imagine the space next semester full of students and classes. A skeleton of the soon to be stone-covered, unenclosed staircase soars through the



Sandspurians Annamarie and Mary Catherine embark on their tour of the under construction Bush Science Center. The surrounding construction zone will soon be filled with seating areas and natural landscaping.



The Atrium. You can see here the structure of the open concept stairwell and columns that in their finished state will be covered in stone. You can see the windows of stacked classrooms to the side.



Photos by Hongjin Du & Annamarie Carlson

Outside side entrance of Bush. Due to future water filtration, this area will eventually look like a traditional Florida cypress swamp with boardwalks and large cypress trees.

space, and a huge glass-paneled wall extends three stories. A row of traditional, in-progress columns connected with roman arches can be seen outside the window, mirroring the attractive façade of the Annie Russell Theatre across the pathway. Mr. Scott takes this moment to explain the goal of integrating the massive structure with the traditional look of the campus while creating a distinctly modern interior that reflects the modern, forward-thinking academic disciplines it will hold.

Mr. Scott led us away from the magnetism of the atrium down the hallway and pointed out a room to us that was of mysterious content. Too small for a classroom but too large for an IT closet, we pondered its function until finally, Mr. Scott revealed that the light-filled room was one of the many student lounges in the building. And the miraculous view from that wall of windows of the chapel tower, Mills Lawn and even a bit of the stadium made me begin to doubt my Art History degree. I hadn't taken a real science since my junior year of high school, but it can't be that hard to pick back up, right?

To my fellow non-science majors reading this who are no doubt feeling the pangs of jealousy as I was at this point in the tour, this beautiful space is not exclusively for the sciences. In the building, statistics has several forward-thinking, multi-level computer labs, and the Psychology department has its own wing of offices. The building also features several traditional classrooms for the other departments to fight over. Also, a new café will open with the building and is open to everyone.

Back outside to the dirt we went, discussing the fate of Bush Auditorium, which largely remained the same other than some safety updates. We stopped in front of the large wall of windows and columns and Mr. Scott gestured to a few foundation posts in the dirt, telling us to look forward to an outdoor seating deck arrangement similar to the exterior of the campus center. The tour was getting better by the minute and was about to be over.

After returning our gear to Mr. Scott, thanking him for the insider's scoop, and sipping on some cool water, we crossed the threshold back into the world of manicured Rollins, invigorated and excited about the future of Rollins. I can't wait to see what Rollins will do next. After Bush and the Alford Hotel are finished, construction on the campus is far from taking a hiatus. Before I graduate, the second half of Strong will be completely redone and expanded.

After the tour, my confidence in my tuition dollars was reaffirmed. I am comforted by the constant progress on campus. The new Bush is designed to change as the world evolves technologically and as Rollins evolves as a school. The engineers, donors, and Board of Trustees behind the project can't predict the future, but as evidenced by the details in Bush, they are prepared for whatever happens. A nice metaphor, it seems, for my Rollins Degree.

See you at the opening celebration in September 2013. Now I'm going to go wash my shoes.

How to survive finals

As we approach the last days of the semester and the inevitable final exams loom over students' heads, Hendry offers a few tips to keep your grades up and minds' sane during the chaotic finals season.

Matt Hendry

Writer

The sun is shining, the air is crisp and fresh, and excitement radiates everywhere. As spring semester comes to a close and summer rapidly approaches, the last place a college student wants to be is in the classroom. Unfortunately for students, it seems like there is more work to be done in the last two weeks of the semester than in the rest of the semester combined. Here lies the problem: how does one beat the inevitable lack of motivation that comes with the end of spring semester?

While some of these things may sound fundamental, they really do make the difference when dealing with lack of motivation as the end of the semester approaches.

1. Sleep is very important. A restful night's worth of sleep helps keep the mind and body fresh for the following day. Making sure you have enough sleep will help make the excuse of sleeping through class no longer valid. Sleep also helps to put you in a better mood and will give you the motivation needed to make it through the day.

2. Take care of your body by eating healthily and exercising. When you eat poorly, you feel worse. The body is a machine and needs the proper fuel to make it through the day. Exercise is also very important because it gives the body the activity it needs. Both eating healthily and exercising help to make a person feel better. When you feel better, you can stay focused and motivate yourself to finish the semester strong.

3. Procrastination is the enemy. It is very easy to put homework assignments off until the last minute. In the end, the work load only piles up and becomes unbearable. It is a lot easier to enjoy free time once work has been completed, because the mind is not always preoccupied with the homework assignment that is due the next day.

Every college student suffers from the urge to slack off that comes with the end of spring semester. We have all stayed up too late for no reason, overslept, or skipped class just because we didn't feel like going. In the end though, it is important to remember that college education is what you make of it. Since it is your money being spent, and your future at stake, it is worth the extra effort to study for tests, do the homework, and drag yourself to class, even if it seems insufferable at the time. The light is at the end of the tunnel, and the reward of summer is upon us. It just may require a little more effort than usual to get through the chaos.

“How does one beat the inevitable lack of motivation that comes with the end of the spring semester?”

PARTY SCHOOL?

We've been ranked a "10 Most Underrated" party school. Can I add that to my résumé?

Hana Saker

Editor-in-Chief

It's more than a little absurd that we celebrate each time our school is included, if only periodically, on one of the countless "best party schools" lists.

Most recently, Rollins was featured at number four on college party site BarstoolU's "10 Most Underrated Party Schools in America," with the ranking accompanied by a short description citing drugs, cash, and hot girls in a country club setting as qualifications and a video of a recent party as an illustrative tool.

There's nothing wrong with being a school where students know how to party. The problem lies in being labeled as such, a label that can subsequently lead to being known for that and only that, even in cases where academics are decidedly just as strong or stronger. Every college parties—private or public, small or big; on some level, it's an intrinsic part of our subculture. There's no need to brag about being recognized for our aptitude in this particular field.

As a high school student, these types of lists played both positive and negative parts in my college decision. Now, as a

college senior, I'm feeling a special aversion to the matter. I'm approaching not only graduation, but also the competitive job market that awaits me along with the apprehension fundamentally attached to interviewing with potential employers — potential employers who will review both my skills and education in order to determine if I'm fit. Seeing Rollins' inclusion on one of the many "party school" lists floating around the Internet isn't likely to help.

And let's be real: as a student here, the inescapable "wait... you go where?" has become more than familiar. But I'd like not only myself, but also the kids I've spent my four years with (and the kids who have yet to spend their four years here) to have every chance. Have you ever heard anyone say that they secured an opportunity because of their school's party reputation? Socializing and networking are beneficial, to be sure, but to applaud and even seek to overshadow our academics can really only hurt us.

A few weeks ago BuzzFeed, a topical news and popular culture site, compiled statistics from other lists, both academic and social, to create a less concrete but more visual ranking:

"The Smartest Party Schools in the Country." Delivered in the form of an infographic, Rollins was plotted on that graph, in the top 25 percent as based on studying and partying. I won't recognize this as ideal, either, but I suppose I'll see it as a move in the right direction.

“There's nothing wrong with being a school where students know how to party. The problem lies in being labeled as such, a label that can subsequently lead to being known for that and only that, even in cases where academics are decidedly just as strong or stronger.”

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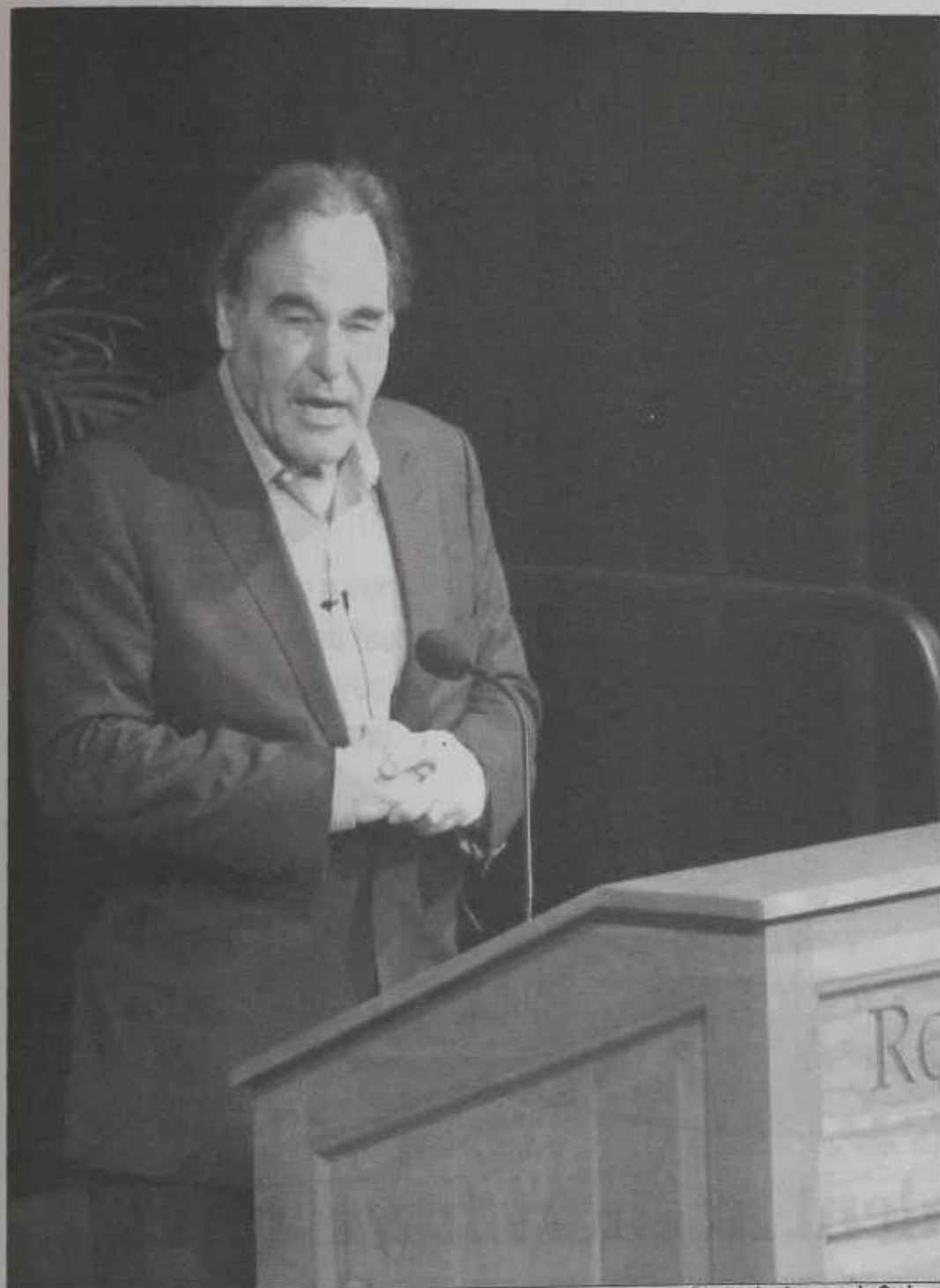
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"Don't sell yourself out"

Academy Award-winning director Oliver Stone offered inspiration and helpful advice to massive audiences.



Photos by Annamarie Carlson



Amir M. Sadeh

Writer

Last Thursday, the Winter Park Institute and Rollins College welcomed famed Academy Award-winning director Oliver Stone to speak in the Alford Sports Center last Thursday. As the final speaker of the year, his talk was much anticipated, as the gym was filled to high capacity with students, faculty, and members of the Winter Park and greater Orlando community in attendance.

Before being brought onto stage, trailers for past films he had directed were shown on rotation and a special surprise was revealed to the audience: two of the speakers for the Winter Park Institutes' 2013-2014 season, astrophysicist Neil Degrasse Tyson and documentary director Ken Burns.

Finally, Gail Sinclair, head of the WPI, came out and gave a short introduction of the night's event and introduced Professor Thomas Ouellette of the Theatre Department as the host for the night's event. He gave a more at length introduction of Stone's work, talking about how the director's work impacted his life, saying that his films "challenged" and "excited" him for decades. He talked of Oliver Stone's career from his experiences as a soldier in the Vietnam War, writing and finally directing his first films, and how he has displayed "no signs of slowing down."

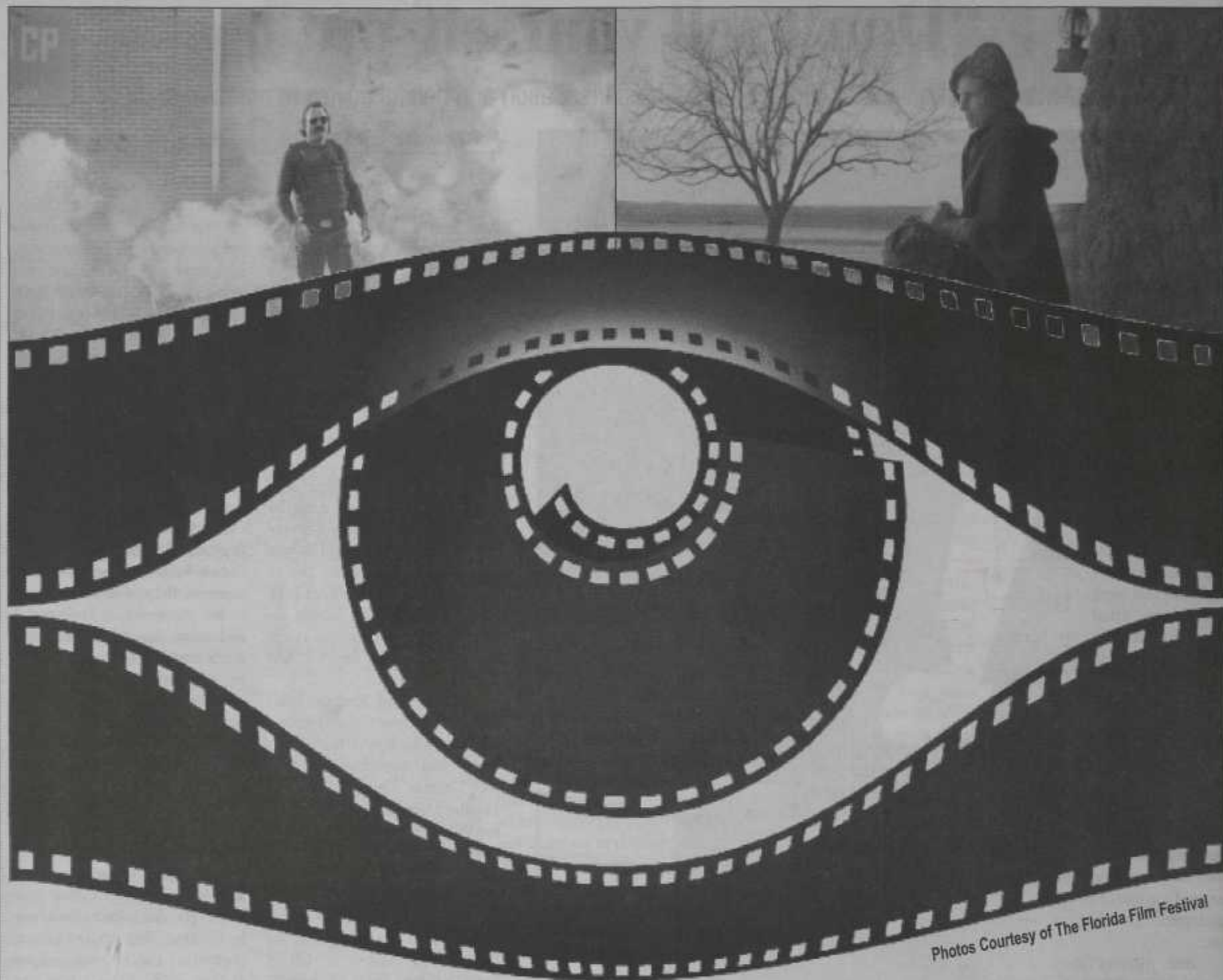
Oliver Stone was then introduced to a round of thunderous applause. He started off by saying how he would have told his life story in the opposite manner, believing "the beginning is in the end." He hit upon many subjects during his brief opening speech, such as discussing his thoughts on the president films he directed (*JFK*, *Nixon*, and *W.*), commenting that while *W.* and *Nixon* were "two [of the] greatest psychopaths," he jokingly wished he had time to have made a film on Lyndon B. Johnson. He talked about how his experience in Vietnam affected much of his earlier filmmaking, such as films like *Born on the Fourth of July*, *Platoon*, and *Heaven and Earth*. Yet to Stone, it was the making of *Salvador*, the story of American journalist Richard Boyle, who

covers the Salvadoran civil war and becomes entangled with both leftist guerrillas and the right wing military, which really got him started. Seeing what was being done to the Salvadorians, who were not like the communist Vietnamese Americans back home we were told to fear, but in fact democratic like us, was a jarring experience for Stone.

After his speech, Professor Ouellette revealed the format of the event would be a little different than usual, and introduced Kevin Crosby '13 as his co-host. The rest of the event was a Q&A between questions asked by Ouellette and Crosby and questions asked a select group of pre-chosen Rollins College students. Some of the questions referred to the hierarchy of Hollywood and how up-and-coming students could get into the industry. Stone stated "I tell you, it's all about power" and while it can be a difficult industry he told students that "hopefully your sensitive side... your soul will still stay intact with power." He compares going to the movies as "a religious experience" and believes it should be a "violation of human rights" to watch a movie like *2001: A Space Odyssey* on a tablet. He also talked about how he felt that films where violence is glorified does no good and has always made films where the violence was realistic, but not extravagant. He criticized the "war propaganda" films that have been made over the years, like *Black Hawk Down* and *Pearl Harbor* and has never received assistance from the Department of Defense in order to make any of his films. Stone bemoans the fascination with YouTube and does not consider it "film," and all he hopes for is that "my films... last and remain in people's memory." Near the end of his time, he gave more advice to those wanting to get into the film industry: "Just fight. You gotta go in and you have to be fresh. Get noticed. Don't sell yourself out."

Oliver Stone's speech and Q&A was the quintessential end to what has been an exciting and thought provoking season for the Winter Park Institute.

And by the looks of next year's lineup already announced, it seems like Rollins will be in for quite a treat!



Photos Courtesy of The Florida Film Festival

Never short on talent at short films fest

Ethan White

Writer

Sunday, April 14 I attended the Florida Film Festival's Best of Brouhaha, a showing of the best short films submitted to the festival. I was at the event partially because my friend had helped produce one of the films, but also because he had told me that Cary Elwes, star of *The Princess Bride* and Mel Brook's *Robin Hood Men in Tights*, and one of my favorite actors, might be there. After disappointedly finding out that this was not the case for this particular showing, which took place at Regal Cinemas in Winter Park Village, I sat down to watch the films. I'm happy to say that they far exceeded my expectations. I apologize if I do not mention or forget to mention any of the

films. I was approached to write this review after the event, so the only notes I have to go from are the ones in my head.

My friend and fraternity brother, J.D. Casto's, film was the first one to be shown. Titled "You Have This Long", it depicted a touching but very comical interaction between a father and his daughter before her first day of school. I thought it captured the idea of the first day of school as being equally terrifying to both children and parents. From its brief but well-done opening to the showing, *Brouhaha* took on a more somber tone, transitioning to a documentary about the John's Committee. For those of you who don't know (this was the first I had heard of it), the John's Committee was a Florida state-run investigation that occurred

during the Red Scare, its purpose being to root out potential communists (and by association homosexuals) in Florida's public universities. The film, while one of the longer of the bunch, was very informative. It did a good job of making the stories personal, with interviews from both former students who had been interrogated in terribly illegal and harsh ways, and a former UF police officer who had carried out orders but felt very uncomfortable doing so at the time.

I don't remember all of the other shorts presented, but I do remember them all being well-done. Perhaps the most non-typical film was a documentary from some FSU Film School students. It was initially intended to be about moonshining, but when that plan failed, the stu-

dents turned it into a documentary about making documentaries. While it lacked direction, I thought their ingenuity and willingness to laugh at their failure really made the film. Several of the shorts were animated, and one, a short about a wild west in which the people were pastries, cakes, and pies, was done so well it would have given PIXAR a run for their money. I also chuckled at the live-action *Badass Brock* film, which started out kind of slow, but quickly became very entertaining, and I bit my knuckles to a suspense tale of a widowed western pioneer woman who was haunted by ravaging creatures at night.

I must say I was very impressed with all the films I viewed Sunday afternoon. They truly did put the "best" in Best of Brouhaha. Before I end, how-

ever, I must give praise to my favorite film of the showing. Perhaps it's because I'm a sucker for offbeat horror movies, or maybe it's my appreciation for witty writing, but my award for best in show goes to "Killer Kart." This was a terrifying tale of four grocery store employees trying desperately after hours to escape the aisles of their familiar workplace with their lives, all the while stalked by a grotesque villain in the form of a shopping cart. While the premise is of course ridiculous, the movie included just enough good acting (especially on the part of its lead actress), shooting blood, and shopping cart fatalities, while somehow making it all work wonderfully, to earn top spot in my review of the show. I don't think I'll ever be too comfortable at Publix again.

Exclusive with Valelly and Morse

Simpson sits down with seasoned pitcher Eric Morse '14 and rookie player Lucas Valelly '16 to talk about America's pastime and a fan-favorite sport at Rollins: baseball.

Ariana Simpson

Writer

To gain further insight into the Rollins Baseball team, I sat down to talk with two players in a friendly joint interview: Lucas Valelly '16, who plays outfield and Eric Morse '14, pitcher, who transferred from University of Connecticut at Avery Point Junior College.

Valelly started playing baseball in 7th grade having played tennis previously, intending to follow in his father's footsteps. His passion for baseball took root after a friend's dad persuaded him to play school ball in middle school; it escalated as he continued to play through summer and all through high school, eventually leading to playing varsity. Morse, on the other hand, started playing ball much younger. He recalled that his love of baseball was set ablaze around the age of two when his godmother gave him a little bat set.

Both players share a favorite athlete: Dirk Nowitzki. When the two began to discuss Nowitzki, just a couple minutes into the interview, the conver-

sation really lit up. Both at first were shocked at the realization that they shared this admiration. Morse revealed that he has a poster of Nowitzki proudly displayed on his wall, only to be one-upped by Valelly maintaining that his respect for Nowitzki stemmed simply from the fact that he is the exemplification of everything an athlete should be. My misspelling and butchering of Nowitzki's name only made this incident more enjoyable.

When asked what they would be playing if they weren't playing baseball, Valelly's predictable response was tennis, and Morse's astronomically comical response was horseshoes. This took us off into a conversation about

unusual sports: everything from shin-kicking to chasing after a giant round of cheese rolling down a hill. The personalities of the two players struck me as even more delightful than what I'd already experienced from shared classes.

Their passion goes beyond the few questions-turned-anecdotes that we shared with one another. Their love for baseball as a sport and the Rollins College baseball team is clear. Valel-

ly stated that, despite his initial interest in tennis, he instantly fell in love with baseball: "I just didn't want to play anymore. It's just like a single sport kind of thing, an individual sport and you don't have any teammates; but with baseball you've got like twenty other guys on the team with you so it's a lot of fun." The regard these players have for the team as a whole is equally strong. As Morse stated, "We're a very talented team with a great deal of potential" (even with twelve freshmen on the team this year).

The baseball team has a diverse background and Morse explained that the mesh of the different kinds of players and experiences is something great to work with. "It's definitely a collective group. A lot of different personalities, a lot of different backgrounds, a lot of different stories. Everybody just comes together really well, and it's a good mesh. Everybody just brings their own flavor to the mix. It's a lot of fun."

Sharing laughs, exchanging personal stories, and learning more about these two players really made me to want to attend more games. I encourage everyone to indulge in a nice ten-minute walk to the field and enjoy a great game of the "All-American Sport," played by our very own guys.

We're a very talented team with a great deal of potential.

-Eric Morse '14



Photo Courtesy of Rollins Sports

STRIKE In the April 21 game Taylor Smith '13 earned his fifth win of the season in 5.2 innings on the mound.



Photo Courtesy of Rollins Sports

HIT On April 20, Brandon Curson '13 had two hits. The team lost 4-0 against the Saint Leo Lions.

The Sandspur Hour

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FINAL EXAM SCHEDULE

EXAM TIMES	THURS. <small>May 2, 2013</small>	FRI. <small>May 3, 2013</small>	MON. <small>May 6, 2013</small>	TUES. <small>May 7, 2013</small>
8 AM - 10 AM	12 PM, M W F 12:30 PM, M W	2 PM, T R	11 AM, T R	9 AM, M W F
11 AM - 1 PM	11 AM, M W F	1 PM, M W F	8 AM, M W F 8:30 AM, M W	8 AM, T R 8:30 AM, T R
2 PM - 4 PM	9 AM, T R 9:30 AM, T R	10 AM, M W F	3 PM, M W (F) 3:30 PM, M W 4 PM, M W (F)	2 PM, M W (F)
5 PM - 7 PM	Make-Ups Only	Make-Ups Only	Make-Ups Only	3:30 PM, T R 4 PM, T R