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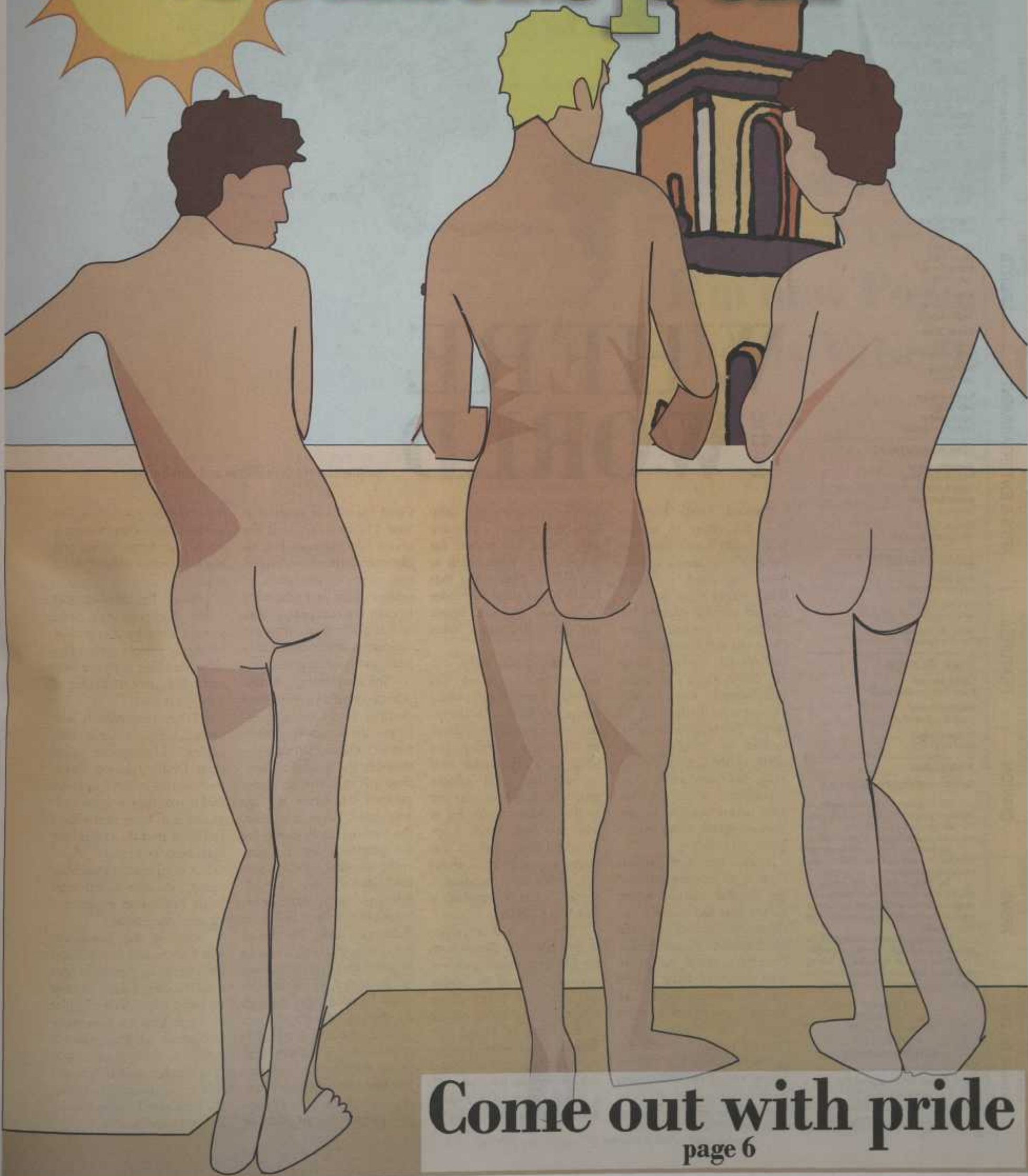
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The Sandspur



Come out with pride
page 6

Established in 1894 with the following editorial:
"Unassuming yet straightly sharp, and pointed, well rounded yet many sided, assiduously tenacious, victorious in single combat, and therefore without a peer, wonderfully attractive and extensive in circulation; all these will be found upon investigation to be among the extraordinary qualities of The Sandspur."

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

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NEWS



WHERE in the WORLD

compiled by Hannah Blitzer and Jon Smith

Seoul, South Korea

The dissipation of tension with North Korea from earlier this year seems to have been short-lived, especially when recent signs have indicated that the country has restarted its nuclear reactor. Observed and monitored via commercial satellite imagery, North Korea's main nuclear complex was allegedly viewed to be discharging hot water. The nuclear complex, located in Yongbyon, just north of the capital Pyongyang, has been under close surveillance since late August, when satellite images showed steam rising from a generator building.

It seems that North Korea is keeping its promise to restart the nuclear reactor, which means that the country can obtain plutonium fuel for the production of atomic bombs. Over the last week, North Korean diplomats have argued that the country must have nuclear capabilities to deter against the United States' "hostile policy." Fortunately, North Korea has also recently stated its willingness to rejoin six-nations and talks intended to end its nuclear

weapons program, especially since the country's primary ally, China, has pushed for negotiations. Washington is unyielding, demanding that North Korea must surrender its nuclear weapons before any such discussion takes place.

Lampedusa, Italy - A fishing boat accident has gained international attention across the world. The accident occurred before dawn on Thursday morning and involved a ramshackle boat overcrowded with African migrants. The boat was out in the Mediterranean for at least two days, when it approached Sicily, (which was about a quarter mile away) but rather than sending a signal, someone sparked a match to a blanket.

The fire had an unintended effect: the flames from the blanket ignited gasoline, causing the boat to capsize and catch fire. Many of the migrants were either caught in the blaze or tossed into the sea. There were approximately 500 people estimated to have been on the boat, with a rising count of 111 dead and up to 250 missing. Italy's

Coast Guard has rescued at least 154 survivors, and the search still continues. This incident underlines the dangerous efforts of thousands of refugees each year who hope to enter the European Union, and is additionally drawing criticism to the volatile European immigration policy.

Johannesburg, South Africa - Half a year after the death of model Reeva Steenkamp, the infamous "blade runner" Oscar Pistorius, remains in the spotlight. Pistorius, a South African Olympic track star, whose legs are amputated below the knee, (he received his nickname for the prosthetic legs he runs with) was charged with premeditated murder after admitting to fatally shooting his Steenkamp in his home on Valentine's Day. He denies the charge, claiming it was an accident and that he mistook his girlfriend for an invader when he fired shots through a bathroom door that she was behind. The murder trial is approaching in March and, facing the pressure, Pistorius has hired an American forensic team to give testimony and potentially cast doubt on

the evidence against him. The unidentified forensics team is already in South Africa and has met with Pistorius' legal team.

Nosy Be, Madagascar - Two European men were burned alive by a crowd of Malagasy people after allegedly admitting to the murder and subsequent trafficking of a child's organs.

"They (the crowd) suspected them of organ trafficking," Madagascar police chief Desire Johnson Rakotonratsima said. "It appears that one of the foreigners admitted it in front of the local residents after they found the dead body of a child."

A third man, a local Malagasy, was also killed after being implicated in the foreigners' confession.

One of the Europeans was French, and this incident has caused an alert to be sent to all traveling French citizens to avoid any activity in that country. This is potentially dangerous to Madagascar's economy, as the area is highly dependent on tourism, and this event could exacerbate the pervasive poverty that locals are experiencing.

Go Greek in Greece

Studying abroad often comes with culture shock, but students who embrace the culture, language and food find their experience to be a dream come true.

Daniel Udell

Copy Editor

I keep waking up every morning and having to remind myself I'm on the other side of the world. It's really bizarre. Landing in Athens, Greece, I had to convince myself it wasn't some big hoax and that I wasn't actually in southern California. For anyone who's from or been to "The Golden State," geographically, it looks nearly identical to Greece. Then I started seeing signs and the foreign symbols on everything and knew that the fourteen-hour flight hadn't been for naught.

World travel has always been one of my dreams and my college search primarily had to do with seeking out small, liberal arts colleges with great study abroad programs. I picked Rollins primarily because of how easy they make such an exotic-sounding dream possible.

Seriously, study abroad. The campy, grinning photos they like to advertise about students abroad aren't fabricated or staged. I won't lie—it's a stressful and scary process, but Rollins makes it as easy as humanly possible for you. One of the hardest parts was simply choosing where to go—initially, London and Australia were the most appealing, but then places like Rome and Japan sounded more exotic and daring and I felt like I had to up the ante. I couldn't simply go to another country and speak a language and culture I was already comfortable with—that's like getting taken out to an extravagant, exotic restaurant and only ordering the safest, most American thing on the menu.

Speaking of which, while abroad, eat everything. And I mean everything. I've never been a picky eater, but there are certainly things I never really cared for—tomatoes,

weird cheeses, unpronounceable mystery items, etc. Going to a new country is like having a brand new palette. Everything you think you know about taste and flavor goes out the window as soon as you live in another country. Above everything else amazing about living in Greece is the utmost pleasure of eating and sharing their food. I can no longer ever eat American French fries after eating the Greek equivalent; their fried cheeses with lemon will have you make that weird moan Adam Richmond does on *Man vs. Food*

I cannot stress enough how worth it this leap of faith is.

every time he eats something out-of-this-world. Tomatoes have an entirely different taste and consistency here, and don't even get me started on the olive oil (think melted butter, but better tasting and better for you). While abroad, eat everything offered and explore things you might not have. It will drastically enhance your experience.

I settled on Greece because I had heard from students who went on the program first-hand that it was one of the best; aside from that, it's the birthplace of democracy and western philosophy and I was able to complete one of my majors while studying here. It's the middle ground between east and west and the cultural melting pot of most of civilized history. Parts of Athens look very similar to American cities, that until you turn around the odd corner and come across an ancient marble stadium or temple that has been

there since the ancient Greeks presided the lands. I can see the Acropolis from my balcony window—how's that Sutton sun-pool look now?

The most stressful thing, of course, has been learning the language. You'd be surprised at how appreciative citizens are at foreigners attempting to learn the language. Just by simply saying thank you (*efharisto*) or good morning (*kalimera*) in their native tongue, many shop owners or clerks beam, and more often than not give you extra food as a goodbye token of gratitude. Americans take for granted that English is what is expected in the States. In other countries, especially those who are surrounded by drastically different cultures and histories, bilingual skills are essential. To go to someone else's country and try to speak their language (especially a language that is only relevant in that country) is seen as a great honor and token of global respect. Point is: whether or not you go to a country to learn the language as part of classes (I'm not), try to pick up as much as you can. Your experience will be exponentially better and befriending the locals is the best thing you can do.

I plan on reporting more from abroad over the next few weeks, but I can't stress enough how worth it this leap of faith is. It isn't easy leaving home, and it's terrifying leaving your country and into another where you are the foreigner, the alien, the novice. It's like being a baby all over again—you don't know the language, the culture, the people. But experiencing that sensation of growing up again, in another part of the world, no longer as an American citizen but as a global citizen is humbling and empowering beyond easy words. Now if you excuse me, I'm gonna go get a gyro.



Edgar Jimenez

A PIONEER Pope Francis brings new perspective to Vatican. On May 12, 2013, people cheered as the Pope rode through St. Peter's Square.

Hip new Pope schools Vatican

Lauren Waymire

Writer

When Pope Francis was ordained as the 266th pope of the Catholic Church, he was already an anomaly in the status quo. He is not only the first pope from the Americas, but also the first from the southern hemisphere. His most notable characteristics include his concern for the poor, his humility and his pronounced piety. The Pope has elected to live in smaller quarters, make his own meals and utilize public transportation. His handling of social and religious matters, however, is what truly sets him apart from his predecessors.

Homosexuality has long been a topic of debate and controversy in the Church. Popes, cardinals and priests alike have deemed being homosexual an abhorrent sin, saying it's "ordered toward an intrinsic moral evil," and have openly campaigned against gay marriage, adoption, and LGBT rights issues. Pope Francis made headlines when he clarified that while engaging in homosexual acts is a sin, homosexuality itself is not. He went on to say that "religion has the right to express its opinion in the service of the people, but God in creation has set us free: it is not possible to interfere spiritually in the life of a person."

He also sharply differed from his predecessor, Pope Benedict XVI, in stating that the Church is "obsessed" with gays, abortion and contraception, and suggested that the Church instead focus on service to the deprived and oppressed.

The Pope has also distinguished himself from the previous head of the Church with his open dialogue with leaders of other faiths. He has attempted to repair bridges that Pope Benedict burned with the Muslim community when he made a controversial lecture at the University of Regensburg in Germany in saying, "show me just what Muhammad brought that was new and there you will find things only evil and inhuman, such as his command to spread by the sword the faith he preached." Francis' close ties to the Jewish community in Argentina and general respect for Judaism have prompted him to say, "due to our common roots [a] Christian cannot be anti-Semitic!" He has made huge strides in improving rifts between Catholic and Protestant communities.

Pope Francis' interpretation of Catholic doctrine, respect for youth and other faiths, and more simplistic approach to the papacy make this immensely humble Pope a breath of fresh air.

A Mere Experience



Amir Sadeh

Columnist

"Women! What can you say? Who made 'em? God must have been a fuckin' genius. The hair... They say the hair is everything, you know. Have you ever buried your nose in a mountain of curls... just wanted to go to sleep forever? Or lips... and when they touched, yours were like... that first swallow of wine... after you just crossed the desert. Tits. Hoo-ah! Big ones, little ones, nipples staring right out at ya, like secret searchlights. Mmm. Legs. I don't care if they're Greek columns... or secondhand Steinways. What's between 'em... passport to heaven. I need a drink."

Pacino's portrayal of Frank Slade in a monologue from the 1992 film *Scent of a Woman* is one of the most raw and ethereal declarations of adoration in women. I get goose bumps every time I watch it. I would say the sentiment

is beyond words, but that's clearly not the case.

I love women. In today's society, though, that statement can be extremely controversial. Not those three words in particular, but on how one goes about digressing on the matter. For instance, I love the soft and sultry nature of the feminine voice. I get weak whenever I see long and luscious hair blowing freely in the wind. And sometimes I can't help but drown in a sea of the most entrancing blue eyes. Yet I wonder: Would feminists, or women in general, view these statements as being misogynistic? Am I objectifying women?

Let me be clear: I do know there is more to women than their physical features. While a spark of lust is what's key to initial chemistry, it is the development and strengthening of a relationship built on similar personalities, trust, and care that make for true and sustaining love. But...

let's be honest with ourselves: There is a distinction between the nice, funny, and sweet guy who you consider "just a friend" and the nice, funny, and sweet boyfriend you've been dating for seven months. I have many girls in my life who I consider as friends, but without that ever so important hint of sexual attraction, that's all we're ever going to be. Girls probably know this better than I do, what with all those "nice guys" who whine all day about being "nice guys" and their getting upset whenever they never seem to "get the girl." I would know, because I was once one of them.

Philogyny is a word meaning "a person who likes or admires women." It is the antonym of misogyny ("a hatred, dislike, or mistrust of women.") At first, when I read this, I felt that it very much described me. Not being versed on its origin, though, I did the logical thing and Googled it. I found out

that, according to Wikipedia: "Cicero reports the word could be used in Greek philosophy to denote being overly fond of women, which was considered a disease along with misogyny." While I might not be a Classical Studies minor, that still doesn't sound very good. So... where does that leave me? Am I objectifying women whenever I feel like I'm appreciating their beauty? Or am I infatuated to the point where even the Greeks would shy away from me? (And it says something when even the Greeks start to raise an eyebrow in your direction.)

I believe it all comes down to context. I don't come from a malicious place when I describe my attraction toward women. Should I take offense if a woman were to appreciate my washboard abs? Let me rephrase that...if I had washboard abs, should I take offense with her flirtation? I think I would be flattered. I bet at first, I would

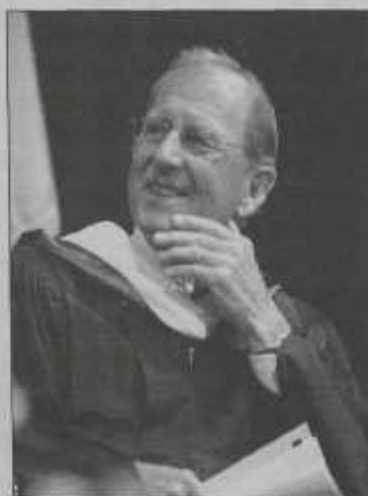
love all the new found attention and dating opportunities that come with it. But after a while, when I was done with my string of hypothetical one-night-stands and finally ready to have a monogamous and serious relationship, I bet I'd probably be quite perturbed if all any girl I met wanted to do was touch my abs. In fact, I'd probably hate it after a while.

I think that's the mindset we have to operate in. There's nothing wrong with sexual attraction and I don't believe people should be holistically vilified for being a bit amorous. What's important to keep in mind is to be cautious about going too far by putting that person on a pedestal and treating them as these statuesque beings, simply busts that can walk and talk. But hey, no one said you had to agree. I'll just stick my tongue in my cheek and quote Pacino: "Are you listenin' to me, son? I'm givin' ya pearls here."

Obituary

David Erdmann, Dean of Admission and Enrollment, passed away the evening of October 7.

President Lewis Duncan's office announced the Dean's unexpected death via email on Tuesday morning, offering their thoughts and prayers to his family and the admissions staff.



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Experts

Straight girl goes to gay bar

Emily Kelly

Head Content Editor

It was that last double shot that put me over the edge. With my better judgement, and vision, impaired by happy hour drinks and strobe lights, I hiked up my little black dress and climbed up onto the stage reserved for the Revolution Dancers. In skimpy sequin bras and fishnet tights, the dancers were shaking their double-D cups to a Miley Cyrus song as I slipped in sync with them and mimicked their strip tease choreography. I had nearly made it to the chorus line before I was escorted off the stage.

In celebration of the holiday, nicknamed "Gay Day," my friend and her girlfriend had convinced me, with the help of a few gin and tonics, to go out to a gay bar after the Pride parade. I've spent many weekends submerged in the gay culture of Rollins, but, being a straight girl, this was the first time I frequented a gay bar. After opting out of a Rollins exclusive night at Roxy to blow my measly paycheck on fruity drinks at Revolution, a known gay bar, my straight friends seemed to question my sexuality. Gay bars, however, are not exclusive to club goers who identify as homosexual.

Unlike the usual Mitch Buchanan crew, the dance floors at gay bars are populated with a more diversified bunch: I met Rollins students, Orlando locals, and a Chip n' Dale's dancer who shared his menthol cigarette with me in exchange for a lap dance. Experimenting with an alter-

native club scene offers an opportunity to expand your party horizons.

If you're a first time gay bar attendee, as I was, it is likely that you are not acquainted with many of the club goers, which can be an advantage; if you dance on stage with the Revolution dancers in front of an audience of Pride paraders and wake up reeking of booze and regret, you don't have to worry about your mistakes from the previous night winding up on the Rollins Confessions page. Rather than a mosh pit of sweaty bodies grinding against each other, a lot of gay bars have more of a lounge feel. Expect to linger around the bar, perhaps chasing shots with cheap beer, in between dancing. Keep in mind, ladies, your vagina holds no power here: the bartender will not take your drink order first just because your cleavage looks amazing in your new Bombshell bra. Wait your turn like everyone else.

There is, however, a stigma surrounding gay bars that deters straight people from frequenting: some are under the false impression that heterosexuals will be incessantly hit on by homosexuals. The idea itself is ignorant. Just because its usual attendees identify as gay does not render the bar a sex-crazed playboy house where no straight man is safe. A person is not hit on at a gay bar anymore than at one of the mainstream favorites. After an evening of tossing back cosmos like Carrie Bradshaw, I was convinced: the gays know how to party.

Kaitlyn Alkass

Head Copy Editor

Crap. Well, that was a milder version of the expletive, (okay, maybe an entire string of expletives) that were running through my mind at lightning speed as I watched my Mac desktop go black without any warning. I had barely been the web editorial intern for *Destination Weddings & Honeymoons* magazine for an hour and already I was completely lost. After pressing the "on" button a few times, I crawled under my desk to see if any cords had become unplugged. It was in this frantic state that my boss, the editor-in-chief, found me at my forlorn cubicle and quizzically asked, "Kaitlyn, what are you doing?" I could practically see the subtext surrounding her question: "We've made a terrible mistake in hiring you, haven't we?" This Grade A humiliation is the stuff that rom-coms such as *Bridget Jones's Diary* are made of, and I lived it, dear reader.

This fall term marks my second unpaid internship within a publication company, and despite the minor hiccups such as the aforementioned desk incident, I have enjoyed learning about the industry and exploring the career options within the field. In addition to receiving academic credit, I can continue to entertain my fantasy that I am in fact Andy from *The Devil Wears Prada* (sans designer clothes and partner-in-crime, Stanley Tucci).

You can imagine my surprise then, when the National Association of Colleges and Employers (NACE) Student Survey for 2013 indicated that while 63.1 percent of paid interns received at least one job offer, only 37 percent of unpaid interns received such offers and 35.2 percent of students without any kind of internship also received

Experience your future, for free

Paid or unpaid, internships are worth the experience

at least one job offer. This survey yielded over 38,000 responses from college students, and 9,125 of those responses were seniors earning Bachelor's degrees. Needless to say, reading these results left me horrified. With such little difference in job prospects for students with unpaid internships versus students without them, had I really been wasting my time these past few months toiling in a cubicle writing sugary blog posts and managing websites under a false pretense that I was securing my professional future?

Amidst my NACE-induced panic attack, however, I realized that the days of the unpaid internship may be numbered. I recalled what my former boss from my time at *Where Orlando* magazine had told me, "You're a lucky girl, after you we will no longer be hiring interns here." She had said this solemnly while slicing into a Publix chocolate cake with a plastic fork that read "Thank you, Kaitlyn" in shaky cursive. I sheepishly nodded and proceeded to chew noiselessly on a garish sugar flower with the rest of the staff in the conference room, where I had been interviewed for the position three months prior.

Besides dismal results from NACE, unpaid internships have been coming under much legal fire this past summer. Between the months of June and August, unpaid interns filed class-action lawsuits against major corporations such as Warner Music Group, Sony, NBC Universal, and Atlantic Recording under the pretext that job references, work experience, and resume listings in addition to academic credit did not alter the obligation to pay minimum wage. Clearly *Where Orlando* wanted to avoid legal action with their decision to no longer hire interns, and perhaps bribed me with

cake? (It worked.) Although it is too soon to determine if these lawsuits will have an effect on the internship opportunities for the summer of 2014, I sincerely hope that the repercussions of these lawsuits are mild at worst. Yes, even despite the NACE results and despite these lawsuits, I still see substantial value in and am a major advocate of the unpaid internship experience.

The knowledge you gain in the workplace is completely different from what you learn inside a classroom. Immersing yourself in a workplace environment not only gets your foot in the door of that specific industry, it allows you to evaluate what you want in a career and what it will take to get you there.

You pick up a new skill set, you learn how to collaborate with colleagues that are older than you, and you establish a network of professional contacts. With today's highly competitive job market, networking is absolutely essential, and who you know can go a long way in an interview process. Internship experience adds tremendous value to your resume, which in turn can open up doors to future internships, graduate schools, and fellowships. Not only does it demonstrate commitment, it can garner some invaluable letters of recommendation for future employers. Even if you completely abhor your internship, that's progress. Finding out what you don't like is just as important as finding out what you do like. Gaining work experience is more beneficial than any sum you'd earn under minimum wage. Now is the time to start paying your dues and working your way up to your dream job, because you can be damn sure no one is going to hand it to you. And when your hard work pays off? Priceless.



PRIDE WITH NO PREJUDICE. LGBT community and supporters celebrates their pride at the Come Out with Pride event in downtown Orlando. This year proved to be the most popular yet with an estimated turnout of 120,000 people, according to Orlando Police Department.

David Matteson



David Matteson



David Matteson

All closet doors open

The LGBT community at Rollins may be a minority, but is welcomed with acceptance and encouragement. Students of all sexual orientations feel that their student and sexual identities are compatible.

By Christopher Sarafian

For nine consecutive years, Rollins College has proudly clenched *U.S. World and News*' coveted title as the "No.1 Regional University in the South." This Spanish moss encrusted campus location befuddles many a Tar-ignorant inquisitor and it's not uncommon for the unfamiliar to flop tremendously in his or her efforts to pinpoint Rollins on a mental map.

"Rollins College - that's near Flagstaff, right?" No, lady—we're nowhere near Arizona, but your willpowered supposition is much appreciated.

However, in terms of annoyance, lopsided conjectures regarding our college community overshadow the typical (and somewhat innocent) locational guesswork.

"Oh, of course I know Rollins! The Koalas, right? I hear your football team killed it this year!" Sometimes, in situations such as this, it's best to just nod and feign a

cheap smile.

A lack of Rollins knowledge doesn't solely restrict itself to far off states - many Floridians also draw a blank when the college tumbles into conversation. With that said, however, Rollins has rung its brassy bells loud enough for the greater Orlando area to hear. And often times, what they hear takes form negatively.

According to local stereotype, Rollins students are primarily white, exceptionally belligerent, snotty, condescending, and of course, dripping in daddy's diamonds. Now, I refuse to argue that this conjured image lacks any substantial basis—many a pretty, blonde Tar-ette sa-shay their way to the 10 a.m. Quantitative Reasoning class, toting their Michael Kors, their Jimmy Choo's clicking on campus pavement. And of course, Rollins wouldn't be Rollins twithout drunken herds of meagerly tanned, vineyard-whale imprinted

frat boys. Yes, each of these archetypical personifications reflects the assumptions of local lore. However, are these Lacoste-slathered, ivory-skinned "rich kids" the only cog of the Rollins machine?

While it's safe to say that Rollins is no EPCOT in terms of human variety, it does possess seedlings of diversity. Five doppelgängers of preppy Rollins jock #43 may inflate a classroom; however, behind him sits a "Hot Topic-esque" girl and a quiet, lanky boy decorated in New Balance sneakers and a Kohl's-bought *Assassin's Creed* t-shirt.

In addition to the cafeteria labels assigned to describe style and musical tastes, Rollins does include reasonable clumps of students from an assortment of cultures and ethnic backgrounds—not just the presumed white. Unfortunately, however, the presence of the "typical Rollins student" really does outweigh any budding minority

group, especially in regards to one of the smallest, most controversial sects of all: the LGBT community.

Be it through nonchalant acknowledgment and affirmation, or the confidential nervous whisper on a smoke shrouded Rollins dock, a small sliver of the student body—myself included—identifies as either lesbian, gay, bisexual, or transgender. As "shocking" as it may seem, the community spans throughout various social pockets on campus (not just the flashy, Sondheim-screaming theater world). LGBT students exist in sororities, fraternities, sports teams, and every academic major in between.

However, most gay and lesbian students choose not to constantly broadcast their sexual preference in order to avoid labels and prefer recognition for their whole self in lieu of which gender's genitalia they find most engaging.

"I am not a gay Rol-

lins student. I am a Rollins student who happens to be gay," says Zack Uliasz, '15. "I make this distinction because for me, being "openly gay" is just being my normal self. In that sense, I am lucky because I have never, at Rollins, been made to feel self-conscious of who I am."

For the most part, the fear of social acceptance and peer disdain bypasses the thoughts of out and proud students. Instead, the majority refuses to loudly parade their sexuality in order to avoid the personality stripping "gay kid" and "lesbo" labels.

Tierney Torchin, '16 proves expert on this topic. Last spring, the current sophomore organized a series of interviews with LGBT students on the subject of gay stereotyping and labeling. This miniature documentary crept onto the Rollins Facebook stratosphere and presented the issue to a variety of uninformed audiences.



David Matteson

Continued from page 7

respectful of the gay community overall; however, there are still expectations of how members of the LGBT community should act," Torchin says in regards to the information she learned from her interviews. "Stereotypes are still extremely prevalent, even among allies and others who support the cause overall. I can see that we're on a progressive campus and that people are trying to be responsive to the times, but we still are expecting gay boys to be our best friends and lesbians to have deep voices. The campus is definitely supportive and is trying really hard to show it, but seems to still have some out-dated ideas stuck in their heads."

Despite assumptions and orientation-specific name tags, gay and lesbian students have encountered few instances of blatant homophobia.

Although Rollins seems more open to homosexuality than a mosh pit at a Lady Gaga concert, the school is not com-

pletely void of the occasional, ignorance-wielding bigot. "I would say Rollins is very open. Of course, there are homophobic assholes, as they exist all over the world," says Breanna Rack, '15.

Thankfully, homophobia hasn't cascaded upon Rollins as extremely as it has at other American colleges.

"I haven't experienced anything directly homophobic with the exception of my first week at Rollins when I wasn't even out and a girl said, 'I don't believe in gay people.' Whatever that means," says Sabrina Kent, '16, the president of Spectrum, Rollins' LGBT alliance.

Only once have I experienced ignorant absurdity at Rollins when it was implied that my sexuality correlated to "God testing my religious devotion." This brand of commentary is inevitable and minor in comparison to the daily persecution other LGBT college students endure.

Uliasz says, "Rollins is surprisingly open and accepting. Being any form of minority at a tiny school immediately makes

you a hyper-minority; however, I have found Rollins to be a very safe place to be. Certain factions of this school have shown themselves to be disappointingly less progressive, but on the whole, Rollins is a good role model for acceptance and understanding."

For the most part, gays and lesbians are welcomed with open arms and solo cups filled with generic fruit punch and cheap vodka by straight men and women alike.

"It's a lot easier to take your sexual orientation out of the picture when it comes to holding conversation with people anonymous with your sexuality. And if their interests and hobbies are different from mine, it's easy to just ask and find out more about them. I really don't see sexual orientation as a barrier in terms of conversing with other people," says Daniel Martinez, '16, in response to the idea of entering a frat party as an openly gay man.

"I have never felt discriminated against because of my sexual orientation. People who really know you, don't really

care if you are gay or straight because they realize it really doesn't affect them whatsoever," says Rack.

The welcoming environment that Rollins provides projects a level of comfort that allows many a closeted individual to proudly embrace their orientation.

"Before coming to Rollins, I was very much in the closet. Aside from a few of my friends, no one knew that I had dated girls. Coming to Rollins was such an eye opening experience for me because I met real-life lesbians, instead of just the other closeted girl that I dated and made out with in my high school bathroom" says Rack.

College has always presented the proper environment for embracing and delving into one's previously unspoken and unacknowledged sexual orientation. As the winter months encroach, a vast majority of LGBT babies (or "gaybies") sprout and scurry into the gaping homosexual mecca that is Orlando. Something about the right climate helps foster this great "Winter Exodus." The

warm atmosphere has inspired many a closeted gay freshmen to sprint out of the brisk depths of Narnia, fling open the closet door, and immediately download Grindr onto his/her smartphone.

Rollins College may not be perfect in terms of diversity. It's oversaturated with many Starbucks guzzling snobs. However, it is welcoming to anyone of any sexual preference. The warmth of the student body entwined with that of the Florida sun provides an oasis for so many students who may have once thought of themselves as "different," "strange," or even "tested by God."

However, the wise words of Alana Thompson—better known as Honey Boo Boo—resonate well with the overarching stance of the Rollins student body in regards to the gay community: "Ain't nothin' wrong with bein' a little gay, everybody's a little bit gay." I'll take a rain check on that last part, Alana. And by rain check, I mean I'll keep my eyes peeled for new faces sporting Tar tanks at Pulse this December.

Toddlers teach undergrads

Rollins' Child Development Center expands its program while raising awareness with a community fundraiser

Amir Sadeh

Columnist

Since the early 1990s, the Rollins Child Development Center (CDC) has made an effort to enroll a wide variety of "young learners" into their program. Recently, though, they have solidified that long-standing tradition through the creation of a formal inclusion policy. The faculty and staff of the CDC strongly believe that all children, including children with autism, vision impairments and speech/ language de-

the Down Syndrome Association of Central Florida (DSACF) in the past and currently is raising funds for the organization in their "Step Up for Down Syndrome Buddy Walk." CDC Research and Public Outreach Coordinator Julia Szenberg says the walk, taking place at Lake Eola on October 12th, is "very important to all of us here at the CDC and very close to our hearts, as we have had past children with Down syndrome at the CDC and a current child as well." The CDC has partnered up with many Rollins organizations, including the Women and Men's Basketball Team and the Delta Zeta sorority Pi Theta chapter, as well as members of the local Winter Park community, such as Power House Café, to meet their \$2,003.21 fundraising goal. When asked why such a specific number to raise, Szenberg said "3/21 is the World Down Syndrome Day and this fundraiser is not only about raising money for a great cause, but also providing awareness to our Rollins and local community."

Individuals interested in getting involved can do so by joining and donating to the "Rollins CDC Tars team". Go onto <http://stepuporlando.kintera.org/rollinscdctars> and click "Join Our Team" to walk with the CDC or, for those who cannot make the event, click "General Team Donation" and donate there. Also, On October 8th, Power House Café will be donating 10% of their profits to the Rollins CDC Tars Team for the DSACF. The staff and faculty of the CDC appreciate all those who have already sponsored and donated, and hope many more will do so in the future.

For a complete interview with Arun Gandhi, go to thesandspur.org

Grandson of Gandhi spreads peace to Rollins community



Scott Cook

FAMILY WISDOM Arun Gandhi shares his views on current world conflicts with the public. The grandson of the legendary, Mahatma Gandhi, also advocated for a higher education centered on enlightenment rather than money income.

Lauren Silvestri

Public Relations Coordinator

Sitting in the gorgeous Knowles Memorial Chapel just feet away from the incredible Arun Gandhi, grandson of legendary peace activist Mahatma Gandhi, made me realize just what an incredible institution Rollins is.

Arun Gandhi came to campus the night of October 2 (his grandfather's birthday and International Day of Non-Violence) for an event sponsored by the Winter Park Institute. The chapel was filled to almost maximum capacity with Rollins students, staff, and local community members. It was a relief to hear that Gandhi would also be doing an hour-long Q&A the next afternoon exclusively for Rollins students. After an introduction by Rollins psychology professor Dr. Sharon Carnahan, Carnahan asked Gandhi questions that were submitted by students prior to the event, followed by some questions from the audience.

One question asked Gandhi about the current religious tension in some regions of the world, such as the Middle East. Gandhi answered that we tend to look at situations only when they become a crisis, such as after the Holocaust and 9/11, and "we react to crisis instead of doing the right thing." He emphasized that we need to "reach out to all religions" and foster a "healthy dialogue" on interfaith communities.

Another question was directed at the current LGBT civil rights struggle in Russia, and how the protestors could overcome the violent Russian authorities with peace. Gandhi said that the protestors need to "anticipate [the] violence of the regime," but to always remain nonviolent. "The moment we retaliate, we have lost the battle." He also referenced his grandfather, who said that you should never look at people as enemies, but rather as "misguided friends."

The conversation then drifted to the topic of gun control. "No other country makes it so easy to get a gun [than the United States]," Gandhi stated. He shared that before WWII, companies that made consumer goods temporarily made war materials, and then stopped after the war ended. However, after WWII the United States government created a whole sector for weapons of mass destruction. These industries now foster violence for profits.

One student in the audience asked Gandhi about the occurrence of "neo-colonialism", where first world countries are taking advantage of other countries' resources not through slavery, but capitalism. Gandhi answered that he believes that there is an inverted relationship between materialism and morality. He calls the stock market "the greatest evil in the world" and says, "Businesses were created to serve the people, not shareholders."

When asked about the purposes of higher education, Gandhi said, "I am very unhappy [with the current state of higher education]. The education system has been transformed to what industry needs. The emphasis is always on finding a career and making money, not enlightenment. Education should help us understand ourselves and other humans. Enlightenment means expanding our vision and learning from each other. Education never ends, but only if you have an open mind."

After hearing this statement, I thought about my own education at Rollins. I believe that Rollins does live up to its promise of providing a global liberal arts education for today's world. Since I came to Rollins, my vision of the world has expanded. However, recently there has been some debate among the Rollins community over whether Rollins is straying away from this goal and promoting a more vocational approach. I only hope that Rollins' dedication to the education of the soul as well as the mind continues long, and that liberal arts colleges as a whole do not become extinct in this country. Gandhi's last words to the audience were, "I hope I have planted some seeds here... so we can all transform this world together." There is not a question in my mind that everyone in those pews, including myself, left the chapel with a renewed energy for social justice and change.

Such a policy benefits not only the children at the CDC, but also the undergraduate students who work with these children

lays, are unique and should be allowed to strive toward their fullest potential. CDC Director Diane Terorde-Doyle and Lead Teacher Caitlin Mason say, "The CDC is a school where children with special needs are not just included in all activities; the program is individualized for optimum growth." Such a policy benefits not only the children at the CDC, but also the undergraduate students who work with these children; these experiences further students' own growth academically as they go on to become therapists, psychologists, counselors, and teachers. Students in psychology labs, senior seminars, and internships from various departments interact with the children.

The CDC has worked with



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PASSPORT READY From Mexico to Morocco, Epcot's annual Food and Wine Festival offers cultural cuisine and beverages from over 20 countries.

Around the world in 80 minutes

Samantha Perry

Writer

For many Rollins students, trips to Walt Disney World are not so much a tradition as they are a necessity. For those of us with magical green Annual Pass cards, it can even be an addiction. Whether you're a regular visitor looking for something to spice up your weekly visit or a first-timer wanting to make it to the "Happiest Place on Earth" before you graduate, Epcot's Food and Wine Festival is a perfect way to experience Disney eats and services at their finest.

Established in 1996, Food and Wine is the sister to Epcot's Flower and Garden Festival held in the spring. Guests are invited to explore the World Showcase and sample food from 30 booths representing countries such as Australia, South Korea, Greece, and Belgium. If you're over 21, you can also check out fine wines and brews from all over the globe. The festival center hosts various cooking seminars taught by celebrity chefs throughout the season, and several Epcot-area resorts present ex-

tremely popular dinners in a five-star setting. While the atmosphere can seem fancy at times, most in-park activities are comfortably casual. While festival entry is included with your park ticket, each booth's offerings cost anywhere from \$3-\$8. One of the easiest ways to "eat around the world" is to purchase the special Food and Wine Disney gift card that has a wristband attached for easy access.

Of course, the most important part of Food and Wine is the food, and Epcot never disappoints in this area. Yearly favorites include China's chicken potstickers, South Korea's lettuce wrap with pork and kimchi slaw, and Canada's cheddar cheese soup. For those looking to eat a little healthier in the parks, Disney has designated several booths as "Try-It" stations for healthy eating: Terra (vegetarian and vegan options), Singapore, Poland, New Zealand, Greece, and Scotland all include better-for-you noshes to enjoy while exploring the World Showcase.

Food, however, is not the only draw of the festival. Returning for another year of musical entertainment is the

Eat to the Beat concert series, featuring bands such as Hanson, Boyz II Men, and Big Bad Voodoo Daddy. Each weekend brings a new concert and another reason to head back over to Disney (the shows are free). One of the more interesting exhibits is the miniature cranberry bog located near the entrance of World Showcase, where real "waders" explain the process of cranberry growing and harvesting. Finally, a trip to the Festival Center for exclusive merchandise and other festival presentations is a must; the limited-edition merch includes pins and t-shirts that are some of the most desirable Disney collectibles.

All in all, Epcot's Food and Wine Festival is the perfect way to spend a day touring the World Showcase, an area often overlooked in favor for the park's various thrill rides. It's also a great way to stay in the area before seeing the park's nightly fireworks spectacular, IllumiNations, which is a groundbreaking and beautiful show to watch. The festival runs through November 11 and tickets to Disney can be purchased through OSIL.

All that jazz with Rollins alum

Ariana M. Simpson

Writer

This past week on Tuesday October 1, Rollins College held its *Jazz Series: Moving Forward* concert. The program featured original pieces by Rollins Alum Chris Rottmayer. The concert was a result of Rollins College Hamilton Holt School's Student-Faculty Collaboration Grant Program. The collaboration was a joint effort of faculty professor Dr. Daniel Crozier, Professor of Music, and Rottmayer. The compositions were officially described as "long form original jazz pieces written using concert music forms."

done by masterly endowed musicians Rottmayer (piano), Rollins College professor Chuck Archard (electric bass), Keith Wilson (drums), John DePaola (trumpet/flugelhorn), and Dan Jordan (saxophone/flute). Each and every single piece that was performed that night elicited whistles and cheers from the prodigious audience in attendance. Rottmayer's music took you on a ride through a harmonic garden that cascaded through your veins and pulsed resonance in your blood. His second piece that was performed, "Chaconne," opened up with an airy ambience as the melody led in eerily smooth and precise.

Overall, the piece has the feeling of gliding as if swinging you back and forth alongside the equator where the ocean and sky meet. The performers were drenched in class and cascaded the stage with their presence. A bass, piano, drum moment in the piece elicited a "woo-ed" reaction from the audience. The musicians communicated with one another and were engaging with not only each other but the audience and gave light to one another during solos.

Rottmayer's "Jazz Tune #1" immediately set an unparalleled precedent for entrances with the drumming rattling greatness within ear drums and the tenor sax solo evolving the piece to a awe sounding creation. "Fade In," another piece of Rottmayer's, was just as beautiful and alluring as the others and written in a rounded binary form. "Waltz for Julia" reflected just as much refinement as whom the piece was written for, ending with his piece "Sonata" reassured Rottmayer's elegance and charm as a musician and composer and this concert a treat of delicacy.

A great composer of Rollins very own and an equally talented set of musicians added up to a memorable and tremendous concert.

Rottmayer's music took you on a ride through a harmonic garden that cascaded through your veins and pulsed resonance in your blood.

As far as professional musical framework goes, Rottmayer has been an Adjunct Faculty member at USF since '07, and currently is a Graduate Assistant in the Jazz Studies Department while working towards his MM in Jazz Composition with Professor Chuck Owen. Since 1998, Rottmayer has been an active musician in the Central Florida area performing with the Bach Festival Orchestra of Winter Park, the Orlando Philharmonic Orchestra, and Walt Disney World, as well freelancing in both Orlando and Tampa.

Rottmayer's pieces were of stellar and stirring magnitude with the performance

It's alive!

With an interactive bird exhibit, photo booth, and scavenger hunt, CFAM's First Friday event was a night to remember

Hannah Blizter

Writer

The Cornell Fine Arts Museum presented the First Friday event on October 4. The exhibition featured *Birds of Florida* by Colombian artist, Diana Beltran Herrera as well as an exhibition known as *Studio Malick*, depicting the Malian photographer Malick Sidibe. This free, public exhibition and event was co-sponsored by the Latin American Student Association.

The event was entitled, Night at the Museum: When Art Comes Alive and had appealing promises of unique exhibitions and interactive activities. It certainly rose to the occasion, though I cannot say that the early, 4pm start time could really be considered a "night at the museum." The art was lively, and though it didn't literally come alive, it seemed to have a life and spirit of its own.

The interactive events included a scavenger hunt for all ages, a raffle, casual gallery talks and tours of the art works, a photo booth with various hats and props, and a DJ. The photo booth seemed popular with many of the

guests. The music was lively, it wasn't my personal preference, I'm a big fan of classical music at just about any art exhibition, but it complemented these particular exhibitions nicely. Free refreshments were also provided for those that needed an extra incentive to attend.

Birds of Florida was phenomenal. The artist, Diana Beltran Herrera, is interested

The art was lively, and though it didn't literally come alive, it seemed to have a life and spirit of its own.

in exploring and recreating wildlife, not as a scientist, but as an artist. She explains the importance of wild birds in the ecosystem, not just in Florida, but across the world. Herrera also emphasizes the poetry she sees in the wild birds' movements and the

gracefulness that is reflected in it. Her bio finished with some pensive thoughts, "Does the place where we live let us be what we are? And if so, when in our lives does that manifest itself?" It was a nice, thought-provoking way to introduce her artwork.

The way the birds were set up hanging in mid-air afforded them to have movement and a graceful quality, much like the poetic one Herrera describes. The birds seemed to come to life and were stunningly realistic. The quality and attention to detail in each bird was phenomenal. Their beauty was almost surreal while maintaining their life-like quality.

When you looked up close and saw the sheer shine and glitter in some of their feathers, the birds were simply striking and reflected the artist's impressive talent.

The exhibition *Studio Malick*, was unlike one I had ever seen. There was a huge quantity of photographs that offer a glimpse into the time of political transition and cultural liberation in Mali. These were true studies of human personality and character. It was almost like watching a



Hannah Blizter

WILD AWAKENING At their First Friday event, CFAM's featured exhibition, *Birds of Florida*, recreated wildlife and exposed the importance of bird ecosystems.

documentary of these people right before your eyes – but they were photographs. It is truly amazing to see such talented photography that can bring the subjects in the photographs to life. This exhibition will be on display through early December, and I highly recommend taking the time to experience it.

The Cornell Fine Arts Museum is an opportunity that many students often never take advantage of; at-

tending one of these events is not only memorable, but also artistically and culturally enriching. In addition to the featured exhibitions, there were other notable artists' work on display, including Albrecht Dürer, Roy Lichtenstein, and a personal favorite, Paul Cézanne. Keep an eye out for the next "First Friday" or any other event that the Cornell Fine Arts Museum hosts, it will most certainly not disappoint.

'Coming Out' on stage

Loescher illuminates contemporary LGBT issues by acting out her personal experiences.

Kyle McCoy

Staff Writer

On Sunday, September 29 at 8pm, Rollins Improv Players, or RIP, put on a uniquely resonant showing – *Amando Diaz: The "R" Project*. Sponsored by the on-campus organization, Spectrum, this performance had a theme with which I am all too familiar: sexual orientation and the "coming out" process.

Hosted in our own Fred Stone theatre, the show was inspired by *The Laramie Project: 10 Years Later*. This theatrical production and its predecessor from 2000, the

original *Laramie Project*, are based on the murder of the gay University of Wyoming student, Matthew Shepard, which took place in the city of Laramie, Wyoming during 1998.

Seated in the front row, I was in the position for a prime viewing of this memorable RIP presentation. A series of monologues by senior studio art major and theatre minor, Grace Loescher, were followed by segments of improvised acting by fellow members of the Rollins ensemble. The monologues detailed significant and noteworthy moments in Loescher's life,

recounting instances such as the time she came out to her brother in a dirty booth at an everyday diner to a memory from last year when she was removed from a leadership position for her Bible Study group.

The spontaneous acts preceding Grace's personal speeches ranged from laugh-out-loud, satirical humor to dishearteningly relatable realism. Each player was quick on their feet to embody various personas – putting on accents, personifying inanimate objects, and keeping the material relevant to the topic at hand. While jokes and hilar-

ity played a requisite role in maintaining attention from their audience, it was the actors' abilities to convey raw human emotions that pertain to contemporary LGBT issues which caused the show to resonate so strongly with me.

When walking away from the performance, what I admired most about it was Loescher's intrinsic, authentic and courageous capacity to stand before a fully packed theatre while confessing her most evocative experiences as an "out" and proud gay woman. When dealing with entertainers, the expectation is of illusion, deception, and

make-believe. But all Loescher had to offer her audience was validation as a person overcoming oppression, the devout honesty of a passionate being and legitimacy as a performing artist who's drawn on real-life instances.

If you have never been to a RIP show, you are doing yourself a disservice. The talent and diversity found amongst members of this affiliated group leave a lasting impression long after a hypothetical curtain descends upon their stage. I highly recommend you drop in on any one of their upcoming shows on the 23rd, 31st.

Jacksonville needs a QB, Tebow needs a job

Facing a likely winless season, the Jacksonville Jaguars are close to posting for a quarterback on Craigslist, but some fans hope Tim Tebow will answer their prayers.

Austin Meehan

Writer

Orlando Sentinel sports columnist Mike Bianchi wrote, "When you have nothing, you have nothing to lose." At the time of his writing, the Jacksonville Jaguars were 0-4. It's gotten so bad that during their eventual loss to Oakland on September 15th, WKMG-TV in Orlando issued an on-screen apology to its viewers for showing that game instead of the Denver Broncos-New York Giants, a.k.a. the "Manning Bowl." Since long-time head coach Jack Del Rio was fired during the 2011 season, the Jags went 2-14 in 2012 and fired Mike Mularkey after his first and only season at the helm. This season, Gus Bradley is looking to follow in the footsteps of his predecessors and be booted after one season. The Jags have been outscored 129-31 in their four games so far and it's hard to think that they'll pass their win total from last season.

That being said, it is imperative that the Jaguars sign Tim

Tebow. Plain and simple. If you haven't heard of him, then you're not one of the 85% of 1,000 Americans surveyed last month who have heard of him, according to Bloomberg Businessweek. Tebow has become an ultra-polarizing figure, courtesy of his success, good looks, faith, and "never-know-what-to-expect" playing style; all his attributes have made him one of the most popular celebrity athletes.

Going back to Bianchi's point, what's the worst that can happen if they sign him? If they're worried about a circus-like atmosphere surrounding the team—like what happened to the Jets—any publicity for this hapless franchise can only be a good thing. Considering that Tebow grew up in the Jacksonville area, nothing could be better than having a hometown legend leading his hometown team. In terms of marketing and

ticket sales, there would be absolutely no downside. Generally speaking, the vast majority of NFL fans do not wish to watch Jaguar games simply because they're a miserable team to watch. If the Jaguars' front office decides to finally sign Tebow, ticket sales would go through the roof, television viewership would skyrocket, the media

“He's a born leader and someone who does whatever it takes to succeed, both on and off the field.”

would go crazy, and fans would have something to look forward to each and every game.

The worst-case scenario would be that even if Tebow did fail, the Jaguars would likely receive the first pick in the 2014 Draft and select either quarterback Teddy Bridgewater (Louisville) or defensive end Jadeveon

Clowney (South Carolina), who could be potential franchise players. But even if Tebow plays for half of this season, the potential positives definitely outweigh the potential negatives. In fact, it's a no-brainer.

Regardless of what your perception of Tebow might be, he's done nothing but win in his football career. It might not be pretty at times, but he's gotten the job done. He has the "it" factor. He's a born leader and someone who does whatever it takes to succeed, both on and off the field. Over the course of his career, his play has inspired teammates and they have improved because of it.

Prior to making it to the National Football League, Tebow was named to the Florida State High School Athletic Association All-Century team, was a member of two national championship teams at the University of Florida, won the 2007 Heisman Trophy, had a record

of 35-6 as a starter at UF and held five NCAA, 14 Southeastern Conference, and 28 UF statistical records at the conclusion of his collegiate career. He was chosen with the 25th pick in the 2010 NFL Draft by the Denver Broncos and, in the following season, finished 7-4 as the starter to lead his team to an eventual playoff win against the Pittsburgh Steelers. However, following that remarkable season, he was traded to the New York Jets, where he played sparingly, only passing for 39 yards and rushing for 102. After a frustrating season, the Jets released him and the New England Patriots signed him for the pre-season. Ultimately, after disappointing performances, Tebow was released.

But here's the bottom line: Tebow will leave everything on the field and will give 110%. Regardless of their win and loss record, the team's effort level will certainly increase with Tebow as quarterback. I hope that the Jaguars will soon realize that it's Tebow Time.

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