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THE SLANDSPUR

APRIL 1, 2014
VOLUME 120
ISSUE 20

Rollins turns to booze for budget help

ALCOHOL TO THE RESCUE!

-Also-

*Bye bye Bush:
Return of the portables*



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sive in circulation; all these will be found upon
investigation to be among the extraordinary quali-
ties of The Sandspur."

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WHERE in the WORLD

Compiled by Lauren Waymire

Jerusalem

According to *The New York Times*, the Israeli military has discovered a sophisticated tunnel system running from Gaza into southern Israel. While Hamas, the militant Palestinian faction that currently controls the Gaza Strip, has downplayed the significance of the discovery, the Israelis have deemed it a "substantial" find. Several kidnappings and attacks in the past decade were made possible by several different tunnels through which militants would cross over into Israel. The find comes at a time when tensions are rapidly increasing between the Israelis and Palestinians, with the Palestinians sending rockets into Israel, prompting airstrikes in return.

Ankara, Turkey

According to *Reuters*, the Turkish government has banned the use of Twitter af-

ter the social media platform was supposedly used to reveal corruption in Prime Minister Erdogan's administration. The Turkish leader vowed to rid the country of Twitter, no matter the thoughts of the international community. The top global Twitter trend following the ban was #Twitterisblocked-in-Turkey, and protesters took to the streets, calling the Prime Minister "Twitler," among other things. Shortly following the ban, Twitter sent out a tweet to its Turkish users, instructing them on how to tweet using SMS text messaging. There is uncertainty as to whether or not the site will be available once again to the Turkish people any time soon.

Houston, Texas

According to *The Washington Post*, U.S. Immigration authorities discovered a "stash house" in the Houston area

where more than a hundred foreign nationals were being held. A total of 115 people, adults and children, were found living in squalor conditions with one bathroom, no hot water and no shoes, taken by smugglers to prevent their escape. Windows were boarded and doors were locked from the outside. Countries of origin included Mexico, Guatemala, Honduras, and El Salvador. They were allegedly being held in the U.S. illegally until a family member would pay their ransom.

Vatican City

According to the *BBC*, Pope Francis denounced the mafia at a vigil, saying, "Blood-stained money, blood-stained power, you can't bring it with you to your next life. Repent." The vigil, held annually, is for the family members of victims of the mafia. The pope, who wrote a book on the subject when he

was an archbishop of Buenos Aires in 2005, expressed his desire that the church do more to confront mobsters. He especially wants to sever church ties with mafia dons who claim to be god-fearing Catholics.

“U.S. Immigration authorities discovered a stash house in the Houston area where more than 100 foreign nationals were being held.”

A Mere Experience

The consummate manifesto: an argument for honesty, confidence, and realism in the face of college romance and 'love.'

Amir Sadeh

Columnist

"Manifesto: a written statement that describes the policies, goals, and opinions of a person or group" — Merriam-Webster Dictionary

Back in 1986, American psychologist Robert Sternberg created what we know now as the triangular theory of love. In his theory, he described all love as being comprised of three major components: intimacy, passion, and commitment. In other words, think of the difference between the love of a friend (intimacy), that of a lover (passion), and that of a family member (commitment). Each component was a different point of the triangle, and one's relationship with any particular person could fall into one of eight categories:

Nonlove, which is characterized as a majority of our casual interactions with individuals; liking/friendship (intimacy only); infatuation (passion only); empty love (commitment only, like an arranged marriage); romantic love (intimacy and passion); companionate love (intimacy and commitment); fatuous love (passion and commitment); and, finally a combination of the three.

As the theory goes, the more components of love present in your relationship with an individual, the stronger the love will be. The Holy Grail, and what I name my manifes-

to on, is what Sternberg called "consummate love" or the combination of intimacy, passion, and commitment. To him, it is used to describe the "perfect couple" and is not only hard to obtain but even harder to sustain. It is the goal that we strive for.

For years, I have been utterly fascinated by love, and not just as someone who is a self-described "romantic." I have come to look at the topic analytically both as a psychology major and as an individual who truly wants to understand why people feel the way they do. After years of humbly being a close friend to those who have asked my advice on the matter, I have come to develop my own beliefs on the topic, especially in relation to "collegiate romances." Whether you are just trying to find someone to hook up with for the night or hoping to meet a person you can be in a serious and committed relationship with, there are three principles that we all must consider if we wish to be more successful and even change the status quo.

For starters, honesty is always the best policy. Not only with others but also with yourself. What do I mean? People do not become jaded to love just because they are unsuccessful (although that certainly plays a factor). What really turns peo-

ple off and makes them bitter is being lied to, whether that is through outright deception or the perpetration of false expectations. But before one can be honest with others, we have to be honest with ourselves. What the heck do you want? Do you just want someone to stick their tongue down your throat? Do you want someone to cuddle with and watch "Doctor Who?" Do you want something completely different or something in-between? It does not matter what it is because there is no

Love is not for the weak hearted. More likely than not, you will be rejected more times than you will be successful.

wrong answer. You just have to know how to fill in that blank. Once you are finally able to be honest with yourself, you have to also be honest with others. It may seem frank, but think about it: if more people were just honest about what they wanted, then there would be far less miscommunication and mistrust in the system. But this is much easier said than done.

Love is not for the weak hearted. More likely than not, you will get rejected more times than you are successful. To that I say...deal. I'm sorry that's life and, last time I checked,

you are not guaranteed anything. You have to be willing to put yourself out there. More importantly, you have to be confident in loving yourself as well. And remember, this goes for everyone. It is 2014. Do not just sit there and wait for the other person to make the first move. No matter your gender, sex, or sexual orientation, you will always miss out if you do nothing. There are almost seven billion people in the world, and just because one says no to you, that does not mean the world is over. Even if you are rejected by a thousand people, you have only been rejected by 0.00001428571% of the population. Look—I know these numbers and sayings do not mean much, and at the end of

the day, you still may feel apprehensive. The truth is that you cannot expect someone to just waltz up to you and ask you out for coffee. You have to take the initiative. And nine times out of ten, you will even surprise yourself.

That all being said, confidence alone cannot make miracles happen. No amount of honesty in your intentions or confidence in yourself can help you if you are striving for a fantasy. This is not some cliché Disney movie. This is the real world. I do not say this to mean that people are innately shallow

(although some are), but we cannot kid ourselves: physical attraction and that indefinable "chemistry" do play a significant role in love. Just because you are "nice" does not mean a thing. Being a decent human does not translate to you finding love. Even worse is when you put someone you barely know on a pedestal and create an unattainable image of them that they will never be able to live up to. You have set yourself up for disappointment. If you are going to put yourself out there, do it for someone you have shared interests with, someone you find cute, and someone you have gotten to know by walking past each other on your way to Spanish class. I am not saying that you should "settle," but I am saying that you should not waste your time pining over someone you know you have nothing in common with and is not at the same level of emotional or mental maturity as you are. It is true; sometimes the heart wants what the heart wants. But we were given a brain too. Just because it is a feeling, that does not mean you throw reason out the window. Even love can be rationalized.

I know this is not the end all be all, and you may very well disagree. But to find the love you are looking for, whatever it may entail, involves being honest, confident, and real. Find truth, go boldly, and be smart. If you succeed in doing so, nothing in this world can stop you.



Sexperts



Becky

Tinder app affords women dating power

Rebecca Wilson

Columnist

Online dating is becoming more and more commonplace in our generation. Simultaneously, hookup culture is still booming, hence the birth of Tinder, a convenient dating app. Tinder pulls pictures from your Facebook and voila, you're skimming pictures of potential hookup partners, and Tinder makes it easy as a swipe left for no and right for yes. Only people who swipe each other right can talk. Your decision is based on one to six pictures, possibly a pretentious quote made in an attempt to seem profound, and maybe a height typed in to avoid that awkward conversation.

In an interview with Tech Crunch, Tinder claimed to make over six million matches daily. How many of these people are actually meeting up? A lot of people seem to think Tinder is "over" already, while a lot of girls claim to mainly use

it as a joke. Men view these girls as simply searching for an ego boost, while they wind up with some hilarious conversations. There is even a popular Tumblr blog called "How to Lose a Guy in One Tinder", where a girl says the weirdest and grossest things she can think of in attempt to test the persistence of guys prowling for hookups. Grandmas, cats, incest, and other generally neurotic statements seem to deter few. The shallow nature of the app is seen as convenient to some, and offensive to others.

While online dating practice generally sees men as being the shallow prowlers, as "How to Lose a Guy in One Tinder" demonstrates, this app provides women a chance to be just as shallow. It then becomes a question of whether women should be emulating the behavior criticized in men, to assert their equality, or if they're falling into a trap. Women are typically seen as more emotional and less sex-driven—a tired

tune. Tinder allows women to be sexual aggressors, which isn't inherently better or worse than being the pursued, but it is not the norm. The opportunity in conventional sexual practice for women to be the desiring party as opposed to the desired object is limited. On another more traditional dating site, OkCupid, it is very much the same. Women are the ones being pursued, and a woman sending the first message is frowned upon and against the expected site protocol. On Tinder, women have to express interest to even start a conversation. This also contrasts expected codes for hookups in bars it is generally expected that men approach women.

This shift in female sexuality isn't a recent event, but practice is beginning to reflect a more modern idea of women in hookup culture. Rather than sitting back and waiting for messages to come in, Tinder lets women prowl through men, expressing their sexual desire with a simple swipe. Another shift for millennials is that surprisingly, it is becoming common for serious relationships to be born from Tinder hookups. It leads to some interesting fake "meet-cutes" for mom, but what it says about the nature of relationships in our generation is that shallow sexual connections are the beginning point of a deeper relationship. It also demonstrates that men are becoming more accepting of sexually aggressive women as respectable and desirable for a relationship beyond just sex. This norm is one I'm all for—being the sexual aggressor is a powerful identity as a woman. If you're interested in casual hookups, it seems Tinder is a leveling field allowing women to play the role of pursuer as much as any man can.

Letter to the editor

Rollins alumnus shares her experience working with the Philadelphia Health Corps.

At 4:30 on a Thursday afternoon, Rachel and I were wrapping up for the day and heard a knock on our office door. One of our patients, CeCe, came into our office, sat on our couch, and burst into tears. She explained how her family was going through hard times—her mother-in-law passed away, she had recently been cut down to working only two days a week, and she went home to find that her family only had one can of food left and no money in their bank account.

Overwhelmed, CeCe explained that she had refrained from crying to stay strong for her husband, but could not hold it in anymore. Rachel and I vigorously looked for any resources we could find around the city for her family to get free meals. We encountered many of the same problems that people face when trying to access these programs—being placed on hold for 20 minutes, finding that many organizations had discontinued numbers, or that some were very specific about who they helped.

After an hour and a half of doing research and calling as many organizations as we could, CeCe had a stack of papers listing the different places she could get free meals, as well as get services to help her apply for Food Stamps. As she left, she thanked us for showing her that her family could bounce back from these challenges. After our door closed, Rachel and I looked at each other, took a deep breath, and realized how much our job goes beyond its job description.

Moving from Central Florida to Philadelphia served as a defining moment of professional and personal transformation for me. Having never lived outside of Florida, I was hesitant about withstanding the cold weather and the rumored lack of "brotherly love" for which Philadelphia was known.

However, after just a short time of working at Health Center 6 on Girard Avenue as a Patient Advocate with the Philadelphia Health Corps, I surprised even myself. My experience in Philadelphia proved to

be an overwhelmingly positive, life-changing experience. As Patient Advocates, my co-worker Rachel and I help uninsured patients apply to programs where they can qualify to get a year's worth of free medication. In just the past five months, we were able to provide medication to over 650 people. Each year our patients and health centers save \$20,000 by securing these free medications. With this experience, I have felt the most fulfilled when my patients come to our office seeking help and leave smiling because they know they will be able to afford their medication.

As a Rollins alum, I am thankful that Rollins provided a foundation for me to explore my personal boundaries and prepare me for times where people like CeCe need me. Now that I am planning on attending medical school in the fall, I am happy to know that my service as an AmeriCorps member has not only helped a number of patients but has also greatly prepared me for my future career as a physician. Unlike my previous medical experiences, the Philadelphia Health Corps has given me the opportunity to learn about medically underserved communities and to interact with patients as a young professional.

Additionally, I have had the opportunity to work with a dedicated group of ordinary citizens and to see how together we can make positive impacts in our local community. This year, AmeriCorps is celebrating its 20th Anniversary, and I want to encourage more Rollins students to recognize and celebrate the work that AmeriCorps members do to help improve their local community, including ones that serve at Rollins.

Recognizing how AmeriCorps members and alumni have impacted our communities will not only show us how our communities have grown, but will also encourage students and future generations to strive to live by the message that AmeriCorps and Rollins share—working to make a better, stronger community.

-Shalini Allam '13

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Sea World celebrates 50th anniversary despite *Blackfish* drama

Despite anger created by the *Blackfish* documentary, SeaWorld launches new entertainment for the park's 50th anniversary and prepares to possibly expand internationally.

Annamarie Carlson

Managing Editor

Blackfish be damned: SeaWorld is celebrating the 50th anniversary of the opening of the first SeaWorld park in a nationwide celebration. On Friday, March 21, 2014, all three SeaWorld parks in Orlando, San Diego, and San Antonio kicked off the Sea of Surprises 50th Celebration.

Reminiscent of Disney's "Year of a Million Dreams" campaign in 2006, over the next eighteen months, guests at SeaWorld Orlando will be able to experience a variety of new features, from new show to new interactive experiences, including:

SeaWorld Surprise Squad: A team of excited employees will roam the park and give away free souvenirs and experiences, from Shamu stuffed animals to behind-the-scenes

tours.

Shamu's Celebration: Light Up The Night: Starting on June 21, guests will experience a new evening orca show, replacing the previous "Shamu Rocks" show with new music and routines.

Madagascar Live! Operation: Vacation: For the little guests (and those of us who are older but not quite grown up), SeaWorld Orlando will begin a new show starring characters from the *Madagascar* movie franchise.

More Animal Ambassadors: Scattered throughout the park, guests will be able to see up close, learn about, and possibly touch various orphaned or injured wildlife rescued by the SeaWorld Rescue Team including eagles, anteaters, penguins, and flamingos. At other times, a group of flamingos may wander the park with trainers following behind.

Surprise Entertainment: SeaWorld's walkways will be filled by random roaming entertainment troupes, from acrobats and drummers to clowns ready to soak guests. Special entertainment will be featured in the children's play area, Shamu's Happy Harbor, including bubble machines that create bubbles of all sizes.

In March 1964, the first SeaWorld park opened in San Diego, California. Since then, four other parks opened around the world. While three of the parks are still open, the SeaWorld park in Aurora, Ohio closed in 2001 due to low attendance and an inability to remain open during the cold winter. That park was initially taken over by Six Flags before being shut down completely 2004.

Overall, SeaWorld has not seemed to suffer from the *Blackfish* documentary, a 2013 film that documents the death of

SeaWorld trainer Dawn Brancheau in 2010 by orca Tilikum and explores the controversy surrounding captive killer whales. The film and people's reactions to it caused many of the bands lined up to play at SeaWorld's annual Bands, Brew, & BBQ event to cancel out of personal choice or fear of losing fans.

SeaWorld has since responded to *Blackfish*, calling it "propaganda" on a website dedicated to refuting the film as well as buying eight full-page ads in major newspapers refuting the film's claims.

Despite protesters outside the parks, while attendance at SeaWorld has decreased in the fourth quarter and the last financial year overall, revenue was up 3 percent for both the quarter and the year. Attendance was down 4.1 percent for the year. During a financial report with investors this March,

SeaWorld has said they are considering working with partners to expand their theme parks internationally.

In the last fifteen years, SeaWorld has chosen to focus their efforts on animal rescue and rehabilitation. As said by President and CEO of SeaWorld Parks & Entertainment, Jim Atchison, in SeaWorld's "Celebrating 50 Years of SeaWorld" video, "We do something no one else does. We connect people with nature in a way that inspires them and entertains them, and maybe leaves them to care a little bit more after they are done, and that is something very special, and it has been a great privilege to do that for so long."

SeaWorld's Sea of Surprises will continue through August 2015. Discount tickets can be purchased at OSIL's desk in the campus center across from the Bieberbach-Reed room.

SeaWorld Surprise Squad

A team of excited employees will roam the park and give away free souvenirs and experiences, from Shamu stuffed animals to behind-the-scenes tours.

Shamu's Celebration: Light Up The Night

Guests will experience a new evening orca show, replacing the previous "Shamu Rocks" show.

Madagascar Live! Operation: Vacation

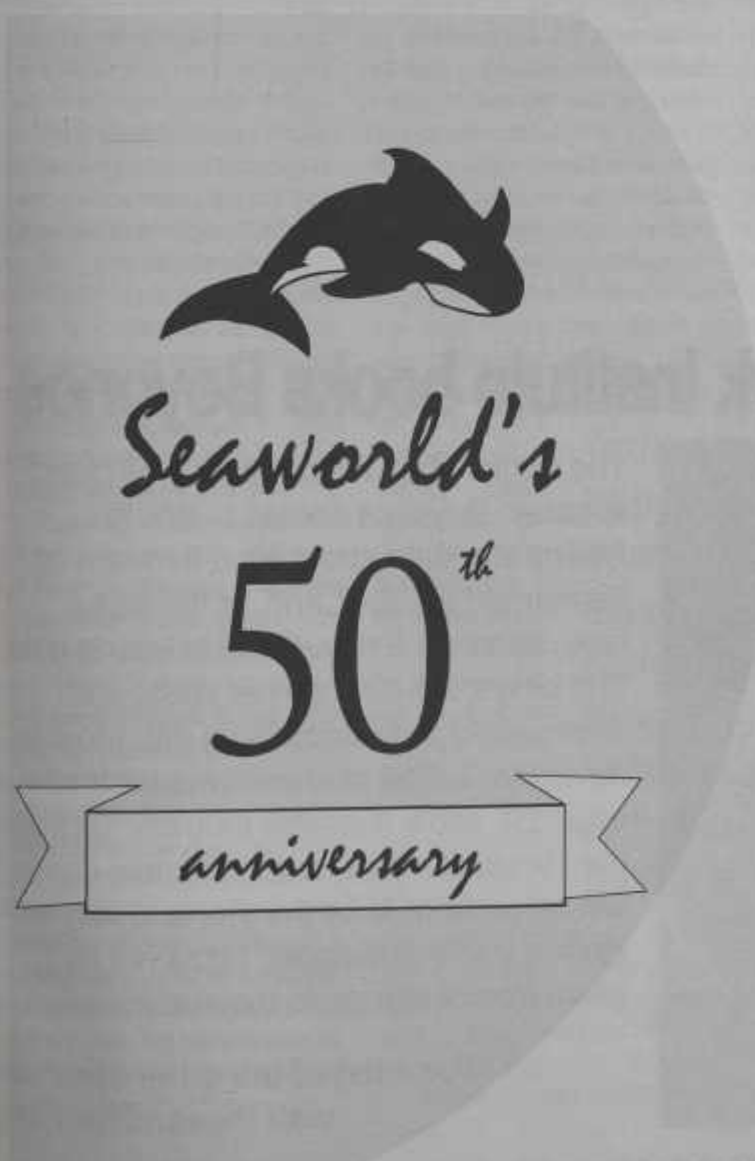
SeaWorld Orlando will begin a new show starring character from the *Madagascar* movie franchise.

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Beer solves budget burden

Annamarie Carlson

Managing Editor

In a shocking turn of events, after recent administration disgruntlement at the idea of a pub replacing Dave's Down Under, the college has embraced the idea of serving alcohol to students.

The Rollins Food and Drink Administrative Board made an announcement yesterday morning that the Cornell Campus Center will be replacing the little-used gluten-free station with a full bar with specially-trained bartenders ready to create any drink you concoct.

"The college was struggling with budget problems, and we realized that the solution was right under our noses," said administrator Anita Drink.

"Students were asking for a campus pub, and the revenue brought in by providing students with something they were just going to buy down the street anyway is projected to not only pay off the current budget problems but create enough of an income to create future scholarship funds for students."

Embracing the college-student drinking world, the college is planning to create future programs encouraging students to purchase alcohol for the sake of a cause. By combining the SHIP scholarship program and Dance Marathon, certain drinking events hosted by the college will donate proceeds to scholarship accounts for students in need or various national charities.

"I can't wait to be able to drink on campus! It will make it so much easier to cool off after a bad day and not have to worry about all of the extra money I will have to spend taking cabs to downtown Orlando," said alcohol enthusiast Miliva Hatesme '15.

Campus Security agreed with Hatesme's thoughts, supporting the change and stating that offering alcohol to students on campus would actually alleviate safety risks. "While it might increase petty crime on campus, it will stop some students from wandering down Fairbanks drunk at 3 a.m. or attempting to drive back from downtown Orlando inebriated. By keeping students on campus, we can monitor their alcohol consumption, get them to their dorms, and get them medical attention if needed."

The only concern raised by Campus Security about the new program was preventing underage drinking; however a new R-Card system will hopefully prevent the college from serving alcohol to minors.

Students over the age of 21 will receive a new style R-Card, more reminiscent of the prettier format used before Rollins changed to the current hideous blue monstrosities in fall 2010.

These cards will include a chip easily scanned by Campus Police that includes the student's dorm building and room number, emergency contact information, and disclosed medical problems in case of a medical emergency.

Students over the age of 21 will need to visit the newly formed Campus R-Card Exchange Office near Campus Security to receive their new R-Card.

In addition, students wanting to participate in the plan will need to purchase an additional dining plan this fall. Students will be able to purchase alcohol with this special new meal plan, the Drinking Package.

Like the Dining Plan, this plan will be non-refundable. Options will include the society drinker (\$200 a semester), the pub fiend (\$400 a semester), the socialite (\$700 a semester), and the constant hangover (\$1500 a semester). Students and parents can add money to these accounts at any time.

Guests visiting the campus will need to pick up an alcohol pass which they can put money on from Campus Security after proving their age in order to purchase alcohol at the pub. Cash will not be accepted.

This new addition to the dining options will also provide new students with an opportunity to drink throughout the day and night. Although the regular food stations will still only remain open during regular dining hours, the bar will stay open from breakfast at 7 a.m. until the Grille closes at 2 a.m., making it the longest-available food option on campus.

Students are encouraged to email suggested bar names to sandspur@rollins.edu. A campus-wide vote will be conducted alongside SGA President Elections to encourage student participation in their student government.

The bar is scheduled to open in Fall 2014.



Bush goes back down

Science portables replace Bush Science Building.

Daniel Udell

Head Copy Editor

Due to recent budget cuts, Rollins College has officially decided to tear down the new Bush Science Center, again, deciding the old system of portables awkwardly situated in between Holt Hall and the Sutton Apartments as being a far superior option in regards to yearly cost and efficiency. The much-anticipated new science building has been more or less agreed upon to be a complete failure by all that have had the misfortune to use it in the past year. Students have reported that their money has been sucked away from the delicious smoothies offered there and that the library seemed like a distant memory since all their needs could be met in the new building. In fact, faculty and students alike complained that the attractiveness of the interior of the building distracted from most work and would serve much better as the old dirt crater it was warmly embraced as for much of 2012 and 2013 during initial construction.

"I just miss all the construction noise, you know?" said student Seymour Butz '16. "I really couldn't start my day until I woke up to the three-hours straight of drilling and whining of machinery." Seymour might be in luck, as the school board has also decided to use the Bush building space as a new skate park for the bros and bras

to show their sick moves. President Duncan admitted that after seeing a senior pull off an impressive 180 and an Ollie outside his office, he knew that the school needed a safe location for everyone to hone their "transportation unit" skills. Construction overseer Hank Eapanki said that the new skate park would be constructed with that goal in mind, being "safe for bikes, skateboards, long boards, roller blades, scooters, and even the lone unicycle, if you felt up to it."

Indeed, residents of Holt Hall and the Sutton Apartments couldn't be more overjoyed at the news. "I didn't think that parking was that big of a deal," says Junior Shea Veurbush '15. "I got a deep sense of satisfaction watching all the miserable science students trek all the way over from Elizabeth and Strong to take their classes over here. I'm glad we're reinstating the old system." Veurbush, a resident of Sutton, is roommates with Terry Dactul '15, a Bio-Chemistry major. Dactul, unfortunately, can only communicate via high-pitched shrieks and flapping of her 16 ft. wingspan, so Veurbush had to translate for me during my interview. "Terry says that she's glad that she doesn't have to leave far from Sutton now to finish her science classes, that way she isn't away from the nest for too long," Veurbush tells me, holding up to me a large, bluish-white egg. "Neat," I reply.

Upon further investigation, I could not find one defender of the new Bush Science Center. "It's been an eye sore my entire last year - this isn't the memory I wanted to take with me as I graduate," says Jack Kass '14. "Now I'm going to leave bitter that the students after me are going to get such a great new skating facility." Even the science faculty had no kind words for the extremely expensive mistake - "I don't work here, stop badgering me," said one grown-ass man wearing a lab coat walking down the halls of the science building. As he turned to leave, I noticed he had one of Veurbush's eggs in the crook of his arm - a thief! I reached out to retrieve it but the man sidestepped me and fled down the stairs like a deranged madman, screaming "Catch me if you can, sorry boy!" on his descent. I sat stunned that such a terrible building such as the Bush Science Center could foster such despicable villains.

The new skate park will be constructed over the soon-to-be-demolished Bush Science Center and the old science portables will be replaced over the new Sutton parking lot before the fall 2014 semester starts. In-training Peer Mentors and RA's for the fall will have the first chance to test out a sick jump off the rails of the new skate park; the first person who lands a 360 kickflip off the central rail will have the park named after them.

Winter Park Institute books Beyonce



The Winter Park Plaza has a new guest speaker: Beyonce comes to talk to Rollins students about what it means to be married to Jay-Z and, at the same time, serve as a role model to young girls. The singer will discuss her latest and unexpected self-titled album and provide advice to Rollins students who wish to enter the show business industry. Besides the informative talk, a sample mini-concert will be performed by the star and, as Rollins tradition dictates, pizza will be given free of charge to the audience.

For a list of the other speakers visit thesandspur.org.

Stoner students offered new marijuana major

Daniel Udell

Head Copy Editor

In light of the expected legalization of medicinal marijuana in Florida later this year, Rollins College is preparing a new "Herbology and Business" major. The launch of the new major is designed to better prepare students for an increasingly competitive job market in the sales and management of legalized marijuana.

Although the Rollins Greenhouse near Campus Safety will be the main department quarters, classes will also be held on the Sutton apartment balconies, somewhere inconspicuous along the shores of the lake, and in a randomly assigned room of the man cave in McKean Hall that will be identified with a glow-in-the-dark "Pink Floyd" poster that is totally sick, broseph.

The new major will be a collaboration of the existing majors and fields of study at Rollins; it will embrace the "liberal arts" tradition of being a "jack of all trades, master of none." Confirmed classes required of majors in-

clude: anthropology's "The Stoned Age: Historic Highs," art history's "Tripping in Modern Museums," Biology's "Dude - We're All, Like, Connected," business & social entrepreneurship's "How To Not Smoke All Your Own Product," chemistry's "The Chemistry of Dat Skank-Dank-Purp-Scurp," Critical Media & Cultural Studies "Topic: Stoner Movies and The Capitalist Bummer," communication's "Public Speaking While High and Accepting That Everyone Knows It," economics' "Economics, Media, and How The Banks Actually Control Everything and We're All Just Pawns, Man," English's "Intro to Revising While Sober," environmental studies' "The Environmental Conservatism of Burning Man," history's "Topic: Which US Presidents Were Total Stoners?," mathematics' "Imaginary Numbers and Other Mind-F**ks," the music department's "Understanding Pink Floyd," physical Education's "Paddleboarding," philosophy & religion's "The Meaning of Life and Why Plato Was Totally Right," physics' "Topic: Talking About Meta and Astrophysics," political science's "How to Prevent

the System from Harshing Your Vibe," Psychology's "Sleep, Dreams, and Munchies - What to Do and Not to Do Before Sleep," and sociology's "Sociological Theory and How We're More or Less Screwed." Additionally, all Yoga classes will count towards the new major as well. The Career and Life Planning department opted out of collaboration on the new major for reasons they did not wish to disclose.

Other changes made in light of the new major will include: extending Grille hours, installing blacklights with glow-in-the-dark constellations in Olin Library's pillow room, constructing a new hot tub alongside the Sutton pool, refurbishing showers in all the dorms, and making paddleboards available for check-out at the boathouse.

Rollins will transition to a Judgment-Free campus and will construct and enforce site-specific Judgment-Allowed Zones; anyone found harshing vibes outside of these designated zones will be politely offered to chill and come play Ultimate Frisbee, dude. There have even been rumors amongst faculty that President Duncan (who is officially changing his legal name to P. Dunc, coin-

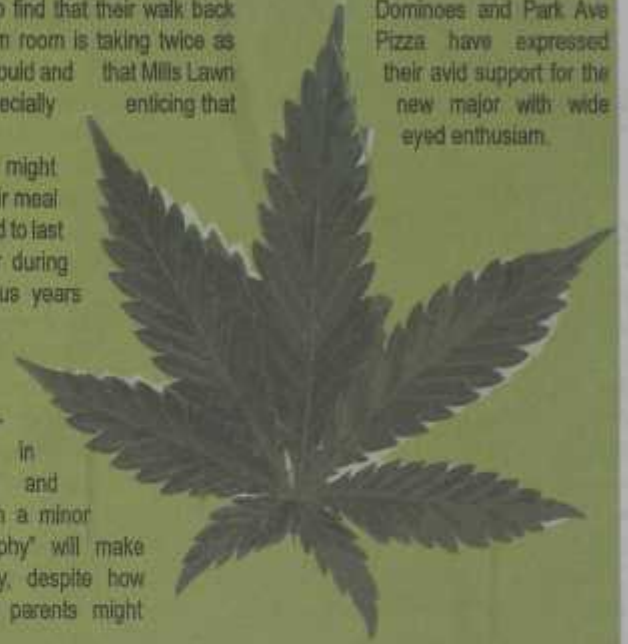
centially) will be handing out edibles on the morning of Fox Day.

It is unknown as of yet how the new major will be digested by the student body. They might complain that nothing is happening and leave class early only to find that their walk back to their dorm room is taking twice as long as it should and that Mills Lawn looks especially enticing that day.

Some might find that their meal plan seemed to last a lot longer during their previous years while others might decide that a double major in "Herbology" and "Music" with a minor in "Philosophy" will make them happy, despite how much their parents might disagree.

Doubtless, there will be those who love the new major and find that it totally opened their third eye, while others will

publicly dismiss the new changes to campus life as distracting from the school's longstanding tradition of drunkenly trashing local beaches and Fidd's every spring semester. Representatives of both the local Dominoes and Park Ave Pizza have expressed their avid support for the new major with wide eyed enthusiasm.



Online classes will outweigh professors by Fall 2017

Micah Bradley

Staff Writer

As of fall 2017, Rollins College will move all classwork online; in the following years, professors, and classrooms will become obsolete. All classes will be held solely on Blackboard and in other "virtual classrooms." Nick Maple '16 is enthralled with the coming change. "I hate sitting in boring old classrooms all day. Ya'll need to quit making me work so much. I would enjoy school so much more if I never even had to leave my dorm room."

Textbooks will be purchased as eBooks, or the remaining professors can opt to use Wikipedia or fanfiction as free online textbook sources. Vice-Vice Director of Education, Eli Nobbes, says "Virtual textbooks are just as good as real textbooks. In fact, sometimes they are even better. Who wants to read about Paradise Lost when they could read a fanfiction based off of Milton's Adam and Eve, especially if that fanfiction includes aliens, cowboys, or a love triangle to make things more interesting? Simply put, Wikipedia is a great place for accurate summaries, and fanfiction is quickly replacing what, for many years, has been uncontested 'classics' with more modern, and superior, adaptations."

The college has also decided that not only are teachers and traditional textbooks dispensable but so are most of our campus buildings. In wake of the recent budget crisis, the college has decided to auction off most of the campus' buildings, so that the campus has extra cash on hand to fund the transition to online classwork. Several buildings have already been claimed by large corporations: Alford Sports Center will soon be a Wal-Mart, Bush Science Center was bought by McDonalds, and Disney World plans to move their famed "Spaceship Earth," the giant silver Epcot ball, to where Mill's lawn currently is. Scooby Drew, a Disney World representative, claims "It has a lot of history, so we don't want to get rid of it. But, frankly, it blocks visitor's views of the Epcot theme park and takes up space where we could put another retail store."

Rollins believes approximately

2.7 million dollars in profit will be accumulated from the sale of the buildings and lawn. The unsold campus buildings are available for purchase on Craigslist. A wealthy student, Shell Corp '16 says, "I plan to buy Orlando Hall as an early birthday present to myself. English and literature is kind of a silly department, anyways. I, like, want my own house on campus."

Textbooks will be purchased as eBooks, or the remaining professors can opt to use Wikipedia or fanfiction as free online textbook sources.

The only buildings the campus currently plans to retain are the library (all the books will be sold to make room and money for more computers, Kindles, and Nooks), the campus center, and the dorms.

Dean Dillon Pickle recently stated in an interview, "I think this is a great move for Rollins College. Physical classrooms have become obsolete, as have faculty members, in general. In fact, I think that we are moving in the direction that students will soon become obsolete, too."

Rollins sells its dorm rooms and classroom seats

Lauren Waymire

Staff Writer

Widely known on the Rollins College campus exists a fiscal deficit that must be addressed in the next few years, if the school is to avoid major repercussions. While an earlier issue of The Sandspur discussed proposed solutions to the issue, we now have confirmation on some of the ways in which the administration will attempt to reduce the deficit.

Beginning fall 2014, some of the better dorms on campus (i.e. select rooms in Ward and other more desirable dorms on campus) will be leased at 450% of their current value to those who wish to be a part of the Rollins community but are not currently pursuing a degree.

Sutton apartments will now be available to all students and community members, also at 450% of their current value. Students will be able to select leftover rooms using the typical housing process after the community at large has had a month to select what rooms they wish.

When questioned on the matter, board member Rosemary Chekin '62 commented that "the revenue generat-

ed from this endeavor alone would cut the deficit by eight percent, so there's absolutely no reason to not do so." The hiked-up rent will also include the option of purchasing a student meal plan, but with a \$6,000 price tag.

Another method of generating income, the back rows of seats in each classroom will be auctioned off to local residents or to anyone willing to pay the significant tuition markup. In order to ensure that classes will be filled to capacity, sans the back row, the number of classes offered will be cut by 26 percent.

These open seats will be a hot commodity, indeed. While terrible news for those entering their junior and senior years, especially, students should take comfort in the fact that the school is well on its way to reestablishing financial security.

When approached for a comment, Professor Sham L. Lama remarked that "the whole thing is a bloody nuisance, but if it's going to keep me in a job and keep my Japanese porcelain cat collection fund looking healthy, then so be it."

Visit The Sandspur in the following weeks to stay up to date on the Fall changes.

Rollins' debaters argue drone strikes

Daniel Udell

Head Copy Editor

On March 19, the prestigious Cambridge University Debate Team flew in to compete against our very own Rollins Debate Team, number three in the nation. The subject of the debate was the use of drone strikes abroad, providing a difficult and fascinating side to argue for both teams. Passions were high in the packed Bush Auditorium and the visiting Cambridge students and faculty were warmly welcomed by all those who attended the event.

Rollins was assigned the position of defending the use of drone strikes abroad to combat terrorism effectively. Their arguments consisted of the preservation of US military personnel life, the alleged protection of civilians in terrorist occupied territories, and alleged decrease in PTSD of drone operators. Additionally, they cited that drone strikes were (allegedly) more precise than other methods of extraction or termination of terrorist-affiliated individuals and that there was no degree of imminence regarding the use of drones (meaning, one doesn't fire a drone in fear of one's life like one might do with a gun in a firefight). The Rollins team commonly stressed that drones themselves weren't the problem in U.S. foreign policy but the irresponsible use of them. These drones were cited as being cheaper than alternative methods of war and did not risk the potentiality of losing prisoners of war to enemy combatants.

When compared to weapons banned by the Geneva conventions and other war-crime committees, such as nuclear bombs, carpet bombs, and chemical weapons, the Rollins team stressed that drones could not be compared because drones are discriminate, whereas the banned weapons are indiscriminate (meaning, they destroy a large area of target, potentially and commonly killing many civilians in the process, whereas discriminate weapons are more precise and reduce civilian casualties). The Rollins team frequently stated

that they did not defend "unjust" strikes of any kind, only defending the use of drones as "progressive warfare" (which seems to me an oxymoron if I've ever heard one).

Cambridge was appointed the position of opposition against the use of drone strikes internationally to combat terrorism in an effective manner, often arguing that the use of such strikes were in fact counter-productive in that pursuit. The Cambridge team argued that the use of drones was the equivalent of fighting "terrorism with terrorism," often murdering innocent civilians and ignoring the sovereignty of terrorist-occupied nations. They compared drone strikes to chemical weapons as both induced "psychological torture." The use of drone strikes created an "element of detachment" by those who used them, argued the Cambridge team, and despite knowing of these injustices, the United States and international community as a whole collectively ignores it and excuses it with bought media. The use of drone strikes, allegedly, enhance war tensions rather than ease them, and essentially reduce loss of life to a cost-effective business model. The use of drones is heavily tied to the US military-industrial complex that makes mass profit on global conflict and US imperialism, and according to the opposition team, the use of drone strikes are spiritually against the Geneva Convention war crime laws. The history of drone use comes with a lack of accountability and caution, alongside questionable intelligence.

The opposition often stressed that conflicts that occurred with drone strikes never would have happened had the technology been banned or not used. The use of drones gives terrorism legitimacy as it is a tactic employed by the US against its enemies and creates propaganda for foreign terrorists to use against us. In fact, the use of drones makes a "Hydra monster" out of terrorists abroad - kill one, four more sprout to avenge his place. They also cited the incident of killing Osama bin Laden, where a

drone was decidedly not used, for a myriad of reasons; thus, the same kind of caution and planning can be used with relative success in similar situations with high-ranking terrorists. Overall, the use of drones exemplifies a long US history of using extreme military methods - Hiroshima and Nagasaki, Dresden, and previous activity in the Middle East, to name only a very few. Additionally, we only use this force when its economically in our favor - we are suspiciously quiet when it comes to matters involving larger nations with retaliatory power, such as North Korea and Russia. Cambridge also cited the disregard for PTSD in civilians, pointing at that the defenders of drones only care about the mental well being of those using the weapons. Ultimately, their argument boiled down to a condemnation of calling machines versus human beings an example of "ethical" warfare.

After both sides made their cases, the judges left the chamber to deliberate, allowing for a brief Q&A session with volunteers from the audience. The Rollins team received the most questions, challenging their positions on defending drones. The judges returned after deciding the victor, which was ultimately determined to be Rollins. The two teams showed remarkably sportsmanship and honesty, both teams performed exceptionally well. In my personal opinion, Rollins argued more eloquently, despite the Cambridge team having the "correct" position. My biggest complaint is that the structure of the debate did not allow for sources to be cited - this would have been an essential element of any real-world debate as both sides often pulled out "facts" or statistics that could have been made up on the spot to sound convincing. Obviously, these facts had to come from somewhere, and these sources may heavily give or take away credibility of either side. Despite the outcome, the entire event was thoroughly enlightening and engaging for all present and provided a welcome debate on a gravely serious subject in our times of international anxiety.

Duncan defends budget cuts

College president clarifies plans for addressing the deficit.

Micah Bradley

Staff Writer

Rollins' four million dollar deficit is a topic which is still being talked about and debated by faculty, students, and administrators. Many people are concerned, not only about our budget for this year, but for future years.

President Duncan makes an important clarification on the budget issue. "The budget challenge we are dealing with right now is not the result of anyone overspending. The challenge was because we under-revenueed in a couple of places. The one, and only one place, where we overspent is a place where we are happy to overspend, and it was student study abroad."

The rest of the deficit comes from the Holt and Crummer schools bringing in less revenue than expected, partly because of a lack of students. Though Holt and Crummer made less than expected, the day program actually made more money than it was projected to this year.

Despite their issues this year, the Crummer school and Holt school seem to be righting their enrollment problems. In the Holt school, this is in part due to the new business and social entrepreneurship major program. Though it is available this semester to Holt students, the first time it will be advertised will be for the students entering in fall 2014. The new majors will also be available for day students starting next year.

"A misconception is they're losing money. They're not. In both cases they contribute millions of dollars to the operating budget. But not as many millions as they used to," says President Duncan. Though some people may point to closing the currently underperforming Holt and Crummer, Rollins would actually lose millions of dollars without those school's revenues.

Recently the departments have each had to come up with proposals for three-to-six percent cuts. President Duncan defends these cuts, "The three

and six percent budget models are designed to look at: What creative ways can we find to reduce expenses without compromising the effectiveness of the institution? Are there places where we can do things differently? There are redundancies we are trying to eliminate."

For next year, there is an expected three percent cut across the college. However, at this stage, it does not appear that these cuts will affect the average student's day to day life. These three to six percent cuts may not even affect some departments, but others might have to cut the full 6 percent.

"There will be no one who's happy, but it means we

It does not appear that these cuts will affect the average student's day to day life.

will have done a very good first effort to eliminate places where...it is possible to spend less money and still find ways of doing it that don't necessarily harm it, and in some cases might improve the educational experience," said President Duncan.

An important factor to consider in the process of cutting is the professors and administrators who make up each department. As of right now, there are no plans to directly cut salaries, though raises will probably not be as much money as people are expecting. President Duncan has some reassuring words: "I do not expect that there would be people losing their jobs over this."

Hopefully with cuts made across the college, the budget will not be as much of a pressing issue in the next few years.

Rollins Climbing Club creates adventurous atmosphere

Alexandra Perry

Writer

As a freshman, I never imagined that I would spend my weeknights suspended 40 feet from the ground, kept alive by a snag of rope. What I expected was the normal barrage of college activities; nights spent composing papers and dishing out cab fare. Instead, I found the Rollins Climbing Club, which took me out of my comfort zone by presenting me with both mental and physical challenges.

The climbing journey begins at Alford gym, where students flock to face the sport. In a sense, these students resemble a traditional sports team and banter flows smoothly as they converse about classes and pass around trail mix. At 6:45 p.m. the Club's president, Haley Bowen '15, arrives in a Land Rover adorned with prayer flags and climbing stickers. Bowen has been president of the club for a year and her infectious enthusiasm for the sport keeps new climbers arriving, regardless of their prior experience. When I talked to Bowen she emphasized that the club embraces the entire student body, regardless of their experience level. This has led to the club doubling in size, as both graduate and undergraduate students develop passion for the sport.

The reasons why these students strap on harnesses vary. Some students relish the opportunity to get away from campus twice a week, while others simply enjoy interacting with the other climbers. Most of

all, students enjoy the unique challenge that rock climbing presents.

The sport requires an individual find a balance between brain and brawn. The first thing new climbers learn is that they cannot simply throw themselves at the wall with hopes of ascending to the top. A climb takes planning and foresight, and many of the movements a climber makes are based on skill not strength. One of the club's newest members, Cassandra Hoffer '16, expressed "I find the sport challenging in a way that is different from other competitive sports. It is as much a mental exercise as physical. It's about trusting your body and taking risks. It is a sport that builds connected mental and physical endurance." Many of the club's members echo these sentiments.

Bowen says that her goals for the club are for it to remain a family instead of just a club. Each member relies on the support and aid of other members to build their skill levels. David Tran '15, a member returning after injury, stated, "all the members are kind and outgoing and climbing with them is always a good time." Tran goes on to emphasize one of the club's main strengths—"That it's fun to climb with people who know how to give pointers and accept advice in turn."

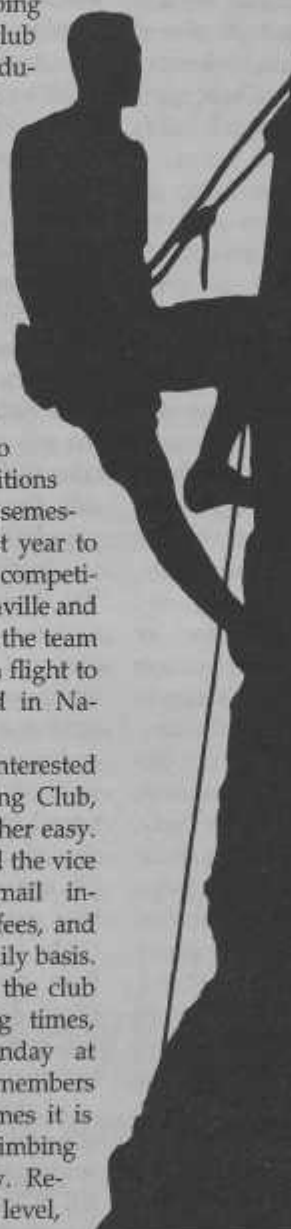
The club now possess a wide array of both graduate and undergraduate students. Jon Costa, a student of Crummer, told me "At any given day in the gym, you can witness those of different political affiliations, upbringings, income

levels, and styles all getting along and helping each other to achieve their goals. It is this culture of camaraderie that ultimately made me stick with it." It is this family environment that draws student and keeps them coming.

The club is trying to plan a rock-climbing trip that will immerse students in nature and the outdoor climbing experience. The last club trip took seven individuals out to ramble the hills of Tennessee. Club leadership commented that they would like to offer students this same opportunity in coming years. If a member wants something more competitive than recreational climbing club also partakes in competitions throughout the spring semester. Cars went out last year to partake in statewide competitions hosted in Jacksonville and Melbourne. One year the team even hopped aboard a flight to Boston and competed in Nationals.

For students interested in the Rollins Climbing Club, getting involved is rather easy. Both the president and the vice president answer email inquiring about hours, fees, and climbing times on a daily basis. For simplicity's sake, the club has two set climbing times, Wednesday and Monday at 6:45 p.m. However, if members cannot make these times it is no sweat. Weekend climbing trips occur frequently. Regardless of experience level,

all students interested will be offered a ride and aid in getting set up. So what are you waiting for? Climb On Tars!



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Fern Creek closes school doors

Due to OCPS rezoning, an elementary school and mentorship outlet for Rollins students will shut down.

Lauren Waymire

Staff Writer

Just over a month ago, the news broke that Fern Creek Elementary, a school very dear to the Rollins community, would be closing its doors in the next few years. The college and the elementary school have sustained a long-term relationship through mentorship, donations, and other volunteer

activities. Fern Creek has long been known as a sort of haven for many of its students, the majority of whom live below the poverty line, and anywhere from 20 to 25 percent of the students are homeless.

According to Nancy Robinson, member of the Orange County School Board and representative of District 6 (under which Fern Creek falls), this is a matter of geography. The

Parramore neighborhood is currently split between eight different school districts, and 200 children are bussed into Fern Creek alone. Redistricting will unify the Parramore neighborhood which, along with Baldwin Park, will both have brand new elementary schools opening in fall of 2017. With the new schools open, Fern Creek would only be left with about 165 students, which is not financially

feasible.

When asked what would happen with the Fern Creek property, Robinson remarked that "OCPS would still own it," and that they would possibly repurpose the facility to meet other needs. According to Robinson, "That will be determined at a later date."

Fern Creek currently boasts one of the largest mentorship programs in the county, and a

large portion of the mentors are current Rollins students. The destiny of this program after the closing of Fern Creek is undetermined at the moment. The OCPS board member guessed that, if Rollins were to continue with the mentoring program, it would take place at the new K-8 school in Parramore, since mentors have been primarily focused on students from that area.

Another strong female leads *Divergent*

Annamarie Carlson

Managing Editor

Surprise! It's time for another young adult book series to be turned into a movie.

Fans of *The Hunger Games* called the Katniss-infused series the next *Harry Potter*, and fans of *Divergent* (the newest young adult book-turned-film) call *Divergent* the next *Hunger Games*. How far can this new trail of hit, young adult series continue?

The *Harry Potter* series was phenomenal, grossing \$8 billion worldwide. *The Hunger Games* series has done excellent for a movie series, but only well in comparison to *Harry Potter*, making a cool \$1.5 billion worldwide on the first two films, with two more to go. Unfortunately for *Divergent*, a movie that will sadly always be compared to its predecessors, it can only be predicted to do alright when compared to *Hunger Games* and mediocre when compared to *Harry Potter*.

Divergent introduces a new dystopian society that forces young adults to take an aptitude test and later choose (either agreeing with their scores or not) which faction they should belong in for the rest of their lives. People in this world only get to be one thing: selfless (Abnegation), intelligent (Erudite), brave (Dauntless), peaceful (Amity), or honest (Candor).

If you do not fit into one of these categories or if you leave your faction, you are "factionless"—essentially homeless and jobless with no chance of ever escaping that situation.

Divergent follows the story of Tris (Shailene Woodley), a teenage girl raised in Abnegation. When she takes her aptitude test, she is told she belongs in three categories: she is selfless, intelligent, and brave. The computer is unable to categorize her making her unique, and, in this case, divergent.

Another story about another very special teenager manages to stay refreshing because

Tris is never sure of herself. Unlike Katniss in *The Hunger Games* or Hermione in *Harry Potter*, Tris shows fear. She seems to be aware that she is in over her head, and she tries at various moments to back out of her choices, practically begging to be allowed to go back to her old, safe life.

As an audience, we get to watch Tris grow. We get to watch her get knocked out during both of her on-screen, boxing-match practice fights against larger opponents—something Katniss would never have allowed to happen. We cheer her on from the bottom of the pack, watching as she barely manages to scrape through the physical tests she is put through.

Tris's normality is not the only refreshing part of this film, although romance is present in the film, it seems to take a back-burner to the dystopian plot. Much to the disappointment of anyone who likes looking at the male body, Theo James, (who plays Four, Tris' love interest) only appears shirtless a few times in the film. While there was definite chemistry between James and Woodley, it was incorporated in small doses, allowing the film to be more than another young adult romance movie—and, God-forbid, another young adult love triangle.

I want to be honest: if you are not a fan of young adult films or if you have not read (and liked) the book *Divergent*, you will probably not like this film. Unfortunately, it does fit yet another trope, making the movie feel packed with clichés just because so many movies just like it—successes and failures—have come before it in the last few years.

But, if you like hunky guys, powerful female characters who are revered for being special, a constant stream of fight scenes, a bit of shirtless snogging, and an overarching plot that is probably very confusing for anyone unfamiliar with the book, then give *Divergent* a try.

"The Doms Collective" introduces traveling theatre

Theatre student Somar Lanh '14 writes and directs "The Doms Collective" a play that will be performed at several locations all across campus in the style of site-specific theatrics.

Alex Mariano

Copy Editor

This Friday and Saturday, March 28-29 at 8 p.m., a more modern-kind of theater show is coming to the Fred Stone Theatre in the form of *The Doms Collective* (pronounced "Doms" as in "Domino's Pizza"), a site-specific play written and directed by Somar "Suki" Lanh '14. It is a completely independent production, separate from the Rollins College second stage series. Site-specific theater is a style in which the actors are not constricted to a traditional indoor theater space, but instead the action takes place in a specific, real-life location. Site-specific theater has become very popular in Europe.

In this particular instance, *The Doms Collective* will be unfolding around Rollins' campus, and the audience will actually be following the actors around, able to get as up close and personal to each character as they like. Lanh has mentioned that audience members should be prepared to walk, jog, run, and maybe even crawl. Sites around campus will include outside and inside the Fred, the Holt building, the Ward Costume Studio, the inside of a car, and within a girl's bathroom.

Lanh first encountered site-specific theatre while studying abroad in London and fell in love with the unique intimacy the form allowed. She had always known she wanted to write a play, ideally a comedy revolving around five women expressing the dynamic of 18- to 22-year-old females. It was last fall semester, when she put this desire into action by taking a semester-long independent study course focusing on playwriting, working closely with Professor William Boles. And thus, *The Doms Collective* was born.

The plot portrays the story of five girls (Zara, Kat, Laura, Robin, and Anissa) who have been best friends since their first year of college. It is now nearing the close of their senior

year, and they have all drifted in slightly different directions. On the night of Kat's (Chris Rosendahl '14) senior showcase, Zara (Katherine Waddell '14) tries desperately to recreate the most memorable night of their lives from freshman year. She does not want to lose her best friends as time speeds up around them. Robin (Crysta Vickers '15) serves as the mother hen for the group. She is highly academic but also a "baller friend" according to Director Lanh. Anissa (Lily Garnett '17) is a sweet, southern girl, always eager to please. And then there is Laura (Cailin Dornbush '15), the tech-trendy chick with boyfriend issues.

I had the pleasure of speaking with Dornbush, and she has fallen for site-specific theater, believing it to have a much clearer setting that can thus tell a story better. Also, she adores that there is more opportunity to play around with her surroundings than in the traditional theater; her favorite moment in the play is jumping over rosebushes.

There will be pizza. There will be water guns. There will be karaoke. The main themes of this production are the power of female friendship, change, and the dangers of self-destruction. Lanh has adored working on *The Doms Collective*, enjoying watching her actresses make big choices and take risks. In her eyes, they have put something out there that has not been seen before, and at the end of the day, that is what matters to her. A jubilantly energetic last scene will have the viewers walking away with good vibes.

Don't miss out on seeing this unique performance! Because of rising interest in the production, they are forced to put a cap of twenty audience members per night.

Reservations should be made in advance, by way of emailing stage manager Giana Blazquez '16 at gblazquez@rollins.edu. Be sure to include which night you would like to attend, what name the tickets should be reserved under, and the amount of people in your party.

THE DOMS COLLECTIVE

Written and Directed by
Somar Lanh



March 28th
& 29th

8:00 PM

AN ORIGINAL
SITE SPECIFIC
PRODUCTION

FREE ADMISSION
Fred Stone Theatre

tinseel TALK

Chris Sarafian

Columnist

After weeks of anticipation, Little Monsters were blessed with the music video accompaniment for Lady Gaga's latest single, "G.U.Y." Glazed with Greek mythology and modern art aesthetics, the eleven-minute-mini film comes packed with stellar choreography, celebrity cameos, and—of course—plenty of cryptic, yet meaningful imagery.

So, what exactly is the "G.U.Y." video about? Like most of Gaga's music videos, "G.U.Y.'s" message isn't explicitly stated in the film's plot or even the song's lyrics. Gaga prefers to drive her theme via imagery and symbolism. Contrary to popular belief, Gaga's videos are not explicitly random. The song itself is about a mutual share of power in regards to love and sex. The man can please the woman; the woman can please the man.

While the song is about

the bedroom, the video takes a different spin on the lyrics by commenting on the power shift in regards to Gaga's career.

2013 wasn't an easy year for her. She underwent surgery for a leg injury, had to cancel her *Born This Way Ball World Tour*, and took time off to recuperate. During her break, Gaga struggled with everything from an eating disorder to a drug addiction. Her album, "ARTPOP," chronicles 2013. She sings about her love of performance in "Applause," her relationship with the press in "Do What U Want" and her addiction/recovery in "Mary Jane Holland" and "Dope." Oh, "Do What U Want" is about the flack she receives from the media (in contrast to what one might think when hearing the song's title).

During her recovery, the public's fascination with Gaga lessened. She became a dying star in the Katy Perry-illuminated night sky. As interest in Gaga thinned out, several of her confidants abandoned ship,

and bloggers ripped into her for gaining weight and becoming "irrelevant." "Do What U Want" welcomes the hate and scrutiny of the Perez Hiltons and the fair weathered industry executives. You can do what you want to her; say what you want about her—she doesn't really give a damn.

"The G.U.Y." video furthers this message. The first few minutes depict a wounded winged Gaga crawling through a battlefield while men in business suits snatch at money flurrying from the sky. These are the music moguls and their prime concern is engorging their pockets at the expense of the artist.

So, a broken Gaga hobbles to the gates of an ivory castle and is taken in by a group of eccentric men and women. These are her fans and supporters—the Little Monsters that have continued to give Gaga their love and support through her chaotic ups and downs. The castle dwellers lower her into a

pool while a shortened version of her song "Venus" plays in the background. She emerges, adorned in a white headpiece and dress. This is her rebirth. Like Venus, she's emerged from the water. She's prepared to share her art and message with the world and has finally washed off the pain that had held her down. "G.U.Y." finally commences and onslaught of bizarre visuals follow.

Later on, we see Gaga bring three historical figures back from the dead: Gandhi, Jesus, and Michael Jackson—three men who preached messages of love and tolerance but were martyred as a result of hatred. Gaga revives them and extracts their blood, which she uses to manufacture an army. These "clones" have the blood of benevolent men flowing through their veins. This is Gaga's attempt to create a new society—one that preaches love and artistic freedom all while shunning the hatred of the world.

In the video, the song

serves to illustrate that Gaga doesn't need to be on the cover of a magazine or have her song at the top of the Billboard charts. "I don't need to be on top to know I'm worth it 'cause I'm strong enough to know the truth." She's in love with her fans and her art. She doesn't need to compete with other artists. She's happy pleasing her listeners and delivering her message and doesn't need to be on the top to do so. "I'm in charge like a G.U.Y. I'll lay down face up this time. Under you like a G.U.Y." She may not be in the position she once was—the top of the industry—but she's still in control of her life and her career. No businessman or critic is going to tell her differently.

I say we give Gaga a round of applause. She's climbed from the gravel and is making her way back to the top. This climb is not just towards a financial summit but also the happy pinnacle where she can freely control her life, career, and artistry.

Zeppelin cover band plays The Plaza Live

For all fans of legendary English rock music, tickets are on sale now to see Led Zeppelin cover band, Get the Led Out, coming to The Plaza Live this March 29.

Rebecca Finer

Writer

A band that has been called "The American Led Zeppelin" is coming to town to play a show on March 29 at The Plaza Live. The band Get the Led Out brings epic Led Zeppelin-esque experiences to audiences all over the United States.

If you like Led Zeppelin, you probably love to listen to their tunes on the radio or on Pandora, but Get the Led Out provides audiences with the opportunity to experience Zeppelin's classic songs live.

Or, maybe you're a bit more

like me, and you don't know all that much about Led Zeppelin. You have definitely heard the band's name more times than you can count, and you have heard a few of their songs, but that is where your reservoir of Led Zeppelin knowledge dries up.

For your reference, Led Zeppelin is an English rock band made up of guitarist Jimmy Page, singer Robert Plant, bassist and keyboardist John Bonham, and drummer John Paul Jones. They were active from 1968-1980.

The group's unique sound was rooted in the blues, mark-

ing them as the beginning of heavy metal. They are considered one of the most successful rock groups in history, being the second-best-selling band in the United States.

Isn't it about time you figured out what all the hype is about and experience a show like this for yourself? The Plaza Live is a perfect Orlando venue for a band like Get the Led Out. When you walk into the theater, you feel like you have gone back in time. With the attention to detail that the musicians of Get the Led Out deliver, you might actually feel like you are at a real Led Zeppelin show.

Get the Led Out focuses on a lot of Led Zeppelin's early music, but they don't stop there. The band provides variety to their audiences and plays lesser known songs as well as an acoustic set with songs like "Tangerine" in their shows.

Based in Philadelphia, the new group is comprised of six members: Paul Sinclair, Paul Hammond, Jimmy Marchiano, Billy Childs, Andrew Lipke, and Adam Ferraioli. The group is composed of professional musicians that are passionate about the iconic band.

"Led Zeppelin are sort of the classical composers of the

rock era. I believe a hundred years from now they will be looked at as the Bach or Beethoven of our time. As cliché as it sounds, their music is timeless," said Get the Led Out's lead vocalist Paul Sinclair.

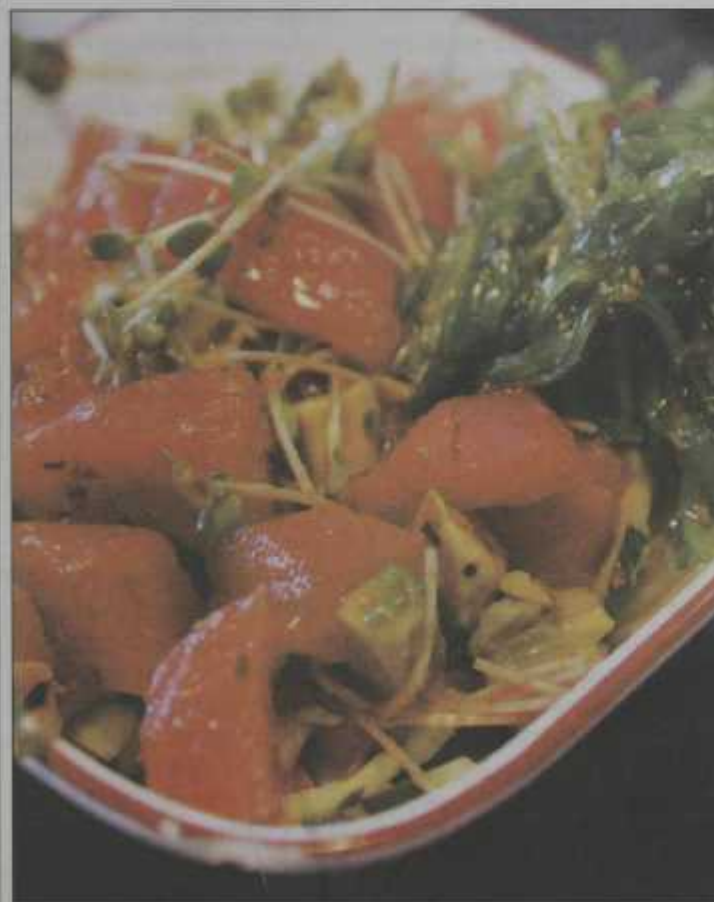
"GTLO re-creates the songs in all their depth and glory with the studio overdubs that Zeppelin themselves never performed. When you hear three guitars on the album...GTLO delivers three guitarists on stage. No wigs or fake English accents, GTLO brings what the audience wants...a high energy Zeppelin concert with an honest, heart-thumping intensity."



John Berggren & Jaime Saure

ASIAN FUSION Sushi Lola's, located at 2902 Corrine Drive, offers a blend of Japanese and Korean cuisine. The Asian cuisine haven is open for lunch and dinner Monday through Saturday. The restaurant features sushi combos, bento boxes, noodle, and rice dishes with prices ranging from \$8.95 and \$27.95.

Japan meets Korea in Audubon Park



John Berggren & Jaime Saure

UNDER THE SEA Appetizers include inexpensive and healthy options like Seaweed Salad (\$4.95), Vegetable Spring Rolls (\$3.95), and Miso Soup (\$1.95).

Visit thesandspur.org for a video review of Sushi Lola.



John Berggren & Jaime Saure

FRIED DELIGHT Since reopening last month in Audubon Park, the restaurant revamped their menu variety and decor. One of their menu items, Gyoza (\$3.95), includes 4-piece Japanese dumplings with the option of chicken, shrimp, or vegetable.

“The experience was unbelievably authentic, original, and addicting.”

- Jaime Saure '14