

THE SOU'WESTER

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MTV Film Crew Stirs Controversy on Campus

Phoebe Driscoll
Opinion Photo Editor



courtesy of Swati Pandita

Students attending the Dan Savage Q&A were met with peers in opposition to MTV.

For the past several weeks, students grew accustomed to the presence of camera-toting crewman on campus, wielding microphones and armed with probing interview questions. Dan Savage, renowned advice columnist of *The Stranger*, a Seattle-based alternative newspaper, recently joined forces with MTV to produce a question-and-answer television program geared towards college students. MTV's involvement in "Savage Love Live," the live version of Savage's written column, invoked excitement and concern among members of the student body.

On October 26, Savage hosted a question-and-answer session in the BCLC from 6 PM to 9 PM; the lecture included an opportunity for students to ask personal questions regarding their own relationships. Throughout the three-hour session, a group of several students protested what they alleged to be a misrepresentation of the Rhodes College student body, due to the production crew's method of selective interviews.

Senior Jason Pace stressed that though he respected Savage's involvement on campus during the previous year, he felt uneasy with MTV's sudden participation. "I think the lecture was probably very educational and an overall positive thing," he said. "However, in terms of the interviews and MTV's involvement, I think it would be better [for Rhodes] to be safe and not be a part of the program than to risk it."

Several students expressed their support for "Savage Love Live," even if it entailed an alignment with a major American media network. Sophomore Alix Matthews

warned peers not to jump to hastily-made conclusions about Rhodes' representation on camera, especially since the film is a work in progress. "At the lecture, Dan Savage reminded us that we haven't seen the finished product, so we shouldn't get rowdy or worry about how we're denoted," she said.

Freshman Dianne Loftis echoed these statements, noting the discrepancy between peoples' views of the program before the filming versus afterward. "Dan Savage makes his living by keeping things provocative and blunt, and it seems like the opposition to this whole MTV business blew up overnight," she said. "At first, people seemed intrigued by the idea of an open dialogue about sex and Rhodes' dating scene, but apparently people weren't ready for that level of vulnerability, or for the inevitable amplifications of a network that specializes in exaggerating youth culture. I've heard people getting seriously defensive, but what did we expect?"

Due to the heated controversy that arose from the filming process, the Rhodes Student Government hosted a Town Hall meeting on November 3 at 7 PM in Hardie Auditorium; RSG President Salar Rafieetary referred to the follow-up meeting as "an opportunity to clear up some confusion and to address concerns."

According to Sophomore Phot Ho, the meeting did not adequately alleviate confusion or placate anxiety. "These discussions should have occurred prior to Savage's arrival. At this point, arguing or even discussing the matter is pointless, because the filming is over," he said.

The weekly sassy lesbian column

"The moral of children's TV: vampire and bubblegum lesbians are not okay"

Rin Abernathy
Staff Writer

As a general rule, I don't watch a lot of television. There are exceptions, of course, such as *Adventure Time*. For those who have never had the experience, *Adventure Time* is supposedly a children's show, but it actively cultivates a relationship with its older audience. Uncanny curse word substitutions, active interplay with tropes, and even bilingual bonuses (for those who can speak Korean) are present in each episode.

Recently, the episode "What Was Missing" received backlash for hints of a lesbian relationship between two primary characters. When the main duo of the show (Finn, the human, and talking dog best friend Jake) go on an adventure to regain some prized possessions from the mysterious Door Lord, they must form a band with their other friends to make the Door Lord's last door open. This sounds innocently wacky and childish, and it is. The controversy of this episode deals with Finn's friends: Princess Bubblegum and Marceline the Vampire Queen (both names are literal). Princess Bubblegum prizes a shirt that Marceline gave her, and she wears the shirt as pajamas. The normally imperturbable Marceline acts noticeably upset when she thinks the Princess doesn't like her. This is pretty extreme coming from a character whose father eats souls (yes, still a children's show), but there was nothing obviously Sapphic in the episode.

The material that most offended delicate sensibilities, however, came from the show's official "behind the scenes" YouTube channel. "Mathematical" gives fans (again, many of whom are adults) looks at storyboards, production art, and fan art. The producers included a couple of pictures from a storyboard artist who drew the Vampire Queen holding the Princess bridal style, and another picture in which their hair tangled together.

The show regularly has overt heterosexual romantic plots. For instance, also in this episode, the prized possession that the main character Finn wanted to recover was a piece of Princess Bubblegum's hair that he occasionally snuggled with. Where's the controversy about young boys in love with candy royalty? No, the problem here doesn't lie in the non-animated, YouTube only, non-canonical storyboard artist's doodles portraying romance in a children's show. The offender here is that two characters on a children's cartoon show have possibly homoerotic subtext.

As I hope we have learned from similar debacles in the past—hello, *SpongeBob* and *Teletubbies*—there is only one message that can be taken when the possibly (though never canonically) gay characters in cartoons are deemed inappropriate: it's not okay to be gay. There's no real argument around this. There are often moral objections to the inclusion of gay characters in any form of media. The moral objection is that being gay is wrong. And of course, to include gay characters on a children's TV show would make children gay. There have never been gay children, obviously. The gays spring fully formed, like Athena from Zeus's head, onto HBO and Logo to bypass childhood entirely. If shows like *Adventure Time* influence America's children, who knows how many innocent girls will pick up on extremely subtle, almost invisible (even to a lesbian) possibly romantic subtext and become lesbians? Personally, I'm more worried about the show's influence turning children into bubblegum and vampires.

Visit <http://www.rhodesorgs.whsites.net/Souwester/> to read this column during non-printing weeks!

Letter from the Editor-in-Chief

Dear Readers,

In addition to being a forum for which students can express themselves, the *Sou'wester* prides itself on being a place for journalistic education for our writers. In this issue, the *SW* staff introduces our readers to a method of journalistic writing never before seen in an issue of the *SW*. The satirical structure of editorials and opinion pieces provide the writers and readers of such pieces with a unique experience. Please remember that opinions expressed in opinion columns do not necessarily reflect the views of the *SW* editorial board. However, please refrain from sending personal email responses to any *SW* staff writer. All responses and concerns should be sent to the *SW*'s Gmail account. On behalf of the entire *SW* staff, I hope you all enjoy our use of this type of journalistic writing and continue to read us both in print and online.

~Jasmine Gilstrap



courtesy of Google Images

The Untimely Death of a World Wonder

Jasmine Gilstrap
Editor-In-Chief

After years of self inflicted abuse influenced by partying Americans, particularly those living in the Hollywood clan, an injury in the form of a split between Zooey Deschanel and Ben Gibbard ended the life of the international, well known sensation that was Marriage.

In the early years of Marriage's life, the emphasis on relationships was key to all of Marriage's success. While younger siblings Flirting and Kissing were still playing in the school yard, Marriage opted to do more mature things such as plan for the future and working through compromise with others. While in the end of the early years, Marriage discovered the latent sexism within and began working on being accepting of those who did not have shared experiences.

Although Marriage did itself support members of various communities, many tried to limit and restrict Marriage's exposure to only those of the same race, in pairs, and of the opposite sexes. Marriage quickly learned to express support for those outside these restricted circles in certain select communities though little remains known about such places.

Marriages adventures in America began with the same prejudices and experiences which were worked through during the early years. However, things in these areas began to change with members of formerly restricted groups now being allowed to interact with Marriage though some prejudices still remained. This remarkable experience opposed Marriage to some deviant groups and led to Marriage losing its

true sense of identity.

Escapades with Money and Fame led to a slow, downward spiral for Marriage, abandoning the relationships and love that led to its first successes in life and in America. This did not matter for Marriage however as these acts led to a greater recognition by the public, working with celebrities such as Nicholas Cage and Lisa Marie Presley. A trio performance with Kid Rock and Pam Anderson introduced Marriage to a life less philosophically inclined and more physical appearance oriented. This new Marriage caught the attention of Money's friends Kim Kardashian and Kris Humphries who met Marriage and quickly became involved.

The self inflicted pain and suffering prior to the attack from Deschanel and Gibbard lead to vulnerability in Marriage that differed from the vulnerability in her early compromising relationships. When the body of Marriage was discovered last Wednesday, Amy Winehouse's "Love is a Losing Game" was playing on iTunes, mirroring Marriage's later feelings of despair and hopelessness.

The death of marriage leaves behind numerous children including the author of this obituary, now without a sense of what love means and makes them cynical about all manners regarding relationships. Marriage's step siblings Friends with Benefits and Casual Hook-ups are surviving without their older sibling fairly well though Marriage was originally their inspiration for life.

THE
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As the official newspaper of Rhodes College, *The Sou'wester* is produced entirely by students on staff. It functions independently of faculty and administration. The newspaper is published weekly throughout the fall and spring semesters, except during exam periods and breaks.

The Sou'wester is a member of the Student Media Board, a consortium that includes the editors of all student media outlets, class representatives, and at-large representatives from the student body.

All staff editorials published in *The Sou'wester* represent the majority opinion of the Editorial Board composed of section editors and executive editors. Opinions expressed in opinion columns and letters-to-the-editor do not necessarily reflect the opinions of *The Sou'wester* Editorial Board. Letters-to-the-editor are encouraged, but cannot exceed 350 words; all letters must be signed and will be edited for clarity.

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JBEAR DESIGNS

RAVE FOR A CAUSE II

What GlobeMed is doing and how we aim to help

Donya Ahmadian
Staff Writer

As an active member of GlobeMed, I take any opportunity I can to write about the organization, our goal, and why we do what we do. In the past couple of weeks, we have had to truly work together to help our partner, AMOS (a non-profit organization dedicated to improving the health in rural populations like Nicaragua), in their efforts in aiding these communities.

In the last few weeks, Nicaragua has experienced extreme flooding that has not only limited their access to their homes and to food, but also contaminated their water with threats of Malaria. This has been an extremely difficult time for these people and in turn has forced our organization to come together.

Last year our first "Rave for a Cause" was organized in order to help meet our goal of \$10,000, which we sent to AMOS. It went incredibly well, with people lined up at the doors within a few minutes of the event starting. "I was so impressed with the turnout and was so thrilled to see how many people were talking about it before and after the event," says Kira Reich, a fellow member

of GlobeMed.

The idea behind these parties is to create an environment that our peers feel comfortable in and enjoy, while benefiting this amazing cause. After one party, we had raised over \$4,000 for our partner, which was incredible for just a single fundraising effort. This year we were so thrilled to organize another one, especially due to how valuable our fundraising is to these people during this time. We even have developed a Rave Committee, which has the same goals in making this event as incredible as possible to raise money for this cause.

For the fall semester, the first rave will be taking place on Friday, November 11th. GlobeMed has been thrilled to start raising money so that we can help these communities and hopefully this party will be one of the first ways that we can do it. With proceeds benefiting these communities in need, there is nothing more satisfying for us than creating more of a presence on campus and in the Memphis community, and presenting our cause in a form that drives people to help in the ways that we aim to everyday.

Memphis Bikers Beware

Erica Morozin
Layout Editor

While certain issues may at first seem black and white, this is rarely the case. The addition of the bike lanes is no exception to this; while a seemingly undoubtedly good addition to the roadways, they may create a false sense of security and cause confusion and harm to cyclists and automobile drivers alike. Though I have heard many valid arguments in favor of the bike lanes (which will officially be added to Madison according to Mayor Wharton's recent decision), I find some important aspects have been overwhelmingly ignored by the pro-bike line team.

While I cannot commit myself wholly to either side of the issue, I think it is important to remember that:

The lanes in Memphis are already too narrow. Anyone who has ever driven or been in a car on Poplar, Madison, Union, or North Parkway must admit that the lanes are far too narrow to begin with. Nearly every time I am in a car, I find myself complaining about how another vehicle almost side-swiped the car I am in. The addition of bike lanes could make the already narrow traffic lanes akin to alarmingly narrow European streets. A cyclist biking on a narrow cycling lane on and already narrow road is not necessarily safer than a cyclist hugging the curb of a road without designated bike lanes, but that leads to my next point.

Bike lanes can create a false sense of security. Memphis drivers are famous for being both highly inconsiderate and in-

credibly incautious. Motor vehicle operators already seem to have trouble following the current rules of the road and adding bike lanes further complicates an already stressful driving situation. While a painted line on a road will hold violating vehicles legally liable for damages to cyclists that occur due to cars violating the designated bicycling space, it will not prevent cars from doing so. I have personally witnessed buses and cars drive within the bike lanes. Studies have shown that cyclists riding within bike lanes tend to ride in the center of the lane as opposed to near the curb. Accidents at intersections are also more prevalent due to the confusion caused by bike lanes.

Creating bike lanes does not ensure their use. While the environmentalist in me wishes that everyone in Memphis would cut down those pesky carbon emissions by riding bikes instead of driving, the pragmatist in me shuts down those idealistic dreams. While it is nice to imagine a city with a large population of bikers and a small population of drivers, this requires people to take extra time out of their day and choose to be physically active. I may be a cynic, but I do not think that the presence of bike lanes will persuade those who do not currently rely on biking as a main method of transportation (an overwhelming majority of Memphians) to ditch their vehicle and bike to work.

I myself may use these very bike lanes I seemingly condemn in this article. I advise my fellow bikers to be cautious and heed my warnings.



courtesy of Phoebe Driscoll

THE
SOU'WESTER

Student Voice

Does your family have any Thanksgiving traditions?



“My grandmother uses the same ham every year. She just puts the leftovers in the freezer and pretends it’s new ham each year. We don’t go to her house for Thanksgiving anymore.”

-Caroline Clark ‘15

“Each year we alternate which extended family we have Thanksgiving with. This year each family member is getting a mug to remember my uncle who passed away.”

-Ruth Mengistu ‘14



“My dad always makes this really good homemade apple cider. And I always go to three different Thanksgiving dinners.”

-Austin Debeaux ‘12

“We always go down to my aunt’s house. We always eat Italian food instead of turkey. My dad makes tons of spaghetti and we eat it for the whole week.”

-Molly Glaser ‘13



“My family has two turkeys every year. We have one that is stuffed with halal stuffing and one stuffed with regular stuffing.”

-Adam Alsamadisi ‘12

Disability Awareness Week 2011: Awareness and Service

Lydia Holmes

This is the fourth nonconsecutive year that Rhodes has sponsored a disability awareness week on campus. This year’s event will include several opportunities to learn about different disabilities as well as an opportunity to participate in service activities in the community specifically dealing with people with disabilities. To learn more about it, I sat down with Julia Scales who is the RSAP for the office of Disability Services and Alice Havner, one of the Kinney coordinators that works specifically with individuals with disabilities. Both are working to organize the week of awareness programs. The week kicks off with an opportunity for Rhodes students to make a stuffed animal in the Rat that will be donated to children with disabilities at LeBonheur Children’s Hospital. Tuesday includes both a documentary showing and a service opportunity. The documentary, “Murderball,” follows competitive quadriplegic rugby players and according to Julia Scales, is “stereotype shattering.” She says, “[rugby] is full contact play and it’s not generally what you think of when you think of a physical disability.” Also on Tuesday, there will be service opportunities with the Memphis Exceptional Foundation of West Tennessee. There will be more service opportunities throughout the week through the Exceptional Foundation, which works with children with disabilities as well as an event with the “Lynx Club” which works with the Special Olympics.

For both Alice and Julia, this event is about awareness, but also about making people more comfortable being around people with disabilities, and like the “Murderball” screening, breaking stereotypes. When asked what she would like to see Rhodes students come out of this week with, Julia said she wanted students to be “more open minded and comfortable with disability, to make less of a taboo.” Alice points out that, “At most schools there are special education classes and people with disabilities are separated from us. Since a lot of people at Rhodes may not have been exposed to [people with disabilities] this is important to let people know that, hey, there are people different from you out there.”

This year for the first time the Kinney program at Rhodes is partnering with the Office of Disability Services. For Alice, Kinney being involved in this week is important for both the involvement and education aspects, “If you start volunteering, you become more interested in the facts and the awareness part of different things.” Julia says, “I think Kinney is more approachable than the office of disability services, and so that makes this a more accessible event.”

For both Julia and Alice, working with people with disabilities and learning more about it to educate others has become a part of their lives. For Julia it wasn’t until she came to college that she became more aware of disabilities. “I didn’t know a lot about [disabilities] until I went to interview for the RSAP position in that office, and it just opened up a new world. Also, I’m an anthro/soc minor and so things like finding the “other” made me want to delve into more topics like that.” Alice on the other hand, has had an interest in this from the time she was little, “For me, my mom was a special education teacher and she also taught the deaf and the blind and my dad was an elementary school principal, so I would go to his school a lot. So I have interacted a lot with people with disabilities. Coming to Rhodes, I found out about the Exceptional Foundation and I wanted to start volunteering there because that was what I was interested in.”

The line-up for the week proves to be one that will be full of fun, service and a lot of important facts to bring more awareness to our campus about people with disabilities. Both Julia and Alice have a few events that they are particularly excited about. “I’m excited about the stuffed animals in the Rat.” Said Julia, “I think that will be really fun.” For Alice she is of course excited about the service events, but especially for Tuesday’s events, “I’ve never been to a RiverKings game and so I’m pretty excited about that.”

For a complete line-up of the events happening during Disability Awareness week, look out for posters around campus.

Sudoku

			4	1		5		2
			9			4	7	
		6					8	3
1						7		
		9	2		4	8		
		5						6
8	9					6		
	5	4			1			
3		2		8	9			

CAMPUS SAFETY

October 10- November 5, 2011

10-10-2011

0340 hours Intermural Fields-Medical/injury from earlier in the day. Student transported to local hospital.

1300 hours Library-Theft cell phone missing from second floor. Officer completed report.

10-11-2011

1430 hours RAT- Students laptop. Phone and calculator is missing. Officer completed report.

10-12-2011

2036 hours Palmer Hall- Laptop missing. Officer completed report.

10-13-2011

1110 hours Glassell Hall-wallet missing. Officer completed report.

1810 hours Intermural Fields-Medical/injury. Student transported to local hospital.

10-17-2011

2300 hours EVA-Fire. Lamp knocked over. Fire extinguished by the student. Minor property damage.

10-20-2011

1315 hours Tutwiler-off campus-Vehicle tag stolen. Reported to MPD.
0205 hours Pi Kappa Alpha house- AV issued.

10-22-2011

1050 hours Palmer-Medical/Injury-no transport.

1410 hours Middle ground. AV issued.

1540 hours Bellingrath-Theft. Wallet was taken. Officer completed report.

1700 hours Mallory lot-information report.

10-23-2011

1700 hours Sigma Nu-Theft. Composite taken from house. Officer completed report.

10-24-2011

0730 hours Vehicle hit and run Accident Physical Plant lot-report taken

1320 hours Vehicle Accident Physical Plant lot-report taken

2121 hours Vehicle Accident North Parkway-report taken

10-26-2011

0240 hours Robb Dorm-Window broken. Officer completed report.

0310 hours Stewart-Medical/AV issued.

1235 hours-First year lot- hit and run accident reported. Officer completed report.

10-27-2011

1515 hours- VOTO-Theft. Clothes missing from the laundry room. Officer completed report.

2227 hours-Pike house- disorderly conduct complaint- AV issued.

10-28-2011

0010 hours-Labyrinth area Fisher Garden-DV issued.

10-29-2011

0055 hours-Townsend- Medical/AV. Student transported to local hospital.

0219 hours-EV fire lane-AV issued and Reckless driving- Officer completed report.

10-31-2011

1600 hours Townsend-Medical. Student transported to local hospital.

11-01-2011

0930 hours RAT- Students laptop is missing from their book bag. Officer completed report.

11-2-2011

1600 hours On Campus-Sexual Assault reported from May of 2011. Report completed.

1845 hours Spann-Theft. Student rented Rhodes bike is missing. Officer completed report.

11-4-2011

1523 hours Lynx Lair- Medical/DV. Student transported to local hospital.

1725 hours Library-Harassment. Officer completed report.

11-5-2011

0325 hours EVA-Medical-no transport.

1640 hours Williford- DV issued. Officer completed report.

2345 Hours Stewart- AV issued. Officer completed report.

Rhodes Celebrates Quadricentennial of the King James Bible

Amy Stout
Staff Writer

Rhodes has a history of hosting interactive and educational events for students and members of the community, and that tradition is being upheld this year with a series of events exploring and celebrating the 400th anniversary of the King James Bible. The 1611 translation has been one of the most influential books in Western history, widely read and referenced in countless works, by authors ranging from William Blake to William Faulkner. Rhodes is offering an array of events to commemorate the anniversary of this influential work.

Starting on November 9, the Barret Library will display *Manifold Destiny: The Creation and Afterlife of the King James Bible*, an exhibit which will include information about the King James Bible's importance in Western culture. The display will include some of Rhodes' own early English bibles, including a 1582 copy of the Geneva Bible and a 1617 copy of the King James version. This exhibit will be open until the end of the semester in Barret 051. This exhibition has been in the works for at least a year and was made possible with help from the National Endowment for the Humanities and the Pearce Shakespeare Endowment. The goal of the exhibit and all of the 1611 events is to engage students and members of the community with the displays.

In addition to the exhibit, Rhodes will host a symposium on Friday, November 11 from 1-5pm in Blount Auditorium, with presentations from biblical scholars. The symposium is co-sponsored by the African American Stud-

ies, Art, English, History, Religious Studies, and Search departments. The symposium will consist of brief presentations, no longer than half an hour each, from five distinguished visiting scholars, followed by a response by Robert Alter and a roundtable discussion. The goal of the symposium is to open up an intelligent and scholarly discourse between the audience and the experts, so that the information is more accessible to the general public. The symposium is free and open to the public, with hope for a large turnout.

Following the symposium, Rhodes is excited to host *Parthenia*, a consort of viols, at 7pm on Sunday, November 13, in the Hardie auditorium. This event, sponsored by the Curb Institute, will showcase the dynamic string ensemble focusing on music from 1611. The unique group plays with the actual instruments that the 400-year-old music would have been written for. It is sure to be an arresting and exciting experience.

All of the anniversary events are free and open to everyone, and students are highly encouraged to attend. Bill Short has been orchestrating the exhibit in Barret Library, Vanessa Rogers and John Bass helped to arrange *Parthenia's* visit, and Scott Newstok worked tirelessly to organize the symposium and other on-campus events. This week will see so many exciting and educational activities. For more information, visit rhodes.edu/1611 to view a full schedule with links to background information on the 1611 bible.

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Memphis Indie Film Fest Delivers Oscar Worthy Films

Alex Yu
News Editor

This past weekend was the 14th Annual Indie Memphis Film Festival, a four day event which celebrates the works of local and regional filmmakers, as well as a few from some of the more widely-known festivals around the world. There a wide range of films, from shorts to feature-length films, and from cartoons to documentaries. While I did not attend any shorts or documentaries, I had my eye set on two films that have been stirring the pot of Oscar buzz:



Martha Marcy May Marlene

When I heard this movie would be playing at the festival, I had to see it for myself. If you haven't heard of it yet, you will. It's received strong reviews from critics, and was also part of the Official Selection at the Cannes Film Festival this summer. This movie did not disappoint, and it has serious Oscar potential due to the great performance given by Elizabeth Olsen, the unknown but highly talented "other" Olsen sister.

Olsen stars as Martha, also known as Marcy May or Marlene, a girl who has recently escaped from a cult that she stayed with for nearly two years somewhere in the Catskills. She is picked up by her sister Lucy (Sarah Paulson) and moves in with her and her husband (Hugh Dancy) at their weekend home somewhere in Connecticut. As she tries to adjust to living in normal society, she is impeded by haunting memories and increasing paranoia.

Director and writer Sean Durkin does an amazing job of juxtaposing the past with the present, creating subtle transitions that ease you between the two almost unknowingly, emphasizing the instability of Martha's current mental state. Martha herself cannot seem to grasp whether or not her memories are in fact memories, or just a dream. It is most likely that she's experiencing symptoms of post-traumatic stress disorder due

to the events that took place while she lived with the cult. John Hawkes, most known for his Oscar nominated role in last year's *Winter's Bone*, stars as the cult leader, Patrick. He serves as the patriarch and teacher of ideas, which he uses to justify rape, murder, and stealing. As the film progresses you learn more about the ways of the cult, which becomes increasingly unsettling and violent. The film itself proceeds in a linear fashion, and as the past grows darker so does the present, as seen through Martha's increasing paranoia.

There were several parts of the movie that were incredibly unsettling. If you would like to keep these a mystery until you see the film, do not read the rest of this paragraph. As one would expect, the memories were some of the creepiest scenes, some due only to dialogue. There was a scene where Martha was playing with a baby and a newcomer asks if all of the babies were boys. Her response was, "They only have boys." This begs the question, what happens to the female babies? The females in the cult are already on a lesser level than men. Their roles are to clean and cook, and they are not allowed to even eat until the men are finished eating. This unanswered question is one of many that will have you leaving the theater disturbed.

There are so many questions to consider after the film, and the ending will have you wanting even more answers. They gave ballots to rate the film A-F with A being the best and F being the worst. I couldn't decide between A and B so I tore in-between the two. I definitely recommend that this movie should be on your watch list. However, the film is rated R for violence, nudity, language, as well as a rape scene, so consider yourself warned. Overall I give this film 4.5/5 creepy stars. *Martha Marcy May Marlene* arrives in theaters 11/11/11 in Memphis. Save the date.

Melancholia

For the second day of the film festival, I decided to see *Melancholia*, having found the trailer intriguing. Within the past few weeks, the film has received much attention due to the Oscar-worthy performance given by Kirsten Dunst. This film may even go on to receive a Best Picture nomination, and if it does, I will not be surprised. *Melancholia* is a searingly beautiful film, both in cinematography and its command of the subject matter.

Written and directed by Lars Von Trier, *Melancholia* is an unconventional end-of-the-world drama with themes of human mortality and the inability to escape the inevitable—death. The film is divided into two parts, and begins with the wedding reception of Justine (Kirsten Dunst) and Michael (Alexander Skars-

gard). The reception is held at the home of her sister Claire (Charlotte Gainsbourg) and her husband John (Kiefer Sutherland). During the party, it is revealed that Justine is not entirely "present" as she wonders off alone and exhibits peculiar behavior when she should be engaging in wedding activities such as cutting the cake and tossing the bouquet. The more the party progresses, the more she begins to fall into a state of melancholy. Part two reveals just how crippling her depression is, which is where her performance is at its truly heart-breaking finest.

Depression is not the only topic of the film, as there is an end-of-the-world scenario thrown into the mix. A planet called Melancholia, which was hiding behind the sun, is on a direct course for Earth. The question of whether or not it will pass Earth or collide adds even more stress to the characters' lives. While John is convinced that it will pass, from his calculations as an astrologist, Claire believes online doomsday sites claiming that the end is near. Each character deals with the possible impending doom in their own ways, some of which are unexpected. I'm not going to spoil the ending for you, so I will leave my summary at that.

My favorite part of the film is the beginning, before the title screen is even shown. There are sixteen short scenes in slow motion, all within seven and a half minutes, and each scene is a work of art. Lars Von Trier did a fantastic job directing and writing this film, and I'm anxious to see how many nominations *Melancholia* will receive. You can see *Melancholia* for yourself when it comes to Memphis on 11/23/11, or you can watch it now as a rental from iTunes for \$9.99. If you are looking for an interesting film to enjoy, you will not be disappointed. I give this movie 5/5 rogue planets.



Annual Lynxstock around the corner

Molly Whitehorn
A&E Photo Editor

It's fall on the Rhodes campus and students know what that means: changing leaves, colder weather and finals. While it's getting colder outside, the Rhodes music scene is just starting to heat up. On November 11, Rhodes will host the annual fall festival Lynxstock on campus. Lynxstock is a time for students to enjoy themselves and listen to good music. Rhodes Activity Board tries to keep the music relaxing and chill, much like the infamous Woodstock festival that inspired Lynxstock's name. The artists invited to perform usually have an indie sound, much like last year's performers, Pat Green and Star & Mickey. This year's Lynxstock will feature three acts: the Rhodes-student-led, hip-hop dance group KRUNK, the Southern alt-rockers Benjy Davis Project, and the headliner, singer-songwriter Ben Kweller.

This year's show will open with Rhodes's own KRUNK. They are familiar to many Rhodes students because of their performances at All-Sing. The hip-hop dance group will pump up the crowd before Benjy Davis Project and Ben Kweller take the stage.

Benjy Davis Project was selected by the Rhodes Activity Board because they thought they would be "an excellent addition to Lynxstock" and "would appeal to a large number of students on campus," according to Robyn Barrow, a freshmen member of RAB. The band was formed in Baton Rouge in 2001. Their laid-back, southern style has attracted many fans from universities around the country. Some of their more well-known songs include the Cajun party anthem "Louisiana Saturday Night," from their 2002 debut album, *More Than Local*, and the sweet ballad "I Love You" from 2007's *Dust*. The current members of the band are Benjy Davis on vocals and guitar and Mic Capdeville on backup vocals and percussion.

Indie rocker Ben Kweller is a familiar name for most students at Rhodes. The young star started his solo career at the age of 19 after moving from Greenville, TX to New York. The star was chosen carefully by RAB after many meetings and discussions, and they are just as excited about Kweller's performance as the rest of Rhodes is.

"We chose him because he has a really indie-chill vibe, which is what RAB tries to go for during Lynxstock and he's also been really enthusiastic in dealings with him," Barrow said.

Kweller is best known for his singles like "Wasted & Ready" from his 2002 album *Sha Sha* and "Penny on the Train Track" from his 2006 self-titled album. Kweller has a large following around the globe and the announcement of his participation in the festival is sure to excite a number of Rhodes students.

The show will take place on November 11 in the BCLC Ballroom. KRUNK will take the stage at 7:30 followed by Benjy Davis Project at 8:00 and Ben Kweller at 10. Also, from noon to 5 students can tie-dye special Lynxstock t-shirts on the BCLC south lawn. The show is sure to be a memorable event, so don't miss it, Lynx cats!

Dance, Gavin, Dance

Jasmine Gilstrap
Editor-In-Chief

If someone told me prior to Wednesday night that a Gavin DeGraw concert consists of him sitting behind his piano the entire show, I would have believed them. Of course, that person would have been lying as that was definitely not the case when I saw him at Minglewood Hall.

After standing through the opening act Carolina Liar to ensure a good spot for Gavin's performance, when the lights went out in the middle of "Empire State of Mind," I knew something epic was about to go down. Gavin's band members, drummer Ian O'Neill and guitarist Billy Norris, stepped on stage first before bass player Tony Tino and keyboard/ background vocalist Jimmy Wallace, all leading up to Gavin's first appearance on stage. The green laser light show before the intro to "Candy" gave Gavin a true Hollywood-style entrance. After kicking off the show with a track off of his new album "Sweeter," Gavin launched into crowd favorite "Chariot," where he vibed along to his own sound as much as the audience. The title track from new album came next with Gavin abandoning his piano to sing at the standing microphone. Prior to this performance, I would have never thought of Gavin DeGraw as one to sing suggestive lyrics and work the stage with a microphone stand. Although it was unexpected, Gavin made it work and continued with his microphone seduction until the band led into another track off the new album, "You Know Where I'm At."

Taking place days after E! broke the story, no event would have been complete without an acknowledgement of the Kim Kardashian-Kris Humphries divorce. Gavin opted to use the story

to illustrate how love sometimes just doesn't work out. "However," Gavin said. "If you do have that someone you would do anything for, this song is for you." He then proceeded to play "Solider," also on the new album. The next few songs were a blur of old Gavin fan favorites, new songs, and some brief covers of current hit records. "In Love With A Girl" followed directly after "Soldier" and preceded



courtesy of Google images

DeGraw's newest album, *Sweeter*, debuted at number eight on the Billboard 200 list in September.

"Where You Are," where O'Neill abandoned his drums for a shaker, giving the song an intimate feeling. A stripped version of "Break Even" followed, and then a heartfelt version of "Follow Through,"

complete with an emotional response from Gavin in the form of him literally touching his heart as the crowd sang his song. Another microphone serenade to Bruno Mars' "Grenade" came before a version of "Stay" so beautiful that it rivaled the So You Think You Can Dance piece inspired by the song.

At this point in the show, Gavin gave his band a break and told the audience a few stories from his childhood and how he came to work with Ryan Tedder from OneRepublic and another producing genius, Andrew Frampton. In accordance with his admiration for Frampton, Gavin launched into piano only versions of the songs co-written with Frampton, "Spell It Out" and "Run Everytime." Gavin was rejoined by his band for his last song, pre-encore, which was ironically his breakthrough first song. As soon as he started singing the words "I don't want to be," the crowd went wild and the energy in Minglewood could probably have been seen from space. A little yelling of his name and stomps later, Gavin returned with his band to perform some more new material, a version of "Radiation" complete with another microphone seduction and solo from Norris followed by the new single off the album, "Not Over You," which ended Gavin's performance.

Aside from seeing Gavin DeGraw seduce the girls in the front row and do things with a microphone that I would never imagine him doing, the overall show was good. Granted, I wasn't really feeling Carolina Liar and I bailed out on David Cook's part in the line-up. Nevertheless, I still enjoyed the concert. The greatest thing about the show was realizing that Gavin sounded exactly the same live as he does on his recorded material, a rarity in an age where auto tune and filtered voices rule the music industry. With his f-bombs and cracking jokes on celebrities, I could see that performing meant so much more than money to Gavin, which, in turn, made me as a fan appreciate him and his music that much more.

Age Before Beauty

Shelby Lund
A&E Editor



Anyone noticed how Hollywood is starting to grey around the temples lately? Oh, sure, there are still tons of young, hot stars to keep the media's attention. But within the past few years, Hollywood has been turning more and more to veteran performers who are starting to get on in years—especially when it comes to action movies.

Case in point: last year's hit film *The Expendables*. An ensemble movie starring just about every great action hero of the last twenty to thirty years, the film made a huge amount of money and prominently starred one Sylvester Stallone, who also co-wrote and directed. The movie was a big, explosive adventure harkening back to the action films of the 1970s-80s.

Stallone was 64 years old when the movie came out. Sixty-four. A man nearing retirement age was able to star in a gigantic action film and fight men thirty years his junior. And he's planning on doing it again, since *The Expendables 2* is currently in production, probably for a release date next year.

It gets better—or worse, depending on your opinion. Former Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger, who had a cameo in *The Expendables*, is currently in the process of making his Hollywood comeback. This past month he signed on to play the lead in *Black Sands*, an action movie where a loner faces off against a weapons manufacturer. Schwarzenegger is currently 64, a year younger than the now 65-yr-old Stallone.

And there's more where that came from. You can pick out at least two other prime examples of this trend from *The Expendables'* cast list alone. 59-yr-old Mickey Rourke has recently made a name for himself performing physically demanding roles, from the titular role in *The Wrestler* to the villainous Whiplash

in *Iron Man 2*. He's currently starring in *Immortals* as the evil Hyperion, set to open in theaters this Friday. Meanwhile, 56-yr-old Bruce Willis is signed on for at least two more *Die Hard* films, and is currently filming the GI Joe sequel in New Orleans.

The big question here is: Why on earth are these men still playing these types of roles? Does Hollywood really expect audiences to buy that these late-middle-aged men, who are far from their physical peak, can take out dozens of highly-trained opponents half their ages without breaking a sweat? Granted, movies are unrealistic by nature, but all stories have to be grounded in some sort of credibility for the audience to accept their more fantastical elements. Having the big action hero save the day and get the girl while pushing retirement age is asking just a little too much. So why does Hollywood still persist in casting old stars in action hero roles?

If we've learned anything from the innumerable amounts of sequels, prequels, and whatever-queels that have come out of Hollywood in the last few years, it's that the movie industry isn't very adventurous when it comes to making money. Studio executives would rather use established performers with large fan bases than younger, less popular actors who would look more believable doing the kinds of stunts expected of an action star. Basically, it's all about using the actors who will get the studio the most money.

How long this trend will last, no one can say. Eventually some, if not all, of these men are going to accept the fact that they're past their prime and need to step aside to let the next generation take over. Until then, so long as action movies with old stars keep making money, old will very much remain "in" in Hollywood.

THIS WEEK IN ENTERTAINMENT

New Movie Releases:

11/11/11
Immortals
J. Edgar
Jack and Jill
Martha Marcy May Marlene

Television Highlights (11/9-11/15):

The 45th Annual CMA Awards, Wednesday, 8 pm, ABC.
Festivities honor excellence in country music; Brad Paisley and Carrie Underwood host.

Criminal Minds, Wednesday, 9 pm, CBS.
The BAU investigates when bodies are exposed by tornadoes in Kansas.

The Big Bang Theory, Thursday, 8 pm, CBS.
Leonard and Penny spend time alone; Sheldon tries to face his fear of birds.

The Vampire Diaries, Thursday, 8 pm, CW.
In hope of outsmarting Klaus, Damon becomes a part of a dangerous partnership.

Chuck, Friday, 8 pm, NBC.
The team searches for a fugitive; Chuck worries about the Intersect's effect on Morgan.

Grimm, Friday, 9 pm, NBC.
Nick and Hank investigate a flash mob that turned into a homicide.

The Matrix, Saturday, 8 pm, TNT. Movie. A computer hacker joins forces with rebel warriors to battle a malevolent cyberintelligence.

Once Upon A Time, Sunday, 8 pm, ABC.
Emma tries to help a woman get away from Mr. Gold; Cinderella makes a deal with Rumplestiltskin.

Terra Nova, Monday, 8 pm, FOX.
While interning for a great scientist, Maddy learns a secret that puts her life at risk.

Glee, Tuesday, 8 pm, FOX.
Sue goes negative to take down her competition in the congressional race; Puck develops a crush.

Game of the Century Part II, Anyone?

The Case for an LSU-Alabama Rematch

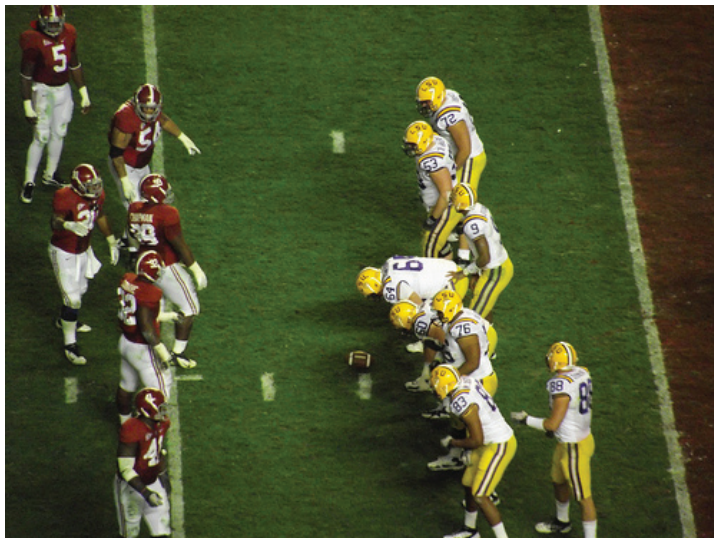
Bailey Kimmitt
Staff Writer

Fans of Stanford, Oklahoma State, and especially Boise State cringe at the thought of a rematch between Alabama and LSU in the BCS Championship Game. But it is a scenario that is unlikely to materialize over the final month of the season.

The participants in the BCS Championship Game are chosen via a system of human polling and computer rankings. Alabama, who lost to LSU 9-6 on Saturday, currently sits at third in the rankings, ahead of undefeated teams like Stanford and Boise State. This is a result of a high score in the computer component of the BCS formula. However, Nick Saban's squad is likely to drop in the computer rankings due to a remaining schedule that is underwhelming at best: the strongest team left on the Crimson Tide's schedule, Auburn, will have at least three losses going into Thanksgiving Weekend. Alabama's ticket to the national championship will more than likely depend on the play of Oregon, Oklahoma, and Arkansas, which are the toughest opponents left on the schedules of Stanford, Oklahoma State, and LSU respectively. Even if these underdog teams win, there is a good chance that Alabama still will not play for the national championship.

Let us assume for the moment that LSU wins all of its remaining games. What exactly is Alabama's argument for a rematch

with the Tigers? It is not as tangible as the number crunching found in the BCS formula, and it cannot be expressed in wins, losses, or stats. Rather, one only had to watch the game Saturday night to understand how good Alabama and LSU are. These two teams, each averaging close to forty points



courtesy of Matthew Tosh

If not for formulas and figures, SEC fans would probably see Alabama and LSU face off again in January.

per game heading into their matchup, could not get into the end zone once when lined up against each other. This is a testament to just how talented these two SEC West defenses are.

Football fans outside the South, and even many residing in SEC country, might scoff at this low-scoring, turnover-riddled game. They might even say the

high-powered offenses of Oklahoma State and Boise State would outlast these vaunted defenses and their ball-control offenses. But they should not forget the last "Game of the Century", held in 2006 between top-ranked Ohio State and second-ranked Michigan. Ohio State beat Michigan by a score of 42-39 that year, and the close outcome left many clamoring for a rematch between the two historic programs. Both teams were demolished in their bowl games by the defenses of USC and Florida. In the case of those Big Ten giants, a rematch would not have been a good idea, for it is defense, not offense, that wins championships. Few would contest that Alabama and LSU boast two of the best defenses ever assembled. It is only fitting that they be allowed to face each other again should both teams win their remaining games.

If the goal of the BCS format is to identify the two best teams in the country, then it would be disingenuous to have any other team besides Alabama face LSU. The outcome of the game Saturday was very close – so close, quite frankly, that it would be completely wrong for the loss to completely rule out a championship game berth for the Tide. Besides, a month and a half of bowl game practices would give Alabama time to find a competent field goal kicker. Any Rhodes students that can kick a football might want to call the office of Nick Saban and see if there's an opening on the Crimson Tide roster.

Postseason Lynx: SCAC Playoffs Recap (11/4-11/6)

Claire Riley
Staff Writer

Women's Soccer

The fourth-seeded Lynx bested fifth-seeded Hendrix in the quarterfinals of the single-elimination SCAC tournament last Friday in Birmingham to start their weekend. Mae Casey and Ashley Ladd each contributed a goal to the 2-0 shutout of the Warriors, vaulting Rhodes into the semifinals the following day. At noon on Saturday, they faced top-seeded and undefeated Trinity, the fifth-ranked team in the nation. The Lynx were unable to break Trinity's stride, falling 0-5 to the Tigers. Trinity would go on to dispatch third-seeded Centre 4-0 on Sunday to win the conference championship. The Lynx closed out their season with a record of 10-7-2.

"It was disappointing losing to Trinity in the semifinals," freshman Taylor Weidow said following the defeat. "But everyone came off the field knowing that we had played our best. I'm really looking forward to our next season, where we'll set even higher goals for ourselves."

Volleyball

The No. 10 seed Lynx opened their run in the triple-elimination SCAC tournament with a 3-0 upset win over No. 7 seed Centre on Friday in Jackson, MS, avenging a close 3-2 defeat in late September. The victory propelled the Lynx into the second round that night, where they suffered a tough 0-3 loss to No. 2 seed Colorado College, the eventual tournament champions. The next morning, however, Rhodes bounced back, beating No. 3 seed Austin College 3-2 to earn a berth in the fifth place game played on Saturday afternoon. In a hard fought match against No. 4 seed Birmingham Southern, the Lynx fell by a score of 1-3, ending the year in the top half of the league. The Lynx finished out their season with an overall 16-22 record.

"We really showed everyone that we can compete with the top teams in the conference" freshman Erin Lowrance said afterward. "Our execution and discipline on the court, as well as our unity, allowed for us to rise to sixth place. All we can do now is keep striving to finish higher in the SCAC tournament next year."

Lynx win third SCAC title, earn NCAA berth

Tyler Springs
Sports Editor

"Well it's one for the money, two for the show, three to get ready, now go, cat, go!"

Thus sang Memphis' own Elvis Presley many years ago. Those words, immortalized by "The King" of rock'n'roll in "Blue Suede Shoes" might have a particularly relevant message for the Rhodes College field hockey team this month: don't stop now.

The Lynx, winners of back-to-back SCAC conference titles in 2009 and 2010, entered this past weekend as the top seed in this year's SCAC tournament, which, in proof of serendipity, was held on campus for the first time since 2006.

The first half of their semifinal match against Sewanee saw the Lynx jump out to an early 2-0 lead with goals from senior defender Sarah Sanders and senior forward Sarah Kennedy in the 6th and 14th minutes, respectively. The fourth-seeded Tigers answered with a goal in the 24th minute, but junior forward Katie Faucher, Rhodes' top scoring threat, added an insurance goal to stake the Lynx to a 3-1 lead heading into halftime. Faucher's goal proved to be the difference in the match: The Tigers managed to break through in the final minute, scoring with 38 seconds

remaining to cut the lead to one, but it was too-little-too-late for Rhodes' cross-state rivals. The final horn preserved a 3-2 victory for the home team, and the Lynx advanced to Sunday's championship game against third-seeded Centre College.

In a game that was more closely contested than the scoreboard might have suggested, Centre opened with a 4-shot barrage in the first 150 seconds, but the Colonels were unable to find the back of the goal. Minutes later, standout freshman forward Kat Simpson got the Lynx on the board, scoring the game's first goal with just under 24 minutes remaining in the opening half. Ten minutes later, senior forward Taylor Mills entered the game in place of Faucher and wasted little time, scoring with 9:40 remaining in the half to give the Lynx some breathing room at 2-0, a score they would hold through halftime. The Colonels, who had rallied from a similar 2-0 second-half deficit against the Lynx just nine days earlier, came out gunning, shooting twice in the first two minutes much to the dismay of the Rhodes defense. The Lynx countered with an offensive burst of their own, as Faucher, now back in the

game, scored off an assist from senior forward Libby Jones, extending the lead to 3-0. The Colonels did not threaten the rest of the way, and sophomore defender Regan McLaughlin assisted Kennedy with an icing-on-the-cake goal in the 59th minute, sealing the championship, Rhodes' third in a row, with a final score of 4-0.

"I'm so proud," Mills said afterward. "We are the first team in SCAC history to win three SCAC championships in a row, and it is awesome that we won Sunday in a shutout."

Following the victory, the Lynx were awarded an at-large bid to the 24-team NCAA Division III tournament for the second time as many years. The Lynx will take on the No. 8 Montclair State Red Hawks in New Jersey today. If they win, they will play at No. 2 Salisbury University in Maryland this weekend. The Lynx lost to the Sea Gulls in last year's tournament.

"Hopefully we [will] play Montclair like we played the championship game on Sunday," McLaughlin said by phone from New Jersey. "They're a really good team, but we've worked so hard and we all want to win it for each other. Plus, we just love the game!"