

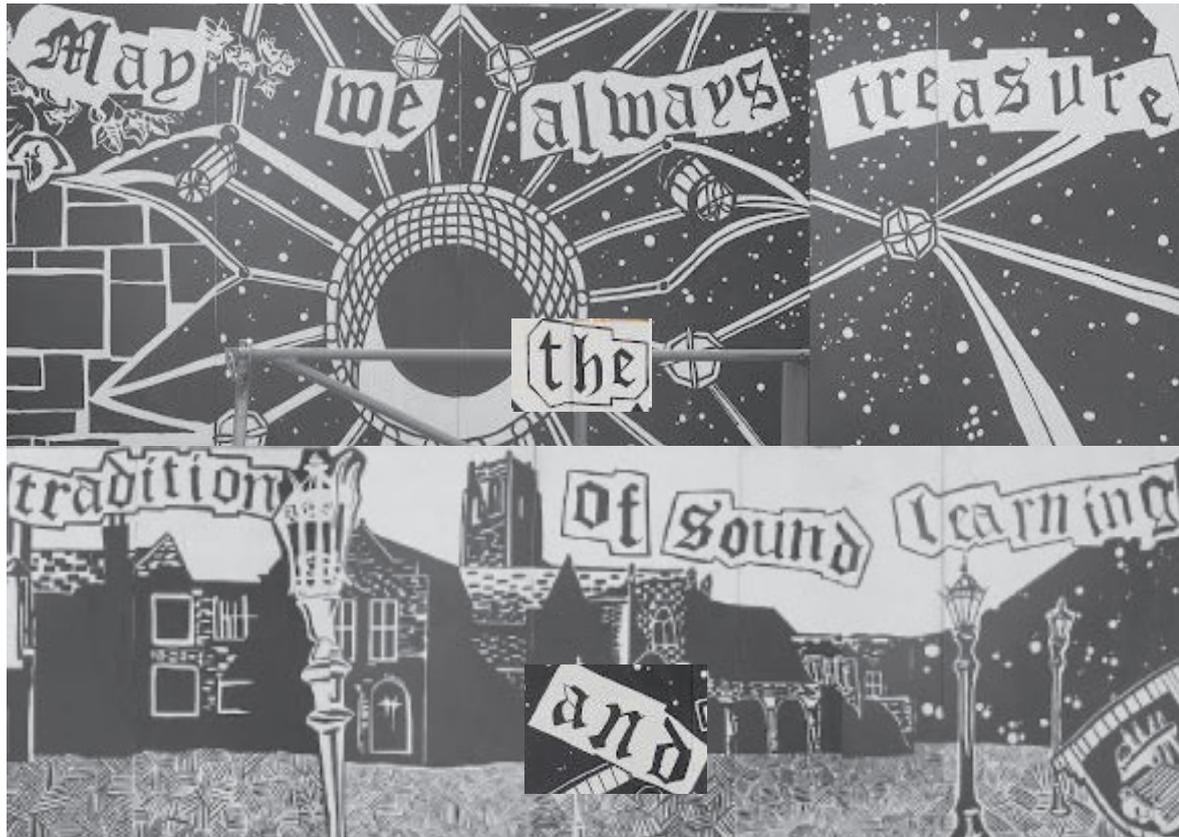
THE **SOU'WESTER**

Vol. XCVII. NO.10

March 21, 2012

The Fortnightly Student Newspaper of Rhodes College

Visit <http://www.rhodesorgs.whsites.net/Souwester/>



Graphic Editing By:
Erica Morozin
Layout Editor

Article By:
Lydia Holmes
Staff Writer

What's with the mural?
See Page 7



The weekly sassy lesbian column

Avoiding discussion about sensitive issues is like totally cool and popular

Rin Abernathy
Staff Writer

I devote a lot of my time to discussing things that matter to me but don't have any effect on the world. For instance, I love cats (lesbian stereotypes, activate!) and will obnoxiously talk about my kitten Rumblrora. I like rambling about my favorite movies and TV shows. Most days, I spend about ten percent of my time being productive and spend the other ninety percent talking about how much work I have to do. These are not atypical conversations; they're socially acceptable topics of small talk. Although many of my classes lead to serious discussions about the world at large, I've heard one complaint from multiples of my friends: we're too afraid to talk about issues of diversity on campus.

In an average day, I will have at least one discussion about homophobia, sexism, racism, or poverty. These aren't light-hearted topics. Some of these are in class, and some are outside. The ones outside of class inevitably lead to the same issue of being afraid to address these problems specific to Rhodes itself. We have multitudes of capable, caring students at Rhodes. And when given the chance, these students don't want to stop talking about greater issues. Outside the classroom, when the moderation is gone, I have these talks less frequently with strangers. Partially, I think it's because we're in the South. As diverse as Rhodes is, we face the double-edged sword of Southern politeness. People are generally nice, but it's not easy for most people to bring up the problems some students have being accepted by the campus majority.

Some of my friends have argued against this, stating that either everyone should know that they're supportive/liberal/unicorn-friendly, whatever the issue may be. But if you make a joke about hating unicorns, how is someone who doesn't know you supposed to know that you're kidding? As small and tight-knit as Rhodes may be, you probably don't know every single student well enough to answer the very important question of unicorn acceptance. It's entertaining when considering unicorns, but having honest engagements about racism or religion or sexism, well, that's not proper talk for the dinner table, y'all. But can we talk about these issues? We already are, but not often enough in campus-wide forums. This is where we need change. The real problems start when there is silence on both sides, or when people start yelling without hearing. If our Rhodes community is already wonderful, then why not make sure it gets even better? Even though we already make great changes happen in the world, we still have the potential to make our own Rhodes community stronger.

Have a question or a topic you'd like addressed? Want advice or opinions full of semi-witty and sarcastic answers? Email abere@rhodes.edu.

Letter from the Editor-in-Chief

The Sou'wester issues prior to this one have been attempts from the SW staff to remain connected to the Rhodes student community, printing more stories and advertisement to aid students in their endeavors to explore the greater Memphis community. Although the staff has worked and will continue to work vigorously on ways to continue on our path of remaining connected to student needs, the SW staff would still like to hear feedback from our readers. Below is a list of the section editors and their office hours. Please feel free to stop by our office in the basement of the Briggs Student Center or send us an email. Any feedback would allow us to better serve you, our readers. With the spring break hump out of the way, we hope to continue to inspire and inform you as you enjoy our journalistic endeavors and continue to read us both in print and online.

~Jasmine Gilstrap

Jasmine, Editor-In-Chief
Erica, Layout Editor
Xany, Copy Editor
Patrick, Opinion Editor
Alex, News Editor

Thursday 4:00 PM - 5:00 PM
Tuesday 4:00 PM - 5:00 PM
Tuesday 7:00 PM - 8:00 PM
Friday 1:00 PM - 2:00 PM
Monday, Wednesday, and Friday
10:00 AM - 11:00 AM

Tyler, Sports Editor Tuesday 5:00 PM - 6:00 PM
Shelby, A&E Editor Wednesday 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM

Why Rosie the Riveter Still Matters

Jerica Sandier
Staff Writer



The pictures from the Rosie the Riveter photo shoot on display at the Rhodes Gender and Sexuality Studies Symposium. photo courtesy of J. Gilstrap

The fact that at this point in history, society is still grappling with the equality of women, is truly baffling to me. Yet recent statistics show that women still make less than men in 99% of jobs in the United States and that women only own one percent of the world's land. These facts notwithstanding, a misunderstanding of post-feminism coupled with a focus on other social justice issues has spread the idea that the fight for women's rights is finished.

It was in opposition to this belief that Jasmine Gilstrap and I decided to begin a photo project for Women's History Month in which we took photos of Rhodes women in the iconic Rosie the Riveter pose. The question I heard most often was: Why Rosie? I can't speak for Jasmine or the women who participated; however, I think, despite the time that has passed since Rosie's debut, her message hasn't diminished in value or relevance. Rosie made men and women both view the abilities of females differently—or, rather, notice them at all—and realize the strength of the female population *en masse*. Put simply, "we can do it [too]."

Many of us disagree about the best way to secure rights for women nationally and globally, but "we can do it" is the kind of rallying cry we still need—men and women. Men don't need to leave the

movement to women any more than George Clooney should leave Sudanese refugees to fight for themselves. When we fight for each other's rights it leaves us more secure in the knowledge that the next time one of us is marginalized, there will be others who will fight for us—like the famous Martin Niemoller poem "When They Came for Me."

"We can do it" is also a reminder that we should be *doing something*. The early suffragettes did their part by proclaiming that women were equal, but it wasn't until the women of World War II did the "work of men" that the country began to acknowledge this equality. Now women have been doing equal work in classrooms, offices, and communities for decades in the U.S. and it hasn't been properly recognized. In my opinion, we now need to infiltrate the system where we have been habitually underrepresented—the political sphere. Whether in career politics or simply political involvement, women's voices need to be heard more clearly. With Rush Limbaugh's recent attacks, the legislation attacking contraception and the infinitesimal percentage of women in congress and other government jobs there is no denying that this is where women's rights are being limited. Rosie wouldn't stand for it and neither should we.

THE
SOU'WESTER

Editor-In-Chief
Jasmine Gilstrap

Layout Editor
Erica Morozin

Copy Editors
Xany Moore
Hannah Gysin

Opinion Editor
Patrick Harris

News Editor
Alex Yu

A&E Editor
Shelby Lund

Sports Editor
Tyler Springs

Executive Assistants
Andrea Davis
Swati Pandita

Business Manager
Alex LaBat

Advertising Manager
Cierra Martin

How to Reach Our Authors and Us

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.

Reaching *The Sou'wester*

Phone: (901) 843-3402
E-mail: thesouwester@gmail.com
Address:
The Sou'wester
2000 North Parkway
Memphis, TN 38112-1690

AC
ASSOCIATED
COLLEGIATE
PRESS

First World College Problems

Evan Katz

People often mention the “college bubble,” referring to our isolation from the rest of the world, but I think “college quarantine” might be a more accurate term. Not because any of us are particularly sickly (except on weekend mornings) but because it’s hard not to find yourself growing more and more shut off from the rest of humanity. Once we adapt to life inside our gated communities, remembering that another world exists beyond the campus walls is easier said than done. Because this strange phenomenon makes real world concerns seem surreal, it also has the effect of blowing our own personal problems far out of proportion. As guilty as I feel joining the ranks of a generation of spoiled Americans and their “first world problems,” I can’t help but admit that lately the following issues have, in my severely skewed mind, become on par with world poverty:

The vending machine gives me a lemonade whenever I press the Coke button.

I don’t know about you, but the last time I opted to have lemonade instead of Coke was at Liam Crowley’s third grade birthday party after a particularly thirst-inducing round of laser tag. It was shortly after that I discovered, as I’m sure most everyone else does at this age, the inverse relationship between taste and nutritional value. (Excluding grapes, of course, since they are both healthy and delicious.) Coke, having the approximate health equivalent of drinking Pine-Sol, obviously became my soft drink of choice. Needless to say, being forced to try and remember the complex relationship between all the vending machine buttons and their respective mixed-up results has left me both frustrated and surprisingly good at “memory match” games. This dilemma becomes even more dire when I have only several quarters left (Sub-First-World-College-Problem: The vending machine won’t accept any of the twenties in my wallet).

Two plates won’t fit nicely on my dinner tray.

Clearly designed by the same hands that brought us Tangram puzzles, I often find a would-be pleasant dinner in our cafeteria blemished by the fact that (as far as my spatially-challenged mind can tell, at least) it’s impossible to cleanly fit two dinner plates on a tray. This might seem like a trivial matter to stay-at-home eaters, but any frequent cafeteria diner will tell you that when you’re trying to balance pizza, chicken parm, macaroni and cheese, salad, a bowl of soup, and a glass of chocolate milk, having overlapping plates could make the difference between a safe journey to your table and a dangerous food avalanche. On the bright side, I’ve actually starting solving this problem by just not using plates at all. Not only is it great for the environment, but I also

have much more freedom in placing my food in a balanced fashion now that I’m not held back by the constraints of plates.

So far it seems the only problem is the pesky nature of soups and cereal to spread out evenly across my entire tray.

The electronic fob reader to get into some building is too high to reach from within my pocket.

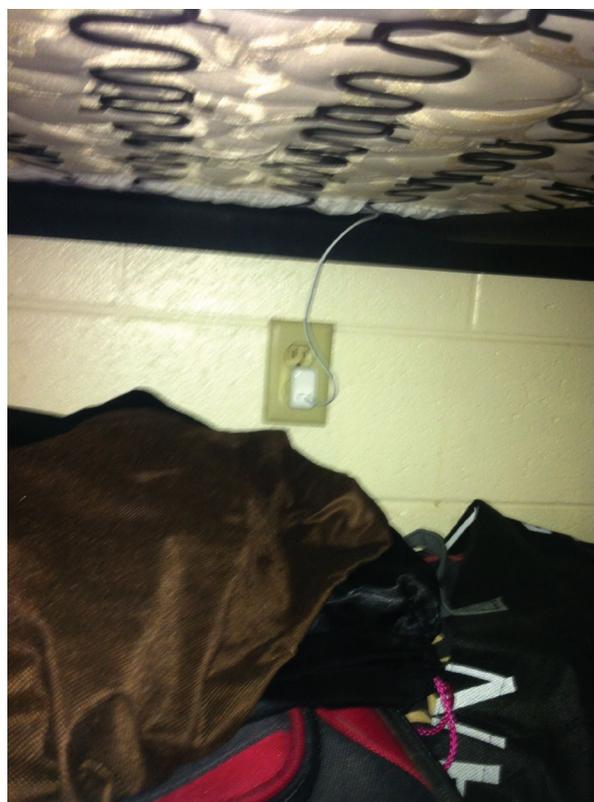
Everyone knows that the true sign of a “smooth college guy”, apart from leather pants, of course, is the ability to effortlessly fob into a building by just brushing their pocket against the key swipe. However, I find myself frequently vexed by the fact that some buildings have this fob reader placed far too high off the ground to press my pocket against, giving me no choice but to awkwardly pull my key ring out of my pocket and shamefully open the door manually. Even worse, sometimes the fob swipes are placed at that level that seems like it might be reachable through my pocket yet would require a bit of jumping. This situation usually ends up with me uncomfortably side-humping the door, a maneuver that I’m afraid turns my attempted “smooth college guy” persona into something more along the lines of “architectural pervert.”

I can only fit two appliances in the outlet by my bed at once.

Maybe at one point, perhaps during the Neolithic period, man only required two appliances per outlet. For my electrically potent lifestyle, however, trying to cram all my devices into a single outlet is severely stifling my creativity. I often find myself aggravated by the fact that I’m unable to plug in my laptop, my fan, and my guitar amp all at the same time, thus preventing my oft-requested guitar solos over Skype while having my hair cinematically blowing in the wind. Now, I realize you may be saying, “Haven’t you ever heard of a power strip?” to which I would reply, “No. I have not.”

I suppose it’s an incredible blessing that my daily snafu involves figuring out

what type of food I’d prefer as opposed to how I’m going to be getting food in the first place. Choosing between a hazelnut or caramel flavor shot at the on-campus Starbucks is certainly a more desirable option to choosing whether I should pay the gas or the water bill for the next month. Through all of this, I think the most important thing to remember next time you’re watching breaking news of a natural disaster afflicting an underdeveloped nation, is that someone, somewhere, can’t find their phone charger.



photos courtesy of E. Morozin

A Political Dictionary

Patrick Harris
Opinion Editor

As the presidential election looms and campaign season is in full blossom, we offer you this lexicon to shed light on the uses of key terminology in the ever-changing world of American politics.

ARAB SPRING [ar-uhb spring] noun

A confused jumble of political instability and violence held to mark a radical departure from the entire history of the Middle East.

CONSTITUTION [kon-sti-too-shuhn] noun

A founding document containing a set of hallowed principles that happen to exactly coincide with those of the speaker.

NATIONAL SECURITY [nash-uh-nl si-kyoor-i-tee] noun

The vital branch of statecraft concerned with cluster bombing mud huts in the Khyber Pass.

OCCUPY [ok-yuh-pahy] verb

A courageous stand against the power structure, motivated by the belief that the federal government is grotesquely corrupt and insufficiently powerful.

RON PAUL [ron pawl] noun

The strongest possible argument for the credibility of the Federal Reserve.

SOCIALISM [soh-shuh-liz-uhm] noun

Any economic doctrine favoring a return to Clinton-era marginal tax rates.

WAR ON WOMEN [wawr awn wim-in] noun

The reactionary putsch intent on not coercing Catholic schools into offering their nuns the Pill.

Student Voice

“What are you doing for Easter break?”



“I’ll be going to home. I’m going to see my family and go to church and catch up on some reading.”

-Phong Lam ‘14

“I’m going home. I’m sure I will get a visit from teh Easter Bunny and I’ll dye some eggs.”



-Robyn Barrow ‘15



“I’m staying here at Rhodes and studying. My parents will mail me some Cadbury Creme Eggs.”

-Elisabeth Peel ‘14

“I’m going home, but I won’t be doing much. I outgrew the Easter Bunny and egg hunts a while ago.”

-Kyle Jenkins ‘15



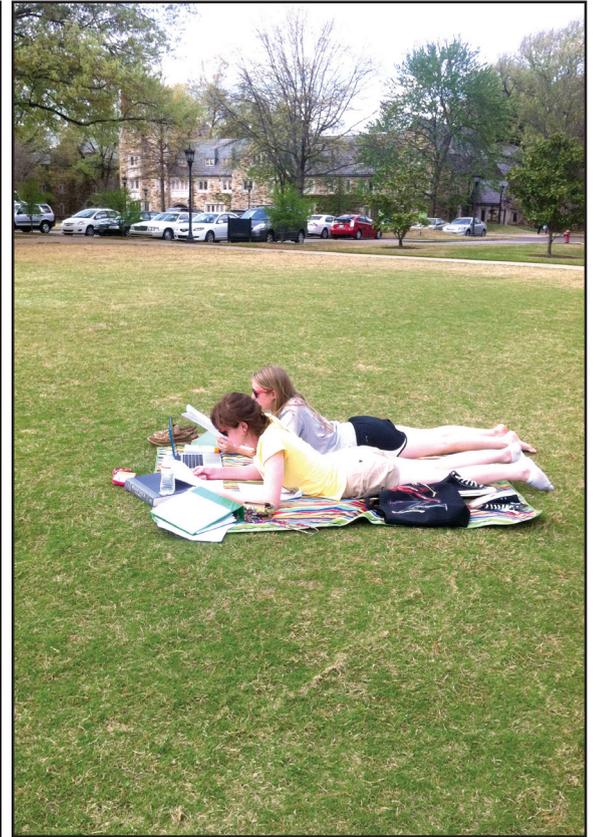
“I’m staying here, but I won’t be studying. I’ll probably go out to dinner Sunday night.”

Alex Finkelson ‘14



Rhodes launches summer term pilot program for 2012

Julia Fawal
Staff Writer



photos courtesy of E. Morozin

With summer courses, students can spend more time studying outdoors

As Rhodes grows, students are noting the increased difficulty with getting the classes necessary to fulfill their goals. Many have plans of going abroad or double majoring, and there are also the often elusive foundation requirements that must fit in.

However, this year, Rhodes will launch a pilot program to provide classes on campus during the summer. Offering summer courses will hopefully, among other benefits, help alleviate those scheduling issues. This pilot program is designed to determine whether there is a consistent need for the summer term at Rhodes, and it will be a way for the school to perfect it for the future if it is a success.

Although nothing is officially set in stone, the classes offered during this pilot run should include a non-major class with lab in Biology and Chemistry, an F6 Math course, Econ 100 for F8 credit, Spanish 201, and a section of Humanities 201. All courses will satisfy a Foundations requirement.

The idea to develop this program has been thrown around for many years, but it rose to the forefront of discussions very recently. A work group of faculty and administrators was formed in fall 2011 to discuss the logistics of making it happen, gather student feedback, and create a proposal to present to the faculty.

And so, a pilot program was formed. “The faculty and administration will be conducting a lot of assessment next fall to determine if a future summer program will have a positive impact for students at Rhodes,” said Milton Moreland, chair of the Educational Programming Committee (EPC). The EPC is a faculty member committee that first suggested the addition of this summer term. Along with recommending new programs to the faculty, it approves changes to majors and minors and helps evaluate Rhodes’ educational programs such as study abroad and internships.

The purpose of this pilot program is to make

sure it is a feasible addition to the community, along with being both a positive experience for faculty and students. An assessment team was formed at the very beginning to heavily analyze whether the program accomplishes what the faculty and administration hope it will. It will consider the entire summer experience, including its quality as well as areas that ran into problems.

The levels of participation are currently unknown. “We projected that if we have five to seven classes and draw eight to ten students for each class, we’ll be fine. If we have more, great!” said Professor John Olsen, Associate Dean of Academic Affairs and member of the work group that created the proposal for the pilot program.

Students will be able to live on campus, paying the same rate for dorm space as they do during the school year. Regular food service will not be active, but the Lynx Lair will be open. Furthermore, students will have complete access to everything else on campus. Each class will cost \$875 per credit hour, with each class being 4 credits. The price is similar to out of state summer tuition at University of Memphis.

Students who are already planning on living in Memphis for jobs or internships will now be able to take a class to lighten their workload during the year. It will be a five week term, and classes will meet Monday-Friday for an hour and 45 minutes each day. For this first pilot term, courses will be limited to one per student.

“I cannot predict how this will play out. There are so many possibilities,” said Olsen.

“It might make it possible for students to consider foreign study. Maybe it will give them an opportunity to do research with a faculty member that they would not be able to fit in their schedule otherwise. It could give students with 12 hours of AP credit the chance to graduate in January. All we hope is that it will create opportunities that did not exist before.”

Alpha Phi Alpha returns to campus

Jasmine Gilstrap
Editor-In-Chief

After 20 years of being inactive, the Rhodes joint chapter of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc. returns to campus.

One of the earliest incorporated National Pan-Hellenic Council, NPHC, fraternities and sororities, a group of students established the Rhodes chapter of Alpha Phi Alpha in the early 80's. Unfortunately, when those students graduated, the fraternity left the college as well. With the arrival of the new Director of Student Activities Anthony DeCosta the quest to re-new the charter for the Rhodes Alpha Phi Alpha chapter began.

"A group of students had been trying to bring the Alpha Phi Alpha organization to campus since their sophomore year at Rhodes," said DeCosta. "When I came in the fall, I assisted these now seniors in rechartering the organization and bringing Alpha Phi Alpha back to Rhodes."

The re-instatement of Alpha Phi Alpha will bring the number of NPHC organizations to five, joining Kappa Alpha Psi as an NPHC fraternity on campus. This addition to the Rhodes NPHC organizations will fulfill a need expressed by students and the current NPHC organizations.

"I feel as though this has been such a long, drawn out process, but it now means the campus will finally experience a greater variety of Greek letters," said Ivy

Thompson, '12 and President of NPHC. "The re-instatement of Alpha Phi Alpha means more visibility and more variety for the NPHC organizations on campus as well. With more members of NPHC organizations, we can do more things with more support from the different NPHC organizations."

Given the nature of NPHC organizations, those that helped recharter the Rhodes Alpha Phi Alpha chapter will not be able to become members as the process of induction will officially begin next fall. Recruitment for Alpha Phi Alpha will differ from IFC recruitment with students beginning the necessary requirements for application this semester. Following NPHC guidelines, only sophomores will be eligible to apply due to credit requirements.

Similar to other Greek organization at Rhodes, students will receive information on how to join Alpha Phi Alpha via flyers and a table at SACK Fair. While members of NPHC organizations have traditionally been students of color, this is not a requirement and is something both DeCosta and Thompson acknowledge with the recruitment for Alpha Phi Alpha and the other NPHC organizations.

"Many people think you have to be a student of color in order to join an NPHC organization, and that's not true," said DeCosta. "They're not just for students of color. They are for everyone like Pan and IFC."

Sudoku

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



Secure, well-appointed Luxury Townhome
Just blocks from Rhodes and CBU
Call Tom Stafford, 901-336-2754

- 2 bed, 2.5 bath
- Each bedroom a suite with bathroom
- Master bedroom has 3rd floor loft office overlooking
- Hardwood down, wool Berber carpets up
- Ceiling fans throughout
- Dual zone AC, programmable thermostats
- Comprehensive security system
- Secure off-street garage parking
- Built-ins in office and living room, and closets
- Granite counters, stainless premium appliances in kitchen
- Screened and private rear porch
- Zero lot, not condo. FHA and Fannie Mae qualified
- Recent interior paint
- 5 blocks from Rhodes
- Motivated owner – priced to sell • \$160,000



WANTED!

Talented college seniors, regardless of major, who are seeking to take their careers to the next level as a professional accountant.

BELMONT UNIVERSITY'S SUMMER ACCOUNTING INSTITUTE (SAI) offers non-accounting undergraduates a 10-week fast-track preparation for entry into the Masters of Accountancy (MACC) degree program at The Jack C. Massey Graduate School of Business.

TENNESSEE'S LARGEST MACC PROGRAM INCLUDES:

- Flexible, weeknight and weekend classes
- A short-term international study abroad program (locations include: Amsterdam, Barcelona, Brussels, Buenos Aires, Paris, Seoul, Tel Aviv and Warsaw)
- Optimal Becker Review Program for CPA prep
- Degree Customization



AACSB International Accreditation

Visit www.BELMONT.edu/MACC or call 615.460.6480 to learn more.

Roles for Women in Action Films Still Fall Flat

Shelby Lund
A&E Editor

The action genre finally seems to be catching up to the women's rights movement. Across the board, female characters are featured more and more prominently in action movies, taking on more proactive roles and being able to hold their own against the men. However, is the role of women in contemporary action films really feminist-friendly, or has nothing changed? The answer is mixed. While women in action movies have more active roles than in the past, and are slowly becoming more well-rounded characters, most female roles are still grossly underdeveloped and two-dimensional—regardless of how badass the character may be.

Female characters in contemporary action films are increasingly given more active roles in the plot. For example, *Thor's* Jane Foster, played by Natalie Portman, is an astrophysicist whose research ties into the development of the plot, allowing her to play a role in the story beyond that of a simple love interest. More commonly, female leads in action films receive a more active role by being action heroines who can hold their own in a fight.

Furthermore, as mentioned above, an increasing number of action films feature female protagonists, such as the *Underworld* series' Selene, played by Kate Beckinsale, and the upcoming *Hunger Games*' Katniss, played by Jennifer Lawrence. Women have definitely, on the whole, been given bigger and bigger roles in action movies.

These characters are also starting to get more well-rounded characterization, allowing them to be actual human beings rather than cardboard cutouts. Jane Foster has her own unique personality quirks, such as being absentminded and possibly a little too focused on her work. Dejah, a princess and scientist attempting to save her planet, acts not only out of selfless compassion, but fear and desperation, which occasionally causes her to make bad decisions. Emily Browning's Baby Doll, the leading lady of *Sucker Punch*, is very much an ordinary girl in a horrific situation who retreats into a fantasy world to cope with the trauma she's endured. Female characters are increasingly being depicted as more believably human, rather than just as too-perfect creations of a male fantasy.

The problem is that the type of well-developed female character mentioned above is incredibly rare in action films. Most female characters are still nothing more than two-dimensional male fantasies that have no depth to their personality or any believable flaws that could make them seem

more like real people. The *Transformers* series is a good example of this, as neither of its leading ladies possess any depth of personality beyond being in love with the male lead. Yes, Megan Fox's Mikayla from the first two films possesses an extensive knowledge of cars that comes in handy in the plot, and Rosie Huntington-Whiteley's Carly is a curator, indicating she's intelligent. But aside from these qualities, their relationship with the hero as well as their physical beauty, assures that the audience knows next to nothing about these characters. Their purpose in the film is to be eye candy—nothing more.

Film makers, aware of this lack of characterization, seem to think that making a female character an action heroine suddenly gives her depth—to the point where even films with female protagonists are frequently guilty of giving their heroines no development beyond making her an unstoppable badass. The *Resident Evil* series is a particularly big offender, as protagonist Alice, played by Milla

Jovovich, begins the first film as an amnesiac—she literally has no personality. Furthermore, the only personality she develops over the course of the series is that of an over-powered inhuman zombie killer who is always right and can somehow save the day better than everyone else—in other words, a character that lacks any flaws. She is completely two-dimensional and without depth, yet the audience is supposed to view her as a "strong female character."

Overall, while the treatment of women in contemporary action films is improving, there are still far too many female characters which lack any sort of depth which makes them real human beings. They may have bigger roles in the plot, but unless they are well-rounded characters who are believably human, they won't truly be equal to the male characters, who are allowed to have more human fallibilities and personality quirks. It doesn't matter how "strong" a female character may be—if she's not given believable human qualities, she's still just a two-dimensional male fantasy. However, the fact that the characterization of women in action films is improving means that Hollywood is starting to realize their error and working to fix it. Let's hope they start with this Friday's *Hunger Games*, whose heroine Katniss is very much a believable human being in the source novel. It would be a true shame for the film to fall flat because its leading lady wasn't well-rounded.



The Hunger Games novel was a good example of a well-rounded female action protagonist. Will the film be faithful to the novel?



Student Musician of the Week: Michael Todd

Molly Whitehorn
A&E Photo Editor

Junior Michael Todd is a fun-loving and outgoing Los Angeles-raised math major who has a head full of sun-kissed blonde hair and wears a belt full of studs. Although he "fools around on the bass" and does "a bit of singing," he is primarily a percussionist.

"I know that people say it's always the math kids who are musically inclined, and it is true that [being a math person] helps me see rhythmic structures better and helps me with intervals. My mathematician side definitely aids my playing."

Todd participates in various music groups around campus, such as jazz combos, orchestra, pep band, and the student group Miner 49ers. He also has enough talent as a drummer to be in the extremely prestigious Drum Corps International group, the Madison Scouts, two years running. These qualifications seem to make him the perfect candidate for a music major, but for Todd there's "security in math."

However, that's not to say that his dream career wouldn't be being a musician. "Of course every musician wants to have a band and be rich and famous, but when everybody wants to do that, it's hard to find people who are going to like your music. Plus there are just some cats who are so good. I mean, I enjoy playing and I would like to play [as a career], but I'm trying to be real."

Although the odds of being able to make a career out of being a musician are against him, Todd sees no end in sight for his recreational musicianship. "[In the future] I hope to be in L.A., just living. I can't really say what I'll be doing but I'm going to keep playing and finding people to play with."

For Todd, the appeal of music is largely in being able to make others happy through your work.

"It's nice to have people appreciate what you're doing and to make people really enjoy the moment. It's like, in Drum Corps, you are playing in front of thousands. People are riding on you getting your part right."

In addition to playing music, Todd spends a lot of spare time listening to it. "I listen to a lot of metal. I like it because it's high-energy and drummer-intensive. There's lots of thinking involved. It's soothing in a way. I'm really into this band called Opeth that is this Swedish, progressive death metal band."

That being said, Michael Todd isn't all music, all of the time. "I like the show *The Walking Dead*, and I'm addicted to the internet." He contemplates for a second about what else he likes to do, then his eyes light up as if he has had a revelation. "I like dancing," he exclaims and then does a move that can only be described as upper-body popping and locking.

As the interview comes to a close, there is only one thing left to ask Michael Todd: what would he tell the Rhodes students if he could tell them anything?

"[I would tell them] to get out more in Memphis. So much goes on outside of Rhodes. There are so many concerts and exhibits. Feel what Memphis is."



A portion of the Rhodes mural on the construction wall across from Barret Library.

courtesy of Lydia Holmes

The Rhodes College Mural: Old Traditions and New Opportunities

Lydia Holmes
Staff Writer

A grant became available at the start of this semester for a new class at Rhodes. Professor Erin Harmon “saw a niche” in the area of mural painting and decided to seek the grant for a class. Not only did she see the particular niche, but she also saw that neither the University of Memphis nor the Memphis College of Art offered a similar class. This gave Rhodes art students a unique opportunity. Because of the large white fence that was put up around the West Village dorm construction site, the class was given their first opportunity to take art from small-scale studio paintings to the large-scale canvas of a mural.

The students who worked on the mural saw this class and the project as a unique opportunity as well. One student noted, “It is a change from being in the studio where you are by yourself for hours on hours to a collaborative

piece.” Other students expressed the welcome challenge of “being able to work bigger.” Along with the students in the mural painting class, students in Professor Butler’s Drawing 101 class were also given section of the mural to transfer from a small-scale paper drawing to a large-scale mural.

The theme of the mural is set around the quote that runs through the entire painting. The quote is an excerpt from the Rhodes prayer: “May we always treasure the tradition of sound learning and humanitarian service into which we have been called at Rhodes College.” The students in the class chose the quote because they feel that it epitomizes “what it means to be a student at Rhodes.” Another large aspect of the piece is its depiction of the “Seven Liberal Arts.”

To start designing the mural the students

were given an assignment to create Sharpie drawings about the Rhodes campus. They then brought all of these drawings together, chose their favorites and with them created a collage that ultimately became the design for the mural. Several motifs run through the mural including the signature lamp posts that dot campus and a starry night motif. Other reoccurring images, such as the playful squirrels at the bottom of the mural, provide a wide array of visual interest in the piece.

The creation of this mural has transformed an unimpressive part of our campus into something truly beautiful and meaningful, while giving students an opportunity to branch out and try something truly unique. Here’s hoping the mural stays up for a good, long time so that everyone can appreciate the remarkable thing the Art Department has accomplished.

Top Five: Spring TV Round-Up Edition

Amy Oates
Staff Writer

The fall pilot season didn’t turn out as expected. A few great shows came out of the lot, such as *Once Upon a Time*, *New Girl* and *Alcatraz*, but most of the well-publicized premieres didn’t quite live up to the hype (such as the newly canceled *Terra Nova*). As the spring season prepares to debut, some studios are betting on new material to lure viewers, while even more are sticking to old standbys. So what is actually worth seeing? Here are five stand-out shows premiering this spring, both old and new, which are worth a watch:

- **Missing:** Recently premiered on March 15 on ABC to largely good reviews, *Missing* centers on Becca Winstone (Ashley Judd), an ex – CIA agent, looking for her kidnapped son (Nick Eversman) after he disappears from a semester abroad in Rome. While the plot is eerily reminiscent of a gender switched version of *Taken*, the acting is superb. For anyone seeking a guilty pleasure action show since the end of *24*, *Missing* seems like an excellent replacement.
- **Touch:** Premiering March 22 on Fox, and stars Kiefer Sutherland as Martin Bohm, a single father with a silent autistic son (Davi Mazouz) who displays an uncanny ability to predict negative future events. Martin Bohm is, as TV guide says, “the exact opposite” of Sutherland’s more famous role of Jack Bauer. Though

it has a supernatural element and is considered a drama, the creators emphasize the show’s positive tone. With a different spin than more stereotypical paranormal shows, *Touch* deserves a new spot on your weekly TV schedule.

- **Bones:** Premiering April 2 on Fox, *Bones* returns after last season’s introduction of new villain Christopher Pellant (Andrew Leeds), who had Temperance Brennan (Emily Deschanel) herself wondering if he was smarter than her. More drama comes in the form of the upcoming birth of Brennan and Booth’s (David Boreanaz) baby in the opening episode. Viewers can expect that it won’t go either smoothly or typically.
- **Glee:** Coming back on April 10 to Fox, *Glee*, despite not being a new season premiere, deserves to be on this list because

of the midseason cliffhanger, which left fans wondering exactly what happened to Quinn (Diana Agron). While the creators have revealed she’ll be back in one form or another, nothing is certain until the premiere. Additionally, the new casting promise some very interesting future storylines—which the show desperately needs.

- **Mad Men:** After a very long hiatus, *Mad Men* returns for a fifth season on March 25 to AMC. *Mad Men* is one of those few successful period piece shows, (especially compared to its less popular counterpart *Pan Am* and the thankfully long gone *The Playboy Club*). This season promises to deal with the Vietnam War, as well as the 1960’s counter culture movement in the form of some character growth for Sally Draper (Kiernan Shipka).

THIS WEEK IN ENTERTAINMENT

New Movie Releases 3/23/12:

The Hunger Games
The Raid: Redemption
October Baby

Television Highlights (3/21-3/27)

CSI: Crime Scene Investigation, Wednesday, 9 pm, CBS. The team investigates a robbery/homicide at an “Alice in Wonderland”-themed wedding.

Missing, Wednesday, 9 pm, ABC. A former CIA operative suspects foul play when her son goes missing while traveling abroad.

The Secret Circle, Thursday, 8 pm, CW. Blackwell tells Cassie and Adam that their love is both destiny and a curse; Eva stalks Faye.

Touch, Thursday, 8 pm, FOX. A robbery at a pawn shop triggers a sequence of events that impacts people all over the world.

Supernatural, Friday, 8 pm, CW. Driven to the breaking point by Lucifer, Sam ends up in a mental hospital.

Collateral, Friday, 9:30 pm, TNT. A contract killer uses a cabdriver for his jobs.

Once Upon A Time, Sunday, 7 pm, ABC. During her search for Mary Margaret, Emma is kidnapped by a mad man with an affinity for hats.

The Bourne Ultimatum, Sunday, 8:30 pm, TNT. Jason Bourne continues to look for clues to unravel his true identity.

Castle, Monday, 9 pm, ABC. Beckett and Castle investigate when a bomb kills five people at a protest rally.

Ringer, Tuesday, 8 pm, CW. Bridget decides she won’t feel safe unless she testifies against Macawi; Machado gets suspended.

South

Tyler Springs, Sports Editor

Would you rather carry a 50-pound bag 100 yards or a 100-pound bag 50 yards? It's an age-old analogy that pits strength against endurance. Put another way, it's strength versus a calculated allocation of energy.

For Kentucky and Xavier, the answer is strength: each has a strong starting five that play the majority of the game and contribute nearly all of the team's points.

UK ranks in the top ten nationally in fewest fouls committed per game, a vital component of their dominance with only six players in rotation; however, in their last three games, they've played worse than usual, averaging over 18 fouls per game compared to their usual 14.6. Conversely, XU has played better in their recent games, posting only 15.7 fouls on average in their last three contests, almost three fewer than during the season.

In the Wildcats' only regular-season loss at Indiana on December 10, stand-out center Anthony Davis, the leading shot-blocker in the country, picked up his fourth foul with 12 minutes remaining in the game and didn't block another shot, including the Hoosiers' game-winning three-pointer at the buzzer. The Hoosiers would do well to follow that formula again, but

it may be even harder to upend Big Blue a second time.

Which brings the discussion back to allocation. For most of the season, Indiana and Baylor have each played ten players on their roster eight minutes per game or more in order to keep their starters rested. The model still holds for Baylor, but it recently changed for IU with an injury to guard Verdell Jones. In their three contests without Jones, they've gone 2-1 with a close 3-point win on Sunday against No. 12 seed VCU, not a great record for a team looking to get to the Final Four.

Unlike Indiana, the Bears have found their stride at the right time, getting 33 combined points from bench players over the last two games. Their Achilles heel will be three-point attempts, particularly those of sharpshooter Brady Heslip, who has shot a scintillating 14-of-22 from beyond the arc in the last week. If Heslip has an off night and the Bears fall behind, BU might be in trouble. That said, if Heslip keeps this up, Xavier should prove no match for the Bears, and Kentucky might not either.

Predictions:

SWEET 16: *Kentucky over Indiana, Baylor over Xavier*
ELITE 8: *Baylor over Kentucky*

1 UK vs. 4 IND
3/23 @ 9:45

3 BAY vs. 10 XAV
3/23 @ 7:15

1 SYR vs. 4 WIS
3/22 @ 7:15

6 CIN vs. 2 OSU
3/22 @ 9:45

NCAA 2012 Final Four in New Orleans

1 MSU vs. 4 LOU
3/22 @ 7:47

3 MARQ vs. 7 FLA
3/22 @ 10:17

1 UNC vs. 13 OHIO
3/23 @ 7:47

11 NCST vs. 2 KU
3/23 @ 10:17

West

Bailey Kimmitt, Staff Writer

Teams with tiger mascots didn't fare well in the West during the first round of March Madness 2012.

No. 9 seed Memphis had a slow start to the season, and their finish wasn't much better. Tied at halftime with No. 8 seed Saint Louis University, the Tigers fell behind quickly in the second half as SLU built a comfortable lead, eventually winning by a score of 61-54. Triumph aside, SLU then suffered a tough loss to Michigan State. The top-seeded Spartans took care of business 65-61, and they will face a solid No. 4 seed, the Louisville Cardinals, in the Sweet 16.

The big surprise of the West Region was the early exit of Big XII champions Missouri at the hands of Norfolk State. NSU, the MEAC conference champions, were able to stave off a late Mizzou comeback when point guard Phil Pressey missed a potential game-winning three-pointer, leaving the final score at 86-84. Norfolk's upset was the first time since 2001 that a No. 15 seed beat a No. 2 seed, when MEAC champions Hampton upended another unsuspecting Big XII team, Iowa State.

In round of 32, NSU lost to Florida by a big margin. The Gators have been the most impressive team in the West thus far,

defeating Virginia by 26 points and NSU by 34; they will face a hot Marquette team in the Sweet 16. Through two tournament games, the No. 3 seed Golden Eagles have been nearly as impressive as UF. After demolishing BYU by 20, they beat a Murray State team that finished the regular season 31-1 by a score of 62-53.

Four teams remain in the West Region: Florida, Marquette, Louisville, and Michigan State. Look for Marquette to win by fewer than five points over a less experienced UF team. MSU faces a Louisville team that has won six straight games. Like 2011 national champions UConn, Louisville is on a hot streak when it counts most, finding ways to win in both the Big East and NCAA tournaments. These two teams are perennially strong, and have two great coaches in MSU's Tom Izzo and Louisville's Rick Pitino. Like the UF-Marquette game, this one should come down to the end. It could go either way, but I see Louisville winning.

If it comes down to Marquette and Louisville battling for a Final Four spot, I'm taking Louisville, who defeated the Golden Eagles earlier this month in the Big East Tournament.

East

Brendan Goyette

The East region of this year's NCAA tournament erupted in true March Madness form on the very first day, only to leave us in a state of March Mediocrity going into the Sweet 16. Overshadowed by the early departures of Duke and Mizzou, top-seeded Syracuse barely snuck by No. 16 seed UNC-Asheville. While the loss of Big East Defensive Player of the Year, Fab Melo, had the Orange looking primed for an upset in their third-round game against Kansas State, 'Cuse put on a show, downing the Wildcats 75-59 to move on to the round of 16.

The two biggest surprises in the East region through the first weekend have got to be the performances (or lack thereof) of No. 3 seed Florida State and No. 5 seed Vanderbilt. After taking down UNC and Duke back-to-back on their way to the school's first ACC tournament title, potential bracket-buster Florida State looked mediocre in their second-round win (66-63) over St. Bonaventure and were dispatched in their third-round game against the No. 6 seed Cincinnati Bearcats. Coming into the tournament hot as well, the Vanderbilt Commodores were looking to ride momentum after an SEC championship win over national top seed Kentucky.

Unfortunately, after handling the Harvard Crimson in the academic contest of the decade, they were pushed out by No. 4 seed Wisconsin's overpowering defense.

Four teams from the East region will travel to Boston to play in the Sweet 16 on Thursday. Top-seeded Syracuse will play Wisconsin, and how can you ignore a team led by a guy named Scoop? The Badgers' defense is admirable, but Scoop Jardine's ability to pull a team together (4.7 APG) and drain a timely three (8.3 PPG) makes the Orange the favorite to advance to the Final Four. On the bottom half of the bracket, Cincinnati's size and athleticism will lead to an upset over the highly-regarded Jared Sullinger (17.4 PPG 9.1 RPG) and No. 2 seed Ohio State. The Bearcats are playing their best basketball of the year, but they were unable to beat a Fab Melo-less Syracuse in the regular season, and I don't see any reason that the Orange won't handle them easily again. Fab Melo's academic ineligibility arose as the biggest story in NCAA hoops going into the past weekend, but *Scoop Jardine and the top-seeded Orange will be the story when they reach their first Final Four since a different Melo brought them there in 2003.*

Midwest

Marie Mason

No. 2 seed Kansas beat Detroit easily, but the Jayhawks struggled in the next round. KU trailed No. 10 seed Purdue by 10 early in the second half, but they rallied back to win by three.

After downing No. 6 seed San Diego State in their first game, No. 11 seed NC State stole a win from No. 3 seed Georgetown in the second round. Lorenzo Brown had an outstanding game with 17 points, and C.J. Leslie helped out with 14 points and eight rebounds. NC State's defensive performance proves that they can successfully guard taller teams, which is crucial against Kansas.

NC State is the team to pick for an upset. NC State's key is defending forward Thomas Robinson. Robinson's physicality will be a tough matchup for Leslie and Richard Howell, but the two can shut Robinson down if they work together. NC State must remain composed to win.

No. 13 seed Ohio clinched a huge upset against No. 4 seed Michigan in their first game. D. J. Cooper led the Bobcats with 21 points and five assists. In their second game, Ohio started slower and trailed No. 12 seed USF by six at the break, but a 10-0 run in the middle of the second half

propelled them to victory. Ohio's runs are their only hope to beat UNC. Without Marshall in the game, UNC could have problems stopping an Ohio fast break.

After handling No. 16 seed Vermont with ease in their first game, No. 1 seed UNC came out strong against No. 8 seed Creighton, leading at halftime by 8 and rolling to an 87-73 win. Heels guard Kendall Marshall broke his right wrist during the game but played through it, racking up 20 points and 11 assists.

UNC will advance to the Elite 8. Ohio beat a solid Michigan team, but they won't have a chance against UNC's combination of Tyler Zeller (17 points, 15 rebounds vs. Vermont), John Henson (13/10 vs. Creighton), and Harrison Barnes, who puts up 17.4 points per game. Even without Marshall, Carolina should be OK with freshman Stillman White and utility player Justin Watts. Cooper and Offutt have carried the Bobcats but against a bigger UNC lineup, they will struggle. Henson out-rebounds OU's Reggie Keely 2-1 on average.

Sweet 16: NCSU over KU, UNC over Ohio

Elite 8: UNC over NC State