

THE SOU'WESTER

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April 9, 2008

The Weekly Student Newspaper of Rhodes College

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Scorsese honors Stones in
Shines A Light.

King anniversary

By Avery Pribila
Managing Editor

Congressman Steve Cohen hosted a Ninth Congressional District Town Hall Meeting on April 5 to mark the 40th anniversary of Dr. Martin Luther King's assassination. The event, which took place in Barret 051, was also attended by Harry Belafonte. Belafonte is an artist and humanitarian who is very involved with civil and human rights.

Belafonte, who shared hosting duties with Congressman Cohen, addressed several issues of importance to the Ninth Congressional District, and shared his memories of Dr. King.

The town hall conversation touched on several topics, including the incarceration of youths, the importance of non-violent actions in lobbying for change in public policy, and criminal justice. The purpose of the town hall meeting was to bring several generations together to discuss history, the present, and the future.

There were several other events held in Memphis to mark the anniversary of

King's death. The Civil Rights Museum held their annual candlelight vigil in front of the museum. The vigil featured speakers and a performance by the Philander Smith Concert Choir.

Senator Hillary Clinton arrived in Memphis and spoke at a service at Mason Temple, the site of King's last "I've been to the mountaintop" speech. She was the last speaker in a service that included clergy and political leaders, including Mayor Willie Herenton, Shelby County Mayor A.C. Wharton, and Cohen. Senator John McCain also traveled to Memphis to honor King. He toured the National Civil Rights Museum and gave a speech there.

"The Dream Reborn" Green Conference was held at the Memphis Cook Convention Center this past weekend. The conference linked King's legacy to the environmental movement, and demonstrated how to grow the economy through "green" jobs, which in turn will hopefully promote human equality through more jobs.

King Anniversary, continued on Page 5

Luce Scholar Zac Hill

By William Bruce
Executive Assistant

Zac Hill, a senior Political Science major, has recently been accepted as a Luce scholar, an accomplishment that offers him the ability to travel to different areas of Asia in the upcoming year.

The Luce fellowship is a program that seeks to provide an awareness of Asia to the potential leaders in American society, and each year candidates are nominated by sixty seven colleges and universities. Luce scholars generally have an academic record in good standing, and are required to have a personal interview with a member of the foundation's staff. The program takes the scholars to any number of areas throughout Asia with the intention of providing cultural experience that they otherwise might not receive.

Hill has lived in Memphis his entire life and claims his choice to come to Rhodes College was a decision motivated by political reasons.

"In my high school, people measured success by their ability to get away from Memphis" he said. "I always thought that if you see a problem why leave instead of fixing it?" Hill was also motivated to come to Rhodes because of the numerous scholarships it offered, as well as the numerous job opportunities.

Hill's love of writing led him to begin his career at Rhodes believing he would be a creative writing major.

"For the past few years I have written at least 1000 words a day," Hill said. "But the major requirements meant I would be focusing on either fiction or poetry, and I didn't know if I could do it." Over time he shifted his focus to politics.



Courtesy Hud Andrews

Zac Hill

Luce Scholar, continued on Page 5

Michta lectures on security

By Nate Maxwell
Associate & Opinion Editor

On Tuesday evening Dr. Andrew A. Michta, an International Studies professor who is currently on a sabbatical, delivered a compelling and wide-ranging lecture on the changing nature of warfare and national security issues in the 21st century.

Michta, who is the Mertie W. Buckman Distinguished Professor of International Studies and a long-time member of the Rhodes community, is currently working as a Professor of National Security Studies at the George C. Marshall European Center for Security Studies in Germany. He has spent the last three years there teaching courses on national security policy, counterterrorism, and international relations to a wide variety of professionals from the various NATO countries, including military officers, intelligence professionals, and diplomats at the Marshall Center.

The Marshall Center is a cooperative academic effort between the American Department of Defense and the German Ministry of Defense. The center was intended to "create a more stable security environment by advancing democratic institutions and relationships, especially in the field of defense; promoting active, peaceful security cooperation; and enhancing enduring partnerships among the nations of North America, Europe and Eurasia."

In addition, Michta has continued to research and publish in his various fields of expertise, which include NATO and the American-European foreign-policy relationship. In his lecture, Michta spoke about the various challenges that face NATO in the 21st century, as the changing nature of warfare, and the differing perceptions that the Americans and Europeans have of NATO's role in international security environment presently leave the alliance on shaky ground.

Michta spoke at length about the seeming trend in recent years away from more traditional state-on-state warfare between relatively equal powers. Instead, the 21st century seems to be shaping up to be a century of asymmetric warfare, with strong, state-based traditional powers increasingly in conflict with weaker, often non-state actors, following the age-old precepts of guerrilla warfare, with new twists developed from new technology.

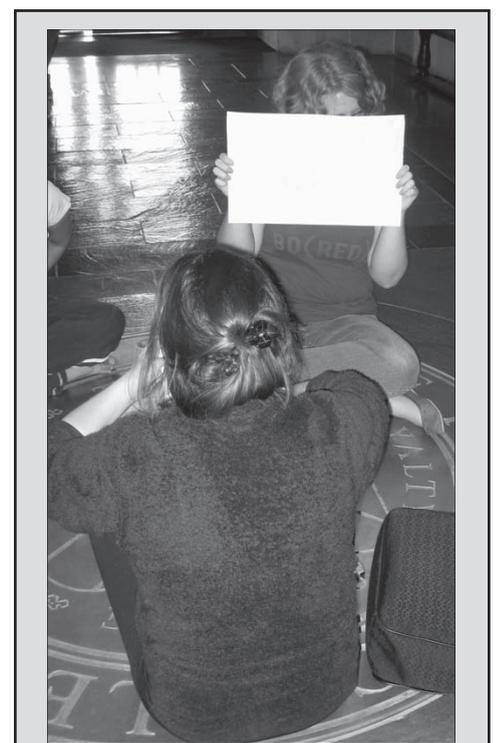
The current conflicts in Iraq and Afghanistan are excellent examples of this type of conflict. The military and foreign policy establishments of the US and its Western allies are being forced to adapt their strategic and tactical goals to meet the changing face of warfare. This is often quite a daunting task. The wars in Iraq and Afghanistan have shifted from traditional combat operations to what have become known as stability operations, which

include restoring and maintaining utilities and other public services, and attempting to win the support of the people. These operations are a radical shift in the mission of the military and represent a continued challenge to American and European power.

In addition, the demise of the Soviet Union left NATO without a clear cut mission, a problem which the alliance is still struggling to address. Professor Michta spoke about what he perceives to be the serious missed opportunities following 9/11 for the American-European alliance. Following the attack, there was a chance for NATO to redefine its mission and the American ties with Europe to be strengthened, but in the following years, America and Europe began to increasingly talk past one another on the issues of terrorism, NATO's role in the world, and the war in Iraq.

"Iraq was a train wreck for the alliance," said Michta. The American insistence on going into Iraq with or without NATO support, and the use of ad-hoc "coalitions of the willing" weakened NATO's defense structure and exacerbated the ideological divide between Europe and America. In effect this created three NATO coalitions: America, old European powers like Germany and new allies, especially in Eastern Europe, all with differing wishes and plans for the future of the alliance.

Michta, continued on Page 5



Gwen Weil/The Sou'wester

Students protest in the library by holding a sign reading "Honor King" and reading from speeches by Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. They are protesting because they believe the college did not adequately recognize the 40th anniversary of Dr. King's death. Turn to page 3 to read the letter they sent to the administration.

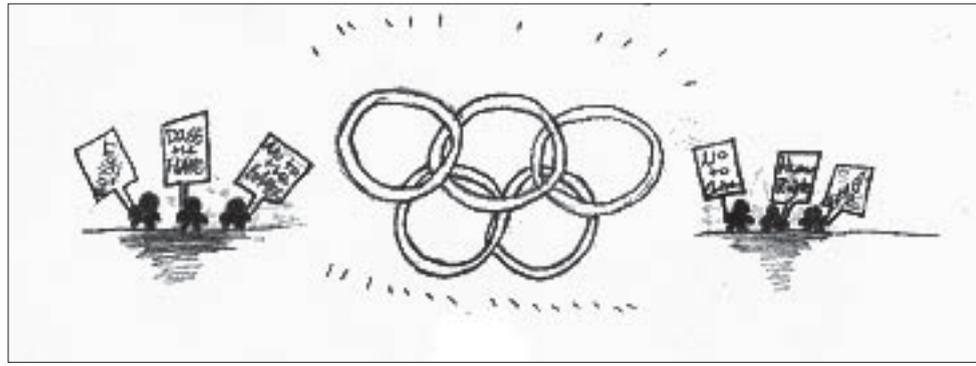
Politics have no place in the Olympics

By William Bruce
Executive Assistant

Since their revival in 1984, the Olympic Games have offered nations the opportunity to come together under the spirit of athleticism and competition. Every four years athletes are given the right to represent their country as they attempt to outdo competitors and honor their homeland with the gold medal. These ideals of the games have guided athletes and nations alike for the better half of a century. However, over the past few decades they have often been recognized as political conduits, and have even been met with boycott. Currently, the 2008 Olympics, hosted in Beijing, are being criticized due to China's political policies and some nations are even threat to boycott the games as a result of the unrest. I believe the purpose of the Olympics is to be a unifying event, one that should be recognized as a politically neutral, and offering nations the privilege of coming together, rather than separating them from one another.

One of the most famous and controversial incidents in the history of the games was the 1936 Berlin games in which Hitler used the games as an opportunity to display the power of Germany after WWI and the magnificence of his Aryan race. Although this wasn't the first time athletes had been exploited for political purposes, it certainly sparked a large amount of uproar from many different nations. Unfortunately for Hitler, Jesse Owens, an African-American long jumper, and a number of other athletes, managed to defeat his competitors and thereby undermine his boastful claims of national and racial superiority. However, this certainly would not be the last incident in which a country has relied on athletes as a means of garnering political support.

In 1984 the games were held in Moscow. Due to the Soviet Union's invasion of Afghanistan, the USA and sixty one additional countries boycotted the games. This was the largest Olympic boycott in the entire history of the games. I found the entire ordeal, though difficult and complicated, to be a firm rejection to the athletes of their right to contend against the greatest competitors the world over. In addition, the political aspect of the boycott came in direct opposition to what the games



artwork by William Bruce

stand for, the coming together in the glory of competition. The games were not conceived under the idea that nations could use them to influence policy or as a means to illustrate the country's views of another nation's actions.

Now, in 2008, the games face another obstacle in light of the recent decision to set the games in Beijing, China. Many people believe China has very negative human rights record and as a result thousands of people are

the event, and even including members of Greenpeace. Since these attacks on the flame have occurred police have made efforts to escort the torch bearers and avoid any conflict that might occur.

I believe the Olympics have the purpose of promoting competition and spreading athleticism throughout the world, and as a result, the games should serve as a neutral territory as far as politics is concerned. To use the tal-

“I believe the purpose of the Olympics is to be a unifying event, one that should be recognized as a politically neutral”

expressing their protest to holding the games there. In the past few weeks torchbearers have been attacked with fire extinguishers as they made their way through the streets of Europe. One bearer, a paraplegic, had his torch taken and extinguished; marking the fifth time the flame has been doused since it began its long journey from Olympia. The people responsible for these attacks have come in large mobs, including some who have permits to organize

ent athletes have worked their lives for political purposes means soiling the very thing that the Olympics stand for, unification. In addition, if the Olympics are really about unification then to successfully hold them in an area of unrest means proving that the world is ready to accept what the games stand for and playing them for the sake of competition, not political beliefs.

Letter to the Editor

I find it funny that the April 2 edition of the Sou'wester was jam-packed with articles all seeming to pertain to the diversity issue. Maybe it's just coincidence that last week's paper coincided with the anniversary of the MLK assassination, or even the Rhodes College campus climate survey. Maybe it wasn't. I counted seven articles in total that were directly related to the diversity issue, five of which contained "diversity" in the title. This is what some would refer to as overkill. I think Mr. Abdoch and Mr. Galaro both make valid points in their respective opinion columns, the main point being that our over emphasis on diversity only furthers the "problem" of diversity, or makes it one in the first place. I am not going to argue against diversity, per se, as we can certainly learn from those of different cultures, backgrounds, and ideas. Learning how others view an issue is really the first step towards progress. But is there any hard evidence that says our college experience will be any less gratifying, or we will be any less successful after the fact, if the issue of diversity is not forced upon the student body (see: F9)? Diversity of ideas and viewpoints is a value in education, but what about everything else? By putting such a great emphasis on race, we only serve to classify people as different by the darkness of their skin, and not on the diversity of their ideas, of their experiences. Take a look at the "Admissions Factors" for Rhodes College on the Princeton Review website. Under non-academic criteria, minority status is listed as "important," geographical residence is "considered," and religious affiliation is "not considered." According to the articles in last week's Sou'wester, the percentage of black students at Rhodes in 2000 was 4%. Today it is 6%. Is this the progress in diversity that Rhodes so desperately seeks? Or should we be looking for more? The answer is for you to decide.

Chris Williams '11

THE SOU'WESTER

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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.

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ASSOCIATED
COLLEGIATE
PRESS

College administration runs smoothly

By Benjamin Freed

I wish I could launch into an immature harangue against the college administration but, unfortunately, I cannot. An unsuccessful Saturday night trip to the library inspired the research for this originally contentious piece. Standing in the corridor between the Barret Library and the Middle Ground, I was given my first piece of evidence: the Paul Barret Library closes at 5 o'clock on Saturday. I was instantly outraged. How could a school consider itself to be among the top liberal arts schools in the country but close its only library, a symbol of academic vitality, at 5 o'clock? The schedule of hours resting against the big glass doors might as well have been one of those posters giving me props for drinking four beers. Yes, studying is well and good on a Monday afternoon, but it is 5 o'clock on a Saturday, so why aren't you drunk yet?

I must admit that I over-reacted a bit. I did not think that I was the only person on campus that night who was interested in checking out a History book, a copy of which I should have (and could have) obtained earlier that week; it might not even be in anyone's interest but my own to keep the library open for a few extra hours. I did not realize that while I stared into the empty library, directly behind me sat less than half a dozen people reading in the middle ground, which is open 24 hours. I did not make the connection: there are less than a handful of people who are interested in studying on Saturday night (at least outside of a dorm

room), and they already have a place to go. Somehow, I didn't even realize that it took me the better part of an academic year to even think about going to the library at the time. All of these commonsensical observations eluded me; I had to find out the hard way.

When I first sat down to write this opinion piece, I began to feel slightly misinformed when I finished fleshing out my argument in less than a hundred words. It got worse when I checked my email and saw that Lynne Blair, the Director of Barret Library, had kindly answered a few questions I sent her. Clearly, someone had thought about the issue more than I had. As it turns out, a group of six administrators, from the Director of the Library and VP of Information Services to the Web Project Manager and Director of Special Projects, meet to set the hours for Barret Library. The addition of a student, currently Colleen Bookter, makes it a seven person group that considers the students' perspective when the group proposes a schedule. Staff availability, building and user security, user needs, and actual usage of the building are considered in the scheduling process. The administrators use the building's surveillance tape to determine the actual usage of the library; if you think that there are hordes of Rhodes students being ushered out of the building at closing time, go down there ten minutes before 6 o'clock on a Friday night (I did) and see if the library hours need to be extended (they don't).

The most emasculating part about writing this article was

realizing that if/when Rhodes does need to extend library hours, the student government will do a fine job of catalyzing the process. RSG representative Morgan Rote meets with the Vice President of Information Services to review resource and service issues related to operations in Barret frequently to make requests. Based on these requests and others, a group meets every week to discuss resource and service issues, including hours of service. The group directly implements changes as required, as they have done in the past. During the last two years, as the result of an RSG proposal and investigation initiated by Jill Carr, Barret hours have been changed. It now opens at 10 am on Sunday and stays open until 2 am, Sunday through Thursday. RSG also instigated the policy to keep the building open 24/7 during final exams.

RSG continues to assist the administration in improving our library. Most recently, the new study area near the Digital Media Lab was discussed. Its heavy usage has prompted the administration to solicit RSG for an opinion on the type of furniture to be acquired due to its new popularity. This is the kind of all encompassing competence a college student hates to see. I wanted to rag on my administration but I found, instead, that it was important to make this issue justified. I'm sure there are other policies for me to go after, but the library schedule just is not one of them. For now, the administration has forced me to muster up a feeling foreign to most Rhodes students: gratitude.

Polygamy: bad for kids

By Tray Carson

416 children were recently taken away from a remotely located ranch in West Texas. This came after multiple complaints of child abuse by a middle aged woman. The ranch belonged to a Mormon sect that practiced polygamy. This particular sect of Mormonism called themselves the Fundamentalist Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints. Some of the children were taken away by the Texas Department of Family and Protective Services. For more than a century, however, polygamy has been renounced by the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. Polygamy is also outlawed by the federal government of the United States. So why is it that, in this day and age, something that is outlawed by religion as well as government is still practiced? These two conventions do not usually agree with each other, but that is a story for another article. It does not make sense to continue a "religious" practice that is not even supported by a religion. The sect's self-proclaimed spiritual prophet, Warren Jeffs, was even jailed last November for promoting the rape of a 14 year old girl. She married her 19 year old cousin.

Think of the 416 children running around a Texas ranch. With only a couple hundred mothers and even fewer fathers for support, the 401 children are being questioned for possible abuse. I am getting a little ahead of myself. Child services, with the children's best interests at heart, would not have taken them away without just cause. I am positive, however, that every single child was given adequate clothing, food, and shelter. Because that is the responsibility of responsible parents: to provide for their children. That would have been the decent thing to do. Usually, however, there are not 401 of them for adults to deal with. Because of the multiple "mothers" in a single, polygamist family, the responsibility was probably passed around and was forgotten. It is a disgrace that the children have been made to live like that in the modern age. They also, have not received proper care and love from their parents.

A child should not be raised by different parental combinations. In polygamy, children are raised by the singular father and his multiple wives. A child should have constant love from their pair of

“So why is it that, in this day and age, something that is outlawed by religion as well as government is still practiced?”

parents. The parents should not have to be concerned with other children from another couple, regardless of the religious justification.

It is just immoral. There should be a natural feeling that tells a person when something is right or wrong. Polygamy is disrespectful towards women and places children in a potentially abusive environment. For a practice that is outlawed by religion and by the government, it sure seems bizarre that there are approximately 37,000 fundamentalist polygamists in the United States.

Open letter to the Administration

President Troutt, Provost Borst, Vice President Wiggington, and Dean Casey:

We write you at a historic moment in our nation's history. This past Friday marked the 40th year since the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. fell to an assassin's bullet in Memphis. The violence by which Dr. King fell represents a terrible American tendency to pursue purpose by using force. Exactly one year before his death, King spoke out against the Vietnam War, arguing that America must undergo a "radical revolution of values." King's decision to oppose the war in Vietnam was criticized by friend and foe alike. But King refused to make a butchery of his conscience. In speaking against the war on 4 April 1967, King stated that "A time comes when silence is betrayal."

We write you today in the spirit of King's remarks 41 years ago. On 4 April 2008, the undersigned spent 8 hours in the lobby of the Paul Barrett Library reading a collection of the Rev. King's speeches and writings. On the day which marked 40 years since the crucifixion of this American hero on the streets of our city, we could not let King's voice go unheard. The violence that took his life is one of the most grave problems we face in Memphis, and Dr. King's writings provide a source of light in this troubled time, piercing through the dark clouds of poverty and violence that hang low around our city. We plan to continue sharing Dr. King's writings with the campus community each day this week from noon to 2 p.m. in the library lobby as we sit on the seal of the college, offering strategies and insights from the most important figure in the second half of the twentieth century. We invite each of you to join us for these public readings.

These readings are a student led initiative for one reason: Rhodes College held no programs to celebrate King's speeches and writings and made no formal mention of the assassination. In short, the College offered no formal remembrance of the man who sought to bring truth to this nation by serving his people in the highest spirit of loyalty to American ideals. King emblemized the ethos of America and of this institution. The undersigned have concluded that this glaring omission of remembrance can only be the result of what Charles Hamilton and Kwame Ture call "Institutional Racism."

The authors define Institutional racism as a type of racism that is "less overt, far more stable, less identifiable in terms of specific individuals committing the acts." It "originates in the operation of established and respected forces in the society." As an established and stable force in the Memphis community, the undersigned believe that our College owes it to the 1,600 students within its gates and the more than 1 million people outside its gates to honor Dr. King by sharing his ideas and philosophies with a troubled world. We believe that this institution failed to provide this honor to King, and as students we plan to pick up this slack. We invite you to join us as we honor King this week, and pray that you will not allow one more year to pass without sharing King's insights into remedying the very violence that took his life 40 years ago. We hope that Rhodes College will undergo a radical revolution of values.

In closing, we recall King's words in 1967: "We must speak with all the humility that is appropriate to our limited vision, but we must speak."

Sincerely,
Anthony Siracusa and Philip Kovacick

Student Voice

Do you think RAB allocates money appropriately?



"I think their purpose is to reserve money for clubs and the events that they organize. I feel like they are fulfilling that role."
- Priyanka Chatterjee ('10)

"I don't know how RAB specifically uses their budget so I don't really have an opinion."

- Maura Weber ('11)



"Well, I know they go through a lot of trouble and they do what they have to."

- Michael Pluta ('11)

"Yes and no. I do think that they fund different activities, but I don't think they know how to handle the money."

- Pedro DaSilva ('10)



"I do feel that RAB uses money in an in-appropriate way. I heard that \$300 of the budget was spent on a dinner just for themselves, and I think that is wrong. Plus, I don't like funding events or organizations that I'm not a part of."

- Sarah Lavatai ('11)

Spicing up spring break

By Allyson Pellisier

For the past twenty years student, faculty, and staff volunteers from Rhodes have participated in Tex-Mex trip over spring break. Participants travel to Reynosa, a Mexican city near the Texas-Mexico border, and work through the Ministerio de Fe—"Ministry of Faith"—to improve living conditions in the area.

Since the enactment of NAFTA, many factories have sprung up in border towns such as Reynosa, encouraging a large influx of people from the middle region of Mexico. The current facilities of many of the border cities cannot support the entire inflow, so charities such as the Ministerio de Fe function to provide the public services the cities cannot, such as education, religious life, housing, and medical services. The participants of Tex-Mex focus primarily on housing, but they also assist the medical branch.

Every year, Rhodes volunteers work with local volunteers for a full week to produce two 12 x 24 cement houses. They begin every morning around 8:00AM and continue until 5:00PM, stopping for lunch with members from the community. After work, they socialize with the locals, who provide home-cooked, traditional Mexican dinners.

"The thing that strikes me the most is how happy they are with so little," said Jenny Phillips, a member of the steering committee for Tex-Mex and three-time participant. Every night, the Rhodes volunteers reflect on their respective experiences, sharing their perspectives of the construction itself as well as their interaction with the community.



Student volunteers mix concrete to be used to help build 24 houses in Reynosa, Mexico.

Building relationships with fellow workers and with the inhabitants constitutes one of the most integral elements of the Tex-Mex program.

Phillips explained that "by the end, you are so close to people in the Rhodes community you might not have known, who can support you in future service endeavors."

To facilitate Tex-Mex, participants raise well over \$10,000 every year through various fundraising efforts. This year, they worked the concession stand during basketball games, sponsored the "Crush" fundraiser for Valentine's Day, and held numerous bake sales (including a forthcoming bake sale during finals week). Furthermore, they solicited donations by writing letters to churches, schools, friends and family.

"We've been lucky," said Phillips. "The Rhodes community has been really supportive of Tex-Mex." The program has been very successful and is greatly valued by the residents of Reynosa.

"It's not just about building the houses," said Phillips. "It's about building up their community, giving them a place to call home."



Rhodes volunteers work with local volunteers in building a cement house.

'Desirable' sex lasts seven to 13 minutes

UWire
by Allison Jackovitz
The Daily Collegian

Pennsylvania State University researcher Eric Corty recently concluded that "desirable" sex usually lasts between seven and 13 minutes on average, contrary to popular belief.

Through surveys of 50 sex therapists from the Society for Sex Therapy and Research, Corty, associate professor of psychology and Jenay Guardiani, fellow Penn State Erie researcher, found ranges of time to classify sexual intercourse as too short, adequate, desirable or too long.

"I was curious as to how long was most pleasurable ... and I wanted to relieve some anxiety that some Americans have about the duration of intercourse," Corty said. "I found that some people have unrealistic expectations

about how long sexual intercourse should last."

According to the surveys, three to seven minutes is considered "adequate," seven to 13 minutes is considered "desirable," one to two minutes is considered "too short" and 10 to 30 minutes is considered "too long."

"I think people who have really long sex don't have much substance to their relationships," Brittney Barbieri (freshman-biobehavioral health) said. "But seven to 13 minutes sounds about right — get in, get off, get out."

While this study may show the duration of sexual intercourse has specific pleasurable ranges, biobehavioral health instructor Spring Cooper says the range of time for an entire pleasurable sexual experience could be significant.

"Intercourse is lasting that long

— not the whole sexual interaction. That seven to 13 minute range is excluding kissing, touching, fondling, etc.," she said.

Cooper said one thing to keep in mind is that the duration of intercourse should not be more important than pleasure.

"People do have to understand that it's just the intercourse that he's talking about," Cooper said. "If people have a shorter sexual interaction, they might think the sex is shorter, but it's more likely that the entire interaction that was shorter."

Corty hopes his research will relieve stress some may have about how long their sex lasts, but Cooper feels such high expectations are because of overestimating the time spent having intercourse by including foreplay.

CAMPUS SAFETY

March 30 – April 5, 2008

- 03/30
12:34 pm: Report of a stuck elevator in the BCLC; maintenance called.
- 2:35 pm: Call from Bellingrath reporting smoke coming from the washing machine. Campus Safety and maintenance responded; cause was overloaded machine.
- 3:30 pm: Call for the Barret Library reporting temperature in library too cold.
- 6:16 pm: Trouble alarm going off in Kennedy Hall. Officers responded to this building; control panel showing low battery, maintenance notified.
- 03/31
12:30 pm: Two individuals observed jumping the Jackson Street fence. Subjects followed on camera entering the BCLC; officers dispatched.
- 04/01
6:00 am: Power glitch on campus due to heavy rains causing several false alarms and the camera system to go down; system reset.
- 6:30 am: Phillips Lane blocked out for board of trustees.
- 04/02
4:12 pm: Complaint of students skating around the Diehl statue on skateboards. Skateboarders asked to relocate.
- 10:59 pm: Call from a student reporting a suspicious person near King Hall walking with a stick. Campus Safety responded; found suspicious person to be a resident out for an evening walk.
- 04/03
6:30 am: Several vendors on campus setting up the ballroom.
- 4:57 pm: Smoke detector in Trezevant malfunctioning; maintenance notified for repairs.
- 8:27 pm: Alcohol violation issued to student on East Drive.
- 04/04
6:00 am: Reports of high water accumulation in several rooms and building due to heavy rains.

King Anniversary, continued from Page 1

Michta, continued from Page 1

The Brooks Museum of Art currently houses an exhibit entitled "A Tribute to Dr. Martin Luther King Jr." The exhibit will be open through May 18, 2008.

Finally, the Southern Christian Leadership Conference held a commemorative worship service at St. Stephen Baptist Church.

Following the conclusion of his term at the Marshall Center, Professor Michta indicated that he plans to return to Rhodes and aims to increase and improve the national security programs in the International Studies department as well as create some focused senior tutorials in various subjects for IS majors.

Gnomes announce art



The Gnomes Art Festival was held Saturday, April 5 in front of the McCoy Theatre. Passerbys were encouraged to stop and join in on some fun. Bubbles were blown, music was played, and modern art was appreciated. The festival was sponsored by CODA.

The Season is Open

April 3 . Dr. Zarr's Amazing Funk Monster

April 10 . Dash Rip Rock

April 17 . Country Grammar

April 24 . Garry Goin and G3

DJ Bobby Smith
on the Rooftop with the bands

Thursdays, 6pm - 10pm
\$5 Cover charge
Ladies free till 8:00 pm
Must be 21

2008 sponsors are:

Luce Scholar, continued from Page 1

According to Hill, some of the greatest experiences he has had at Rhodes are due to amazing classes and intelligent professors.

"Marcus Pohlmann is one of the smartest people I have ever met and I have really enjoyed the classes I have had with him," Hill said. "With one or two exceptions I haven't had a single class or professor that didn't have an impact on me, or that I didn't learn anything from." Hill has a diverse academic background at Rhodes, with classes in Theatre, and even Witchcraft courses taken in the religious studies department.

Hill was made aware of the Luce fellowship program by Dr. Michael Drompp, the Dean of Academic Affairs and Post Graduate Fellowships.

"I really wanted a program that allows me to explore policy in an unstructured environment,"

Hill said. At this point Hill does not know where in Asia he will be traveling, but said he wants to work on Political Journalism in the Philippines.

"The program wants to place us where we can do the most good," Hill said, while explaining that what the US considers correct, as far as policy is concerned, it is not necessarily accepted on an international basis.

Hill believes that upon the conclusion of his trip to Asia he will eventually return to Memphis, but also wishes to peruse graduate studies.

"All my heroes have Law degrees and it's something I want to look into" Hill said, explaining that eventually he wants to go into politics.

"I want to work on the political expansion of the Memphis area because people underestimate the importance of local government," said Hill.

"I want to show that it has just as much, if not more, impact on people than the national Government does."

Sara Bareilles' *Little Voice* speaks volumes

By Adam Teer
A&E Editor

The female singer/songwriter genre has been around for years, even though it has fluctuated in popularity. Notables of the genre include Fiona Apple, Alicia Keys, Norah Jones, etc. As the female singer/songwriter genre gets yet another revival, one name stands above the rest.

Sara Bareilles, based out of northern California, has been writing and performing songs for years. She is on the brink of superstardom after her hit single "Love Song" took over the radio at the end of 2007. "Love Song" leapt from number 73 to number 16 in a single week, almost unprecedented, due to exposure in a television advertisement for Rhapsody. You have probably seen the commercial of a guy getting out of the shower and listening to Sara Bareilles play piano in his living room. While "Love Song" is the big success on the album, *Little Voice*, it is not the only good song.

Little Voice is her first studio album and is a great representation of Bareilles in a nutshell. She is a Converse All-Stars and black dress kind-of girl who can pretty much be classified as normal. Despite not having any odd or unusual events in her life, *Little Voice* is filled with her imagination and very relatable material. After reading her bio and album dedication, it is obvious she is a very honest and real person, not some untouchable rock star. She has a sense of humor and does not mind taking shots at herself.

Her style, as most female singer/songwriters, is piano-based. Sara is reminiscent of a female version of Gavin DeGraw ("I Don't Want To Be"), but her voice is not as distinctive as Gavin's. She has a large range of style and her songs tend to



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Sara Bareilles

cross several genres at once. A perfect example of this is "Many the Miles", my favorite track on the album, which starts off like Maroon 5's "Sunday Morning" and quickly escalates into a soulful R&B-ish jam that has her belting out at the top of her lungs. The track cuts out near the end and it is her and a chorus of vocalists, which punctuates the strength of the song. The track also is a wonderful example of vocal and lyrical range. While the topics discussed on the album are familiar, Bareilles tries to step into uncharted territory and not follow song archetypes. Other examples of her lyrical prowess are "Love Song"

and "Fairytale", which is a very cynical look at what truly would happen in classic fairytales like Snow White, Rapunzel, and Cinderella. It is one of the most clever songs, lyrically speaking, that I have heard in a while.

Bareilles jumps from "playful and intelligent" pop songs to slow piano ballads, to jazzy/bluesy songs that would sound like an evolution of Etta James. She has an extensive and diverse group of influences including Elton John, Ben Folds, Radiohead, Bjork, and The Police. Each of these bands can be seen in Sara's music. She does not try to emulate her musical heroes, but instead pays homage to their influence on her.

Her upbeat songs are the ones that really stick out on the album. The middle couple of songs are the weakpoint, in my opinion. While her slower, more introspective songs vary the album's offerings a bit, they don't pack a punch like the others. There is not a bad song on *Little Voice*; I would probably only skip the final track when listening to the album from start to finish. Each song is distinct from the next, never resulting in a slump of identical or cookie-cutter tracks like most albums of today (i.e. Nickelback).

Little Voice is the result of a solid year of hard work in the studio by Bareilles. It is an honest representation of her take on life, love, relationships, and fun. She stands out from other similar artists like K.T. Tunstall, Toby Lightman, Alicia Keys, and Norah Jones, and jumps to the head of the pack. She is currently recording the video for her next single, "Bottle It Up", so watch for that to hit radio stations. This is only the beginning of Sara's mainstream musical journey, and I cannot wait to hear what she comes out with next. Sara Bareilles' *Little Voice* gets a very strong B+.

Super Smash Bros. Brawl is a wicked good time

By Jonathan Cashon
Staff Writer

Let's be honest with each other. If you own a Wii, you should have already heard of Super Smash Bros. Brawl. I would hazard to guess that many of you bought the console in anticipation of the title's release. The wait has been longer than many expected and yet, we all knew deep in our hearts that highly-anticipated first party Nintendo titles never come out on time – or when they actually do, the recollection of such a rare and assuredly cosmically ordained event is quickly subsumed by the crushing memory of interminable waiting. But the release for this title has finally come to pass, to the adulation of cheering masses. To say that the Super Smash Bros. Brawl was "anticipated" is an understatement; it sold 1.4 million units in the United States in its first week on the market, 874,000 of which were bought up on the very first day of release. By rough estimate, twenty percent of all U.S. Wii owners already have a copy of this game.

So, who is this review for? The answer, of course, is the mythical "mainstream" gamers who have never browsed an enthusiast website or flipped the pages of Electronic Gaming Monthly. In other words, it's those of you who only recently, between flailing around trying to smack a virtual tennis ball, discovered that the Wii could indeed field other pieces of software. So listen up, my dear gaming neophytes! I am your resource to all things Brawl.

Put simply, the Super Smash Bros. series (of which Brawl is the third installment) is an excuse to pit major Nintendo mascots against each other in vicious combat, featuring up to four players at once – that is, if anything including the adorable, pink puff-ball Kirby can be truly labeled "vicious." If you've played a Nintendo game within the last twenty years, you should be able to recognize at least one character you'd like to play as – or beat the ever-living snot out of. The most (presumably) recognizable faces are Mario, Link (the green-clad elf from *The Legend of Zelda**), Princess Peach, Bowser, Samus Aran (of *Metroid* fame), Pit (who hasn't been in a game since 1987's *Kid Icarus*), and Donkey Kong. The dog from *Duck Hunt* apparently had a scheduling conflict. But the roster does not end there! The two characters that have aroused the most fan interest are super-soldier Solid Snake (think Snake Plisskin in *Escape from New York*) and Sonic the Hedgehog. That's right, everybody!

Those of you seeking to play out sweet fan-boy fury, pent up since the days of the Sega Genesis and Super Nintendo, will finally have your outlet. The full list of fighters numbers an impressive 34 (many of whom need to be unlocked through the course of play). A fair number, unfortunately, are "clones" of other characters – they have a size, shape, and move set similar to another character.

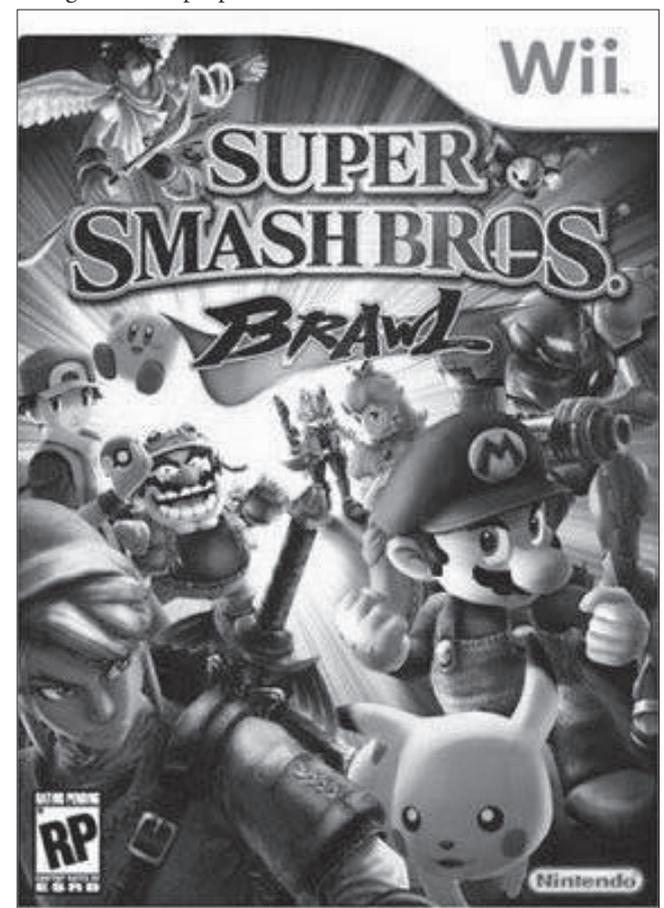
My dear readers, while you may have been intimidated by the complexity of many modern games, those fears can be laid to rest in this case. There are no complex move combinations to memorize. The controls are simple: a "simple attack" button and a "special attack" button. Different moves are executed simply by attacking in different directions. All of the attacks "fit" the particular character, which really add to the fun factor. The controls are made even more accessible by the fact that they can be inputted by four, count 'em four – methods: A single "wiimote," turned on its side, a wiimote with "nunchuck" attachment, a "classic" controller (usually used with Virtual Console games), and you can even plug in your old Game-cube controller. Word to the wise: using either of the wiimote configurations can give you cramps after a play period of even moderate length.

Brawl takes *Melee* a step further. Back again are Event Mode, Multi-Man Brawl, Home-Run Contest, All-Star Mode, etc. A major change is the introduction of different levels of difficulty for general game play as well as for Break the Target Contest. The most exciting change is the new Adventure Mode which has its own story-line, involving 30 out of the 34 playable characters. Certain levels of the Subspace Emissary, the official title for Adventure Mode, involve certain characters, leaving you with the choice of whether you would like to be Kirby or Mario for example. While Adventure Mode lasted about 20 minutes in *Melee*, Brawl's lasts 6-8 hours, depending on your skills as a fighter.

Brawl is not a perfect game (if such a thing exists). The load times can be long, especially since the game likes to pretend this is not the case, since it doesn't feature a load progress bar. The single-player game can get repetitive, but it is really fun for an hour or two at a time. Of course, the real appeal of Brawl is its multiplayer slugfest. As "mainstream" gamers, you may only use the internet for free-ware versions of "Bejeweled." Don't worry about it, because this is not the game to serve as your first foray into the cyber-space

battlefield. For the couch-space battlefield, on the other hand, this is the perfect party game. This goes double for those of you tired of getting shot from across the map by a sniper every time you respawn.

*To my more experienced gaming brethren: I am aware that he is not, in fact, an elf. But he does have pointy ears, and that's enough for most people.



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Scorsese's tribute to the Rolling Stones *Shine*

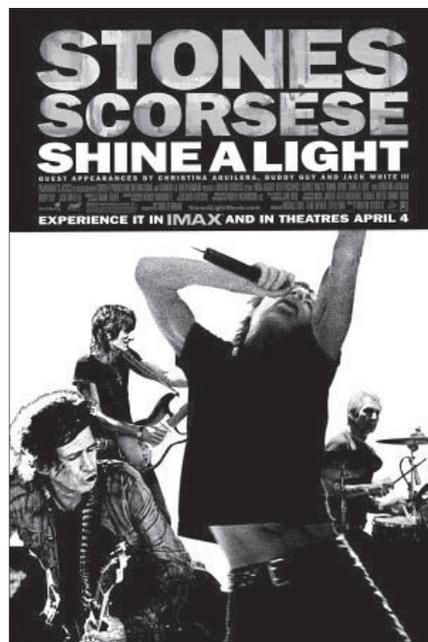
By Jamison Beuerman

Martin Scorsese is best known for his visceral dramatic punch, but over his prolific career he has expanded his touch to other areas, including the concert documentary. 1978's *The Last Waltz*, which captures The Band's farewell show, is arguably the greatest concert film ever made. Attempting to duplicate this success, Scorsese has collaborated with the Rolling Stones in *Shine a Light*, which captures the band's 2006 performance in New York's Beacon Theater. The result is a satisfying cinematic and musical experience, though one not nearly up to par with its predecessor. It is unlikely to draw the same popular reception which greeted *The Departed*, but Stones fans and general music enthusiasts should enjoy it, as long as they do not carry lofty expectations with them into the theater.

Roger Ebert, in his review of *Shine a Light*, says that it "may be the most intimate documentary ever produced about a live rock n roll concert," and while this statement may seem hyperbolic, Scorsese does do an unbelievable job of intimating the viewer with one of the world's greatest bands. The choice of venue is partially responsible for this effect. It's somewhat strange to see the Rolling Stones, who once performed in the Superdome in front of nearly a hundred thousand fans, playing in a theater in front of a

few thousand. This intimacy effect is both successful and, at times, frustrating. From a technical standpoint, Scorsese's filmmaking is flawless; the viewer alternately feels like a member of the audience and a member of the stage crew. At times, the camerawork is so brilliant that the concert footage appears to be borrowed from an actual movie.

While Scorsese's filmmaking is sound, the real stars of the show are the Stones, and, with minor exceptions, they do not disappoint. Perhaps the only thing more surprising than Keith Richards still being alive is that, after all these years, the band has hardly lost a step. The manic energy shown by Mick Jagger as he parades across stage is astounding, demonstrating why he is arguably rock's quintessential frontman. He springs frenetically up and down the aisle towards the camera, then turns to the crowd (which seemingly consists entirely of attractive young women) and explodes into a raw, acrobatic series of dance moves. Richards (high as always) and Ronnie Woods hold their own throughout, while camera-shy Charlie Watts mainly hides behind his drum set. Though one may be more accustomed to their louder and edgier rock songs, the composition of the set list is fairly eclectic. Generally speaking, the songs which succeed the most are the lesser-known ones. While they band inevitably plays radio



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staples such as "Start Me Up" and "Satisfaction," the real highlights includes an electric cover of "Champagne and Reefer" alongside Buddy Guy, the country-tinged "Far Away Eyes," and Jagger performing "Loving Cup" and "Live With Me" with Jack White and Christina Aguilera,

respectively. However, perhaps the most pleasant surprise is the inclusion of "As Tears Go By," one of the Stones earliest hits, an elegiac ballad somewhat appropriate to the film's retrospective angle. About the only misstep is a rather tepid opening of "Jumpin' Jack Flash," in which the Stones come out somewhat flat, although the theater's acoustics may have played a role in that.

Scorsese's goal, however, is not merely to capture the concert, but to remind the viewer of how far the Stones have come and how immeasurable their impact has been. He splices old, often surreal, news reel footage and interviews in between songs to capture the transition of the Stones' public image over time. For instance, news clips of Richards' and Jagger's arrests following the Marianne Faithful incident serve to evoke memories of when the Stones were the "bad boys" of rock n roll. Scorsese contrasts that with a guest appearance by former President Clinton and Hillary Clinton to demonstrate the evolution of the band. However, that is about the scope of *Shine a Light's* ambition. Unlike *The Last Waltz*, which captured the Band's final performance in epic, poignant fashion, *Shine a Light* in comparison is more of a light tribute, one which is temporarily entertaining but a little underwhelming considering the artist.

Memphis Boat Show

By Mark Donnelly

It is a Saturday afternoon and there is nothing to do. Welcome to Rhodes. But contrary to popular belief, there is always something fun to do in Memphis beyond the wrought iron fences. Thankfully, it doesn't involve watching terrible actresses pretend to fight over washed up pop icons on VH1. This time, I think I'll go for an adventure: The Memphis Boat Show.

So, you're not into fishing or boating? Neither am I, but that is not the point. The point is that the boat show is a magnificent spectacle of over-size boats, beef jerky, cashews, polarized sun glasses and spinal alignment screening.

The show took place at the Agricenter International's expo center, a gigantic convention center housing 987 boats and over 100 vendors. At the entrance, where normally pillars would welcome guests, there were six sumptuous yachts.

After I tipped my cap to the ticket puncher, I glided into the convention center grounds and saw the boats.

But there weren't just boats. There were boats upon boats. There were pontoons, outboards, yachts, competition ski boats, bass boats and, of course, jet skis. The yachts were the most interesting, being the biggest and most profligate of the lot. You could walk on them and examine their fine craftsmanship, scrutinize the hold, and fantasize about being offshore at Bike Week, watching the hustle and bustle from your own love boat.

And the boats are only half the fun. The one-hundred vendors: everything from Backyard Burgers to the National Border

Patrol, from the venison jerky hut to Carl's Cashew Kingdom, they have it all. Maybe while checking out the boats, you wondered if your spine was crooked... luckily, you can get it checked out at the free spinal alignment screening.

Need some new sunglasses? Polarized.

Always wanted a personalized etched leather belt with a howling wolf between your girlfriend's and your name? They've got it.

But while having a salesman ask if I want a sample of Carl's nuts or a free six-pack of Redman fine cut natural was fun, my favorite attraction was the fishing pond. The four foot deep, 15x25 foot box was filled with trout and it was definitely a hot spot for children and Mike Huckabee supporters alike to test their fishing skills. By paying five dollars for ten minutes—they provide the pole and bait—you get to enjoy fishing indoors. What could be more entertaining then watching a father and son become livid when the fish refuse to fall for the tackle they see every day? I'm equally convinced they were not fed before hand. This attraction had, at one time, the biggest crowd, with a close second at the *Virtual Jet Ski and Manatee Protection Game*, which was offered by the TWRA. This game usually involved kids, sometimes a pie-eyed parent, entranced in a vivid virtual experience. Their objective was to protect the passive, slow-moving manatee from the sea terrorists who harassed them. Run those fanatical sea-cow-killing terrorists over! Ah, a slice of life.

And my next stop? Joel Osteen at the Fed-Ex Forum.

Gene Hendrix Memorial Golf Tournament benefiting St. Jude Children's Research Hospital

Hosted by Sigma Alpha Epsilon and Galloway Golf Course

Saturday, April 19th, 2008
8:30 AM
Galloway Golf Course
Memphis, TN



Cost is \$50 per player including:

- Green Fee and Cart
- Beverages and snacks
- Donation to St Jude's Research Center

If interested, please contact Joe Cody at codje by April 15th

The Puzzler

Begin with the sequence of numbers 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, ... and cross out those numbers which contain any of the digits 3, 6, or 9. Does the 587th remaining number contain the digit 2? (Note that we are counting 0 as the first term of the sequence.)

If you think you know the answer, e-mail the answer to rinsl@rhodes.edu for a chance to win two movie tickets.

Lack of free-throw shooting dooms Memphis

By **Ralph MacDonald**
Sports Editor

For 99.5% of the NCAA tournament, Memphis was able to hide its Achilles Heel. The Tigers, who were the third-worst free throw shooting team in the nation, were breaking away from Kansas with less than one-hundred seconds left in the game. With Kansas forced to foul in order to save time, All-American Chris Douglas-Roberts decided to take matters into his own hands, holding onto the ball instead of passing to an open teammate in order to take more time off the clock. After missing the first shot of a one and one and watching Kansas

cut the lead to two with a score on the other end of the floor, Douglas-Roberts again attempted to put the game in his hands. Breaking away from Kansas' press defense, Douglas-Roberts received a pass in the corner with about seventeen seconds remaining in the game. Again declining to run down the clock, he took the ball straight to the hoop and the Kansas defender, missing the shot but receiving the two shot foul. With a chance to put the game almost completely away, the All-American missed both shots. However, luck was with the Tigers as Robert Dozier was able to secure a rare rebound off of the free throw miss and get the ball in

the hands of freshman phenomenon Derrick Rose. Again shooting two for a chance to seal the game, Rose was only able to connect on one, giving Kansas a chance to tie the game with a three pointer.

It was a curious coaching decision by John Calipari that allowed Mario Chalmers to attempt the game-tying three point shot. The Jayhawks were not yet in the double-bonus territory, meaning they would only get a one and one free throw situation if the Tigers fouled them before they attempted the shot. Instead, Chalmers went up and hit the three-pointer with about two seconds left, sending the game into overtime

after the Tigers' desperations shot hit off the backboard. The five minute overtime was a very one-sided affair, with Kansas scoring the first six points and never letting the Tigers into the ballgame. In the end, the Tigers had no one to blame but themselves, and left their fans to wonder what might have been if only they had executed, played smarter, or had made easy, common sense coaching decisions. One out of the three of aforementioned activities probably would have led to a parade through Memphis, but the utter failure of the Tigers meant the championship ended up in more deserving hands.

Detroit's struggles headline surprises of early season

By **Will Leibner**
Staff Writer

What a surprising first week it was in Major League Baseball. Predicted cellar-dwellers Baltimore and St. Louis each went 5-1 and reigning NL champions Colorado Rockies went 1-5. Yet still, the biggest shocker of the first week came out of the Motor City.

Consensus World Series contender Detroit is yet to win a game. They were swept *at home* in successive series by the upstart Kansas City Royals and Chicago White Sox, both of which are clubs not expected to impact the American League pennant race. Yes, it is only a week, and there are still 156 games left for Detroit to right the ship but there are many worries that have come out of the first week.

Over the six-game span, the vaunted Tiger offense expected to eclipse many American League records this year scored 2.5 runs a game and hit .245 as a team. Miguel Cabrera, acquired in a trade with the Florida Marlins in the off-season struggled mightily in his new digs. He hit just .111 with only one RBI over the course of his first home stand as a Tiger. Cabrera

enjoyed a few of the finest initial seasons a young player has ever had in baseball as a Marlin, but is facing a new pressure this year. Save for a season where he burst onto the scene in 2003 as a part-time rookie performer with little expected of him, Cabrera will be playing in his first true high-pressure pennant race this season. In his last few years in Florida, not much was expected of the team, but in Detroit, the 24-year old slugger is expected to be the element that leads the offense and puts the Tigers over the top. It will be interesting to see whether he will be able to shoulder this responsibility, but so far, not so good.

Cabrera wasn't the only culprit of the paltry offensive output by the Tigers during their first six-pack of games. Placido Polanco, who batted .342 last season, went 2 for his first 23. Last year's AL batting champion Magglio Ordonez did not post a single run batted in. And to top it all off, veterans Ivan Rodriguez and Gary Sheffield, went a combined 6-33 last week. It is not time to panic yet, as these are all professional hitters, but to say nobody has begun to worry in Detroit would not be fair either. Tiger skipper Jim Leyland

showed a small sign of concern in the final game of the homestand on Sunday, batting catcher Ivan Rodriguez in the leadoff spot. It is too early to panic on the offensive side, especially given Curtis Granderson's impending return to the lineup and the veteran leadership on the club, but it is not too early to keep an eye on an offensive attack that may not live up to all of its expectations this season.

More alarming for the Tigers should be the performance of their pitching staff. The Detroit starting pitching was very poor over the first week, posting a 5.82 ERA in just 34 innings. Although they struggled initially, Detroit is armed with solid veteran starters and an ace in Justin Verlander. They may not dominate, but the pitching should be solid enough to be effective. Having said that, given the poor outlook of the Tiger bullpen, the starters very well may be pushed to perform above and beyond their expectations, something they may not be capable of.

The Tiger bullpen was pointed to as a possible area of concern early in the season and that worry has proven to be well warranted in the first week of action. Detroit

relievers are 0-3 on the young season, with an ERA nearing 5.00. Jason Grilli surrendered a tie-breaking three run blast to White Sox catcher A.J. Pierzynski on Friday afternoon while Zach Miner and fellow "pen-mate" Francis Beltran let a 3-0 Tiger lead disappear in the late innings on Saturday. This will be a problem for the Tigers all season long. They simply do not have the personnel to be able to bridge to gap form their starters to veteran closer Todd Jones effectively. If Detroit expects to dig themselves out to this hole, Grilli, Denny Bautista, Miner and Aquilino Lopez must either pitch better, or they will be forced to look to trade for a middle reliever or two before more games fall from their grasp.

The Tigers' road does not get any easier with a road trip starting Tuesday night in Boston before heading to Chicago over the weekend. Is it time to press the panic button? No. But the collective fingers of Tiger fans everywhere should be creeping ever closer to it given a worrisome first week of the season.

Top five most hated professional athletes

By **Ralph MacDonald**
Sports Editor

The recent release of wide-receiver Chris Henry from the oft-legal troubled Cincinnati Bengals gives us a chance to look at the worst perceived athletes in sports today. Henry allegedly hit an eighteen year old in the head and then threw a beer bottle through the unfortunate teenager's car. The judge in the case has already showed how he perceives Henry, calling him a "one man crime wave." But where does he stack up against the rest of professional sports? In order to qualify for this list, an athlete does not necessarily have to be active, simply not yet retired.

5 and 4. Steven Jackson and Ron Artest: The two former Pacers will be forever linked by the brawl in Detroit, where both Jackson and Artest ran into the stands and started assaulting the fans after one threw a cup of water on Artest. Since then, Jackson has discharged a firearm into the air outside a nightclub during a confrontation and Artest has been brought up on domestic disturbance and animal neglect charges. Throw in how poorly Artest's rap album was received and Jackson's rise to captain on a tough Golden State Warriors team and Artest is the more hated of the pair.

3. Pac-man Jones: It is absolutely terrifying to think what might have happened if the Gold Club had not been closed down before Pac-man became an NFL player. Patrick Ewing's favorite club might have been the cause of new state laws regarding strippers such as "no coming within forty-five feet of the stripper's bullet-proof glass." Pac-man has had eleven run-ins with the law, several of these involving incidents at strip clubs. Most notably, a disturbance at a Las Vegas strip club involving Pac-man led to one patron getting severely paralyzed after being shot.

2. Michael Vick: Despite signing a lucrative contract with the Atlanta Falcons, Vick could not leave some of his more unseemly friends behind him. First a man driving in a car licensed to Vick was arrested to marijuana possession, then Vick had a run-in at the airport over a water bottle that smelled like marijuana. But of course the fatal blow to Vick's reputation was Bad Newz Kennels, a kennel devoted to raising pit bulls for fighting and sponsored entirely by Vick. A search of the property revealed skeletons of executed pit bulls, some of which were murdered by Vick himself. Making matters worse is the fact that many of pit bulls were killed in cruel ways such as electrocution.

1. Barry Bonds: Unlike all the people mentioned above, Barry Bonds has not been accused of hurting anyone. Most sports fans are unaware or apathetic towards the fact that he had a mistress. But Bonds is filtered to us through a media that he has always been frosty towards and thus we tend to hear the worst about him. Bonds is known for his aloofness not only towards the media, but his teammates as well. The current home run king has always had a whole corner to himself in the locker room and an entourage of extra trainers beyond what the team provides him. The thing that really hurts Bonds in the public eye is that he is the most successful player of the steroid era that tainted baseball's credibility. The fact that he is suspected (and condemned in the court of public opinion) of steroid use and has broken the most sacred record in the game (held by one of the most venerated players in baseball history) makes him the most ill-perceived athlete in America.