



Photo by Jean Xiong

## Spotlight: Greek Orgs' Deferred Rush Money 'Not a Bribe'

BY JORDAN HULSEBERG '19  
AND NITHILA RAMESH '20  
SPOTLIGHT TEAM

Following the announcement of deferred Fall rush last semester, Greek organizations, fraternities in particular, began to voice their concern and contempt of the new policy. However, this public frustration eventually waned away, disappearing entirely following a \$7,500 compensation per organization—totaling to \$105,000.

While the compensation was largely unnoticed, it did draw furor from some students. Sophomore Steven Mysciewicz said, “It looks like a bribe to

me. That’s what you do, throw money at people to make them shut up.”

Dean Carol Casey directly addressed those who may “misinterpret the compensation as a bribe.” Casey said, “People may think [the compensation was a bribe]... It was not a bribe.”

While the definitiveness of Casey’s statement is unimpeachable, Interfraternity Council President Ben Bentley muddied the water. Bentley, with regard to whether or not the compensation had brought an end to their protesting, said, “We were done complaining when we received the compensation.”

Furthermore, Interfrater-

nity Council Vice President and Kappa Sigma President Alessandro Secino provided a muddled interpretation of the finances. When pressed if there was a quid pro quo to lessen the blow of deferred rush, Secino said, “Yeah the [Administration] did, they gave each chapter pretty good compensation.”

While Secino’s interpretation of the funds as quid pro quo could be a sign of inside baseball, Casey emphasized the compensation had only sensible conditions. Casey, speaking to the requirements said, “The money had to go to their housing corporations and they had to update their lease.”

Unfortunately for Greek or-

ganizations, these conditions were unamalleable. In point of fact, it required some fraternities to establish infant housing corporations. Secino called the necessity to establish a housing corporation “frustrating.”

Still, it is unclear if fraternities offered any services in return. Secino admitted new policies with the college were crafted over the summer. Secino said, “Kappa Sigma and ATO met with the campus administrators all summer to make risk management more effective and to find ways to get Campus Safety more involved in what we do.”

Deferred rush had been considered in the past, while delayed rush was actually im-

plemented for a brief period of time. Schools such as those President William Troutt provided—Emory University, Tulane University, Vanderbilt University and Washington University—all operate under the deferred rush system.

Casey identified the reasoning for deferring rush as the pigeonholing of students into a single group—making them unable to explore the entire campus and be content. Casey said “While a lot of large schools’ first-year experiences want to make their campuses seem smaller, we want our first-year experience to make our small campus seem bigger.”

## Poetry Reading with Aimee Nezhukumatathil

BY SAVANNAH PATTON '19  
CHIEF COPY EDITOR

Last Thursday Oct. 27 at 7:00 p.m., a small and eager crowd of Rhodes students and professors sat in a Frazier-Jelke lecture hall and awaited the words of the University of Mississippi’s 2016-2017 Grisham Writer in Residence, Aimee Nezhukumatathil. It was quite fitting, in fact, to gather a handful of the campus’s creative writing and poetry enthusiasts in a science classroom, as Mrs. Ne-

zhukumatathil stumbled into her love of poetry while pursuing a degree in Chemistry at The Ohio State University. Upon listening to her poems, one would never guess that she hadn’t been writing creatively since she first picked up a pen.

However, her background in science – including growing up the daughter of doctors – weaves its way into much of her work. She not only teaches poetry but also environmental literature at State University of New York-Fredonia, and Lace

& Pyrite, (2014), her most recent chapbook, is a collaboration of nature poems written with Ross Gay. This unique perspective winds its way into her poems at oft-unexpected moments, adding dazzling imagery and piling on layers of metaphor while still maintaining scientific precision. She does not, however, fall into the trap of cold, detached medical recitations, as can be seen with the lines, “If you slice a jacaranda bloom between two glass slides / and place it on a

microscope, the corolla will always / fight / for the light,” from her autobiographical persona poem, “The Mascot of Beaver Creek High Breaks Her Silence.”

Aimee, in response to a question about her largely optimistic tone and more positive output, referred back to this line as she recounted a memory of struggling to find time to write after having her first child. She told us that, while marveling at the beauty of her newborn son, she asked herself

what it was that she wanted to give him, what she wanted him to one day see she had been working on and fighting for all along. And though she readily confessed to reading a lot of “doom and gloom” poetry – and loving it wholeheartedly – it is this “fight[ing] for the light” that characterizes her work and was evident as she shared it with us.

## NEWS

## Letter from the Editors

"I can dig rapping, but a rapper with a ghost writer?"

What the f\*ck happened? (Oh no) I swore I wouldn't tell"

-Kendrick Lamar from "King Kunta"

Have you ever thought about how much we consume as opposed to how much we create? Well, if you have, and if you're anything like us, it probably makes you feel super lazy. We listen to music while doing homework, look at our phones while watching television, and we even surf the Internet while

sitting in lectures.

In a society where consumption is king, it's safe to say we should be brilliant. After all, we are constantly taking in new information, so much so that we'll look down at our phones, open a tab, close it, and then immediately open it again, illustrating that a lot of this apparent consumption may even be on a subconscious level.

Part of what is cool about writing for a newspaper is that you can do both in more ways than one. On one hand, you're creating articles from scratch,

which is a very rewarding process that we hope for more people to take part in. On the other, you're part of a team that produces consumable material, and since you already write for it, you might as well indulge in reading it!

And that is one of my (Will's) favorite things about being a staff writer for No More Division ([www.nomoredivision.com](http://www.nomoredivision.com)), an independent music review site. I am simultaneously able to consume new music and create a thorough, thoughtful review that at-

tempts to identify the band's strengths, their room for improvement, their quality of production and much, much more in order to both help the artist and alert the general public of a new conception. Thus, by extension, sometimes the best way to create something is by consuming something else. You can apply this to listening to music while writing an essay, or drinking some tea while drawing. And sometimes they even feed into each other, such as an expressive dance fueled by a particular selection

of music.

Whatever it may be that you consume can most likely lead to creation while whatever you create can most likely lead to consumption. A ghost rapper writes, a rapper consumes; a rapper raps, we consume. And so it goes.

Created by  
Will & Zoe  
to be Consumed by  
You

# K Camp and T.I. Headline University of Memphis Homecoming Concert

By TAYLOR BARKSDALE '18  
STAFF WRITER

In the spirit of Homecoming and Halloween weekend, the city of Memphis celebrated three different College Homecomings. Both The University of Memphis and The Lemoyne-Owen College celebrated a Homecoming along with our very own Lynx Cats. Over the Hallo-HoCoWeekend, hip hop artists T.I. and K Camp gave a show at The University of Memphis that was open to the community and all University students.

First on stage was K Camp, an Atlanta artist who has been around since 2014, and he blazed the audience. Personally, he seemed a little strange in stage presence, but that did not stop him from setting the crowd in motion. Everyone was singing along, dancing, and having a really good time. K Camp's connection to the crowd through his music was very interesting. He was able to make everyone connect to him and owned his laid back persona on stage. During his set, K Camp made everybody feel like they wanted to have

a good time and gave us the "turn up" that we came for. Not only did he make sure patrons had a good time, he even paused his music to ensure that a young lady in the front row was feeling okay after she fainted. He dropped Memphis a hot, brand new song that had been released the night before and we were the first to hear it performed.

Following him, T.I. had a different type of approach. He was more talkative with the crowd and found a way for each song to flow into the next through that dialogue. Hearing

the older songs from T.I. gave the concert a nostalgic feel. Being able to hear the change and growth of T.I. as a rapper made concert-goers feel excited about the past music we might have forgotten about and interested in hearing the new music he has released. From the evolution of songs, it was easy to hear that T.I. had really grown from a young energetic rapper to a more sophisticated, mature artist, shown through his lyricism. Everyone seemed to know almost all of the words to his songs throughout the whole performance, and the crowd

even got a chance to hear some motivation about being a prepared and informed voter in the upcoming election.

Each artist really brought out their full personality to the Memphis stage and gained a personal connection with everyone there. When the whole crowd is moving, there must be something that the artist is doing to help people feel what they are saying, and both artists did so in their own respective ways.

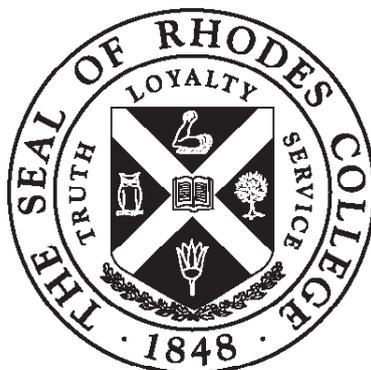
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## WITHIN THE GATES

# Antonin Scalia: Following *The Way*

BY ANTONIN SCALIA '18  
COLUMNIST

*"Don't judge by the smallness of the beginnings. My attention was once drawn to the fact that there is no difference in size between seeds that produce annual plants and those that will grow into ageless trees."*

- Josemaria Escriva, *The Way*

It is perhaps one of the most wonderful miracles of life that such seemingly insignificant beginnings like that of a seed will transform into something as bold and strong as an oak or as vibrant and beautiful as a rose bush. It is a truth which holds fast across all aspects of life: even the greatest of events, people or objects begin humbly - and simply.

The breathtaking composition of the Sistine Chapel was at its conception a blank canvas, and the towering oaks outside Palmer Hall - which have stood for decades - were at one point nothing more than small seeds. So, too, do these humble beginnings apply to our daily lives, often in ways which we take for granted or neglect altogether.

It can be easy to grow frustrated at the apparent smallness and insignifi-

cance of various beginnings in our life; whether it is the first day in a new class in which you might swear the professor is speaking a foreign language or the first day of a new workout regimen when the treadmill might seem like a sort of medieval torture device or even your first time attending church in a while, when you feel lost and lacking purpose. Certainly, it would be easiest to drop the class, step off the treadmill or sleep in rather than attend the service. But, in so doing, we may very well be discarding a seed which is destined to grow into an ageless tree. Just as an oak tree grows slowly, so, too, might the fruits of our labor - but grow they will.

Rather than being so impatient as to abandon these beginnings due to frustration at their apparent lack of meaning or importance, let us instead devote ourselves to cultivating these small beginnings, so that they might grow into the sturdy oak or blooming rose bush which they were destined to become.

Let us pray for the understanding and wisdom to see these small beginnings for what they can become rather than for how they appear, and let us pray for the guidance that they might be developed properly.

### Career Services Announcement

Do you want an academic internship in the spring but have missed the priority application deadline? Fret not! We still have internship positions available in almost every field. To learn more about the application process, come by Career Services in Burrow 105 or email [internships@rhodes.edu](mailto:internships@rhodes.edu).

# A 'Smashing' Good Time

BY SANEELA TAMEEZ '20  
STAFF WRITER

My Friday before Halloween consisted of pumpkins falling from a building, spinning fire tunnels, fire dancing, shooting potatoes and many more mind-bending physics experiments! How was your Friday night?

The annual Pumpkin Drop held by The Society of Physics Students took place this past Friday, and it was truly an event to remember. Right when I arrived, there was an atmosphere of excitement and wonder as all these interactive experiments were occurring around me. A common misconception is that this event only consists of dropping pumpkins from the top of the observatory building - which is still pretty awesome - but it consisted of plenty of other events, too.

One particularly crowd-pleasing experiment was a student-made flame-thrower powered by a vacuum and coffee creamer. Apparently that pumpkin spice latte creamer is good for more than just adding some flavor to your morning cup! Fair warning: this experiment sounds a bit more DIY than it truly is; I'd avoid trying this at home unless you're a skilled physics student or an avid fan of the term "YOLO."

The event boasted a diverse age group, with attendees from all walks of Rhodes life; professors, college students, parents and even adorable little kids all enjoyed the various experiments and showcases of the evening. Another eye-catching experiment was comprised of colorful, flaming pumpkins. Sam Naidis, the first year conducting the experiment, explained how these pumpkins were

able to emanate colorful fire: "boron tends to burn green when heated in the flame. Folic Acid tends to contain a lot of boron, which I mixed with a chemical that turns slightly blue, methanol, so the green overpowers the blue and produces a green flame." My favorite part of this experiment was watching the kids look in awe as the pumpkins lit up in colorful flames; plenty of "oohs and ahhs" were heard from the audience.

Another experiment consisting of fire was the dancing flames. Rodd Lofton, the first year student conducting this experiment, explained the science behind it: "the way sound waves work is there are high pressure and low pressure areas where the high pressure is pushing out more propane, and the low pressure where the propane is being pushed out less so you can see where the high and low pressures of the sound wave are in the tube." I also asked Rodd Lofton why he enjoys Pumpkin Drop, to which he exclaimed, "I like how you are able to show that physics is cool! Physics is cool! Look at all these demos. We have something that literally levitates and defies physics by physics. That's pretty awesome!"

Indeed, this whole event was "pretty awesome." Before I left, I asked one more student attendee, Brian Burgess ('20), his thoughts on the event. Brian jokingly replied, "It's not as boring as I thought it was going to be. My favorite part," he shared, "was when the pumpkins dropped, and the balloons burst into flames!" I couldn't agree more with Brian. This event was truly a "smashing" start to my halloweekend!

# Alum 'Still Got It' After Hitting on Freshmen

BY WARREN SOCHER '19 AND  
WILL MORROW '19  
CUTE SATIRISTS

Recently married I.T. specialist and self-declared microbrew fanatic Justin Fivescythe received a much needed confidence boost last Saturday afternoon after first-year Carli Sandersonchild took him up on his offer of an "ice-cold brewchacho." He was adamant about brandishing his cherished supply of liquid gold: Sierra Nevada Torpedo, which he

securely stored in a styrofoam treasure chest. Feeling especially confident in his selection of pleated brown slacks and a white Joseph A. Bank button down that he got at a "buy one, get seven free" liquidation sale, he parted the red sea of Rhodes-embroidered dresses and blazer-clad Greek lords and made a noble attempt to mingle with a population with which he has been hopelessly disconnected for 10 years.

In an attempt to impress Carli and her impressionable

friends as an Alphaholic male, he grabbed a half-empty bag of Franzia Pinot Grigio and proceeded to play a game of "slap-bag" with the reluctant and uncomfortable group of girls, hoping to compensate for his residual socially awkward tendencies that he was never completely able to leave behind in high school or college.

After spending a total of 20 minutes at the Rhodes vs. Hendrix football game, Justin and his buddy Derrick, whom he had economics with for

three years, decided to stumble over to the middle ground in order to illustrate to the few working students what "real" success looks like (if pissing all over the floor of the bathroom and aggravating the students with an excessive amount of noise spells such success).

He stumbled back to the tailgate to tragically discover the way-under-*his-age* girls flirting with 36-year-old quantized subprime financial fund stock trade investor Dunn Quaggle. In the face of such embar-

rassment, his defense mechanism included demanding the "goddam spatula" and taking the helm at the rusty charcoal throne.

Justin, who was completely intoxicated with nostalgia and IPAs, allegedly hailed the Lynx limo to take him to Rhodes Express, where he attempted to enroll for the 2017 spring semester.

## WITHIN THE GATES

# Día de los Muertos: The Day of the Dead

BY FARAH IBRAHIM '20  
STAFF WRITER

When I attended the Día de los Muertos celebration in Palmer Hall, I was amazed at the display of culture and art. Pictures depicting dancing skeletons were everywhere. Tables lined the hallways with offerings to the dead. The smell of traditional Mexican foods filled the language center. Professors and assistants were scurrying about, making final preparations before the swarms of hungry college students descended upon the small festivity.

As I watched all this take place, I approached Professor Nora Jabbour of the Spanish Department and asked her to

inform me of the importance of this day. Día de los Muertos, more commonly known as the Day of the Dead here in the States, is a holiday celebrated primarily in Mexico and some of the surrounding Hispanic countries as well as by Mexican-American communities across the United States. It began as a mixing of the beliefs of the indigenous peoples, mainly those of the Aztecs, with the Catholic tradition that was brought to the Americas by the Spanish conquistadors and settlers. On this day, the spirits of the dead return to the world and are given offerings of their favorite foods by their families at their gravesites.

Unlike many similar holidays

in other cultures where people pay respects to the dead, the Día de los Muertos isn't a somber and depressing day. Actually, it is quite the opposite. The holiday affords death a more festive view and helps family members feel comfort in the fact that their loved ones won't be forgotten and will always watch over them.

At the celebration I attended, there were many altars dedicated to famous and well-loved people who have passed away, ranging from Malcolm X to Salvador Dali to Nelson Mandela. I even saw one dedicated to Dr. Seuss. What I thought was even more touching were the altars of people I did not recognize, the loved ones of

students and professors here at Rhodes who were honored and remembered on this day, making the celebration that much more personal and moving.

What surprised me most of all was how many people attended the festival. The line there was out the door, and even after the initial rush, there was a constant stream of people coming in and out. Many ate their food and socialized in the language center where the festival was being held rather than merely stopping by to grab food and head out. Many people came because they were interested in learning about the celebration, and, of course, others came for free Mexican food (for which I can't blame them).

The food was definitely a highlight, with enchiladas, chicken tacos, chips and salsa being served along with many other traditional foods. While the traditional food and the artwork were both great, I believe the best part of the celebration was the fact that it brought so many people together to observe and take part in the cultural activities of others. By cherishing and taking part in various cultural practices and traditions outside our own, we can help create a more culturally aware and authentically inclusive campus.

## The Future of Human Enhancement: Dr. Michael Bess

BY JACK PATTON '18  
STAFF WRITER

Last Thursday Oct. 27, Michael Bess, a history professor at Vanderbilt, shared with Rhodes College his vision of the future – one where humans use biotechnology to better themselves.

Dr. Bess began by explaining his “Jetsons fallacy,” wherein most sci-fi movies imagine a future where technology is more advanced, but humans

are depicted the same as they are today (think Star Wars). To have mass appeal, sci-fi movies provide viewers with a comforting picture of what is to come, but, Bess says this is unrealistic. Because of rapid advances in three areas of biotechnology – pharmaceuticals, bioelectronics and genetics – we should expect a future of enhanced humans.

Already, college students commonly use drugs such as Ritalin to improve their cogni-

tive abilities. According to Dr. Bess, the drugs will continue to improve, and this practice will continue to spread. Concerning bioelectronics, Dr. Bess shared Dr. William Dobbelle's experiment in which he used a brain implant to partially restore sight to a fully blind patient. If scientists can make someone see again, it follows that they are not too far away from being able to enhance people's sight by giving them the ability, for example, to see

in the dark.

Third, Dr. Bess spoke about the epigenetic system, which activates and deactivates the DNA code, and how scientists can use it to perhaps one day modify people's thoughts and emotions without even altering their DNA.

Dr. Bess finished by arguing that humans need to be thinking about the social implications of these plausible, future human enhancements. He raised questions that humanity

needs to address: who will have access to these improvements? If people can use technology to experience their desired emotions, what impact will this have on human behavior? If we think of humans instrumentally and focus on improving them functionally, will we lose sight of their infinite worth as individuals?

## Sophomore Girls Report Fraternity Restroom Conditions Predictably Depressing, “Nothing We Haven't Overcome Before”

BY MEAGHAN PICKLES '19  
SATIRE EDITOR

A ragtag posse of second-year ladies entered a bathroom of fraternal brotherhood on Friday to find it a dismal excuse for a lavatory yet not too great an obstacle for their ample resourcefulness and resolve.

Although the women came from disparate groups and represented a mix of all four Panhellenic sororities, they banded together in their com-

mitment to relieve themselves quickly and efficiently, shedding as little of their dignity as possible in the process while vowing to “never leave a good man behind.”

“We have been pitted against far greater odds in the past. This is no obstacle we cannot overcome,” said physics major and 2nd-drunkest white bitch Daphne Ellis '19, noting that although the supply of one-ply toilet paper was growing ever more elusive, the fact that they

had over a year of experience with similar bathrooms provided them with the necessary tools for success.

Taking a quick survey of all available utilities and noting that the toilet was clogged, the enterprising young ladies created a game-plan that involved the walk-in shower, with the sink as a distant Plan C.

“That could be vomit clogging the shower drain, or it could be something entirely different,” said Katie Anne

Clevinger, who is just trying to get the hell out of dodge, man. “Who am I to be the judge of what is vomit, or where vomit belongs, for that matter?”

The other women unanimously nodded in agreement with these sage remarks, including the weeping Sarah Shaffer, who didn't know why she couldn't just have one fucking good night out without John Bender ruining everything with his typical shit.

The women endured three

friendly knocks accompanied by one loud banging noise before they emerged from the bathroom, relatively clean and with very little anticipation of disease. After congratulating each other on “another job well done, boys,” one of the ladies recalled an experience in which soap was completely out of the realm of possibility, and, in lieu of toilet paper, there was available one lone washcloth that was “up to interpretation”.

## WITHIN THE GATES

# Novemberfest Cooking

By DAVID MORAR '19  
STROPS EDITOR

On Saturday Nov. 5, RAB and The Pack will be hosting a campus-wide tailgate, deemed Novemberfest, from 11 a.m. -1 p.m. in honor of the last home football game of the season. During this event, many of the student organizations on campus, such as your very own Sou'wester, will be participating in a cooking contest. Students will vote for their favorite dish, and the winning organization will have their names displayed on a plaque on campus. Obviously, this is a big deal, so the Sou'wester team has been preparing and testing our big dish in the weeks leading up to the competition.

For Novemberfest, we will be cooking a "Sou'west-

ern" take on a Taco Bell classic, the Crunchwrap. Our signature Crunchwrap will take the form of a black bean burger, a fried egg, guacamole and an array of sautéed vegetables encapsulated within two tostada shells and then stuck inside an extra-large tortilla via a mid-layer of melted Mexican cheese. The entire package will then be toasted on a sizzling pan and served with a side of glory.

These monsters will be sliced in fours and auctioned off to the highest bidders during Novemberfest, so make sure to come out and taste the food you wish Taco Bell and Chipotle could actually make. The entries of other organizations are being kept under the wraps for now, but the *Sou'wester* team is confident in our chances in the Nov. 5 showdown.



## The Effort to Give Voice to the Intersectional Trans Community Comes to Rhodes

By ANU IYER '20  
STAFF WRITER

On Wednesday Oct. 26, the Rhodes College Sociology and Anthropology department hosted "Trans South: Trans Lives and Social Change" in Blount Auditorium at 6 p.m. The moving event achieved its goal of giving a mic to Trans voices that often go unheard. Multiple student organizations, including but not limited to the Queer Working Group, Culture of Consent, GSA and the Gender and Sexuality Studies Department, worked together to bring André Pérez and his oral history project, *America in Transition*, to campus. A work in progress for nine years, Pérez has compiled the stories of numerous Trans women in the South, all of whom face a variety of issues from HIV criminalization, sexual violence and the effects of race, gender and financial status, in an "interactive documentary series and community-building initiative exploring social change from the perspective of Trans people in intersectional communities."

The night began with a screening of Pérez's documentary series. The first episode of *America in Transition* features Tiommi Luckett, an HIV activist based in Arkansas. Afraid to even leave her apartment after experiencing sexual violence, Luckett explains her personal struggle to overcome the trauma of the experience as well as her internal conflict about whether or not to report the assault in fear of being prosecuted for not disclosing her disease. This is a clear

instance in which HIV criminalization could potentially shift blame to the victim of an assault or rape for not initially disclosing their ailment to the rapist. Many panelists echoed their agreement.

The panel followed the screening and mainly consisted of Trans women of color (aside from Perez and Renee, a non-binary activist in Memphis). Included below are direct quotes representing just a few of the experiences shared:

- "I was a sex worker, and I know many Trans women who are or were sex workers, because they were unable to support themselves. Our culture as Black women tells us to make a profit if we're going to spread our legs."
- "More than HIV the disease, the stigma that society constructs about positive-testing people is arguably more crippling. HIV criminalization makes it a crime to not disclose of your disease, but what do you do when your life is on the line in a sexually violent situation?"
- "I took Sojourner Truth's 'Ain't I a Woman' and reclaimed it as 'Ain't I a Trans.' Do I have to throw on a skirt? Do I have to put on breasts? Do I have to inject hormones? If I tell you I'm a Trans woman, man or non-binary, you should respect my wishes without projecting your ideal image of what that identity is on me."
- "I was a preacher's daughter, so being educated about the Trans identity was not realistic for me."



- "We're seeing a proliferation of Trans representation in mainstream media (thanks to the likes of Laverne Cox or Kaitlyn Jenner), but we as Trans people have had to do some soul searching to ask what it all means. Are we still relevant? Is this how we want to be seen? Aren't these representations just isolating women with privilege who can afford to look a certain way, and won't that put a certain picture in the minds of the heteronormative population about how we're supposed to look?"
- "Cisgender people [screw] you and want you to be silent about it. They have sex with you and ask what it makes them. They love you in private but are ashamed to admit it in public. Love and shame can't live in the same building, honey."
- "Trans people are not monolithic. We are all unique, just like every single human being. Every one of our struggles is unique to us. You may want breasts, but I don't. Maybe you can afford hormones. I can't. Pre-op, post-op, black, white, man, woman, non-binary. We are part of

the spectrum of the LGBTQ community, but we also have our own spectrum within our own Trans community."

These quotes don't do nearly enough justice to the passion and emotion that electrified the room as these women opened up their hearts and shared their experiences. All of the speakers had come to an agreeably comfortable position in their lives, in terms of their financial and social situations, and spoke quite freely of the hardships that have molded them into their current identity.

The efforts of André Pérez and his oral history project, the student organizations and the Trans-identifying people at the Trans South event on Wednesday night deserve an enormous round of applause. The purpose of the effort was to transcend the concept of relatability for Trans people. It's about proving that Trans people are their own people, facing different and often greater struggles than those of cisgender people, but nonetheless are people who deserve compassion, respect and, at the very least, basic human rights.

## BEYOND THE GATES

# The Curry Bowl: A Review

By DAVID MORAR '19  
AND WILL MORROW '19  
STAFF EDITORS

Recently, we've been attempting to change our perspectives on the Memphis food scene by challenging our tried and trusted favorites, such as the lovely India Palace, which we've visited at least fifteen times. To do this, we scoped out our Indian restaurant options to find the Curry Bowl, a buffet-style restaurant located in Germantown and thus quite far from our usual stomping grounds in the greater Midtown and

Downtown areas.

Upon entering the Curry Bowl, it seemed as if it existed in a world of its own. The large windows in most Midtown restaurants serve as a vehicle of interaction between the establishment and the local community, giving the restaurant a sense of identity and character within its setting. Comparatively, the Curry Bowl feels as if it exists independently of its location, a place that could have been dropped in any American suburb without losing its credibility.

The food at Curry Bowl was a bit dis-

appointing. Not because it was badly prepared, poorly showcased or grossly undercooked but rather because of the fact that it looked so delicious yet - wasn't. There were an array of different rices, meats and toppings at the buffet table, all of which were enticingly presented next to a generous supply of naan and mango lassi. Understandably, we were very excited to stuff our faces with these dishes, until we sadly realized that actually eating the food presented the biggest challenge and most disappointing part of the experience: almost all of the dishes were so ridic-

ulously spicy that we could barely consume them, leaving us with only the painful reality of looking at them and wishing they were at all edible.

For us, The Curry Bowl was an exemplary case of what could've been. It was the first date that could've gone better, the weekend that should've been more exciting, the year that might've been more memorable. The pain of expectation always hits harder than it should, so we'll just stick with India Palace from now on. You can't say we didn't try.

# Op-Ed: Living the Dream at Rhodes College

By EDOARDO DRAETTA '16  
CONTRIBUTING OP-ED WRITER

When the sock-monkey was noosed outside that dormitory window, I felt nothing of it.

Later I would hear of outrage, of pain, of racial injustice. Those afflicted by the joke, unlike me, could not afford to be bystanders. They could not ignore the suffering that, despite their best illusions, had followed them to our campus. They could not un-know their oppression. So they responded -- out of fear, out of self-respect, out of self-preservation.

But I did not feel a thing. I felt neither insulted, nor threatened, nor afraid. I was privileged to see that stuffed animal as an object, not as a symbol. Because of my ignorance, I did not defend my peers. I stood by silent and unresponsive.

The next summer, I landed in St Augustine, FL on an academic program. In 1964, St Augustine became the battleground of an SCLC-spon-

sored Civil Rights campaign. The violent opposition that followed would lead Martin Luther King to call St Augustine "the most segregated city in America."

St Augustine was a city ruled by segregationists -- its sheriff, judge and mayor were active members of the Klu Klux Klan. Yet beneath this powerful alliance of Klan members were moderate white citizens. In St Augustine there lived people whose creed was not white supremacy -- churchgoers whose holy book preached love and brotherhood, citizens whose country was founded on an ideal of equality for all people. Where were they when their black brothers were in need of help?

Halstead Manucy, a St Augustine Klan-member, said in an interview that there were "mostly no problems" in town before the movement began. To his eyes, "it wasn't no big problem with the local colored at all." Manucy believed that civil unrest was brought to his city by outsiders and the SCLC.

But Manucy's city thrived on the backs

of subjugated blacks. Public places remained segregated, and blacks were deprived of social mobility. Racial relations between blacks and whites were peaceful, but only within the strangling etiquette of segregation. Injustice was in the blood of St Augustine. The discord that would later seize the city was precipitated by the disturbance of its societal order in favor of a more just St Augustine.

In his Letter from the Birmingham City Jail, written a year earlier, King wrote: the greatest obstacle to desegregation is not the KKK, but "the white moderate, who is more devoted to 'order' than to justice; who prefers a negative peace which is the absence of tension to a positive peace which is the presence of justice."

In King's eyes, the crimes of the Klu Klux Klan were minor stumbling blocks when compared to the silent consent of white moderates. While blacks were being oppressed, most remained unresponsive, upholding a heinous status quo through their complacency. Segre-

gation could not have existed without this silent consent.

In other words, my apathy in the face of racist symbolism allowed me to delude myself into believing that action is unnecessary, and that inaction is tolerable. I was living a fantasy; I favored tranquility over justice. Truthfully, there is a part of me that would like to forget the suffering and injustice in our world. On Rhodes campus, negative peace allows us to believe that the unrest within discontented communities is inconsequential and singular. We believe it to be just a sock monkey. But behind every single racist act is a subtle webbing of oppression. In the words of our Africana studies department, "this is not about a sock monkey. This is about a culture that pervasively is on the side of those who lynch sock monkeys."

We cannot continue to believe in negative peace at Rhodes College. The fact is: there is toxic soil beneath the well-landscaped campus grounds.

# Beginning With a W: Grizzlies Get Last Roar Over 'Wolves

By MEG JERIT '20  
STAFF WRITER

Wednesday night: the energy was undeniable, the pulse of the Grindhouse alive and beating strong, as fans with their free t-shirts and beaming faces took their seats and their snacks before the long-awaited beginning of their favorite time of year: NBA season.

Refreshed and recharged with

a revitalized face, the Grizzlies are a team starting off the '16-'17 year with a few injuries and obstacles; however, the grit is and has always been formulaic in the savor of success. Gasol may have been on limited minutes, and we might have been waiting on Allen and Parsons to hit the court for a little bit longer, but that did not hinder the hustle.

Our new coach David Fizdale

is combining our tried and true tactics with the sparkly and new; Z-Bo led some of our new players like Ennis, Davis, and Baldwin IV. Quarter one alone contained a comeback from being originally down 17-3, and the Timberwolves, who sank far shots with ease, kept the Grizzlies on their toes and experimental as Fizdale sent in different combinations. Vince created ripple effects of

excitement with his three's and Gasol and Randolph's soft yet simultaneously strong movements kept the fire alive.

The Memphis Grizzlies family - including team members, fans and city - was a tangible sensation, fit with the Grizz mascot raising a small baby dressed as a teddy bear into the air at center court to the "Circle of Life." There were other funny moments shared,

including poking fun at new dad, Conley, on the big screen, Tony educating the crowd with his grandfatherly advice and performances by the Grizz line. The victory, to the tune of "All I do is Win" at the conclusion of the night, felt like a larger community effort, with the hope for a competitive and quality year ahead was in the heart of each fan.

## SPORTS

# Rhodes Football Team Collects the Spoils at Homecoming

By ELLIE JOHNSON '20  
STAFF WRITER

The Rhodes football team played a nail-biting homecoming game against Hendrix this past Saturday, which ended in a 55-54 win. Players agreed that Homecoming Week added both elements of excitement and pressure, which helped them fight harder for a win: "Homecoming week was definitely a big motivation for us. Of course we love winning at home, but all the festivities and meeting former players really got all of us excited to play this game," senior Hogan Crosby said.

In regards to their play, the team was proud of the fight they put up in order to win the game. "It was a hard fought win against a really good team. There were a lot of times in that game where our guys could've gotten down and given up, but we didn't. We faced a lot of ad-

versity, and every time we were able to rise to the occasion, and I was really impressed by that," Crosby said.

Looking back on the season, the players are impressed with the improvement they have made since the beginning. With a mostly new coaching staff and training regimen this year, the team proved that they were able to adapt well to big shifts. Patrick West, one of the team's senior leaders, said, "As a team, we have improved enormously each week. Our offense is growing into one of the best in the conference, while our defense has become notorious for causing turnovers and havoc on opponents' offenses."

With the season coming to a close, the players are aiming to win both of their games against Centre and Millsaps. As for the mentality they hope to carry into these next two games, the team is ready to let go of any past mistakes they have made



Photo courtesy of Rhodes Athletics

on the field. "The motto for our team is 'win the next play' because we can't control what happened in the past seasons, games or plays. So our goal for

the final stretch of the season remains the same: 'win the next play,'" West said.

Rhodes Football plays Centre on Nov. 5 at Crain Field,

so make sure to come out and support the guys in their bid for the SAA Championships this season!

## Field Hockey Wins Against Alumni

By ELLIE JOHNSON '20  
STAFF WRITER

The women's field hockey team had a huge event during this year's homecoming weekend, playing their annual alumni game on Sunday Oct. 30. The girls came out on top against the alumni to the tune of 2-0, and the team agrees it was a great way to accrue practice against skilled players. Speaking on the subject, senior Madison Smith said, "I

was surprised at how aggressive they were. I think the current players didn't really know what to expect, and I was impressed by their skill and speed."

After the game, Coach Jane Wells arranged for the alumni players to talk to the team and share what they gained from their field hockey days along with what they took away from the program. "It was fun to hear what they had to say about the Rhodes program and how valuable the team has

been to them, even after graduating," Coach Smith proudly shared.

The team believes that they took a lot away from the alumni game to use as motivation to keep up their skills after college. A player at the beginning of her college career, freshman Nina Migneco, said, "I think the team can use the alums as inspirations as to how much our skills can improve by the end of our time here in the field hockey program. As the

score shows, they clearly haven't gotten too out of practice since leaving."

Entering the SAA tournament and the climax of their season, the team is aiming to use the knowledge they gained from the alumni game and the rest of the season in order to reach first place. As their long and victorious season comes to an end, they believe they have been given the tools to achieve succeed in the end. "I think the team has improved a lot over

the course of this season," Migneco affirmed. "As the season comes to a close, I hope that the team will just play these last couple games with the most heart and intensity that we are capable of and really give our best effort on the field."

Field Hockey plays their next game, the SAA semifinal, on Nov. 5 at Mason Field, so make sure to come out and support the girls in their bid to clinch the SAA Championship this season!

Come on out to Cajun Fest this weekend.

Watch **Rhodes Football** face Centre College @ 1 p.m. and eat crawfish!

Also, watch **Field Hockey** play in the SAA Tournament at 11 a.m.

**Go Lynx!**

## THE BACK PAGE

# So Wat? FARC's Problems and the Colombian Peace Deal

BY FARAH IBRAHIM '20  
STAFF WRITER

Between the refugee crisis in Europe, the civil war in Syria and the liberation of Mosul from ISIS in Iraq, we tend to forget that there are events of great magnitude happening on our side of the Atlantic. This Thursday, SoWat held a discussion on the peace talks and deal between the U.S.-backed Colombian government and the FARC, the Fuerzas Armadas Revolucionarias de Colombia (Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia), that was recently rejected by Colombian voters.

A bit of background information may be in order. The conflict between the government and FARC has lasted for more than fifty years, the oldest ongoing armed conflict in the Americas. It began shortly after the period in Colombian History known as La Violencia, a period of civil war between the nation's two

major political parties. FARC, formed during the years of the Cold War by Colombian communists, championed the protection of the poor and the peasants against the harsh policies of the anti-communist government of Colombia, backed by the United States. As the years went on, FARC's public support waned greatly, and the number of their fighters dwindled, causing a shift from a focus on conflict against Bogotá towards making peace with the government.

The current administration, led by President Juan Manuel Santos, has pursued the same policy, with the government and FARC beginning talks with each other in Havana, Cuba back in 2012. With both domestic and foreign support for FARC at an all-time low, President Santos and his administration came into the talks with strong leverage, and, after four years, produced a peace deal and put it before the people of Colombia to vote



on. Surprisingly, the peace deal was narrowly struck down by voters, despite many voters thinking it would win easily. Disappointed supporters have feared the implications, but both President Santos and FARC leaders have reiterated that they are still fully intent upon working towards peace, assuaging the fears of the supporters.

Many of those who opposed the deal did so because of the

many crimes committed by the FARC, including murder and kidnapping, and many felt that the FARC was being let off too easily for these crimes. On the other hand, those who supported the deal want to bring an end to the fifty year conflict and finally bring about an era of much-needed peace in a country rife with conflict and drug wars over the last century. As the country moves forward after the vote, both views must

be taken into account by the government in order for this dream of peace to one day become a reality.

*(Picture of President Juan Manuel Santos and FARC leader Rodrigo Londono shaking hands after the signing of the peace deal in Cartagena, Colombia. Taken by Fernando Vergara of the Associated Press on Sept. 26.)*

## Alumni Career Day Panels

BY SABRINA GANDY '20  
STAFF WRITER

Oct. 27, Alumni Career Day, was a day bursting with many different opportunities to meet with alum, discuss career opportunities and glean advice. Spread throughout the day were five different panels centering on working in various

fields and in various cities. A speed networking session - open to any and all interested - closed out the day.

The alumni panelists represented various fields, among them investment banking, financial advising and wealth managing, biomedical entrepreneurship and even television screenwriting. There were

even legislative aids from Capitol Hill at the working and living in Washington D.C. panel, in addition to others working in law offices in D.C. In each panel could be heard the emphasis on how Rhodes College and the liberal arts education itself really helped the panelists in their respective job searches.

"The liberal arts education

really taught me how to learn, what questions to ask and how to hold conversation," 1986 Rhodes alumni Knight Champion said, "In order to be competitive, you have to be able to hold conversation."

The Rhodes alumni offered lots of great advice for students on how to use a liberal arts education in real life, how to

establish oneself in a new city with a new job and how to network successfully. One alum even stated that there are hundreds of alumni from Rhodes in D.C., thus making it easier to assimilate and meet people in the nation's capital. See you next year, Alumni Career Day!

## Homecoming Collage Concert

BY DAN LANZA '17  
STAFF WRITER

A swinging tune played by the Rhodes College Jazz Band trickled out from the Hardie Hall windows and bounced down the Palmer Hall steps. The last few alumni made their way inside to be welcomed back home to Rhodes by a tal-

ented group of student musicians.

The Jazz Band was big and brassy, and the featured singers shone brightly over the band's accompaniment. The orchestra and wind ensemble played a haunting piece by Debussy; for a moment, we were lured into a chilly and foreboding world, forgetting it was still sunny

and a balmy 85 degrees outside. Next came the Women's Chorus and Rhodes Singers to raise our spirits with songs encouraging perseverance and community.

The most beautiful moment, however, did not come from the performers but from the audience of alumni. The final piece was the Rhodes College

Alma Mater song; everyone was invited to stand up and sing along. Most alumni, without hesitation, rose and joined their voices with the choir in celebration of this school. It was a moment that moved me; never have I felt prouder to be a Lynx than after witnessing this show of unity. Here is a telling lyric from the song:

*Thy torch has touched our hearts with flame,  
Our yearning souls refined,  
Through Thee we learn the higher aim,  
And train the truer mind.*