

# Headed to the Mountaintop: A History of Rhodes BSA

BY SEAN MATTHEISEN '18  
STAFF WRITER

The Black Student Association (BSA) hosted Blackness at Rhodes, Wednesday Feb. 15, a night exploring the history of the BSA at Rhodes College. Hyde Hall was set up with a podium backed with dual projectors displaying photographs from BSA history. There were pictures of students at recent meetings as well as meetings from early in the BSA's history and photographs of the BSA in action at student protests that have occurred through the years. Shavonne Bragg '19 presented the history of the BSA, carefully researched from archives of the school newspaper, before calling up Julian Bolton '71, one of the founding members of the BSA and, during his time at Rhodes, a student who regularly wrote powerful articles calling for unity among African-American students and for improved relationships among people of different cultures and backgrounds.

Rhodes College had been an officially segregated institution until 1963. The first African-American students, Coby Smith and Lorenzo Childress, were admitted the following Fall of 1964. Shavonne Bragg played clips from an interview with Coby Smith, who spoke on his experiences at Rhodes College. Smith said, "To all of the black people who worked here, we were their hope," but continued to state that admittance into the college also taught him that desegregation was only the first step. While the college was officially desegregated, Smith continued to face racism on campus. He said he had been made aware, upon hearing of the admittance of two black students to the college, the sororities had met and resolved to not speak with Smith or Childress and that Smith, who had been an army veteran, was required to

use the term "sir" when talking to white people, even children.

The BSA was formed on Sep. 30, 1969, by founding members Julian Bolton, Paula Briggs, Ronald Registe, Beverly Plummer Dorsey and Aubrey Howard. In its early years, 80% of African-American students at Rhodes were estimated to be part of the organization, although some students stated they would not join for fear of expulsion. There were some initial struggles, including some students of color who thought that the organization was ineffective, as well as a debate over whether or not to let white students join the BSA. The BSA decided to admit white students for membership but had to keep an eye out in order to welcome genuine allies and to expel infiltrators of malicious intent. The BSA overcame these struggles and went on to provide strength and solidarity to generations of students looking to make a difference.

It is no mere happenstance that the BSA was founded the year after the Memphis Sanitation Worker's Strike in 1968. Rhodes students joined in the Memphis sanitation worker's marches in March of 1968 in solidarity with the Memphis sanitation workers who had been experiencing racism in their workplace. In the wake of the marches throughout the city, activism came to life at Rhodes College with students, many of whom would later on take part in the founding of the BSA, demanding full integration on campus. Student polls found that most students believed the campus ought to have been fully integrated, but many white moderates feared that too much uproar might occur if there was an actual strive for integration. There was also an examination of racism in Greek life after student Larry Woodward was unable to join ATO. One student who

had been the deciding factor in the matter of Woodward's acceptance stated his vote was racially motivated after the fact. The member was kicked out of ATO and there was an attempt to allow Woodward to join, but this was thwarted by the national organization, which forced the Rhodes chapter to readmit the student who had voted against Woodward and ultimately suspended the chapter over the issue of Woodward's pledgeship. In the same year, one student employee and three refectory workers were fired for striking in solidarity with the Memphis sanitation workers. Student appeals to the administration ultimately saw all four rehired in recognition of the struggle. That upcoming Fall, Julian Bolton wrote a series of articles calling out racism on campus. In these articles he wrote "Conservatives be prepared for change," calling for increased recruiting in non-Southern states and the study of African-American authors and thinkers, and demanding respect for workers on campus.

After exploring the history behind the founding of the BSA, Bragg pivoted the presentation to a new section: Problems Through the Years. Here she presented on the BSA's reaction to racial incidents that have occurred on campus through the years. These included incidents in which: water balloons were thrown at students of color, a black dummy was hanged in a frat house, a sock monkey was hanged outside of West Village, hate speech was posted on YikYak, blackface was worn and a fraternity had put up a racist poster. Throughout this part of the presentation, Bragg showed images of BSA students taking up signs and marching against racism.

For the final part of the presentation, Bragg brought things a bit closer to present day. Bragg had contacted students who

had graduated post 2000's with questions about their experiences on campus. Many students stated that they had experienced racism on campus, including racial profiling or the perception that predominately white organizations received priority compared to black organizations (including, but not limited to, organizations in Greek life). One student remarked that they had not personally encountered racism during their time at Rhodes but had seen a student in blackface on campus. Another student remarked they had not experienced outright racism but had definitely encountered ignorance. Derek King '10 said there had been some backlash in response to the Obama victory in 2008, but overall he was still glad to have attended Rhodes. He approved of President Trout and he thought the college was moving in the right direction. Not all of the alums contacted were so positive. One student, responding anonymously, wrote "Rhodes is like an abusive boyfriend of students of color," saying the college would lure students back with promises of change that were ultimately never delivered. Kevin Vieira '16 wrote, "Being black at Rhodes is a microcosm of being black everywhere else."

After Bragg's presentation, she called up Julian Bolton to the podium. Bolton, now an attorney in Memphis, spoke on his involvement with the BSA in its early days. Bolton stated that his perspective has changed some since graduating 46 years ago. He encouraged students to take advantage of every opportunity that is available to them during their time at Rhodes and talked about his fondness for the college. He particularly noted the Honor Code, which he said allowed him to explore himself creatively and intellectually in a sheltered environment. He

said that the early BSA did not have much, so they clung to each other, but that, in seeing the current BSA, he is reminded of the early promise that was only a dream when he was one of the founding members of the BSA in 1969.

Bolton then took questions from the students present. Below are some of the highlights of this Q&A.

1. The BSA's first protest involved checking out library books. Basically, members of the BSA would check out the maximum amount of books possible, and purposely check out books that were needed by classes in session. Since this was before the internet, it made it very difficult for students to do readings for classes and ultimately added some urgency to the protests from an administrative perspective. The student who organized this protest was kicked out of the college on allegations of plagiarism, but due to the ongoing protests, there was some suspicion about these charges.
2. BSA students marched with Martin Luther King Jr. during the Memphis Sanitation Worker's Strike. Bolton stated that BSA students marched alongside white allies from Rhodes, and that they hoped to teach other students about what was going on in the world. He stated that he didn't think that he or any other students who marched had realized the degree of historical significance that the marches would take on. Bolton said that they knew marching was the right thing to do and he said "we felt like we had to do it."

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# Letter from the BSA History (cont.) Editors

“Spring Break y’all” -The Lonely Island from **Spring Break Anthem**

Welcome to the last edition of the paper before Shhhhhpraaaaaang Breayk. We wish you a cheerful and merry 10 days wherever you may go or stay. Two years ago, during Spring Break of 2015, the Sou’wester was reborn. This Spring Break of 2017, the Sou’wester will be doing a little bit of reorganization. The second half of Spring semester is intended to involve more of the campus in the week to week creation of the Sou’wester whether that means more contributing writers, beat reporters or liaisons within various student organizations.

With that being said, we would like to use this opportunity to extend an invitation to you, whoever you are, to join the staff. We are really looking to expand the voices that you see every week and we really would like to make this publication more inclusive and diverse. To be honest, a lot of cool things come with writing for the paper. Besides the obvious perk of improving your writing skills, you also become more acquainted with the happenings of the school, the people here and even the greater Memphis area. It’s a great way to get plugged into Rhodes and to let your voice be heard. We would like the Sou’wester to be something that belongs to the school; not just us (the editors and current staff).

Mondays at 4:00 in Palmer 205. Just give it a shot. Why not?  
Peace & love,  
The Editors

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3. The BSA used to meet in The Black House. The Black House is the name that was given to the original meeting place the college provided to the BSA. It was a 1600 square foot wooden shack that would have stood where the park-

ing lot outside McCoy is now. Upon receiving the “house,” the BSA got high gloss paint and painted the shack (The whole thing, even the window seals) black, and decked it out with furniture, Jimi Hendrix posters and black lights. It was christened The Black House,

and it served as a social space for black students. It was a place where students could speak freely, where there were no cops, administration members or unfriendly ears nearby. It was also used to host competitive debates and as a place to hang out or party safely. Bolton stated

that he knows he still has a photograph of it somewhere, but that there aren’t many photographs in circulation and that, in retrospect, the college probably wouldn’t want to showcase the shack it had given to the BSA.

## Student Will Not Stop Saying “Now That’s a Plate of Fries!” Every Time He Is Served Large Helping of Fries

BY MEAGHAN PICKLES ’19  
SATIRE EDITOR

A Rhodes student has begun making a series of humorous and crowd-pleasing exclamatory comments such as “Now that’s a plate of fries!” and “That’s what I’m talking about, chief,” every time he is served a generous portion of French fries in the Rat. After close to three weeks, Myles Jackson ’19 shows no sign of slowing down his act, calling the fries “just what the doctor ordered”. After making the initial exclamatory comment concerning the quantity of fries, Jackson typically proceeds to pretend the plate is too heavy for him to carry in a gut-busting routine.

“Even though very few words are exchanged, the master chef always knows exactly what I am looking for,” Jackson said. “And boy oh boy, does he deliver.”

When asked for comment on the origin story of this running gag, Jackson was not hard-pressed to delve into his tale. Shortly after arriving at Rhodes, the student became increasingly disenchanted by most of the fare offered at the Refectory, including the pasta station and Green Zone. However, here he finds himself halfway through his sophomore year, day after day still tempted by the lure of the sizzling fryer and the way the Rat chef churns out huge heaps of piping hot, steaming fries like crazy.

“Even Gordon Ramsey himself probably could not create a more delicious and satisfying plate of fresh, hot fries,” said Jackson. “I’ve got a fever and the only prescription is more fries.”

Jackson has dipped his toe into edgier commentary, with quotes like, “Donald Trump and I don’t agree on much, but what we would agree on is that this is a steaming and hearty plate of fries.” He has also begun peppering his statements with vague allusions to his personal life, such as “2017 hasn’t been going too well so far but things are looking up: looks as though it’s actually the Year of the Fry.” The french fry joke, while initially innocuous, is a growing cause for concern

among friends and onlookers.

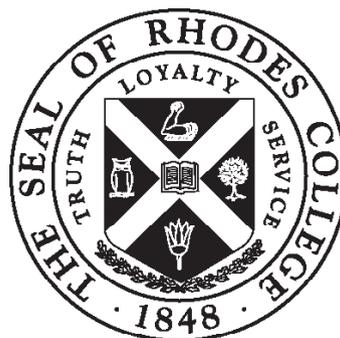
“Every day, without fail, he looks at his plate and goes ‘would you look at this heaping plate of fries,’ and then comments on the stellar salt ratio,” said a fraternity brother who allegedly enjoys the fries at the Rat as well but does not take it to such unsettling extremes, further adding, “It was endearing in a quirky way at the beginning, but the joke quickly derailed and at this point I have to say the humor is lost on me.”

Sensing the need for a shift in his tactics, the student has begun referring to the man he most commonly receives French fries from as the “plug,” and calls him “my fry guy.”

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# Rhodes Connect Seeks to Help Students and Alumni

By KATIE BREWSTER '18  
STAFF WRITER

The closer students get to the end of Senior year, the more the unrelentingly questions about the future seem to plague them. “What are you doing once you graduate?” “Do you have a job yet?” “Did you know my best friend’s daughter has already been accepted into law school and medical school?”

This year, the Rhodes College Alumni Relations office has launched a new social media platform: Rhodes Connect. Over 1,400 juniors, seniors, alumni and parents have already joined and that number is rising every day. Socially, the Rhodes Connect platform gives alumni an opportunity to reminisce and stay in touch with their former classmates (without the constant stream of baby pictures that comes along with being their Facebook friend). It also allows them to introduce, mentor and offer a helping hand for graduating students. When signing up, alumni are able to identify ways they are willing to help. Students can then contact them by either sending a message on the platform or to their email. For instance, a student can speak with alumni about what life is really like in a certain city (apartments in New York City can not pos-

sibly be as small as television shows make them sound, can they?), have someone review a resume or conduct a mock interview (because it is better to stutter through a practice interview than to accidentally admit to having no applicable experience in a real interview), while others are willing to offer externships (for real-world experience). There are a range of companies and institutions represented including FedEx, the United States Senate, Pricewaterhouse Coopers and the US army. There are also many graduate students at institu-

tions across the county; from law students to MBA candidates, architecture students to environmental scientists. So whatever the postgrad path, there is someone on Rhodes Connect that can help.

Rhodes Connect also has a job board where members can post opportunities at their organizations or in their fields.

Caitlin Dempsey, Assistant Director of Alumni Relations, said, “I’m excited about the ease of access students will have to alumni and the opportunity for alumni to grow partnerships with our students. The

mentoring program will be a great help to all students, giving them a deeper insight into their fields of interest and engaging with industry insiders who can steer them in the right directions. I regularly meet with students who are looking to networking with alumni so if anyone needs assistance or would like more information on how Rhodes Connect can help them, they are welcome to email me at DempseyC@rhodes.edu.”

Joining Rhodes Connect is simple. Students can connect with their LinkedIn accounts

or sign in using their Facebooks or email accounts to create a basic profile. So this week, or tonight, or ten minutes from now when your parents ask you again what you are doing to get a job, you can give them a solid answer that will keep them happy for another day.

## Rhodes Community Garden Continuing to Grow

By SANEELA TAMEEZ '20  
STAFF WRITER

Much like Hogwarts, Rhodes College has its own collection of secrets. Perhaps one of the least utilized of these would be Rhodes’ community garden. Contrary to most students’ belief, the garden exists and maintains its own location on campus.

Sri Valrajan '20, a community garden user, said the garden has been located “directly behind the baseball and soccer fields, consisting of a small plot of ten beds or so. We also have a few berry bushes and fig

trees.”

She further added, “The garden was started a few years ago and was initially built behind East Village. The space was then deemed to not have enough sunlight and moved to where it is now. The purpose of the garden is to help us understand permaculture techniques, but also grow heritage crops. We also want the garden to represent the importance of knowing where your food comes from, but also how to increase access to healthy food.”

Valrajan explained her interest with the garden was drawn

from a more indirect affiliation. “I am involved with the Rhodes Garden through my Food Security Fellowship, which is led by ANSO Professor, Kimberly Kasper,” Valrajan said.

Regardless, Valrajan said she has enjoyed using the garden as much as possible. “I used to garden a whole lot in my high school days, jumping from one Memphis public school to the next. My favorite thing to grow was always sunflowers, snow peas, and cucumbers,” Valrajan exclaimed.

In contrast, a large portion of Rhodes students do not

believe gardening will be substantive enough to help their career. Valrajan, on the other hand, believed the garden will help her do exactly what she wants to do in life. “I also got a chance to learn some skills at Shelby Farms Park Conservancy’s Greenline Gardens when I worked there! With these skills, I hope to help revive the Rhodes Garden with the help of the faculty, staff, and students,” Valrajan said.

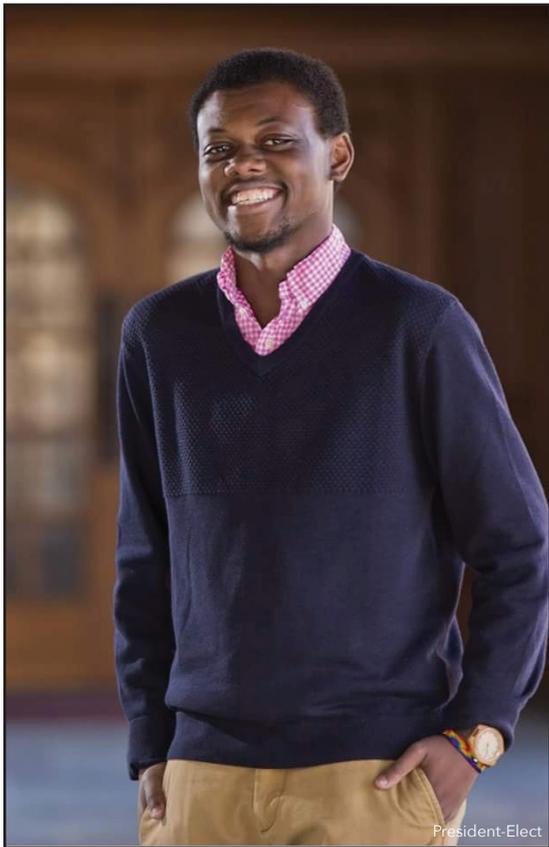
Valrajan also emphasized a personal appreciation for the space. “Gardens are so important- they are an outlet to show the beauty of the natural world

in such small urban spaces! They symbolize growth and productivity- things I value,” Valrajan said.

For those interested in starting a fruitful endeavor of their own, Valrajan gives a little advice: “I am currently in the process of certifying the Rhodes College Community Garden Club if anyone would like to join! We need eco-friendly campus leaders to come help out!”

The garden will be unlikely to remain a secret much longer and will be expected to continue to grown—in all meanings of the word.

# Letter to the Student Body: New President and VP Thank Rhodes



President-Elect

Dear Rhodes,

Thank you for the incredible opportunity to serve as your student body president and vice president for this coming school year. We are absolutely floored and so grateful for the support that we received leading up to and including the campaigns. We are now looking forward to carrying out the duties of the positions we have been elected to. Throughout the rest of this semester, we are aiming to be more engaged and available than ever before. We are working on plans to try out new approaches to sharing information, working in tandem with other branches of student government to boost our efficiency and effectiveness as a whole and listening more closely to all of you by hosting “office hours” in the Middle Ground. Our respective platforms and goals for this coming year build upon work we have already started. After Spring Break, we will be ready to share more about where that work is and lay down a more concrete vision for both our student body and our college. We cannot thank you all enough for the responsibility and trust that you have placed in us.

For a Better Rhodes,  
Thomas & Spencer  
President-Elect and Vice President-Elect



Vice President-Elect

## Students Call for NEDA Week Awareness

BY ANU IYER '20  
STAFF WRITER

National Eating Disorder Awareness Week will take place from Feb. 26 to March 4 and will aim to emphasize the fatality of body dysmorphia and the myriad of eating disorders associated with it. Rhodes' Active Minds Organization will be hosting a NEDA Walk on March 25 and you can sign up to donate or walk on the

NEDA website.

As integral members of the Rhodes community, students are calling on their peers to do their part. Whether it be standing as a pillar of support for friends who may or may not be suffering from mental disorders, being extremely cautious of flippant remarks about body image or suicide or being aware white girls are not the only suffering demographic, student leaders have been spreading the

word to not stamp out any inkling of confidence an individual might express and to not slut-shame, fat-shame, skinny-shame or muscle-shame.

Students in the Rhodes community fighting an eating disorder or body dysmorphia should know they are not alone. These students should perhaps join Active Minds or seek help with a therapist-surrounding one's self with a strong support system.

There are resources available for struggling students as well. Students can visit the NEDA website to access suicide hotlines and research mental health facilities and eating disorder clinics near Rhodes. College has oftentimes been one of the biggest hosts for mental instability surrounding issues like body image and confidence.

This is the week eating disorders are stripped of their stigma, exposed and shamed

for their damning effects, sullied like the victims they can sometimes ruin. Stand as an ally but know “ally” is a meaningless identity unless you voluntarily express consistent and constant actions in support of your peers, not just when it is convenient for you. If you are afflicted, find strength through your peers—know you are not alone.

## V-Week: A Movement in Review

BY SABRINA GANDY '20  
STAFF WRITER

As V-Week drew to a close, many were pleased with how events turned out. The events took place from Feb. 13 to Feb. 18, ending with great performances of “Pussy Power.”

The events began on Monday, Feb. 13 with Lachrista Greco's therapeutic yoga and lecture. Greco is the Founder and CEO of Guerrilla Feminism and a certified trauma informed and vinyasa yoga in-

structor.

She paired with V-Day and gave a talk on creating safe spaces on the internet for activists and marginalized voices and to also offer students of Rhodes therapeutic yoga, specifically for survivors of sexual and domestic violence. The event took place at 4:30 P.M. in the BCLC Upper Aerobics Room. Those who attended were asked to RSVP in advance and were provided mats. Due to space concerns, they asked that only those who identi-

fy as survivors attend, also in hopes of creating an inclusive and healing environment. Later that evening, Greco spoke about Guerrilla Feminism at 8 P.M. in Blount Auditorium. A brief reception before the event took place at 7:30 P.M.

The next even took place on Tuesday, Feb. 14 at 6 P.M. in Blount Auditorium with a panel of speakers from leaders on campus that were tackling the topic of “interrogating Feminism.” Dr. Noelle Chad-dock, Dr. Zach Casey and Dr.

Rhiannon Graybill gave their opinions of the feminist movement and how it could be improved or changed.

On Wednesday, volunteers went to the Family Safety Center to aid them in their mission “to provide one location that effectively combines civil, criminal, health and social services for victims of family violence.” The last event during V-Week spanned from Thursday to Saturday with Pussy Power in Hardie Auditorium. Pussy Power was adapted from

the Vagina Monologues and also contained original pieces submitted from Rhodes Students. Since there was content that contained sexual violence, representatives from the counseling center were present.

V-Week got great turnout and lots of support from the Rhodes Community. Rhodes College V-Day was a great way to show support for those who survived Sexual and domestic abuse and also offer comfort as well.

# Anu Iyer: My Vagina Monologue Adventure

BY ANU IYER '20  
OPINION WRITER

Pussy Power, the Rhodes resident V-Week and Vagina Monologue mobilizers, gathered the best, most emotionally, politically and creatively charged monologues for this year's performance.

Annie Bober '17, Head Vagina and her fellow executive board members began the night by bringing awareness to the repressed, hushed, yet undeniable presence of sexual assault, calling those in the Hardie Auditorium who have either been or are personally affiliated with a victim of sexual assault to stand and raise awareness for the non-profit organizations and activist resources for which the night's proceeds were being collected.

That night, I learned to respect the word "cunt." Sky Cochrane '18 gave a deeply intriguing performance about the derogatory, stigmatized word near the end of the night. She strung both the stinging staccatos and soothing sounds of each letter into a nearly seamless reclamation of the negatively connotated one-syllable word. She

sent quite an uncomfortable chill through the air with her excessive moans in a later performance called "The Woman Who Loved to Make Vaginas Happy," but that is what the Vagina Monologues were all about: uprooting traditional notions of vaginas as arbitrary organs and recognizing the extremely complex ideologies and perspectives surrounding the vagina as a construct or institution.

Michelle Ngo '18 and Dean Noelle Chaddock brought intersectionality to the forefront of their monologues with topics concerning queerness and race. Ngo had written her own monologue called "Queer Butch Woman" and the small glimpse of personal intimacy she allowed with her audience that night arguably opened a deep gash for many in the audience with triggers of their own trauma; the air was ringing with whistles and applause when she left center stage.

Ozakh Ahmed '17 and Erica Smythe '17 spoke about birth and abortion, respectively. Ahmed touched on the beautiful, resilient and extrasensory experience surrounding the

birth of a child. Her monologue (and more specifically, her beautiful voice) ebbed and swelled with a tale of birth in Ukraine and the audience could not help but feel lucky enough to at least listen to the miracle of life being narrated if not in our capability to witness it with the same intensity ourselves. Earlier in the night, Smythe gave an abrasive, visceral, nearly nauseating recount of the physical and emotional trauma surrounding abortion. She deceived the audience with her small frame, allowing the hall to brim with her powerful, if shaky voice. Her connection to this piece was unmistakable; the quivers and quakes in her inflections and frowning facial expression sometimes spoke even louder than her voice and the words on the page.

Some monologues lightened up the night and sent laughter rumbling through the audience. Lonnie Lagrange '17 and Emily Murphy '18 warmed up (or should we say lubed up) the audience with "Bloodbath," Amri McCauley '19 gave a cute, undeniably relatable account of putting a mirror down there with her own

monologue "Secrets," Miranda Colegrove '18 spoke an open letter to all things dry and cold that we shove up there in "My Angry Vagina" and Sophie Hoffman's '17 first monologue, "Six-Year-Old-Girl," brought all of us back to a time when the vagina was a blank canvas for our imagination. All of them ranged from adorable to sarcastic to eyebrow-raising to just-so-truthful-it-hurts.

Miriam Maloney '17 gave two brilliant performances about short skirts and then the oh-so dividing hair-down-there controversy. She flexed her voice to convey confidence and pain all in a matter of a few minutes and the monologues became more than just ink on paper. Colegrove, an extremely talented speaker, controlled the stage with her strut and made the audience her own. She gave meaning to the I Am Woman Hear Me Roar slogan with her beautiful saga about unveiling a profound confidence and love for her vagina. Emily Murphy brought an unquenched fury as well as the pain of betrayal with her raw, gripping performance of "Slut" (written by the immensely tal-

ented and hilarious first-year, Juliet Mace). Sophie Hoffman '17 ended the night with a simple, humble, peaceful yet deeply moving piece called "A Public Apology to My Body." Hoffman conveyed such deep gratitude for the life a body allows its owner and understanding for the occasional but sometimes detrimental discrepancies. Tears, but happy tears, closed the night.

Each monologue/performance was unique and carried its own weight. Each had a personality that seemed all-too-fleeting. The experience left the audience wanting more and I can not blame them. Although entertainment was the goal of some of these monologues, they were still tinged with a deeply rooted message of the stigma and societal standards held for vaginas and their purpose. Your vagina's purpose, by the way, is something over which you have autonomy. Your vagina, mind you, is yours. Do not let anyone, ever, tell you otherwise.

## GlobeMed Leads Charge for Health Equity on World Day of Social Justice

BY JACK PATTON '18  
STAFF WRITER

The World Day of Social Justice was this past Monday. This day has a specific tie to the Rhodes campus as GlobeMed focuses on projects similar to the day's theme.

Erin Burman '18, the co-executive of GlobeMed at Rhodes said GlobeMed works to improve global health equity. It is partners with AMOS Salud y Esperanza (A Ministry of

Sharing Health and Hope)—a non-profit organization that tries to increase the health of people living in rural areas of Nicaragua. Each year Rhodes GlobeMed raises \$10,000 for AMOS. The money comes from fundraising events that range from art auctions to cupcake sales.

For the World Day of Social Justice, GlobeMed asked the Rhodes community—on banners and a white board in the library entrance—what social

justice means to them. One response was, "Social Justice is Freedom + Equality + LOVE for ALL."

Students may have also seen blue paper water droplets around campus recently. These are related to a project GlobeMed has been working on with AMOS. The goal of the project will be to provide rural Nicaraguans with home water filters so they have access to clean drinking water. This summer Burman

will go to Nicaragua for the GROW—"Grassroots Onsite Work"—internship to assist with the project. One water droplet above a water fountain in Buckman explained, "Unsafe water and poor sanitation have claimed more lives worldwide over the past century than any other cause."

Burman is the curriculum coordinator for GlobeMed, so she teaches in the chapter meetings. She explained the group focuses on global health equity,

that issue intersects with many others. GlobeMed meetings include discussions on a variety of global social justice issues. The last one was about sexual assault and justice.

For the Rhodes community, Burman said, "GlobeMed is not just a premed group. If you are interested in social justice and health broadly construed then GlobeMed can be interesting for you."

# Review: Pho Saigon Is Pho Real



Photos Courtesy of Memphis Foodie and TripAdvisor

BY WILL MORROW '19  
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

Modesty is a trademark of the Memphis aesthetic— it is something that I, as someone who is relatively prone to becoming easily overwhelmed, can appreciate. It just makes things easier. I do not have to worry about looking the part,

whether people will judge me for my somewhat ordinary outward appearance, etc. So when I walked into Pho Saigon last Friday, I felt comfortable. I felt relaxed. It was a place that people went to eat; nothing more, nothing less.

As far as what I had to eat, I was exhilarated to see they displayed Bubble Tea on their

menu— it is one of those beverages that you never realize you are craving until you are presented with the opportunity to order it. I ordered the Green Tea Bubble Tea and it came out in a magnificent glass that reminded me of something I would see in an 80s retro diner.... but, like, a lot different than that. Sorry, bad example;

but you get the picture.

In regards to food, I asked for the tofu/vegetable lo mein and was presented with a portion that looked like it could eat me. I did not finish. I did not even get close. It was a humbling moment for me but at just eight dollars, I regretted nothing. It tasted wonderfully, and paired with the tea I was a

very happy camper.

Considering how close Pho Saigon is to the Rhodes Campus, I certainly recommend it. Their menu is impressively expansive, so there will be options for you. Quick, simple and most importantly, enjoyable.

## Groundbreaking: White Male Calculates Equation Exposing How Black People and Women *Truly* Should Protest

BY WARREN SOCHER '19 AND  
WILL MORROW '19  
SATIRE WRITERS

In a recent discovery which rocked the status quo of resistance, 18 year old, pasty-complexioned and feeble-minded Spampy Basinlog has verbally articulated, via Facebook, his new plan of action on behalf of those whom he has had very minimal interaction due

to his upbringing in a private K-12 school in Charleston, South Carolina.

The post was delivered in the form of an entry on an online competition sponsored by the official "Alt Lives Matter" Facebook page, upvoted into oblivion by a group of like-minded contemporaries sporting salmon pants and polos, which, although seems cringe-worthy now, actually

symbolizes progress. In point of fact, it just took 75 years to transition from displaying swastikas to displaying small cartoon whales.

The theory provoked comments from adolescents in red caps that ran along the lines of "Like, wtf, why can't they just go somewhere where they can't block the roads or where nobody can see them, like a wildlife preserve. That's how a

good protest is conducted..."

The circle of his enablers resonated in this fascist echo chamber with unanimous agreement. Clak Carle gave a harrowing anecdote of his mom, Amy: After the shooting of Philando Castil, protesters got her stuck in traffic on her way to pick up her golden retriever's paleovegan food compound and as a result was seven minutes late picking up

Clak from Lacrosse practice.

In the end, the group decided that the U.S. should just designate reservations in mountainous regions of the continental United States to transplant complainers and ungrateful subjects of the American crown who are too selfish to recognize that Jesus will guide us. Checkmate, liberal snowflakes; there is no need to worry.

# Women's Tennis Starts Season Strong



Photo Courtesy of Rhodes Athletics

BY ELLIE JOHNSON '20  
STAFF WRITER

The women's tennis team had an exhibition at home this past weekend, defeating two out of the three teams they played. With the start of the season underway, the team was proud of their performance, but will be looking forward to improving in the near future.

Morgan Wilkins '17 said, "For it being the first matches of the season, I believe that we

all came out pretty strong and played decently to win the first three matches of the season. As the season continues, we will continue to get stronger so that when conference comes around we will be at our best."

The men's and women's teams have been practicing all year to ensure their readiness for the spring season. With months of preparation under their belts, the team has made sure to keep their skill at its best, even throughout the off-season.

"While we have a short fall season and a lot of off-season workouts, most of the work that we have done to prepare for season has taken place over the last month. We've had practices six days a week and have tried to keep very high intensity in all of those practices so our singles and doubles would be as strong as possible for the start of the season," Wilkins said.

In terms of improvement for the season, the team has a long

way to go. Wilkins believed that one of the biggest things each player can work on is supporting their fellow teammates.

"I think our team does a good job of competing individually, but we could greatly benefit from being more involved in other people's matches. Cheering people on and letting the person that you are cheering is really helpful and helps to motivate them," Wilkins said.

As for most players, Wilkins'

biggest goal for the team will be to sweep the conference championships. With added numbers on the team, Wilkins believes this will be an added benefit.

"We have done well in the past even though we have been short on numbers, so I think that now that we have a solid, full team we should do really well," Wilkins said.

## Rhodes Swim Teams Sail to Victory

BY ELLIE JOHNSON '20  
STAFF WRITER

The Rhodes swim team swept their conference meet with the women finishing in second place overall and the men team finishing in third, the weekend of Feb. 8. After a long season, Madeline Alagia '17 was ecstatic she and her teammates' work showed in their performance.

Alagia said, "As usual, I was extremely proud of both the men's and women's teams. A lot of people posted best times and we saw a lot of records get broken. Also, the men's team had their highest finish ever, so that was very exciting!" She further added, "Our goal is always to do the best we can at conference and everyone came away from the meet with something

to be proud of. We had a lot of fun as a team and everyone was very supportive of each other."

Looking back, the team has come a long way. Teammates agreed it always takes time to acclimate to new swimmers. Once the team grew closer, they were able to shake off their performance nerves.

"I would say our biggest improvement was the amount of

energy we had on deck. Our first few meets we were still getting used to each other, but by conference we were singing and dancing on deck and I really think that helped everyone in and out of the water," Alagia said.

Looking back on their time on the team, the seniors agree the team provided a network of supporters which will never be

replaced.

"I am not sure if it is possible to find a more supportive group of people on this campus. I know that my teammates and coaches always have my back and will be there to cheer me on with my successes and pick me up after my failures," Alagia said.

# Rhodes Student Government Update and Information

The election results are in! Here are the winners:

- RSG President - Thomas Mitchell
- RSG Vice President - Spencer Beckman
- Class Council President of 2018 - Savannah Webb
- Class Council Vice President of 2018 - Katie Brewster
- Class Council President of 2019 - John Mark Stodola
- Class Council Vice President of 2019 - Robert Stodola

- Class Council President of 2020 - Tony Eskridge

Following Spring Break RSG will be hosting a Candidate Information Session, March 12, to begin the process of electing next year's student officials. The positions up for election include:

- Rhodes Student Government Senators (5 per class)
- Rhodes Activities Board Representatives (3 per class)
- Allocations Board Repre-

sentatives (10 at large)

- Lecture Board Representatives (2 per class)
- Honor Council Members (2 males, 2 females per class)
- Social Regulations Members (2 males, 2 females per class)
- Student Trustees (2 at large)
- Class of 2018, 2019, and 2020 Class Council Secretary and Treasurer

The petition to run for any of the positions above is due March 19. Please note one cannot begin campaigning for these positions until all have been turned in. If you have any questions please email them to RSG@rhodes.edu.

## RSG Meeting Dates

Feb 28, 8:30 PM FJ-D

March 14, 8:30 PM FJ-D

March 28, 8:30 PM FJ-D

April 11, 8:30 PM FJ-D

April 25, 8:30 PM FJ-D\*

\*subject to change

SENIOR  
CITIZEN  
PROM

hosted by  
class council

MARCH 21st  
BCLC BALLROOM  
7 to 9PM

## Following The Way

BY ANTONIN SCALIA '18  
COLUMNIST

*"If you are so weak, is it surprising that others too have their weaknesses?"- Saint Josemaria Escriva, The Way (446)*

In Matthew 7:5, we are admonished, "You hypocrite, first take the log out of your own eye, and then you will see clearly to take the speck out of your brother's eye." It is a poignant reminder of our own sinfulness and shortcomings, and here in the 446th reflection of Saint Josemaria's *The Way* we are addressed in a similar way. How often do we rush to condemn another for what we consider to be a weakness or flaw in their character, yet are far more lackadaisical in our own self-reflection?

The Bible is quite clear that we must not judge others; Matthew 7:5 makes that much more readily apparent. Yet, it is the first half of the verse and the first half of our reflection from *The Way*, which requires a great amount of humility from us and a willingness to be honest with ourselves. In praying for the wisdom and humility to recognize our own faults and shortcomings, we also become more compassionate towards others.

Indeed, we are weak in the sense we oftentimes fall short of what is required from us as Christians and weak in the sense that we give in so easily to the temptation of sin. Armed with this understanding, it should come as no surprise to us that when we see others struggling with the temptations of sin, we should refrain from passing judgement or growing frustrated when we feel as if we have been wronged.

Let us pray for the humility to acknowledge our own faults, the fortitude to strive to overcome our weakness and the compassion to forgive those who trespass against us.