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The Sou'wester

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'New Rush' Sparks Campus-Wide Controversy

by Jennifer Larson

Campus Features

Changes made in Greek rush at Rhodes have recently sparked much controversy. Phrases such as "dry rush" and "shortened rush" dominate many conversations between Greek students—conversations that, more often than not, end with "it won't work." Still, Vice President Harlow and Assistant Dean of Student Affairs Karen Silien believe that the rush changes will have a positive impact on the entire Rhodes community and its Greek system. Their conviction, however, has done little to soothe the many Greek students and their leaders who wonder how to navigate a shorter and drier rush without diminishing the quality that each Greek organization expects from its pledge class.

In a February 8 memorandum, Executive Vice President David Harlow outlined six steps to strengthen the Greek system and hopefully enhance academic success at Rhodes. The memo set a 16-week pledge period as well as a minimum GPA for initiation and curtailed both the length of rush and the use of alcoholic beverages during rush. Rush, according to the memo, will remain at the beginning of the fall semester, but will be contained between a Friday evening and the Sunday evening of the following weekend. The memo also specifies that all rush activities are

to be alcohol-free.

Harlow drafted the memo after considering recommendations from a Quality of Greek and Independent Life Task Force comprised of students, faculty and staff. Appointed during the fall of 1992 and chaired by Dean Karen Silien, the task force concerned itself with the issues of Greek life and the impact of Greek life on Rhodes stu-

tion." An additional, more specific focus was the length and timing of both men's and women's rush and any alternatives.

According to Silien, the committee's report covered more issues than rush and included such issues as pledge programs, scholastic achievement, faculty and staff involvement, alumni relations, philanthropic activities, Greek and non-Greek relations and house corporations.

The report also addressed the results of a comprehensive survey of the college community to gather student, faculty, and staff perceptions regarding the quality of Rhodes campus life.

Dean Silien said that the goal of improving rush is to ensure happiness and success at Rhodes and hopefully increase student retention. According to Silien, the period of rush needs to be conducive to the academic mission of Rhodes and the academic success of its students.

Because the committee could not reach a consensus about changing the timing of fall rush, there was no such recommendation made in the report. Margaret Pettyjohn, Panhellenic President, and Chip Riggs, IFC President, devised a slightly different proposal for the actual timing of rush, which shortened the length of rush, but less drastically than one week with two weekends.

According to Pettyjohn, sorority

rush was not changed in a great way; it was simply shortened by six days of informal activities to reduce the number of activities on school nights. Pettyjohn hopes that the fact that there will be more time in the new schedule on the front end of rush will allow the first-year students to settle in on campus before becoming overwhelmed with rush activities. Open House for sororities was also moved before informal rush activities.

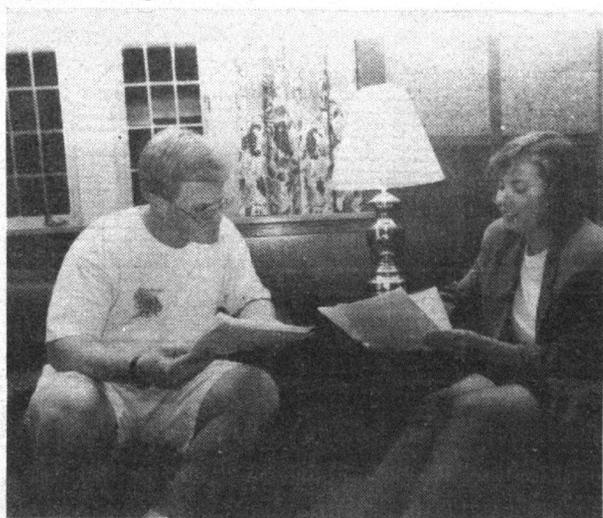
Chip Riggs and Chris Gilreath, outgoing IFC President, both harbor concerns from the men's side of rush. Neither have a big problem with the advent of a dry rush, but both express serious concern for the new nine-day rush schedule.

According to Gilreath, a member of the task force, shortening rush will increase its intensity and threaten academic life during those nine days. While

Gilreath believes Harlow did shorten rush with academic concerns in mind, he also believes it is hard to understand rush from a student's perspectives. Gilreath, who wants incoming students to "have a fair, equal look at all the houses" lest the quality of Greek life at Rhodes decline, feels that nine days is not sufficient. "I'm asking for two weeks," Gilreath said.

Riggs agrees that the shortening of rush is the most serious consequence of the new recommendations. Like Gilreath, Riggs feels that Harlow sincerely wanted to make the system better and not simply complicate matters. However, he warns that there is the potential for the week of classes during rush to be obliterated, which would not aid academic concerns.

"The dates are set," said Riggs, "so we'll try it. We'll see."



IFC President Chip Riggs talks to Pan President Margaret Pettyjohn about the new rush rules. (photo by Edgard Cabanillas)

Student members of the task force included Chris Gilreath, Katherine McCaa, Mark Manno, Kyla Sawyer, Joyce Shin, Merryl Taylor, Andrea Weiser, Chuck Cardona and Brett Williams.

The stated purpose of the task force was "to examine the impact of all aspects of Greek life which are relevant to our academic mission, student satisfaction, and ultimately, student reten-

Multicultural Affairs Sponsors Panel on Interracial Relationships

by Aparna Murti

Staff Writer

Last Thursday night the Multicultural Affairs Department, in cooperation with its student advisory board, sponsored a unique workshop entitled "Interracial Relationships in the 90's." A panel of interracial couples from throughout the Memphis area answered questions from the audience and shared their perspectives on a multitude of topics ranging from religion to raising children from interracial marriages.

Karen Conway, the Director of Multicultural Affairs, began the evening by introducing the panel members and

giving background on various cultures' reactions to the idea of interracial relationships. She also alluded to a recent case in which an Alabama school administrator cancelled a high school Prom to protest interracial couples, to show that there was still a strong bias against interracial relationships.

After this introduction, the floor was opened to questions. The panelists presented insightful views on many subjects. One member said of Memphis, "There is tension in this city. We need to move beyond it and learn to relate to each other. We must overcome the prevailing attitude of conformity." Another panelist commented that "God created man and woman in

his image. We are all in his image." Perhaps one of the most interesting comments was made by Rhodes' students Bophany Huot and Thomas Gieslmann, who were on the panel. "People here wonder why we're dating based on the fact that our personalities are so very different; not our skin color."

The evening concluded with an explanation of a local organization named "A Place for Us." The purpose of the group is to provide support for interracial couples and their children. Finally, several panelists presented a petition protesting the actions of the Alabama school official whom Ms. Conway spoke about and encouraged audience members to sign it.

Initial Success of New Registration Process Stifles Student Skeptics

by Amy S. Hall

Staff Writer

As far as administrators are concerned, the new registration process was a great success despite initial student skepticism. Dean Kathleen Laakso stated, "We're very pleased with the way it turned out...I think we have more satisfied students than what we've had."

Laakso also stated that the program will be kept for future use in registration, but there will be attempts made to cut down on the amount of paperwork the project accrued on its first execution.

Statistically speaking, 86.5% of Rhodes students got within three hours of their desired load. Student errors accounted for a vast majority of the 13.41% who fell short of their desired load. The listing of conflicting period times and not prioritizing most needed classes along the tree's "branch" are just a few examples of items that cut many students off in the computer program. Fortunately, several professors were willing to let a few additional students in classes.

Registrar Glenn Munson stressed that the new process is more fair to students than the old system which depended on which professors got on campus first to register their advisees.

Professor Peter Ekstrom, chairman of the Anthropology/Sociology Department, expressed great pleasure

with the program and suggested that in the future it would perhaps be beneficial to allow the students to be responsible for typing their schedule codes in through the VAX terminals.

Senior Danielle Larson said, "I feel the seniors were still at a huge disadvantage because we've been waiting for certain classes and have been depending on the seniority." Larson felt the senior class should have been allowed to register separately due to these factors; however, she went on to say that the new system "could still remain for other students. There seemed to be a lot of kinks, but many of them were due to it being the first time around." Obviously, there were students not responsible for personal errors who still ended up with what they considered unsatisfactory schedules. Sophomore Phuong Nguyen, however, was "...very upset with the system." An International Studies student, Nguyen did not receive several classes required for her major.

Perhaps the campus outcry against the new system was just a standard response to changes in the normal Rhodes routine. After all, no matter what registration system is used there will be a certain number of students who fare well and a number who will not. Next fall's registration, however, includes the incoming class of '98, flooding the system with almost 25% more people and allowing a more thorough examination of the new registration process.

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RITEs OF SPRING RUNDOWN: THE WEEKEND IN REVIEW

by Andrew Veprek

Staff Writer

Many had begun to prepare to the weekend far in advance; fraternities laid in a supply of wood, and students made trips to local stores for "party supplies." By Friday, everyone was ready to go: the fence was set up around the Amphitheater, the first band was here, and the Jello was solid. Whatever that first night might have been, it was most assuredly not the Mardi Gras-in-a-bottle that some upperclassmen assured me it would be; rather, students and guests had a relatively tame, enjoyable time in the quad.

There were two distinct groups: those closer to the Am-

phitheater who were listening to the band, and those farther back, who were listening to each other. I found myself among the latter, speaking with other students whom I rarely get to see, and meeting visitors from Ole Miss and Washington and Lee. I remember having a good time, but not much else.

Saturday: the morning after. Students woke up to a sumptuous Rat breakfast/lunch (depending on how well each individual's internal clock had compensated for the previous evening's events). The reggae started at 1 p.m., and students got on with the task of getting sunburned.

One of the more interesting events of the day was the AOPi mud-slinging, where snipers purchased mud to hurl at such eminent targets as

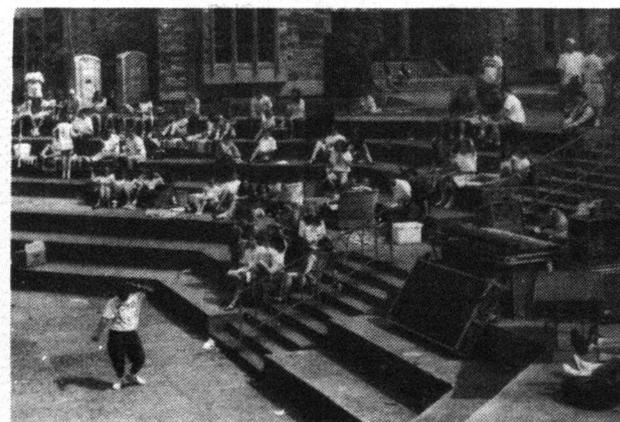
Chip Riggs and Mike Gonda. I arrived to find the President of the College Democrats, Clyde Henderson, downrange. After I bought a bucket of slop, he and I had it out over partisan issues. The exchange was lively, but unproductive. Some students also took advantage of the opportunity to voice to Todd Bryant their displeasure with Rat food.

The sun was out most of Saturday, but the threat of unseen rain was apparently enough to force a move to the Gym later that afternoon, where the festivities continued unabated.

This was reflected at breakfast Sunday morning; I cannot recall ever seeing fewer people in the Rat. Many freshmen woke up to the realization that a big SEARCH paper was due Monday—time to get down to the library: The end was near, and all knew it.

I did arrive at some general conclusions about Rites

of Spring. Rites of Spring is not limited to the Amphitheater or Gym. Rites of Spring is all over campus, everywhere students lurk. Furthermore, Rites is not just some weekend where the Social Commission has a bunch of bands stop by and fraternities build complicated, rickety structures that will have to be torn down in a week anyway; rather, it is a huge study break, where the entire campus can rest from the rigors of academic work and say hello to friends. Some students choose to spend the weekend having a private party, which they could do just as well if there was no band in front of Frazier-Jelke. Some people get into the music and have a really great time just dancing their eardrums away down in the amphitheater. Pervading it all though, is that element in the collective consciousness of the Rhodes community that says, "Take a break, have some fun. Now."



pictures at left by Andrea McDowell, at right by Julia Lang



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Reshaping Your Student Assembly: Smoke and Mirrors



Jason Carmel
Editor Emeritus

It's been a nervous past few weeks here. The collective administration has faced criticism for the denial of tenure for English Professor Vanessa Dickerson, spawning a group called Stand Up For Excellence and Diversity (S.U.E.D. - hmmm, what's in a name) whose goal is to utterly shame the school into hiring some much needed minority faculty. Bad publicity for Rhodes in the *Memphis Flyer*.

Add on to that the vocally unpopular denial of official school group status for the newly created Gay-Straight Alliance (GSA) by Vice President Harlow and you have a situation where the student body is none too pleased, to say the least, with various bodies of the Rhodes administration. And, you have more bad press in the *Commercial Appeal*.

So we have a situation where a healthy minority, if not a majority of the students here are unhappy with a few recent decisions. Fine. The question always seems to crop up, however, regarding the course of action we can take to voice our displeasure at these

two sources of ire on campus (we just don't use the word "ire" enough nowadays).

So what is there to do? Well, if a citizen of the United States is unhappy with a decision made by President Clinton, be it for health care reform, NAFTA or whatever, then that citizen can write his or her Senator, voice his or her concerns, and possibly threaten to withhold

voting for the Senator in the next election if the unpopular decision is upheld. Democracy, in theory, is a wonderful thing, because the people in government have to listen to you if they want to stay in government.

What does this have to do with the price of tea in China? Well, the fact remains that we do have a Student Assembly here at Rhodes. You voted for them, remember? And these people, who are supposed to be representing you, have been strangely silent during the past few crises at Rhodes.

First off, let me define my terms. When I say I'm talking about Student Assembly, I am not talking about all of the semi-autonomous bodies that function under the Student Assembly umbrella. The Social Commission, the Allocations Board, the Cultural and Intellectual Commission, the Pub Board, etc... all, in my opinion do consistently excellent jobs in what are often uncomfortable and unsupported positions.

I am talking about the group that meets every Wednesday at six in ran-

dom rooms across Campus. In theory, we should approach these people first when we have a concern as volatile on campus as the two I have just mentioned. But we don't. And that's the problem.

Right now, and for the past few years that I've been here, we've elected people basically by the seat of our pants. Some vote for the people who have done student government before in high school, some vote for the people with the funniest flyers, and others vote for the best looking people or for their closest friends.

Wouldn't it be nice to have a campaign purely of substance. Why not vote for (or against) candidates based on whether they support the Gay-Straight Alliance, on the plans they have to encourage the Academic Affairs department to attract minority professors, or on whatever issue is important to you. That's the beauty about democracy: you get to decide.

This way, when a crisis arises on campus, you will (ideally) know exactly where your representative stands on that issue and you can base future votes on how active your representative was in each situation, and on what results were achieved.

Being more demanding of your student assembly reps serves a twofold purpose. First, it forces everyone to vote more carefully for a position that should do more for the school than give students impressive sounding lines on their resumes.

Secondly, this will encourage the

student assembly to be more active and more vocal in general. If the representatives know that the student body will elect based on one's tangible performance in office and on how they represent students on the really important issues on campus, then they will be sure to work towards those ends if they wish to remain in office.

In defense of the Student Assembly for a moment, I must, however, mention that our legislative body has been slowly working over the past year to improve itself structurally in many areas. First of all, the Student Assembly has given itself the power (?) to make resolutions, that is, official statements of positions of the Student Assembly. Although this tool has been used sparingly, and was inexcusably neglected on issues such as the Gay-Straight Alliance, this at least can let the student body and the administration know exactly what the Student Assembly feels about various issues, if it is used and publicized with some regularity.

Secondly, the meeting with Vice President Harlow facilitated by Student Assembly concerning the status of the GSA was a good start. That the Assembly did not have a collective statement of the student body to give to Vice President Harlow on the hollow status of the GSA is unpardonable, but at least the forum was there for concerned students to represent themselves. A decent start. By no means enough, but a decent start.

The other promising thing to come out of Student Assembly is a new con-

stitution. We will, as students, vote on said constitution in the near future, and we can begin to demonstrate our desire to be more widely represented through this. If the constitution includes some real positive changes, as I hope it does, we should vote for it in full force and tell the Assembly by doing so that we like what we see.

If, however, the constitution proves to be nothing more than pretty words that mean absolutely nothing, then we send it back to them until the drafters get it right. Simply changing a group's name will not change the constitution of that group, and I expect that the framers realize our ability to see past cosmetic packaging.

The best way to go about all of this is to figure out who is representing you and see what they are doing in office. Elected officials should have to campaign constantly. Put them under a magnifying glass, determine if they support the same issues that you do, and be certain that they are doing something actively to support those issues.

And if your representatives are doing none of those things, then rely on yourself for representation until you can get someone in office who will.

Of course all of this is contingent upon the entire student body, in addition to the Student Assembly, doing their part in the democratic process. If the student body doesn't care enough to do anything, then the perfect way for the Student Assembly to represent such a body is to continue to do nothing as well.

Kurt Cobain is Dead and I'm drinking coffee at Rites of Spring

by Stiles Rougeou

The Ragin Cajun

Well, it's another Sunday afternoon at Rites of Spring. Two years ago I was sitting watching Billy McLaughlin and sipping a horribly strong strawberry Margarita and wondering why people every really listened to Nirvana and Yoko Ono.

Well, alas the time rolls by and we have another one of those afternoons here, and I am sipping black coffee and wondering what else I have forgotten that I need to do tomorrow.

First of all I would like to thank all of those that did so much to help the rest of us have a good time during Rites. Ya'll did a great job.

The great thing about Rites of Spring is that it breeds so many stories. It may breed more than that, but we'll stick to stories because I know that stories will arise from this and I personally don't want to contemplate what else probably did go on. I wonder what will be the response to Prof. Vest's "Monday morning question" ritual.

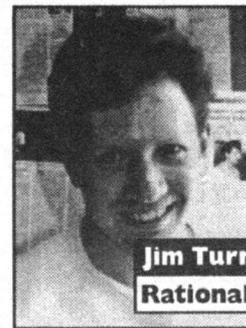
Prof. Vest comes into class and asks what we did the weekend before (At least that's what I think he asks). Well I just wonder how that guy is going to say, "I was hanging on the rim in the gym listening to Allgood and dancing around in circles" in French. It will truly be worth being awake for. Speaking of being awake, did Kurt

Cobain really think the bullet would hurt him?

As far as the Kurt Cobain thing goes, it just goes to prove that sometimes some things happen for the better. I'm not saying I'm glad he is dead, that is far too morbid even for me, but maybe Nirvana will quietly exit the music scene. It [Nirvana] was alright, but I feel that Kurt Cobain committing suicide the day before Rites of Spring is too much of a coincidence to ignore. We just need to be sure that Courtney Love is never allowed to meet Yoko Ono. How many years of screaming "music" will we have to live through? It seems that even though Nirvana was a popular band, for some strang reason, they will now never ever be able to play at Rites of Spring.

But enough about Nirvana, I hope that we all appreciate the Rites of Spring experience. It is a great thing. Whether it be to drink until you resemble the Don Henley lyric "Wide-eyed pistol waver's who aren't afraid to die" or just go and drink a cup of coffee and watch all the people who you never thought would ever do that, the whole Rhodes College community is gathered together to have fun. That is the most important idea behind the whole event. So it is too bad that Kurt is dead, but musicians will always die young and Rites of Spring will always be interesting.

The Allocations Process and Other Follies of Humankind



Jim Turner
Rationale

(though you never know).

Now, to be perfectly fair, our allocations process may be one of the best examples of central planning in history. The organizations do provide a lot of good for a lot of students. The publications have to be fiscally, as well as journalistically, responsible. And the Social Commission usually gets enough funding to provide a lot of fun for the campus. Still, though, when it gets down to it, you have a room of ten representatives, one chair, and usually one administrator with very very minimal information trying their best to make impossible decisions. This situation will never produce an optimal allocation of resources. If it could, we'd all be speaking Russian or Chinese.

So what to do? Well, my idea is to make the student activity fee the sole property of the Student Assembly and its subsidiaries, which include the Publications Board and the Social Commission. This would avoid for several years the inevitable raising of the student activity fee, which will have to be increased as soon as possible if anyone expects to get any money under the current system. This means all of the clubs, including IFC and Pan, will have to raise their own money, either through dues, fundraisers, charging for events, or doing cooperatives with Student Assembly commissions. I realize this will be very tough on a lot of clubs, but it will add a lot of insurance that the clubs are actually effective organizations that add meaning to college life. The built in bias to precedent in the

allocations process leaves almost no such insurance.

However, I do not expect such a reform to ever take place. Just as the beneficiaries of the old Soviet system refuse to let go of the dead past, too many active and vocal people would oppose this change. So here is my advice for life under the current system:

First, if you are petitioning for funding, please do not look at the allocation you receive as any statement of personal approval or disapproval. I personally voted to cut the budgets of people that I like very much and to retain the budgets of people I intensely dislike. It really is solely a matter of numbers.

Second, if you think your organization got shafted, it did. The reason why is simple: Every organization got shafted. Hopefully, they all got shafted equally, but they all got shafted.

And thirdly, always be watchful of the different arms of the College. Each year we have had to fight back assaults by different departments of the college, usually in Student Affairs, on our fee. It normally comes in the form of an event produced by the college that they have convinced some club to "sponser." I can't really blame them for trying, but we have too many demands on the student's money already.

With those three things in mind, our impossible system can work reasonably well. but remember that it could be much better if we had the courage to try.

This is not the average bash the Allocations Board type of column. That would be kind of tough for me to do since I just finished my second term as a member of the board. To be perfectly honest, I have been very proud to be a part of this year's board. The members of the board put in a lot of time and a lot of thought to try to give the student body as a whole the best possible allocation of the Student Activity Fee. My target is the very concept of allocations.

The allocations process of Rhodes College is nothing more than a well-meaning attempt to centrally plan the recreational life of the college. The nearest allegory I can think of are the centrally planned economies of the old Soviet block. Those nations are soon entering their fifth year of revolution, unrest, rebellion, stagnation, and general bad times, all caused by the failure of central planning. We at Rhodes should feel lucky that none of us are compelled to support the allocated organizations beyond payment of the student activity fee. This should prevent any type of on campus societal collapse

Changes in the Work-Study Program to be Implemented Next Year

by Emily Flinn
Associate Editor

In an effort to make the student employment system more effective, a committee from the Financial Aid Office has made some revisions to the work-study program. According to Director of Financial Aid Art Weeden, "Currently there is some waste in the student employment system." Weeden is confident that these changes will cut out some of this waste.

The biggest change to the system is the classification of jobs. Instead of all work-study jobs being considered equal, department supervisors will create job descriptions based on a four class system. Class I, Entry Level, would include such jobs as Dorm Attendant and Weight Room monitor. Class II,

Basic, would include Office and Clerical Assistants, Library Assistants, and Data Entry Clerks. Lifeguards, Lab Assistants, and Research/Teaching Assistants would be considered Class III, Intermediate jobs, and Class IV, Advanced, would include tutors and interns. Each class has its own pay scale, and students with good work performances could move up within classes and even between classes to make more money. This new system puts more of the control at the departmental level.

The work-study program will also be opened up to all students regardless of financial need. Departments can hire any returning student for the jobs they have available. Students currently employed may not necessarily be rehired, though Weeden stated that "A student who is working now, who's doing a

good job, not having any problems, I think is justified in assuming that they will be hired again." Incoming students will still be allocated jobs on the basis of financial need, and 30% of the jobs across campus are being held open for new students. The student employment budget will be the same next year as this year, so the differentiation of wages may create more or less jobs.

Because of this differentiation, and in an attempt to lessen wasted hours, departments may state the hours a student is needed to work in the job descriptions, instead of the basic ten hours per week that it is currently assumed a student will work. A committee will review all the job descriptions to ensure that similar jobs receive the same pay rates and classifications in all departments.



The AOPi's get down and dirty at their mud sling fund raiser outside the Rites of Spring fence. (photo by Andrea McDowell)

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God Save The King

by Jason Briggs Cormier

Special to the Sou'wester

Tartuffe opened at the McCoy Theatre on Thursday, April 7 and in spite of starting late and a couple of technical difficulties, this play is a smashing success with some truly incredible performances.

Don't enter the theatre expecting a classic representation of Moliere's play for this translation by Memphis resident Bill Baker is not your traditional Moliere. Instead director Frank Bradley captures the essence of the original and presents it in a manner which is more accessible to a contemporary viewer.

Bradley treats religion with just the right blend of scorn, fear and awe in order to address the hypocrisy which has existed among some less-than-pious charlatans throughout history. There are scenes filled with "the laying on of hands" and "tongues" and even a moment of Swaggertesque repentance on bent knee, but if the viewer looks beyond the comedy, *Tartuffe* also prompts personal reflection about one's own spiritual quest.

Another issue which Bradley raises for consideration, though only briefly at the end, is the American fascination with seeing things on T.V. The final scene addresses the doubting Thomas' who must see something on the television ("Current Affair," "Inside Edition" or perhaps a more legitimate news sources like "48 Hours" or "60 Min-

utes") before believing something to be true.

A play is just a piece of literature until actors give it life and *Tartuffe* is filled with a peculiar joie de vivre because of a truly remarkable cast. Indeed, there are no performances which are hideously disappointing; some are simply stellar. The exaggerations and caricatures are clear enough without being too much and the audience can only laugh as it sees the goofy antics of Valere (Christopher E. Baker), the saccharine politeness of Loyal (Amanda Waller) or the infant exuberance of L'enfant (Jenny Hall).

While the set "resembles a bizarre 1960s party room," this play is not really set in the 60s. Rather, it is set in no real time. Barney, the X-Men, I Love Lucy, the King, the attitude of the entire family towards its absolute head, a lava lamp and many other features are all borrowed from this era or that one. Altogether this creates a world in which any viewer can feel only a degree of comfort and familiarity. It's an imaginary place where Moliere's themes can be presented in a style that is definitely attributable to Frank Bradley.

The one disappointment in the show are a few interminable speeches. For such a fast-paced production, there are a few characters who like to hear themselves speak much to the frustration of the audience. This is not, how-

ever, significant enough to stymie the fun and the power of the evening.

Of particular note are Belinda Belk



(Mme. Pernelle) and Herman Wilkins (Officer) who both enter the stage and immediately capture it and the house. Belk's rapid delivery of her intense speeches leaves the viewer (or should that be "listener") winded and dumbfounded as she sweeps across the set demanding absolute attention and respect. Wilkins on the other hand proves his dedication to his craft as he fleshes out a very minor part with such fervent effect that the audience is swept up in a moment of non-religious, but very spiritual intensity.

Mark Carapezza, in the title role,

offers an interpretation of this religious huckster that also deserves applause. Rather than choosing to create a "Jim Bakker," Carapezza opts for a more believable, less exaggerated swindler. *Tartuffe* is careful and calculating as he establishes control over the master of the house.

As mistress of the house, Rolfs provides an interesting, yet not-thoroughly convincing performance. Elmire is a little too detached from her household in the beginning to take such an active role in its later salvation. It is not a bad performance, but it seems that Rolfs' heart is not into the role.

By far, the most entertaining character was Dorine (Rita Cooper) whose one-liners and asides kept the audience begging for more. Her interplay with the audience at the end of intermission, which even brought the

stage manager (Susan Masson) into the play was a great bit of light-hearted humor. A master of her craft, Cooper proves her sense of the comic, having ad-libbed much of rib-tickling fun which delighted the audience.

Two who fill the stage with high energy levels are Cliff Spencer (Orgon) and Shea Flinn (Damis). Orgon is far from lovable and is not a very sympathetic hero, but the development of this blinded patriarch who only sees the light after much pain is well-done. Flinn's wild and out-of-control performance strikes fear in the front row as he waves a menacing switchblade and rants about the injustices in his life. The psychotic moments these two actors bring to the play are frenetic and quite a sight.

There is much to see in this play. To note the highlights would spoil the surprise and the humor of the show. There's many a joke to amuse both on the set and in the action. A word of warning to a prospective viewer then is "be observant."

International Food Fest Slated For Sunday, April 17

by Heather Moore

Special to the Sou'wester

Next Sunday, April 17th, from 4:30 to 6:30 students will have the opportunity to sample foods from ten different cultures and watch international entertainers in the Rat.

The International Food Fest, which has been held during April for the last several years, features international food and entertainment. The festival is sponsored by the inter-cultural commission and students who support a greater understanding between different cultures and countries. A good way to accomplish this goal is to make learning about other cultures accessible and fun. The International Food Fest is a campus effort to do just that: ten different clubs and organizations on campus have volunteered their time and effort by sponsoring a booth

at the festival. These organizations have demonstrated their commitment not only to forming a campus community, but to promoting internationalism as well: Amnesty International, the Alpha Omicron Pi sorority, A.I.S.A., the Astronomy Club, International House, the Kappa Delta sorority, the Model United Nations Club, P.A.N., the Pep Band, and Student Assembly. These organizations will be helping serve food from Esters on the Square (African American), Lupe and Bea's (Cuban), Cancun's (Mexican), Sultanas (Pakistani), Dino's (Italian), Lotus (Vietnamese), Cafe Samovar (Russian), Saigon (Vietnamese), Nam King (Chinese), and Seikisui (Japanese). If you want to partake of the food, tickets are \$3 for students (a deal) and \$5 for adults. They'll be on sale in the Rat. The entertainment is free.

Free Boxes at the Brown Jug

Starting this week, every Wednesday & Thursday until



the end of school we'll put all of our boxes in the lobby. All Rhodes students are welcome to take them. First come, first served.

The Brown Jug
2375 Summer
458-3501

Gulliver's Travel

Plane tickets, hotel reservations, rental cars (if you need more than one) and anything else to fulfill your travel needs.

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Tampa—\$79
• Ft. Lauderdale/
Ft. Myers/ Wash.
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Mall of Memphis

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The Rhode'ster

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STALL STORIES

From Headache to Hangover

As the sun is peeking through the clouds, and the warmer temperatures start to tease us, the cold, drunken stupor of winter finds a remedy. It's spring. And with spring comes the muchly-awaited Rites of Spring. It's the time when we traditionally blow the dust off our good old coolers and funnels, not to mention our bodies, some of which have been alcohol-free all winter. However, as we finally struggle through our first Zima of the season, the probability of accidents like waking up in a strange dorm with a drooling companion or spilling that can of Coors increases. You should know a few of the possible dangers of this spring and the recommended treatments bespoken thereof and forthcoming.

Strain

A strain usually involves overstretching or otherwise disturbing your roommate with your loud weekend guests (which feel the need to sing Bonnie Raitt at 3:00 a.m.). Strains are the most common roommateo-coexistential (try to say that a

bajillion times) injuries. If you've ever thrown up on your roommate's bed or mysteriously knew all the words to each song from "The Sound Of Music," then you know what a strain is like.

If you strain you're (a.k.a.) living arrangements, the best thing to do is beg mightily (like with money and gifts), apply compliments to your roommate in intervals (pleasantries on for 30 minutes, off for an hour), and elevate your roommate so as to induce swelling of his or her ego. If your roommate is a monstrous pain, have him or her counselled, as your strain may actually be a tiff.

Cuts

This Rites of Spring, if you blow your top and call your pop, as when you are inebriated, you could end up with a nasty inheritance cut. Nasty cuts are repentance magnets. If the parents are uncontrollable, wash out the cut with some good grades and impressive promises. If pressure cannot stop the parents, and if the cut is gaping, you probably need stitches. Elevate

the parents (above your heart) to slow the flow of angry words.

Sprain

If you have kept your liver on ice all winter, you may sprain or pull it the first few times you get inebriated this spring. Maybe your winter routine of 12-ounce shots wasn't enough, and now you've got a hangover. You can prevent sprains of your liver by stretching out (drinking low-alcohol coolers) before and after drunken activity.

Getting Nurse Gill's exempt slip for skipping classes is easy. In fact, the tests Nurse Gill administers only take five to ten minutes and are essentially painless (until Nurse Gill gives you her look, probably). Nurse Gill introduces minute amounts of varying proof liquors to your skin. Other ways of testing include blood-alcohol-content tests, which are pretty rare compared to the skin test.

Good luck!

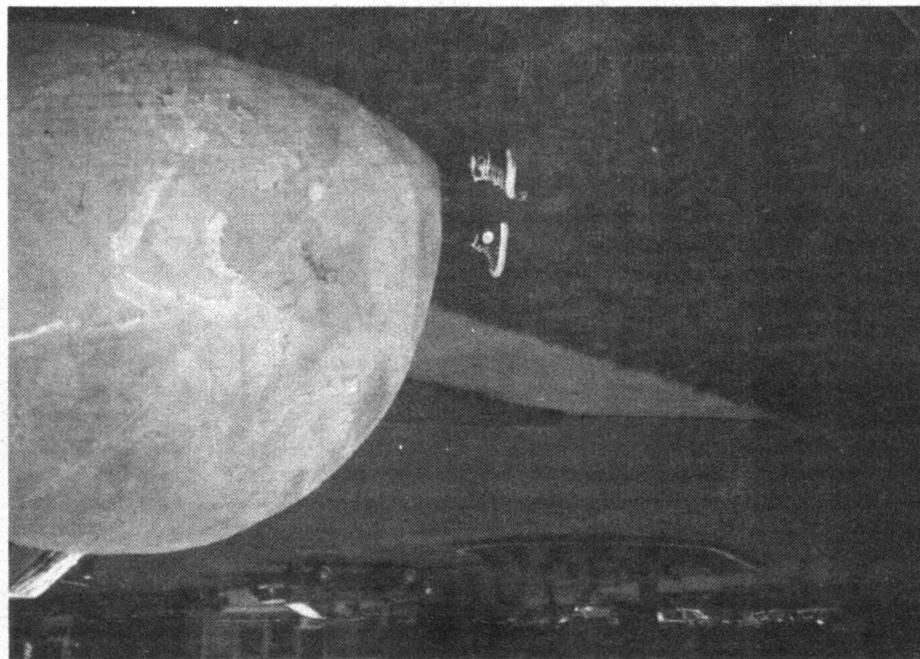
Sponsored by the Rhode'ster Student Health Center

JS

BARBIES THAT DIDN'T MAKE IT TO STORE SHELVES

20. Bad Hair Day Barbie
19. Big-Ass Barbie (32-24-65)
18. Dyslexic Barbie (with boyfriend Nek and little sister Kpisser)
17. P.M.S. Barbie (with Midol for YOU!)
16. Incontinence Ken (with nifty Depends undergarmets)
15. Bestiality Barbie
14. Birkenstock Barbie (eats granola and doesn't shave)
13. Autism Barbie (with rocking motion and colorful helmets)
12. Funky Pimp Ken (with gold electroplate 'Vette)
11. My First Homicide Barbie
10. Massive Head Wound Barbie
9. Bondage Barbie (with real leather)
8. My First Suicide Barbie (with razor blades and groovy "goodbye, world" note)
7. Strange Fungus Barbie
6. Androgenous Barbie
5. Street Walker Barbie
4. Battered Wife Barbie (cold water makes the bruises disappear!)
3. Happy Dreams Ken
2. Tourette Syndrome Barbie
1. My First Boyfriend Ken (with "special" pal, Ralph)

EF, RR, JS, JB



What on Earth? Teri Sullivan is in a world of hurt after partying at Rites of Spring. She's seen here carrying the weight of the whole world on her shoulders...

TOP TEN WAYS TO KNOW IF YOU HAD TOO MUCH FUN AT RITES OF SPRING

10. The floors in ALL the residence halls flex
9. The Gamma Phi Beta seesaw fascinates you
8. You don't want to slap Eddie Dieppa
7. The Geosphere makes sense
6. You begin to play on the Geosphere
5. You like Ratnics
4. All the buildings look alike
3. You want to go to Taco Bell
2. You forget how to get to Taco Bell
1. You ask the reggae band to play Freebird

JH