

X-citing, Action-Packed Edition

The Sou'wester

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Wednesday, February 1, 1994

S.T.A.R.R. Addresses Campus Race Issues

by Laurie Sansbury

Staff Correspondent

After much hard work and many setbacks, S.T.A.R.R. (Students Talking About Race Relations) held its first meeting Wednesday night, January 25. Around thirty people attended, and many were willing to share their experiences and voice their opinions. Robyn Williamson and Valerie Gordon, the group's student initiators, deemed the meeting and its attendance a success.

S.T.A.R.R. is a discussion group that exists not necessarily to relieve tension but to promote an exchange of opinions and to facilitate change within the individual.

The group relies on voluntary sharing to address issues, and they opened to meeting with Guidelines for Sharing to help promote the open and honest atmosphere.

While in the future S.T.A.R.R. plans to have student led discussions, the first meeting had two facilitators, Rhodes' own Professor Frank Bradley and University of Tennessee, Memphis' Dr. Paul Herrn, founding members of the Memphis Institute for Healing Racism.

The Institute is a part of a grassroots organization that includes some 250 institutes in the United States and many others worldwide. The Institute is the model for S.T.A.R.R., a discussion group to provide a comfortable atmosphere for individuals to talk monthly about problems. The Institute has a philosophy about racism expressed in Nathan Rudstein's book *To be One* about self-searching and the healing of racism through healing of the individual through a change of heart.

Dr. Herrn introduced the discussion at the S.T.A.R.R. with a few simple questions for individuals to ask themselves, "Why are you here? What can you get out of this meeting? What kind of transformation can happen at Rhodes related to your self-transformation?"

At first the audience was silent, but individuals slowly began to speak up and voice their feelings about racism. Most compared their experiences in high school to their experiences at Rhodes, and though a few said that Rhodes is a more comfortable environment racially, the general consensus was that racism is very prevalent on campus.

Students admitted having prob-

lems confronting students of other races, and many blamed the problem on Rhodes location in the South, but Professor Bradley explained that racism is "the great U.S. experience" and is not limited to one geographic region.

Diversity, open-mindedness, and intolerance were the subjects of many remarks about the racial situation here at Rhodes and in Memphis.

As the discussion progressed some moved to a criticism of discussion and a cry for action because students felt the need to "do something." In response to

this many others praised the merits of even opening discussion about racism at all and dialogue's ability to "create a critical mass".

One suggestion for action was to work at Snowden, starting a similar group for younger children to strive to eliminate racism at a younger age.

Discussion avoided some issues that would seem to be important, including the lack of student diversity at Rhodes and the other races besides African-American who were not represented at the meeting.

Professor Bradley closed the meeting with a few observations about the barriers society unconsciously imposes upon race relations and the need for discussion.

He urged the group, "Don't lose sight of the little things" and suggested a social time with refreshments to close the meeting.

S.T.A.R.R. plans to hold meetings in the next few months but does not have any specific dates set yet, though the student body will be thoroughly notified of upcoming meetings.

Winter Kinney Fair Enjoys Large Turnout

by Jason Bishop

Staff Correspondent

On Tuesday, January 24, the Rhodes Kinney Program hosted its second Kinney Fair for the 94-95 school year. A large number of students gathered in the Rat to discuss volunteer services with the 16 campus and Memphis-based community service organizations.

Billy Newton, Chaplain and Coordinator of Volunteer Services, said "This community service fair in January was much smaller scale than the Kinney Fair kickoff in September. It was intended to highlight some new opportunities for service and those agencies with the greatest needs."

Among the organizations represented at the winter Kinney Fair were the Rhodes Chapter for Habitat for Humanity, Adopt-a-Friend at Snowden School, the National Civil Rights Mu-

seum, Friends for Life, the Alliance for the Blind and Visually Impaired, Big Brothers/Big Sisters of Greater Memphis, LeBonheur Children's Hospital, Mid-South Association of Retarded Citizens, St. Peter's Villa (Senior Companions Program), ComPeer Mental Health Association, Salvation Army, Kinney PALS, Time-to-Read Tutoring Program, Tex-Mex Alternative Spring Break, Final Net Homeless Children's Program, and the AmeriCorps/AmeriKids Program.

Lane Gotten, president of the Rhodes Chapter of Habitat for Humanity, said that Habitat's ultimate goal for this semester is to raise enough money to build a new habitat house. Presently, members of Habitat are participating in various work projects to repair houses in the Memphis community. The date of the next Habitat work day is February 4. Gotten says, "Anyone interested in helping out on Satur-



Sunday dinner was Superbowl buffet time for the Rat and Rhodes students. The Rat crew dusted off the TV, and provided a buffet complete with Chicken wings. Although take out was allowed for students who wanted to watch the game elsewhere, many opted to watch the game from the familiar environs of the Rat. (picture by James Spears)

day can contact me at 725-1026." She continues, "We also have a bulletin board in the Rat where we post our schedules."

Another organization represented at Tuesday's Kinney Fair was the National Civil Rights Museum. According to Carolyn Petties, the museum's Volunteer Coordinator, there is a great need for tour guides in the month of February.

"Because February is Black History Month," said Petties, "there is an

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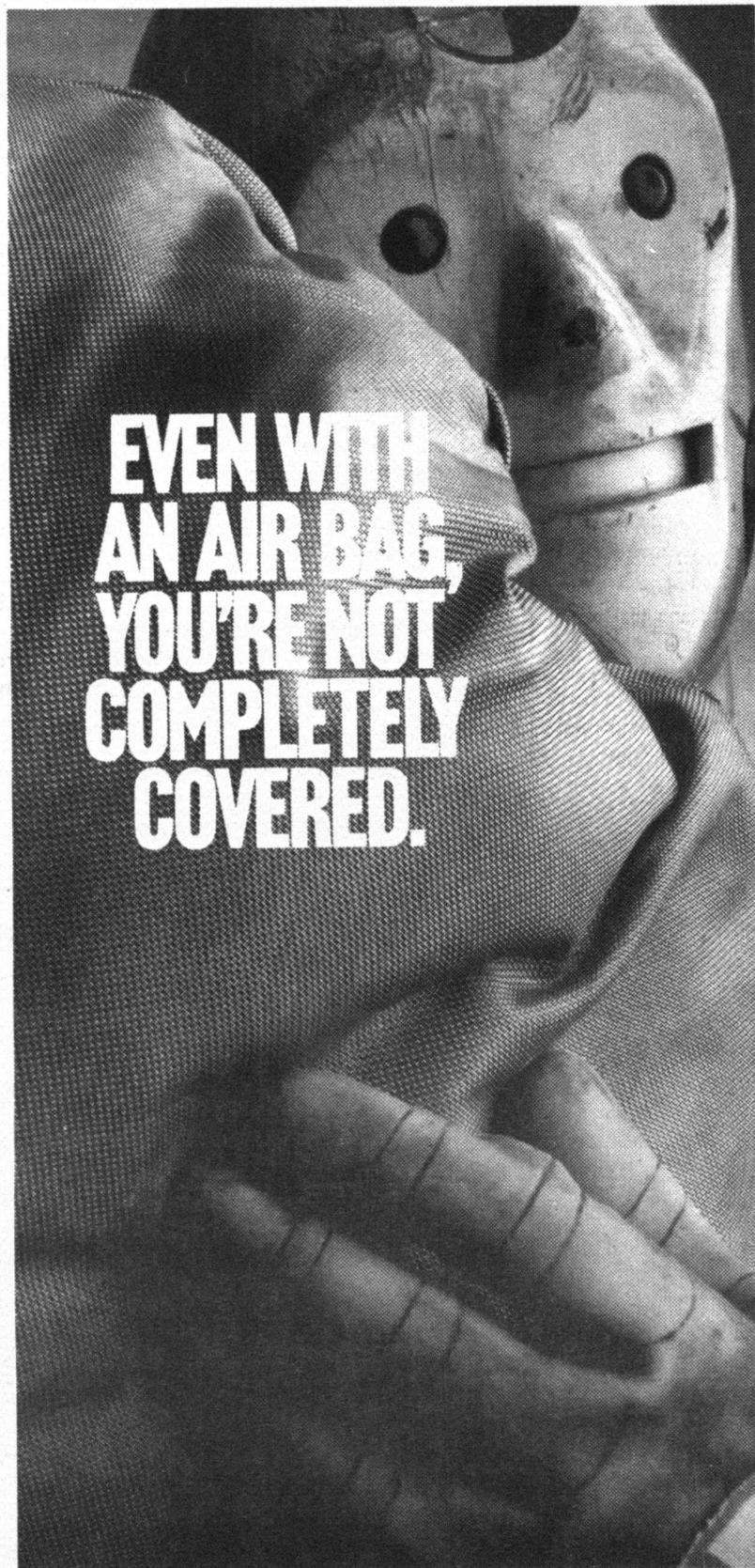
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Editor's note:

Due to circumstances beyond our control, there will be no campus safety log this week. Instead, we've decided to print the following in the hope that it will have some bearing on at least some of our readers. With a bit of luck, the Campus Safety Log will return next week. Until then, enjoy.

B. Moberly, Editor



EVEN WITH AN AIR BAG, YOU'RE NOT COMPLETELY COVERED.

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YOU COULD LEARN A LOT FROM A DUMMY. BUCKLE YOUR SAFETY BELT.

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The Sou'wester is the official student newspaper of Rhodes College. The Editors and Staff of *The Sou'wester* publish 22 times yearly throughout the fall and spring semesters, with the exception of holidays and exam periods. *The Sou'wester* office is located downstairs in Palmer Hall. The phone number of *The Sou'wester* is (901) 726-3970. Staff meetings are open to the college community and take place every Monday evening at 8:00 pm in Room 103 of Buckman Hall.

Student publications at Rhodes are under the aegis of the Student Publications Board, which is composed of the editors of all campus publications as well as class representatives and at-large representatives of the student body.

All business inquiries should be directed to David Humphries, Business Manager, who can be reached at (901) 523-9151. The deadline for submitting advertising for a Wednesday issue is the previous Friday. National advertising representatives are CASS Communications and American Passage.

'Proactive' Pub Board Creates New Publication, Discusses Future of the Yearbook

by Chris Knight
Associate Editor

The Publications Board has pursued a rather proactive agenda in its recent meetings, introducing another publication, planning a Publications Summit, electing two Photography Editors and recommending a three-year publishing contract for the *Lynx* yearbook.

In its meeting on Jan. 18, the Board discussed the progress of the *Virtual Diehl*, a Rhodes College student worldwide web site on the Internet. This new publication will provide a resource to access information relevant to student life at Rhodes. The *Virtual Diehl* will include home pages for both individual students and student organizations, links to information concerning Rhodes and Memphis events, student art exhibits, and other Rhodes publications online. It is intended to be fully operational by the end of March and already enjoys status as a member of the Publications Board.

Senior Publications Commissioner Welch Suggs also announced in the Jan. 18 meeting that the College would sponsor a Publications Summit, to be held on Sat., Feb. 11, in which Chris Carroll, Student Media Advisor at the University of South Carolina, will lead a series of seminars to discuss various college publications issues. The summit will be open to publication editors, staff members, faculty and staff and other interested members of the Rhodes community, and will take place in 103 Buckman. Subjects will include

staff members and their motivations; the relationship among education, publications and career; the business aspect of publications and the means of improving the quality of publications.

In another meeting on Jan. 26, the Board elected sophomore Chris Landis and first-year Lydia Lara as Photography Editors for all publications. The pair will primarily work, however, with the *Sou'wester* and *Lynx* staffs, and are searching for capable photographers for the Photography Staff.

Finally, the Board unanimously agreed to recommend to the Allocations Board that the *Lynx* yearbook be permitted to sign a three-year contract with Walsworth Publishing Company. The agreement will establish a price cap and provide the yearbook with computer equipment and support and training materials. It is nonbinding, and can be broken by the yearbook if it is dissatisfied with the product and/or service of the publishing company.

"The issue of whether or not to have a yearbook is one worth looking into," noted Suggs. "While I am aware

that the yearbook is a bound representation of the year in school history, it provides no experience in education that is really applicable in the job market. Projects like the *Virtual Diehl* could make other publications obsolete or secondary."

Junior yearbook editor Jennifer Rezba does not see the elimination of the yearbook as an issue. "I don't see the *Virtual Diehl* and the *Lynx* as competing with one another. The yearbook provides a tangible means of providing a permanent record—it's important for nostalgic reasons. The *Virtual Diehl* serves an entirely different function."

Sophomore *Virtual Diehl* staff member Allen Boudreaux framed the issue in a different manner. "I think that perhaps the *Virtual Diehl* will become the predecessor to interactive CD-ROM yearbooks and that some day print yearbooks will become an outmoded medium, but right now we have no plans to usurp the yearbook's position. We won't see the elimination of print yearbooks for some time."

Choose Your Own Adventure!

by Jennifer Larson
Special to the Sou'wester

Are you interested in exploring career fields that are church or service-related? Are you curious to unite vocation and service? Do you want to know how to combine your faith or ethics with your job? If you answered "yes" to

any of the aforementioned questions, then the upcoming retreat at Pinecrest is for you. The Chaplain's Office and Evergreen Presbyterian Church are sponsoring a weekend for students interested in service, vocation, and faith.

"Choose Your Own Adventure" is the theme for the February 11-12 retreat. Guest speaker Carter Hiestand, Director of Admissions and Vocations at Princeton Theological Seminary, will give a keynote address and lead an exercise relating to the subject. Chaplain Billy Newton and various students will lead focus groups on topics such as holistic faith, church-related vocations, outreach through service, women's issues in faith and service, and the connection between ethics and vocation.

The retreat was conceived as a time to allow students, or anyone for that matter, time to discuss and reflect on the relationship between faith, service and vocation: to allow participants to discover for themselves how their own personal religious beliefs and values can

Career Fair Hits Orgill Room Feb. 8

by Career Services
Special to the Sou'wester

Career Services will hold its 1995 Career Fair Wed., Feb 8 from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. in the Orgill Room. Co-sponsored by Student Assembly, Black Student Association, and the Career Advisory team, the 1995 fair will feature representatives from 25 companies, including American Express Financial Advisors, Autozone, Buckman Laboratories, and Federal Express.

"The Career Fair is without a doubt the easiest way for students to meet employers," said Pat Donahue, Assistant Director of Career Services. "There's a misperception that the Career Fair is just for seniors, but there are jobs for first-years, sophomores, and juniors available as well."

Employers at the Career Fair will each have an information table with details on job openings and training programs as well as company promotional material. Some representatives are Rhodes alumni.

Since students will be visiting the Career Fair between classes and lunch, professional dress is not required. Seniors submitting resumes to employ-

ers, however, should dress in typical interview attire.

"Even if you're not looking for a job," said Donahue, "the Career Fair provides information about the wide range of career fields available and the types of majors, work experience, and campus activities that attract employers."

"The Career Fair," said Donahue, "is a great way to gather career information and start networking."

- Participants:
- American Express Financial Services
 - Andersen Consulting
 - AutoZone
 - Buckman Laboratories
 - FedEX
 - Federal Bureau of Investigation
 - First American National Bank
 - First Tennessee Bank
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Reflections of a Publications Junkie

Four years. Eight semesters. Since members of the class of 1995 moved into Bellingrath, Glassell, Williford and Townsend in August of 1991, Rhodes student publications have undergone quantum changes. I feel relatively confident in saying that the editors of our freshman newspapers, yearbooks and other publications would barely recognize their offices downstairs in Palmer.

We added computers. We changed publishers and printers. We created new offices. We introduced three new publications—depending on how one counts—of which one doesn't even use paper or ink. *The Review* got a little happy with purple and green paint in their office. With a few important exceptions, we have seen the standard of living, if you will, of student publications has improved beyond imagination.

But now, thinking about the goals I had coming in as a freshman and having seen the publications of other colleges which Rhodes considers peers, I wonder whether we have come that far after all. What do people gain from editing or working for a Rhodes publication? And could they be gaining more?

In order to address these questions, particularly in relation to problems such as those addressed here, the Publications Board is sponsoring a Publications Forum on Saturday, February 11 from 10:30 a.m. until 4:30 p.m. All members of the Rhodes community are welcome, particularly fac-

ulty and staff who have advised publications or have experience working for other campuses' publications and students currently working on and editing publications as well as those who wish to run for positions for the 1995-96 school year.

When Jason and I edited the Sou'wester last year, I would get terribly depressed after every issue came out. I would always see something—or several somethings—that we messed up or should have done differently. It wasn't a matter of being ashamed of what we did.

Instead, I regretted that we hadn't had the time or foresight to do sit back and say to ourselves, "Now, what have we overlooked?" or "Now, what do we need to do differently next issues?" or "Why in the hell did we ever think we could publish THAT?"

Our editors are faced with two problems. The first is that almost all publications are critically understaffed. We have a whole host of reasons for this problem, of which I can point to just a few.

The fact is that most Rhodes students don't think that working for the newspaper, yearbook or other publications is worth the time it takes. To compound the problem, many of the people who have the requisite skills for editing a publication are involved in a variety of other activities. The talent pool at Rhodes is not very large, to put it bluntly, and there always seems to be something more interesting to do than

go work down in the basement of Palmer.

One interesting result of this is that each publication tends to form its own cult, based on whose arms the editors can twist to bring people onto the staff. This further complicates the problem, since new students who might have much to offer a certain publication aren't necessarily going to be attracted to that particular social group.

The second problem is that there is no continuity to publications: each



Welch Suggs

Editor Emeritus

editor has to do everything but reinvent the printing press each time he or she sets out. There aren't advisors or other people who have a long-term history with a publication from which they can point out mistakes or better ways to go about the job.

Furthermore, everyone knows that it's easier to do something yourself than to explain how to do it to someone else, and so we editors don't take the time to sit down with our writers and show them their shortcomings, nor do we

have the chance to train our successors very well.

And by taking much of the workload upon ourselves, we then burn ourselves out to such a degree that we don't want to go back and spend much time helping those who take over from us. So the lessons we learn are not communicated, and editors down the line are the unfortunate proof of Santyana's famous maxim about repeating history.

It's easy to get sanctimonious about the nobility of all these wonderful people who sacrifice themselves working away at the things people take for granted here, but that's not the point. Writing for a publication, editing it, even working for the business staff can be a valuable educational experience, even within the framework of a liberal arts college.

Developing communications skills, becoming familiar with computers and graphics design and learning to run publications as business ventures are all the sorts of skills which one can put to use in later life, whether specifically in journalism or in countless other fields. Quite simply, the rewards should go far beyond a few lines on a resume.

However, if people are not getting what they should out of working for publications, then we need to explore ways to make the experience more valuable. This could consist of stipends, although the publications of years when editors did receive stipends were not noticeably better than they are now (ac-

tually, they were pretty awful in a lot of cases). Or we could explore turning publications into practicum-type experiences, where those who were getting credit for working on a given publication would get feedback from advisors or others who knew what they were doing. Or maybe we could get yet another graduate student from the U of M to work as a part-time student publications advisor.

Having voiced all these deep-seated concerns, I ought to point out that it is possible to have a good experience working with Rhodes publications. I got involved because I want to make a career in journalism, but the lessons learned from working for and editing *Cereal Info* and the Sou'wester go far beyond the technical aspects of the field. Learning to deal with a wide variety of people as well as any number of crises and situations has definitely enriched, ahem, my time here, and I'll carry away many memories of wacky times with Thomas, Jason and everyone else. Maybe someday I'll learn to laugh about it. Or maybe you'll read in the class notes of the Rhodes Magazine, "1995—Welch Suggs is enjoying a peaceful stay in a very safe, undisclosed location in the Midwest under heavy sedation..."

Meanwhile, I hope we can get a great deal of productive feedback on the 11th from a wide variety of sources. If you have any questions, contact me by phone at x3496 or via E-mail at SUGDW. And wish us luck.

Solving Problems

Its often rather amusing to look around and see what is happening in our little community. Last week provides us with a good example. A one Dr. Daughdrill posed to us a problem with an attached solution. The problem was of the semantical variety. People are using the words Rhodes College to refer to us. How horrible; I feel so ignorant, as I have been simply strolling through life here at the 2000 N. Parkway address and never really bothered to notice this dilemma.

The reason, I imagine, is that there is no problem. The memo that the Rhodes College publications exploited rather well was an attempt to solve yet another non-problem on our Campus. With enough effort and imagination, the hierarchy have and will solve many non-problems.

One of the reasons that people keep using the term Rhodes College, instead of Rhodes, is due to the fact that "Rhodes College" is printed on everything this college owns, publishes, or is involved in. Positive reinforcement works folks, and in this case, it works well.

So how do we go about the solving of the non-problem? It's easy. Let's not play around with the earlobe thing, let's go all out to kick this non-problem in the butt.

First of all, any administrator, faculty person, or staff member will be docked exactly 10% of their after tax wages for the pay period in which they use the term Rhodes College. The rate for every use of the term after the first offense will continue on a pro-rata basis until the wages are no longer sufficient to pay the FICA and Withholding taxes. The administration that will be hired to carry out these penalties in the new "Big



Stiles Rougeou
The Ragin' Cajun

Brother" office, contained in the Development sector of the Administration, reserves the right to use any means necessary if the monetary penalties are not effective.

The students aren't exempt either. The SRC will be forced to accept a constitutional bi-law mandating that any student or student equivalent (this term's definition being also up to the "Big

Brother" office in the Development sector) will be fined \$20 per use of the term Rhodes College instead of Rhodes in any case either written, oral, or cognitive. This fine will be subject to increase with the severity of the crimes at the discretion of the SRC after and only after approval from the "Big Brother" office.

Any other offenses rendered to the College's good (but ambiguous) name will be turned over to either the Shelby County Sheriff's Office or the Memphis City Police, depending on which penalty will be more severe.

Of course I am only joking. I think that the earlobe crack was pretty funny. A real hoot. I just hate to see the more numerous occurrences of non-problems on our campus.

Non-problems are like fads. They hit real quick, get a great deal of attention, and then die off and go away, whether you pay attention to them or not. It is true that Dr. Daughdrill probably meant well in his humorous little memo, but if it is something that truly bothers him, then do something simple, like quite printing the word college after Rhodes. We'll get the hint. We are bright people, most of us anyway.

Besides, we have a wealth of real problems which need to be dealt with. Let us not wallow in the quagmire of non-problems. Life's too short.

Letters to the Editor

Cheerleaders Get No Respect

To the Editor:

Even in a supposed bastion of free thought such as Rhodes, an important part of the athletic program is often ignored. I am talking about the Rhodes cheerleaders. Cheerleaders just do not get the respect that other athletes do, even though they put in long hours of practice just like other sports. This is true at Rhodes just as it was at my high school and, I am sure, at most other high schools and colleges. We all are familiar with the "Buffy the Cheerleader" stereotype, the idea that only giggly, ditzzy girls are cheerleaders. However, the vast majority of cheerleaders I have encountered do not fit this stereotype. They are both dedicated and athletic, and have often spent years perfecting the cheers and acrobatics they perform. Cheerleaders are specialized athletes the same way that tennis players, runners or basketball players are. Those of you who do not agree, how many of you could do a back handspring or a toe touch? Cheerleaders have helped turn the tide in their team's favor in many a close game, and they add a positive note to otherwise disappointing games. For example, many of the spectators at last fall's homecoming game commented on the

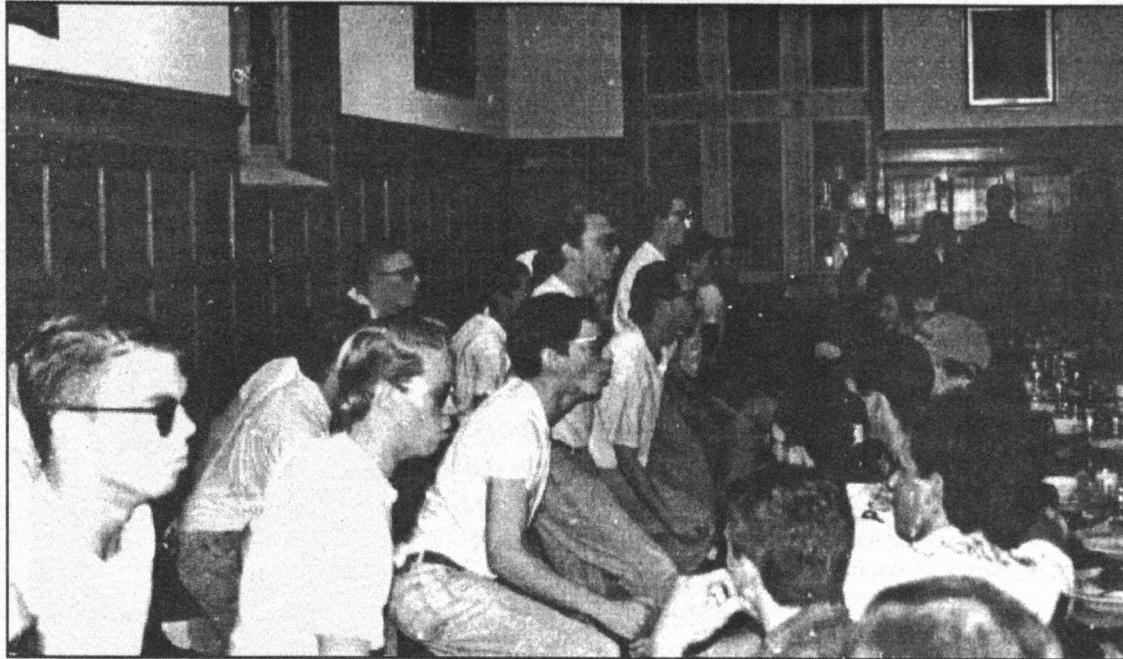
quality of the cheerleaders performance.

Why do cheerleaders get little respect or recognition for what they do? I can think of a couple of reasons. An obvious one is that nobody keeps statistics about cheerleaders and cheerleaders do not usually compete with other cheerleaders. There are no SCAC rankings of the best cheerleaders, and nobody keeps a record of the most acrobatic or most spirited cheerleaders. Outside of cheerleading contests,

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Interested parties are strongly encouraged to write letters to the Editors. Submissions can be made (1) via the Sou'wester folder on the Academic Server, (2) by sending your letter via DECmail to "Sou'wester", or (3) by sending your disk or printed copy of your letter to the Sou'wester through campus mail. All letters must be signed and must include the author's phone number for verification. Any letter for publication may be edited or rejected for clarity, length, and/or libelous content.



The Rat was packed Friday night around 5:30 as the Kappa Sigma pledges performed their now infamous version of "The Wanderer." (Photo by James Spears)

The Children's Hour Examines The Power Of Misused Words

by Henry Murphy

Staff Correspondent

The subject matter of Lillian Hellman's 1934 play was considered lurid for its time, and could still be thought of as somewhat alternative to the usual theatregoing crowd, if not for

the play's superb dialogue, structure, and theme.

The theme is the power of words to destroy and ruin a person's life; the effect rumors, lies, and innuendo can have upon people when used to their worst potential. Examining the twisted power of words in a play can be danger-

ous (after all, plays are all talk), but Hellman concentrates less on the root of the problem and more on its effects.

Mary Tilford (played well by the very young Sarah Cowan, who keeps ahold of a tough part) is a devious, bratty little girl at a boarding school run by Martha Dobie (Rhodes junior Marla Rolfs) and Karen Wright (Laurie Cook). Mary is chronically late for her classes, an almost pathological liar, and was spoiled by her grandmother. Mary is punished for her misbehavior; in anger she flees the school to her grandmother's house, and there, after a long, teasing scene, whispers in her grandmother's ear that Martha and Karen are lesbians. The results are devastating; all the girls at the school are taken back home, and a libel suit against the grandmother (who makes the public accusation) fails miserably, because Martha's shallow, cowardly Aunt Lily (Maryanne Stottman) cannot face the possibility of testifying in court. At the end the school is in ruins. Karen breaks off her engagement, and the two women are lost, cut adrift from all other people.

The earnest but young children are balanced by terrific lead performances from Rolfs and Cook, who offer textbook portrayals of people suddenly caught up in swirling events that they barely comprehend. Rolfs especially offers strong, clear emotions concerning the events; she forms a blazing emotional core of anger and outrage that never threatens to unbalance the other actors. Stottman and Carolyn Spratley, as Mary's grandmother, are also very good, providing strong support.

In these days of sexual harassment and political correctness, where the most innocuous remarks can be interpreted to mean almost anything, this play stands as an exquisite, powerful reminder of the human cost of words used in the wrong ways.

Now Playing at the Germantown Community Theatre

"Higher Learning" Stereotypes, Yet Is Still Effective

by Sarah Hopp

Staff Correspondent

As Professor Phipps, played by Laurence Fishburne, says toward the beginning of *Higher Learning*, your political ideology will be dictated by your race, gender, and background. *Higher Learning*, written and directed by John Singleton, presents many perspectives, then tries to go a step further: to show why we can't all just get along. The result is an ambitious, powerful, flawed spectacle of a movie.

The fictitious Columbus University serves as the film's angst-filled setting; the story focuses on the first semester of three freshmen. Malik (Omar Epps) is a track star who contends not only with academic and financial difficulties but also with prejudice and, consequently, rising tensions among the races.

Kristen, played by Kristy Swanson, is a sheltered girl who, after being raped, joins a group aimed at empowering women and ending sexism. Kristen eventually must face the question of her sexual orientation.

Remy, played by Michael Rapaport, is a massively insecure, weak boy willing to adopt any group's ideals in order to find acceptance. This leads him to fall in with Neo-Nazi skinheads who provide him with an easy, dangerous, illogical focus for his feelings of frustration and self-loathing.

The movie effectively shows the similarities in experiences of everyday life that are common to students regardless of gender, race, background, etc. It directly compares Malik's and Kristen's respective difficulties with financial aid and with understanding their professors' academic expectations/standards.

Yet while this common experience aspect of the movie suggests a kind of harmony in sameness, the movie includes stereotyped characters even as it rails against the practice of stereotyping. In fact, the movie sometimes revels in types: Kristen's friends from home at the beginning of the movie are Shallow, Preppy Bimbos, and Kristen's idealistic friend and eventual lover is a sensitive, politically correct activist. The movie's generalizations somehow lessen its ring of truth and the genuineness that elsewhere gives the movie its force.

The movie's most trenchant assertions are two of its most subtle. Singleton has observed two basic components of human nature: that it tends to blame others for its own problems and that it is often fueled by insecurity. These points actually contain more insight than any political statement the movie could have made.

Performances in the film are uniformly good, with Tyra Banks, Jennifer Connelly, and especially Laurence Fishburne giving their characters as much dimension as the roles allowed for.

An energetic, eclectic soundtrack propels *Higher Learning*; it works in a way weirdly similar to that of (the completely different movie) *Pulp Fiction*; both are appropriately aggressive and edgy.

Singleton directs in a vivid, almost in-your-face style that includes lots of close-ups and movement. Events or characters in separate situations are compared by being presented in quick succession. Transitions are crisp, sometimes even jarring, even if that is the desired effect.

Though not without its problems, *Higher Learning* is insightful, intelligent, and affecting.

In tune with the environment



Rhodes College, continuing its push toward products that are great for the environment, is pleased to announce they are now using Second Nature PLUS™ products from Wisconsin Tissue. These products are made from 100% recycled fiber, 100% post-consumer grade material and with a 100% bleach-free process.

The Second Nature PLUS™ products being used by Rhodes College are manufactured from materials such as computer paper, discarded term papers, office forms, corrugated boxes and phone books, to name a few.

For the 1994-95 school year, Rhodes College will use approximately 13.13 tons of Second Nature Plus™ napkins. By using Second Nature Plus™ products from Wisconsin Tissue, you are saving these natural resources for future generations



223 trees,



91,910 Gallons of water:



39 cubic yards of landfill space,



53,833 kilowatts of energy



788 pounds of air pollutants

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Wed, Feb 22

Townhouse Apps due

Thurs Mar 2

RA & Townhouse
Announcements

Mar 13

Summer Housing &
Summer RA Apps

Week of March 20th

Room Draw

Truth In Advertising, The Hot Zone, and More...



Jeff Coons

Pulp Fiction

"It is a dark time for the rebellion..." So begins the scrolling narration at the opening of *The Empire Strikes Back*. Given the present state of popular literature, no statement could be more appropriate. A foray into any bookstore these days greets the reader with a barrage of pre-packaged, book-length *People Magazine* articles by such intellectual illuminati as Tim Allen, America's favorite coke-dealer turned power-tool fonder, and Paul Reiser, who by all laws of merit should be dodging beernuts in front of a fake brick wall in some bad comedy club.

Allen's book is titled *Don't Stand Too Close to a Naked Man*. This seems logical enough, but I believe a book's title should hold some deeper insight into the content to come, as in, for instance *The Catcher in the Rye*. Allen, or whichever of his co-writers came up with the title, simply sets forth an obvious statement of fact rather than prefacing an actual story. I agree with the title, but why do I need to read any further? The answer is that unless I want to learn how a drug dealer went from the shame of prison to cashing in on the plummeting standards of mass entertainment, I simply don't.

Perhaps people are buying these books not to read them, but to hold

them as some sort of evidence that their favorite guy on the idiot box has the depth their conscience knows is lacking. Maybe I'm being too harsh. This populist uprising could go down in history as the beginning of an important trend. Something instinctive, though, tells me that these best-sellers of today will have a hallowed place next to the Erik Estrada and Ricky "Rick" Schroeder biographies at the local used book store.

The Hot Zone
by Richard Preston
Random House



With the threat of global nuclear war all but gone, mankind has lost its greatest looming fear. If there is any good side to such a fear, it is that it keeps our collective arrogance in check. With the Cold War now a fading memory, the arrogance of man has reared its head again only to see a new type of enemy, one that comes from within and is virtually uncontrollable, the virus.

The rise of AIDS has baffled modern science and has already taken a slew of lives, but the most horrifying aspect of AIDS is that worse things may be yet to come.

Richard Preston's *The Hot Zone* chronicles an actual incident which occurred several years ago where the army rushed to prevent an outbreak of the "supervirus" *Ebola* at a laboratory near Washington, D.C. The virus was transported to the United States with a shipment of research monkeys from the Philippines, but has its origins in Africa.

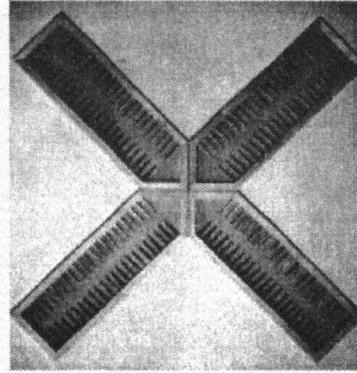
Ebola is extremely infectious, causing almost certain death in certain

strains once they take hold. "This virus," states Preston, "does in twelve days what AIDS takes twelve years to do." The introduction of *Ebola* or any other supervirus of its kind into the human population would almost certainly mean an epidemic unlike any the world has seen. The question then arises, "Why has this not happened yet?"

According to Preston, the destruction of many of the world's underdeveloped areas has released such viruses from their natural breeding grounds. If this holds true, environmentalists who champion the saving of endangered species might consider adding humans to the list. Saving the habitat of the pygmy purple people eater is a negligible concern next to the possibility of unleashing an ecological time bomb.

Preston's reporting on the events of the micro-outburst in Washington and the epidemiology of *Ebola* are fascinating enough, but his narrative of the human involvement in the Washington incident and elsewhere leaves something to be desired. The inherent terror in the *Ebola* virus goes an incredibly long way toward filling in the weakness in Preston's writing. The concept of the book stands as the meat of the novel, but Preston's writing still needs to provide the creative spark to carry the story. The spark he does provide is adequate, though by no means inspired. With two rival scripts about superviruses vying to be produced first in Hollywood, it should be interesting to see how differing treatments of this subject matter fare in comparison to *The Hot Zone*. Though dry in some areas, the reality of *The Hot Zone* helps deliver a compelling, though creatively unspectacular read.

Coming Next Week: *The Alienist*.



The Clough-Hansen Gallery features works by Les Christensen and John Salvest. Among the featured works are X (above) by Les Cristensen and Reliquary (right) by John Salvest.



Letters to the Editor, from page 4

cheerleading squads are usually not pitted against each other. They do not have the attention of spectators focused on them, but on the football or basketball teams they cheer for. This makes people think of the cheerleaders as an extension of the teams they support rather than as athletes in their own right. This is somewhat understandable and maybe even inevitable. However, there is another reason that I think cheerleaders do not get much recognition for their activities. The EVIL FEMINAZI corner of my mind points out that cheerleading is an almost exclusively female sport. Cheerleading, in the minds of many, is not a "real sport" because it does not

involve body checks or blood. The role of cheerleaders is supportive rather than competitive. Traditionally male, competitive sports taken up by women have been more accepted as true sports. Basketball and softball (a mostly female version of baseball) come to mind as good examples. I am not trying to put down women's participation in these or other competitive sports. I only wish to point out that our cheerleaders deserve a little more respect. The next time you see a cheerleader, maybe you will be recognize her as one of Rhodes' most important athletes.

-Alyssa Browning
Sports Editor
The Sou'wester

Kinney Fair, from page 1

influx of groups from all over the country to our museum, and we need trained guides to accommodate them. We will schedule a training session for some time in mid-February."

While recruiting volunteers to serve as tour guides for the museum, Petties was also advertising a new book by Alice Faye Duncan entitled *Everyday People*. The goal of Duncan's book is to introduce children to the importance of civil rights.

Also in attendance were Mike Melton and Keith Tackett from the Alliance for the Blind and Visually Impaired. Melton serves as director of the alliance while Tackett is a rehabilitation teacher.

"Right now," said Melton, "our greatest need is for volunteers who can read to people, provide transportation, and facilitate our activities and workshops. We also have an Easter sunrise brunch in Memorial Park sponsored

by the Southern College of Optometry. The brunch usually hosts about 10,000 people, and we are in great need of volunteers to help out."

Melton also remarked that the alliance has workshops and training sessions to teach volunteers to become sighted guides and use hand communication with blind individuals.

The Big Brothers/Big Sisters organization, represented by Sarah Henry, was also present at the Kinney Fair.

"The organization needs volunteers who can commit a minimum of a year in which they will spend 2-3 days each month with a 7 to 14-year-old child from a single-parent family," said Henry, who serves as office manager for Big Brothers/Big Sisters.

Henry also noted several fundraising events in the future, including a benefit known as the "Swine Ball."

Dana Peck, a representative from

Final Net, was also in attendance at the Kinney Fair. Final Net is an organization designed to provide services for homeless children in the city of Memphis. Peck said at present their greatest need is for volunteers to help with their food pantry, sack lunches, clothes closet, tutoring, and Saturday outings.

"We especially need volunteers who don't mind getting dirty," said Peck. "We have a lot of food to prepare for a lot of kids, and things get pretty messy sometimes."

Final Net provides sack lunches for over 150 homeless persons every weekday and distributes over one-and-a-half tons of food in a month.

In addition to the agencies listed, there are many other service organizations at Rhodes and in the Memphis community. Anyone who is interested in volunteering for any community service organization may contact Chaplain Billy Newton, extension x3849.

Lynx Enjoy Mixed Success On Latest Road Trip

by Alyssa Browning

Sports Editor

A recent Texas road trip garnered mixed results for Coach Hatgas and the women's basketball team, as the Lynx lost to first ranked Trinity and beat Texas Southwestern 70-69 within the last six seconds of the game. The Lynx return from Texas with a 9-5 overall record.

First year student Kim Shealy scored the deciding basket in the Texas Southwestern game. Shealy attended Memphis' Central High School before coming to Rhodes last fall.

The Lynx are currently tied for third in the SCAC with a 2-3 conference record. Hendrix College and Southwestern University share this ranking with Rhodes, while Trinity and

Millsaps are currently on top of the conference.

Coach Hatgas said that because the Lynx does not recruit many players with a lot of height, new assistant coach Jon Gravois has been working on a full court press defense, which helps the Lynx put pressure on their opponents.

The Lynx re-challenge Trinity next Friday, Feb. 3 at 6 p.m. the Mallory Gymnasium. On Saturday, Feb. 4, the Lynx face Texas Southwestern at 1 p.m., and on Tuesday, Feb. 7, the Lynx play Fisk University at 5:30 p.m. in the Mallory Gymnasium. Admission to all three games is free.

With only two more road games remaining, Coach Hatgas said her team plans to "defend Mallory Gym" as well as to finish near the top of the SCAC rankings.

This Week In Brief...

Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday
<p>4:00 p.m. Black History Month Kick-Off Program Orgill Room</p> <p>8:00 p.m. Ballroom Dancing Lessons before the I.F.C. Winter Formal Hardie Auditorium</p> <p>9:00 p.m. Fellowship of Christian Athletes Tuthill</p> <p>Coffeehouse with Band Lynx Lair (Pub)</p>	<p>All day Admission Symposium</p> <p>7:00 p.m. Rod Building Class and Fly Tying Class Buckman 110</p> <p>7:30 p.m. Allocations Process Orientation Buckman 103</p> <p>8:00 p.m. Black Student Association Meeting Tuthill</p>	<p>7:30 p.m. Film Society Movie Series: <i>Cry Freedom</i></p> <p>6:00 p.m. Women's Basketball: Rhodes vs. Trinity Mallory Gymnasium</p> <p>8:00 p.m. Men's Basketball: Rhodes vs. Trinity Mallory Gymnasium</p>	<p>All Day Mid-South Model United Nations Blount Lecture Hall</p>	<p>All Day MidSouth Model United Nations Conference</p> <p>1:00 p.m. Women's Basketball: Rhodes vs. Southwestern Mallory Gymnasium</p> <p>3:00 p.m. Men's Basketball: Rhodes vs. Southwestern Mallory Gymnasium</p> <p>5:00 p.m. Catholic Mass Orgill Room</p>	<p>6:30 p.m. "Under the Influence" movie and discussion Orgill Room</p>	<p>8:00 p.m. "Achieving Your Personal Best: Athletes & Alcohol" Panel Discussion Buckman 103</p>

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Feb. 4

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The Rhode'ster

Volume 82, Number 11

It's not an adventure, it's a job, and a pretty lousy one at that...

Wednesday, February 1, 1994

KΔ Experiences Hare-Raising Initiation Party At Silky's

The Kappa Delta sorority's initiation party two weeks ago finalized the downfall of Silky Sullivan's Bar as the spot for Rhodes (College) students to spend Thursday nights. While the members were in the middle of the very secretive ritualistic mass slaughter of small furry animals, someone managed to crash the party and physically rip the urinal off the wall of the bathroom.

Silky promptly put two and two together, and, getting the number five as a result, concluded that the KΔ sorority was to blame. Just as one of the newest initiates prepared to strike the death blow to a small helpless ferret, Silky announced that the party was to be shut down.

Initially incensed, KΔ president Jodi Grace had the wherewithal to suggest that they and the collection of animals (only the live ones) should move to another locale to complete the festivities. What Grace did not explain was the fear shooting through her as she heard of the incident in the bathroom.

Says Grace, "Sure we're mad that

someone messed up our party. But the really scary part was imagining what kind of superhuman being could do such a thing! Why, several small rabbits disappeared before the ceremony, and I saw some fluff near the bathroom later. Actually, I'm glad we got the heck out of there — we might have been in serious danger!"

What KΔ did not realize was that the urinal ripper was actually one of Silky's specially bred rabbits. Although ostensibly a devout animal lover, Silky kept mutant strains of hares and other survivors of past initiation parties in his back room, only to be used for clandestine experiments with more and more potent beverages.

Apparently, one of the rabbits, having been injected with the equivalent of a Silky's "Diver," grew to superhuman size and strength until it could rip the bars off its cage and wreak havoc upon Silky's establishment. And wreak havoc it did.

When the plumbing deluge began, most KΔ's ran for higher ground and basically panicked. But not the

Rhode'ster's intrepid undercover special agent reporter, junior KΔ member Jennifer Farringer. She and sidekick junior Elise Ruddick saw a huge rabbit exit the bathroom.

According to Farringer, "He was gruesome. He had these bulging biceps and this ripped shirt with the words, 'Who Drinks Faster, the Tortoise Or The Hare?' on it. Elise, who was feeling pretty darn pumped up herself wanted to take him down, but I explained that it might mess up her hair."

Ruddick, despite an uncharacteristic show of excessive restraint, said, "Next time, he's going down! We're having a rematch! See these biceps? I've been lifting weights. I'll be ready for him next time he lays a finger on one of those urinals — or those rabbits, too!"

The rest of the evening passed without incident after the party moved to Neil's. Farringer and Ruddick promptly reported to Rhode'ster headquarters, and Ruddick was administered a potent dose of Thorazine to calm her riled-up nerves. -JS

Charlie Bucket deflowered

Recently, I was rewatching a movie from my youth, *Willy Wonka & the Chocolate Factory*, and something became frighteningly obvious: the entire movie is about sex. Someone mentioned that chocolate was a substitute for sex, and the pieces all fell into place. Let me explain.

The movie is the story of a man with a suggestive last name, Wonka, and an even more suggestive first name, Willy, who is sexually confused. The man has no sexual identity; to put it bluntly, he has no idea what gets him off. He's fed up with his confusion, so he decides to experiment with budding members of the sexual community. He invites children from all corners of the sexual globe.

First you have the German Augustus Gloop, a perverted glutton obsessed with food; he brings his mother, a parent of the opposite sex, to the factory. Next you have Veruca Salt, the dominatrix, who also invites a parent of the opposite sex, who compliments her position by being utterly submissive.

The third child is Violet Beauregard, a girl with an obvious oral fixation (she is constantly chewing gum); she follows the trend of inviting a parent of the opposite sex. The fourth kid is Mike Teevee, a voyeur who wants to become one of the exhibitionists he watches; he invites his mother.

But the fifth child is much more complex: Charlie Bucket is the only one

who does not invite a parent of the opposite sex — he invites his Grampa Joe. This is evidence of his homosexuality, or at least his bisexuality. He is also monogamous, a trait passed down through his family.

The first thing you see when you meet his family are his grandparents in bed together; they have become so identified with their chosen partner that they are joined in name: Grampa George and Gramma Georgina, and Grampa Joe and Gramma Josephine.

Wonka's plan is to test these people's identities, to see which lifestyle can fulfill him. Augustus Gloop is the first to go, a victim of his own gluttony. Violet next, done in by wanting to cram too much into her mouth.

Veruca bites it next; her final scene is highly symbolic. She wants a golden egg so badly that she breaks into song, but she cannot dominate Wonka. In failure she falls into a deep, dark hole (which should not need explaining).

Mike Teevee is the fourth to go. He is so intent on making the jump from voyeur to exhibitionist that he sacrifices that which he is trying to pleasure, his body.

After a near disaster with Fizzy Lifting Drink where Charlie and Grampa Joe nearly get sucked into a fan, Charlie finally wins Wonka over.

This series of scenes is very important to understanding the movie. The first takes place inside Wonka's office, where everything — the desk, the wall-

paper, pictures, etc. — are all shown as halves; this mirrors Wonka's condition.

He is half a man, he needs Charlie to become complete, not only sexually but socially (remember, he has not left the factory in years. He has even brought in asexual companions — the Oompa Loompas are all male — who act as a Greek chorus throughout the movie). It is in this room that Charlie gives Wonka the Everlasting Gobstopper, which is for all practical purposes symbolic of an orgasm.

In return, Wonka takes Charlie and Grampa Joe up in the glass elevator. During the climax of the movie (pun intended), you see the elevator explode out of the tip of the factory smokestack, a large phallic symbol; obviously, this a representation of ejaculation.

When they are flying in the glass elevator, they can see clearly, they can see everything for what it is. In short, they have found enlightenment and identity through homosexuality.

Next week: *Peanuts* as sado-bestiality manifesto!

-SD

Editors Note: The previous article in no way purports to be a truthful critique of the subject in question. As with all articles printed in the Rhode'ster, this piece is filled with falsehoods, outright lies, veiled innuendos, and other highly unprofessional elements. And that's how we like it.



In a move to comfort the handful of political liberals on the Rhodes campus, the College Democrats recently erected this sign at the intersection of North Parkway and University.

Top 10 Favorite Memos from the desk of JFD to Faculty and Staff

10. Try to convince the Board of Trustees and all prospective donors that GSA actually stands for the Gravy and Soup Association.
9. Wink twice to remind faculty and staff that they should believe in the one, true, Christian God.
8. Encourage appreciation of good literature by writing more poetry about ice storms and other natural disasters.
7. Give up pesky proper names and refer to each other as Professors Buckman, Blount or Seidman from now on.
6. Usurp the President's Roundtable back from Chancellor Harlow.
5. Cough once to remind each other that we can ignore updating our library and concentrate on the new Campus Life Center.
4. Bang your heads against the wall repeatedly to remind yourselves that you are happy working here.
3. Propagate the idea that condoms on campus are unnecessary since the gate surrounding Rhodes College (tug, tug) was designed to protect the students from AIDS, STD's and unwanted pregnancy.
2. Tug your ears to remind each other to stop referring to Rhodes as Rhodes College.
1. Pray for a miracle that you won't have to qualify that by saying "a small liberal arts college that you overlooked completely after applying to Davidson," or "that Gothic looking thing that you wouldn't recognize outside of midtown."

-JMC