

# THE SOU'WESTER

The Weekly Student Newspaper of Rhodes College

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## Herenton Addresses City Issues

By Steele Means  
Associate Editor

Dr. Willie Herenton, the re-elected Mayor of Memphis, recently spoke on issues relating to his new administration and Memphis's political concerns.

The Mayor initially addressed the primary challenges he is currently facing. According to Herenton, while Memphis continues to see a decrease in crime, a continuance of this trend will require more involvement from the community and the creation of stronger partnerships among law enforcement agencies.

"Economic development, affordable housing, downtown redevelopment, and the revitalization of neighborhoods remain priorities within city government," Herenton added.

Recent mayoral candidates made frequent mention of several key issues: education, the physical beautification of Memphis, jobs, and the economy. On the issue of the need to improve Memphis's schools, Herenton noted that the city appropriated one hundred and sixty mil-

lion dollars to upgrade them and install air conditioning, and that he will work with the elected School Board to reduce teacher-pupil ratios.

Concerning the need to "clean up" Memphis, Herenton asserted, "The Memphis City Beautiful Commission has done a good job in developing programs to beautify and clean up Memphis.

"In the next four years, we will go even further in cleaning up our city by developing an Urban Forestry Department in the Park Commission to work with the commission's horticultural staff to improve public landscaping," said Herenton.

The Mayor mentioned several current initiatives to create jobs and improve the state of the economy. The first is the development of the Super Terminal project in Frank Pidgeon Industrial Park, which will have a twenty billion dollar impact and create up to twenty thousand new jobs.

In addition, through the development of the Strategic Economic Development Districts, he hopes to provide incentives to new and existing companies in the inner city. Also,

St. Jude's one billion dollar expansion will bring two thousand new jobs.

It has been noted by some that support for Herenton's re-election cut widely across racial lines, and thus marks a new era of racial reconciliation in Memphis.

Commenting on this issue, the Mayor said, "Memphis is a healing city. We have made progress, and I am confident that we will continue the healing process of racial reconciliation. I have striven to be the mayor of all the citizens of Memphis."

The Mayor has also worked hard to place more women and minorities on city boards and commissions and will continue to do so in his current term.

Also, his plans to promote the livelihood and economic prosperity of African-Americans in Memphis, noted by some as needing of particular improvement, include increasing minority participation in major public projects and implementing a Community Redevelopment Agency to stimulate minority business development in inner city commerce.



Photo by Steele Means

**Mayor Willie Herenton**, after his recent victory in the Memphis mayoral election. He stated, "Our challenge now is to strengthen our partnerships and devise a long-term strategy that possesses the foresight needed to build a stronger community."

## Kinney Launches Hunger and Homelessness Week

By Amy Holcombe  
A&E Editor

The Kinney program will kick off its annual Hunger and Homelessness Week on Sunday, November 14.

Through the activities planned for the week, the Kinney program will raise awareness of hunger and homelessness in the community and involve students in working toward change.

The week will begin with the Rhodes soup kitchen, held every Sunday at First Presbyterian Church. Also on Sunday will be a Kinney service training session, conducted in the form of a tour of Memphis area homeless centers. Alumna Kristin Fox ('98), Urban Ministries Intern, will be leading this tour from 6 p.m. until 10 p.m.

"Rhodes annually sends students to participate in a national student campaign against hunger and homelessness," said Coordinator Nicki North ('00). This year, five students went to Trinity College in Hartford, Connecticut, to attend the largest student conference on issues of hunger and homelessness. These students included Erinn Staley ('02), Sarah Slocum ('02), Misty Ballew ('02), Theresa Reardon ('02), and Natalie Griffin ('03).

Approximately 300 students attended workshops and panels which provided information and instruction on lobbying, advocacy, and planning a community project against hunger and homelessness.

As a result of this conference, beginning on Monday, November 15, the Feinstein Petition to End Hunger

will be placed in the Rat, where it will remain until the end of the semester.

"This petition is part of a national non-partisan effort to get Congress to address the issues of hunger and homelessness through legislative change," Staley said.

Also on Monday, children from the Final Net program at First Methodist Church will eat dinner in the Rat from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. Kinney coordinators are trying to line up a skit as entertainment for the children. Volunteers are needed to ride with the children to and from this activity.

Souper Contact will hold the Rhodes soup kitchen at St. John's Church at 4:30 on Tuesday, November 16.

Another regular participant in Hunger and Homelessness Week is the OXFam organization, a program that helps communities worldwide to imple-

ment effective agricultural strategies in addition to giving food and supplies. OXFam hosts a "fast" in the Rat, and up to 200 students can give up their dinner for the night of Wednesday, November 17, and donate that money to OXFam. Sign-up sheets for this event will be placed in the Rat beginning Friday, November 12.

Fifty of the students who give up their food can choose to participate in a Hunger banquet from 5:30-7:00 p.m. Each person will be given a card which assigns them to a country and a class distinction, and will be served a meal according to those particular standards. This exercise is designed to raise awareness of unequal distribution of wealth throughout the world and the resulting effects on availability of food and nutrition.

Rhodes Christian Fellowship will close Wednesday's events by leading a prayer vigil at 8:00 p.m.

Another exercise in evaluating discrepancies between food consumption in America, and that of "third-world" countries, will be held on Thursday, November 18. The food left on trays in the Rat at lunch and dinner will be bagged and weighed, to determine how much food we waste as a community.

Two events will end the week on Saturday, November 20. Chi Omega sorority will sponsor their annual event, Kingdom of Cans. All week sorority members will be taking donations of canned goods, and, on Saturday, beginning at 10 a.m., they will pile the donations behind Briggs.

Tex-Mex will sponsor a run on Saturday as well. Contact Mike Perrotet ('00) for details.

## Joga Bola, Homem Gol

KOSTA DALAGEORGAS  
Boy From Ipanema



What is it about soccer that excites Brazilian people? Why does soccer play such an important role in Brazilian society and culture? What does soccer say about Brazil? The game of *futebol*, as it's known in Brazil, and soccer, as the game is called in the United States, is the world's most popular sport, yet its reception and acceptance in the United States can at best be described as lukewarm. To understand the sport of *futebol* and its importance in Brazil, a brief history of the sport in the country is needed.

The sport of soccer was introduced to Brazil by British sailors visiting the "New World" in the 1880s and 1890s. In its early manifestations, soccer was an activity only pursued by the upper classes in society. Soon, however, soccer became the game of all the people of Brazil. To understand why soccer is so important an activity and cultural event in Brazil, we need to examine Brazilian and Latin American society in general.

Soccer has a broad appeal to people from all classes, backgrounds, and locations because it goes against the societal structure defined by the Spanish and Portuguese settlers who populated the countries of Latin America. Society in Latin America over the centuries has been defined, for the most part, by a few simple rules. The lighter-skinned people generally are at the top of the socioeconomic pyramid and the darker-skinned people of African indigenous descent are organized towards the bottom part of this hierarchical pyramid.

The way to get ahead in society is through connections and friends. Also, the family name is very important. Merit is not rewarded, but position and connections in society are highly favored. The rules of society are not the same for everyone. The wealthy and lighter-skinned people with connections are favored in this system.

Soccer defeats these defined rules. Anyone can play *futebol*,

regardless of background, wealth, and connections. Soccer is an inexpensive sport, since all you need to play is a ball, which can be made out of material as simple as old rags and clothes tied together. Children learn to kick and dribble at an early age. Soccer is also a way out of poverty for many in Latin America and Brazil. Through soccer one can get ahead and escape hardship and trouble.

Soccer is very well connected structurally to Brazilian society. There are over 5,000 registered soccer clubs involved in formal competition, more than 400 of which play in professional leagues. Rio de Janeiro alone has twelve professional teams. Also, the professional soccer clubs are nonprofit organizations whose directors volunteer their own time.

Most of the time, these directors expect to lose money on their investments in the clubs. This differs greatly from the way professional sports teams are run in the United States. More and more of the time, teams are being bought by perversely wealthy individuals and corporations who are just concerned with the bottom line of business and a healthy profit.

In Brazil, fans can buy shares of stock in their favorite teams and have part-ownership of the clubs. This would be similar to the relationship the citizens of the National Football League's Green Bay Packers have with the team, in which they are part-owners of the team and play somewhat of a role in the teams' decisions. In other words, Brazil's soccer teams are owned by the public. This establishes an important bond and connection between soccer and the people.

Through Brazil's soccer lottery, people are also connected with the sport. Each week a person can bet on the outcome of thirteen games. The revenues from the lottery go to support soccer clubs and to finance other sports and facilities. These revenues are also used to promote social welfare programs. People of all social classes and ages share the lottery games. The lottery features matches from all regions of

Brazil's vast area. Through the soccer lottery, people can follow teams from all over the country and come to a better understanding of the country's geography, something they wouldn't normally do. This builds national sentiment. In this way, soccer is used as a mass movement in Brazil.

Soccer unites people in a common purpose. The rules are easy to follow and uniform for everyone. On the soccer field, a player cannot be at a disadvantage for not being wealthy, light-skinned, and having connections that would greatly benefit them in society outside the soccer stadium. Soccer establishes an equal playing field for all. It brings people together from a vast country who do not have many connections or bonds and who come from many different cultures and backgrounds.

Soccer games are relatively inexpensive to attend, and Brazil boasts the most soccer stadia and the largest capacity for attendance of any country in the world. Soccer is one of the three mass movements in Brazil, along with spiritualism and *samba*. 90% of Brazil's populace is Roman Catholic; however, there is a blending of African and Indian spiritualist cults with traditional catholicism.

*Umbanda*, also called *candomblé* and *macumba*, is the name of this spiritualism. Official statistics show that, in a population of 116 million, 20 million are *Umbandistas*, many of whom are also practicing Catholics. The dance of *samba* is closely linked with the celebration of Carnival, which is the Catholic Mardi Gras. Together

with soccer, these activities connect the people of Brazil.

Brazil has qualified for every World Cup since the competition began in 1930. They have won four World Cup championships, more than any other country. Soccer is a way that Brazilians show that they can compete with any other country in the world arena. It also gives the country a way to show Europe and the United States that they have taken this "Old World" idea and fashioned it to their own use, infusing it with their own individualism and flare. Soccer acts as a nationalizing factor in a country looking to assert its importance on a world scale.

For people of the United States for whom sports such as baseball, football, and rugby are derived from Great Britain and precede the arrival of soccer, it is difficult to understand why people from Brazil and the rest of the world embrace and love soccer in the way that they do. However, with better understanding of other cultures and societies, we will be able to understand and truly appreciate the people's game and the most popular sport in the world.

For more information about soccer and its importance and implications in culture and society, Janet Lever's *Soccer Madness* and Tony Mason's *Passion of the People* are good places to start. Also, another good resource can be found in Professor LaRosa in the History department.

*Note: The column above refers to statistics compiled in the 1980 Brazilian census. 1999 figures may differ significantly from those cited in this text.*

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# SUBMIT!

The staff of the Southwestern Review is calling for submissions of poetry, fiction, creative non-fiction, prose poetry, visual arts, etc, for inclusion in this year's creative arts journal. All submissions are due by 5 pm, Friday, Jan. 28, and are welcome at:

"Southwestern Review" in-box, Academic Volume  
Third Floor Palmer, Third Floor Clough,  
Southwestern Review office, Publications Center  
Burrow Library, Circulation Desk

Or personally to: Nathan Ragain (box 2053)

Tiffany Padgitt (box 2072)

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## Of Halliburton, Hobbes, and the Ex-Houston Oilers

STEVE PERRY  
My Two Cents



Did you know that Rhodes was almost put right smack on Union Avenue, next to Idlewild Presbyterian Church? Yeah, that one with all the derivative stone Gothic like we have.

That's hardly the most fascinating fact about Rhodes, of course. People "in the know" — among them myself, John Rone, Jack van Impe, and the rest of the cabal behind the daily functioning of the college — know that the real bit of historical gossip is the fact that we got the Halliburton Tower over Harvard because Harvard didn't like the idea of a tower in memoriam to a poet, adventurer, and raconteur who just so happened to be gay.

So please don't accuse Rhodes of being intolerant. We're perfectly willing to take money and memorials from all sorts of people. And, no, I'm not going to touch it. You're just going to have to insert your own joke

about the shape of the tower here.

But I am avoiding such a potentially delicious topic like Richard Halliburton because Rhodes' woulda-coulda-shoulda location raises an interesting question — namely, the fact that, as you have no doubt noticed, there is not a lot going for us around the campus. Aside from being mugged and going to Church's (and, as we all know, Church's is placed specifically near liberal arts colleges as part of a plot to sterilize all the males who go to them), there's very little nearby, except perhaps Yum's "Cheese Burger Steak Cheese" on Jackson.

Location, location, location. It's not something you particularly think about when choosing your college. If anything you assume, "Oh, this is Memphis; I am sure there are plenty of things to do here. Like Graceland."

Unfortunately, Graceland's good for one trip. GracelandToo makes two. For a city this plain big, Memphis is, well, pathetic. We get a good concert every once in awhile. But I've seen independent movies come out sooner in smaller towns with smaller universities. There's just enough art, opera, and Hal

Holbrook stage shows to convince you that this is a major city but not enough to convince you that Memphis is substantively better than, say, Tunica. After all, Tunica had Regis Philbin, and that guy's so powerful that he has a million dollars to give away each night.

It was them gamblers, of course, that just stole half the entertainment acts coming to Memphis, as well as our hockey. Sports is the perfect example of Memphis's mediocrity. Here, in the Deep South, we can't get a pro football team, and, even when we are loaned one, in the case of the Oilers/Titans/Whatever's, it flees from us a year early, because it would rather be at Vanderbilt. You know, as in the sentence, "The football powerhouse, Vanderbilt, just won their fifth straight national title yesterday."

Ah, Vanderbilt. These feelings were reconfirmed in my mind when I swung by there a couple of weeks ago. The streets were open and airy, and all around the campus was this thing called "commerce." For lunch I could walk to Fudruckers. Not just any burger place, mind you, but Fudruckers, with delicious burgers, nachos, and partially gelatinated

non-dairy gum-based beverages, also known as "shakes." Yum's - ha!

If you use your imagination, take a map of the South, make Kentucky the head (the first time they'd ever be the brains of anything), the Carolinas as the left arm, and Arkansas and Louisiana as the right arm. As for Florida, we'll just assume it is a pegleg or something. But look closely. Where is Memphis? That's right, it's the armpit.

But, then again, is that a bad thing? Look at our one "snazzy" place to go to, Beale Street. Frankly, to me, Beale doesn't fit in Memphis any more. Beale has become a series of flashing lights, a far cry of what it used to be, even just four years ago.

Given that, maybe it isn't so bad for Memphis to be a little seedy, a little less than manicured and perfect. The world certainly isn't perfect. Maybe I have read a bit too much Hobbes, so I naturally assume everything should be nasty, brutish, and short, leaving me with no qualms about a city government that's just corrupt enough for you to know that it could care less about you.

I tend to think it's only the slightly agitated people who ever bother to change the world, not only because

they're the ones who see anything wrong with it, but also because living some place besides the obviously pampered gives them enough ambiguities to make them realize that there is more to the world than a good burger or shake.

Can you imagine the blues coming out of Nashville, especially the Nashville of today, where the primary qualifications for good singing are derivative lyrics and a tight butt? The Dixie Chicks are a nice formula, not soulful improvisation.

I sound like the perfect whiny college kid, I know, but even living in our now-cable'd dorms is not enough pampering to make me forget that life is worse outside the gated walls of Rhodes. I can't help but think that, in dolled-up Nashville, I would have never even noticed that.

So, no, Memphis is not the place to live if you want a "long life," or a "clean government," or "sanitation." But it doesn't have much in the way of bulimia, or overpriced pro-sports teams like the Oilers/Titans/Whatever's who aren't going to make it past the first round of the playoffs anyway. We don't need no stinkin' playoffs. We're in last place, and we're better off for it.

## Opening the Closet Door

ASHLEY TEAL BAKER  
OUTSIDE THE BOX



While it may not necessarily come as a shock to anyone, I think now is the time to publicly acknowledge as a community that gay, lesbian, and bisexual people work, study, and live among us. Even in my short time here, I've noticed a gradual change for the better in the way homosexuals are received and accepted by the Rhodes community.

It seems to me that the campus is ready to begin a dialogue about the kind of atmosphere we would like to create here at Rhodes, if not in the greater community. It is my hope that all members of the College will eventually be able to tell outsiders with pride that we respect all of our differences and value our diversity.

There is a tacet expectation that homosexual students remain "in the closet" during their time here, regardless of how this stifles their abil-

ity to express themselves. While this is true for all students, it is especially an expectation for campus leaders. Many students have sacrificed their right to be their true selves for the opportunity to serve this community and lead others. Some of them made unique and long-lasting contributions to the College and remain in our collective memory as students who will not be soon forgotten.

Empirically, a significant number of Hall of Fame members came out after leaving Rhodes. The situation facing gay campus leaders is an example of the larger problem facing all gay students at Rhodes. Why is there an unexpressed threat against students being openly gay? It is simple...because we have made them afraid.

Perhaps without intention, we have fostered an environment of fear and intimidation. Whether it's the jokes we tell, how we react at the sight of two men kissing, or how we perpetuate stereotypes of lesbians, we have created a space that is uncomfortable. I don't doubt that there are members of our commu-

nity who *intend* to create this type of atmosphere for a variety of reasons.

My hope, however, is that the majority is willing to reject a threatening environment and accept how its attitudes contribute to the overall feeling of acceptance on this campus. It is also our duty as a caring community to take a stand against violence and hatred against homosexuals. There are courageous students on campus who are open about their sexual orientation. As a result, many have faced violence and vandalism on this campus and elsewhere. That shouldn't be true anywhere, let alone at a religious institution that values the ties among community members.

Whether you believe homosexuality is predetermined or a choice, right or wrong, we, as humans, have an obligation as members of the larger picture to accept one another as we are. None of us can know for absolutely certain the "right" way to live, but if we simply choose to honor the principle of loving your neighbor as yourself, life will be easier for all of us.

Imagine a world in which homosexuals (and other oppressed groups) live without fear and a world in which the majority no longer have to bear the weight of determining who is fit and who isn't. What a burden to be constantly vigilant in monitoring whether others are "living in sin."

Being tolerant of someone doesn't mean that you accept wholeheartedly the differences that you object to, it simply means that you agree to let others live freely and without interference. I don't expect religious fundamentalists to agree with my views on the Bible, but I am not actively seeking to punish or convert those that don't believe as I do. As a result, I feel I am entitled to the same respect from them. Why not let others live as they see fit? What's the harm?

How, then, do we reject a hostile environment and consciously begin to move toward tolerance? The responsibility is twofold. First, gay, lesbian, and bisexual students need to trust the larger community to accept them as they are. This admittedly takes a great deal of courage and is a huge risk. But...(to borrow a line from a dear friend) the mainstream culture on

campus needs to realize that "regular folks" are homosexual and that it doesn't define who they are, only which gender they prefer sexually.

Once the community realizes that there are "normal" gay students on campus and that there are homosexuals who are like us in most ways, we are free to come together more honestly and wholly. Ideally, students can be authentic with one another and not fear the consequences of their preferences.

Second, the larger community must respond to the enormous risk these students have taken with respect and compassion. If one student steps out of the secrecy and is immediately shunned or harassed, then there can be no hope for greater understanding.

It is our responsibility to create an atmosphere that is welcoming. We are asking a great deal of the gay, lesbian, and bisexual students on campus to trust us — we cannot let them down and we cannot fail them. We, as a community, will never know the benefits of embracing the diversity around us unless we suspend our judgment and extend our support to one another.

## Cynthia Marshall Wins Regional Award

By Valerie Witte  
News Editor

Professor of English Cynthia Marshall received an award from the South Atlantic Association of Departments (SAADE) in English, presented November 5 at the SAADE forum in Atlanta.

Marshall, who holds the Connie Abston Chair in Literature, was a recipient of the 1999 Outstanding Teaching Award in the private, liberal arts schools category.

Other Outstanding Teaching Awards went to educators at Santa Fe Community College, the University of Florida, and York Technical College.

Recognition for teaching is nothing new to Marshall, who received the Clarence Day Award for Outstanding Teaching in 1990.

Marshall has also previously

been recognized in areas of research, having recently received a fellowship from the Folger Shakespeare Library in Washington, D.C., where she conducted research this summer. In addition, Marshall was the recipient of the Clarence Day Dean's Award for Outstanding Research and/or Creativity at Rhodes in 1996.

Robert Entzminger, Chair of the English Department, said that this is the first time a member of the Rhodes faculty has received the prestigious SAADE award.

According to Entzminger, "For a long time, [Marshall] has been recognized as one of Rhodes's most outstanding professors. It's good to see that she's now being recognized as one of the outstanding teachers in the entire region."

"This award could have gone to any member of my department," said Marshall. "And I am proud to receive it on their behalf."

## Heating Situation Sparks Debate

By Laura Bishop  
Staff Writer

The recent decision to turn off the air conditioning and turn on the heat in the dorms has provoked an unusually strong student reaction this year.

Shelley Fulghum ('03), a resident of Williford Hall, was critical of the decision to turn on the heat.

"Coming from Hot-lanta, I am used to the heat," said Fulghum, "but I prefer not to eat my chocolate candy with a spoon."

Williford has been particularly hot, possibly due to the maze of hallways that allow for poor air circulation. Furthermore, the consensus around Williford is that the thermostats are not particularly effective in controlling the heat.

In fact, according to some students, the thermostats do not seem to work at all.

As Lindsay Greer ('03) said, "My thermostat is set on fifty-five, but it feels like a mythical dragon is camping outside my room and spitting breaths of fire in every five minutes."

To Carrie Eaker ('03), however,

the situation is a bit different. A resident of Trezevant Hall, Eaker said that, "The heat problem doesn't really affect me, because I can control the temperature of my room." Trezevant residents have individual units in their rooms and can set the temperature according to their preference.

The men of Robb-White-Ellett are also victims of the heat. "It's hot as hell," said Ellett resident Brad Ponder. "There should be working thermostats in each room so that you can decide between hot and cold, not between heat and more heat."

Obviously, the situation varies based on the heating systems of the individual buildings and dorms, making it difficult to determine when to turn on the heat. Who makes the decision?

"It is a common misconception that the Physical Plant makes this decision," said Mark Fletcher, Superintendent of Engineering at the Physical Plant. "It is actually decided by the Dean of Students,"

However, according to Charles Landreth, the Associate Dean of Stu-

dent Affairs, it is not that simple. "Brian Foshee, Director of the Physical Plant, makes this decision. It is informed by what we think the weather will do and what the students tell us." Thus, the decision to turn on the heat is influenced by students as well as the faculty.

The decision is made based on the joint ability of the Office of Student Affairs and the Physical Plant to predict the course of the weather. Sometimes, they are lucky, and the problem of heat never becomes an issue, but, more often than not with the sporadic weather of Memphis, students become disgruntled about the temperature of their rooms.

Unfortunately for some, turning the heat off again before the next season is practically impossible, explained Fletcher: "This is not like a house where you flip a switch. We are dealing with very large equipment. A lot more is involved. It takes three people almost two days to turn everything around."

## Sierra Club President Chuck McGrady Speaks at Rhodes

By Mahendra Prasad  
Staff Writer

On Wednesday, November 3, Rhodes alum Chuck McGrady ('75), president of the Sierra Club, spoke in Blount Auditorium on the issue of sustainability.

In his lecture, he first discussed his transition from college student to the president of the Sierra Club. He then spoke of the Sierra Club, the nation's oldest and perhaps most famous grassroots environmental organization, and its place in the environmental movement. He concluded by addressing the sustainability of national forests.

Prior to the lecture, McGrady provided his background in a personal interview. McGrady grew up in south Florida before coming to Southwestern in 1971. In 1975, he graduated and moved on to Mercer University Law School. He practiced law for twelve to thirteen years in Atlanta until he gave up his practice to run a children's summer camp, a position he has held for the past ten years.

McGrady describes himself as "the father of two, a ten-year-old and an eight-year-old, and in my

spare time, I'm president of the Sierra Club."

The Sierra Club was founded in the 1890s by conservationist John Muir, a man known for his adventurous hikes throughout much of the American West. According to McGrady, for the first seventy years of the club's existence, it mainly focused on protecting natural forests and starting national parks.

However, beginning in the early 1960s with Rachel Carson's *Silent Spring*, the Club began to realize that if it desired to continue to protect natural forests and other Club ideals, it would have to take on more issues, such as air pollution.

Today, with a \$50 million budget, the Sierra Club tackles such wide-ranging issues as campaign finance reform and population growth. As McGrady put it, "Our vision evolves with time."

McGrady first got involved with the Sierra Club immediately after he left Southwestern. At one early Sierra Club meeting, McGrady explained that some members were discussing the details of bringing some Canadians down to Georgia for a clean air environmental project. McGrady managed the details of their trip, which included

obtaining a parade permit and housing the Canadians in his basement. A few weeks later, McGrady was being touted as the clean air expert for the Sierra Club in Georgia. McGrady considers this the beginning of his rise in the Sierra Club.

McGrady sees one of his main responsibilities as president of the Sierra Club as reaching out to constituencies that are not normally considered conservationists. McGrady himself illustrates this philosophy. In his mid-40s, married, and a Republican from North Carolina, McGrady contrasts greatly with his predecessor, a 23-year-old, single, liberal from southern California. In addition, McGrady has worked politically with such men as former Speaker of the House Newt Gingrich.

The Sierra Club has four priorities right now. First, the Club is attempting to curb urban sprawl, which McGrady considers "probably the hottest environmental issue in the United States." The other priorities include protecting wildlands, ending commercial logging of natural forests, and working to promote clean water.

"Our rivers are not our septic tanks, and our air is not where we

ought to be dumping all sorts of pollutants," McGrady said. "And if we do, there are going to be impacts. And, therefore, the costs of those impacts need to be borne by those people that are impacting the waters, the air, and the natural landscape..."

When asked how to justify to Christian conservatives why the Sierra Club has an International Population Stabilization Program that uses such methods of population control as condoms and birth control, McGrady said that haphazard population growth strains and pollutes the limited resources of this earth, such as water and land. If population growth is not planned, then there will be no resources for future generations.

"It's hard to say on [the issue of] population, what is the liberal stance and what is the conservative stance. Population issues have been the most divisive issues within the Sierra Club [more] than probably any other issue.

"And in the United States, it has turned on the immigration issue. We had a ballot initiative two years ago with one group proposing that the club take a position on immigration....The people that

didn't want us to deal with it got 60% of the vote, and so we're not dealing with it. We've tried to stay away from issues like abortion, where religious views... really color the discussion of that issue.

"And so we're much more focused on family planning. We're much more focused on actually women empowerment issues, which are clearly tied to birth rate in most countries..."

Asked about the need to be concerned about human progress in relation to the extinction of other life forms, McGrady responded that though most species may be extinct regardless of human interference, he believes that more species on earth within the past several years have probably gone extinct than in any other comparable period of time on earth due to human interference:

"I think all life on earth has some rights to live, and we ought not to be decimating the population of plants and animals that have been here, and again, in some cases [they have been here] much longer than we have.

"And who are we to say what the value of their lives are... I guess I don't view the world all from the perspective of what's good for Man."

## Campus Safety Log



11/4/99 TO 11/6/99

11/4/99	8:00	Vehicle booted, chronic offender.
	11:00	Vehicle booted, chronic offender.
	12:00	Suspicious person, south campus. Campus safety discovered a subject sitting on a bench, seeming somewhat confused. After speaking with the subject for some time, it was learned that the subject was homeless and perhaps suffered from a mental disorder. MPD was notified, made the scene, located the subject's home address and family and returned him to his home.
11/5/99	23:30	An unidentified caller called Campus Safety reporting screams being heard from the Fisher Garden area. Campus Safety dispatched officers to the scene. Officers, however, were unable to locate anything out of the ordinary. A watch of the area continued through the night.
11/6/99	00:05	University St., dog hit by car, badly injured. Campus Safety called the Memphis Humane Society. The Humane Society vet-ambulance arrived and transported the dog to a 24-hour vet clinic.

STATISTICS (for 11/1/99 - 11/6/99)

ACCESSES: 102	PROPPED DOORS: 0
VISITORS: 1527	JUMP STARTS: 2
CITATIONS: 62	BOOTED CARS: 2
ESCORTS: 13	

## FOSTER From Its Own Perspective

By Mahendra Prasad  
Staff Writer

On Wednesday, November 3, the Forum on Sexuality to Encourage Respect (FOSTER) held its first meeting of the year.

FOSTER's purpose, according to director Jena Balton ('02), is "to discuss issues of sexuality . . . and really how it pertains to issues of [the] campus, in general.

"So basically, [it is] educational . . . which takes the form of speakers and other subjective things."

FOSTER activities this year have included a presentation on research for a new AIDS vaccine. A number of upcoming events are in the works as well, among them a World's AIDS Day project, a film series in coordination with the Film Society on films with various sexual themes, and a lecture by Professor LaRosa on Latin American sexuality.

Wednesday's meeting featured a talk by Nanna Howlett,

a nurse at St. Jude's Hospital. She lectured on various aspects of the HIV virus, from the microbiological level to how the virus is actually transmitted.

Jonathan Russom ('02), campus coordinator of FOSTER, said after the talk, "That information was invaluable. . . [FOSTER is] one of the only forums where information like that is appropriate....

"That is one of the reasons I appreciate FOSTER."

According to Balton, FOSTER's membership includes virtually every type of person on the Rhodes campus. She added that students and faculty from various sexual backgrounds are involved.

FOSTER was established in 1998 as an offshoot of the Gay-Straight Alliance (GSA), one of the largest student organizations at Rhodes. However, due to its status as a political organization, the GSA was unable to receive funding from the Allocations Board.

Therefore, the organization

disbanded in favor of an organization that does not take political action, but, rather, attempts to educate and "encourage respect" about sexuality, among heterosexuals and homosexuals alike.

"I think that the most important thing [to learn through FOSTER] is . . . just an awareness of diversity and compassion for people on campus, compassion for people everywhere," explained Balton, "because I don't think that we're dealing strictly with issues of homosexuality in their own context.

"We're dealing with the issue of homosexuality and sexuality in general in a broader context.

"So I think that issues of heterosexuality really do enter in . . . AIDS, . . . issues of sexuality in general. And I think that any student, any, whoever they are, can have compassion for someone who has AIDS or is dealing with issues like that...."

(This is part I of a two-part story. Part II, which will focus on other perspectives, will run in an upcoming issue.)

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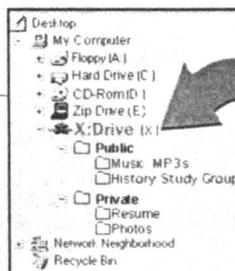
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# Arts & Entertainment

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THE  
SOU'WESTER

Wednesday, November 10, 1999

## Suburban Artwork: An Experiment In Innovation

By Keith Goldstein  
Staff Writer

An automatic hedge clipper, plant grower, and a machine controlled by cockroaches, this is art? In Val Valgardson's *Suburban Artwork* exhibit at the Clough Hanson gallery it is. Valgardson, an assistant professor of art in his first year at Rhodes, displays an innovative presentation of three works of art: *One Life to Live, As the World Turns*, and *Bug Run: A Furnished Frame*.

In an interview I had with Valgardson, he implied the overall theme of this project as "the notion of our suburban lifestyle and how we live it." This is a recurrent theme in his art, which attempts to explore the middle class culture and the environment that he grew up in.

Valgardson is a self-taught engineer. "I am an artist, and I have taught myself a bit of engineering. However, what I do is steeped in art history." He mentioned his use of electronic animation, computers and performance art to express everyday life activities.

He expressed his interest in creating art that is not just there for the audience to view, but "works that have to do with the entire audience—a

machine that moves around the room and performs a task for example." Valgardson wants to create art that both fulfills a utility and serves as a statement.

Each piece serves as a portrayal of what suburban life is and is becoming—a lot of innovative technology that serves not as efficiency, but as a "what we choose to do with our leisure, beyond spending time in front of the TV."

Valgardson is exploring the values of artwork on a different level that goes beyond a flat surface and something that you merely observe. This has created a great deal of puzzlement and wonder from the general Rhodes student body. "It's weird," said Matt McBride ('03). Tripp Perkins ('00) described the exhibit as "provocative, yet confusing."

Critics of Valgardson's work have noted a conflict in the nature of his artwork of disregarding meaningful symbolism and relying too greatly on the concept of industrial society and mass culture. There is general resentment in the direction modern art is taking. The traditional belief that art should have a deep underlying concept and

meaning has become extinct, and now we create art for the sake of art alone. In the modern age art is no longer supposed to be beautiful, it's supposed to shock.

"I thought it was the dehumanization of art that has sort of been done before in the late 30s," notes Leslie Sait ('00)

Valgardson is working with this theme to see how far he can expand art. "I liked it because he uses computers, mechanics and things that people don't normally use in art to create a form of sculpture," says Chris Anderson ('00).

*Suburban Artwork* is a display of sculpture and utility that is meant to inspire creativity. Valgardson has even produced a set of directions for the construction of *As The World Turns*, so that anyone might attempt to recreate it. A transition in art is definitely occurring with the dramatic modern advances in technology and its alterations to society.

For anyone that would appreciate some insight into this, a gallery talk will be held on Thursday, November 11, at 4:30 p.m. The exhibit will remain open until November 17.



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## Son Volt Plays New Daisy

By Nathan Ragain  
Staff Writer

St. Louis area band Son Volt played a full, smoky New Daisy Theater Friday night.

Drawing evenly from their short but rich career, the band offered a full set and two encores, including fan favorites "Creosote," "Tear Stained Eye," "Straightface," "Dead Man's Clothes," and "Cemetery Savior" as well as college-radio hits "Windfall" and "Drown."

Son Volt is the spawn of early-nineties band Uncle Tupelo (note the kinship fixation). Uncle Tupelo was formed by Jay Farrar and Jeff Tweedy, and their first album provided the label for what has come to be a "new" genre in rock and roll, "No Depression," (a rediscovery of deep-rooted American music in the face of angst-movements such as grunge, etc).

The band, however, split in 1994, into Tweedy-led Wilco and Farrar-led Son Volt. The two have matched each other album for album — Son Volt's three: *Trace* 1995, *Straightaways* 1997, and *Wide Swing Tremolo* 1998.

Friday night's concert was marred only by what seemed to be general disgruntledness among the band members. Farrar said only two words to the audience ("Hey" and "Thanks") and guitar/fiddle player Dave Boquist watched their guitars most of the night and rarely moved, while in a rock and roll anomaly, only the bass player Jim Boquist seemed to be fully enjoying himself and the music. This was all, however, somewhat under the surface, and could be ignored without too much difficulty.

But if the band members themselves seemed often uncharismatic, the songs stood alone. The band's sound is old American folk and country filtered through electric-guitar rock—a sort

of sober rootedness amid a music scene typically labeled "modern" or "progressive."

Farrar's voice contributes a young-and-wise tremolo a la very early Dylan or Townes Van Zandt, and his lyrics tend to be comparably interesting and impressionistic. Lines like "There will be teachers who die by their own hands... hailstones, haloes and country blues wailings" and "with room to roam the wayside heals all that's wrong" gives the songs a spirituality that seems dug down deep in American soil. All this gives Son Volt what seems to me to be an entirely unique sound in contemporary music.

Which is perhaps why a Son Volt show seems soberer, less assuming than the typical rock and roll concert, even when they are being loud and electric. The band did, however, turn up the energy and seem to be having some fun in their encores (and in flashes throughout the show), when they surprised the audience with two Uncle Tupelo tunes ("Postcard" and "Chickamauga"), and introduced covers of Creation's "Making Time" and the Delvettes' "Last Time Around."

The covers, though lighter and more "fun" than standard Son Volt fare, seemed almost to play with anxieties over recent rumors of a looming break-up for the band at end of this tour; (the chorus of "Making Time": "Why do we have to sing the same old song?"). These rumors, though, turn out to be probably false; the word is, the band will be taking a sabbatical before regrouping.

We should hope so. To me at least, the band stands among a relatively small group of marks of depth in an otherwise (fairly) superficial and transitory contemporary music scene.

## Upcoming Concerts

Wednesday, November 10  
Wesley Willis at the Last Place  
on Earth

Pop Unknown at Hideaway  
Cafe

Saturday, November 13  
Man or Astroman? in  
Nashville

Sunday, November 21  
Atom and his Package at 1297  
Madison

Thursday, November 18  
Supersuckers at Young Avenue  
Deli  
Buck-O-nine and Link 80 at  
Last Place on Earth

Monday, November 22  
Guided by Voices at Last Place  
on Earth  
Southern Culture on the  
Skids at either Young Ave Deli  
or Hi Tone

## Living on MacLeod Nine: Graceland Too, Part Too

By Blake Rollins  
Op/Ed Editor

The Sou'wester now presents the conclusion to last week's interview with Paul MacLeod, proprietor of GracelandToo, the largest collection of Elvis Presley memorabilia outside the original Graceland.

No interview could ever do Paul MacLeod justice. His nonstop marathon rants are impossible to duplicate in writing. And each new visit yields a new gold mine of stories. As this was my third visit, thus inducting me as a lifetime member, I only now learned that MacLeod won \$250,000 in one night of stud poker in Vegas. So what did that have to do with Elvis? Thirty feet from where MacLeod won his jackpot, Presley's infamous manager, Colonel Tom Parker, simultaneously lost \$250,000 playing roulette. MacLeod's house and life are a living allegory with every little object somehow relating to the King.

The Guinness Book of World Records states that MacLeod's dedication to Elvis is either magnificent obsession, true dedication, or endeavor to persevere. When questioned which motive he thinks best describes him, MacLeod quickly replies, "Endeavor to persevere, because I refuse to quit. I'm trying to preserve a piece of history. Everyone has to do what they do to make them happy until the day they die. I even told CNN that."

Q. What kind of research is conducted at Graceland Too?

A. We keep track of everything that is mentioned on Elvis, 24 hours a day. We record multiple TV channels and view it later. Weekday, weekend, black & white, color, closed-captioning. If there's even a single mention of Elvis, we'll catch it. Elvis Presley was born on my mother's birthday. My grandfather lived to be 107 years old. Elvis had Cherokee blood in him, which explains the high cheek bones. I've got 100,000 Elvis trading cards. I have a list of thousands of Elvis impersonators that fill a trunk. Here's IDs that have to be picked up from South Africa, Belgium, China. Me and my son currently have 150 newspaper stories, 100 videos ranging from 2 minutes to 2 hours, 85 books, 75 magazines. PBS is on its way over here right now, the Discovery channel, too. The Lonely Planet just paid me \$900 to film the hallway alone. Howie Mandel wants us on his show, Bill Maher, Oprah, Jay Leno, Jerry Springer....

Q. Would you go on Jerry Springer?

A. No, they want to film here. *Hard Copy* gave us a briefcase full of money to interview my son and I on the front porch. One guy wants to bring 25,000 Elvis fans here at one time. They're talking about bringing Claudia Schiffer, Naomi Campbell, and Christie Brinkley here. They're

worth 34 million bucks apiece. Chris O'Donnell from *Batman* just went out of here. He was in town during the shooting of *Cookie's Fortune*.

Q. Did you meet Robert Altman, the director?

A. He turned around and brought his wife. He said this should be turned into a lifetime story. Here's a guy who brought his dog in the house; the dog jumped on his head and barked out the Elvis song "Hound Dog".

Q. The dog jumped on his head?

A. Yeah, started barking out the song "Hound Dog." They all come here. Here's [a picture of] some brain surgeons that came the other night in a limo so long that I couldn't fit the car in the picture. Rolls Royces arrive all night long. Baby limousines. And I mean that's a baby one. I've seen girls out here at 4 o'clock in the morning in hot tubs on the back of limousines with Elvis music pumping out the windows. A lady just gave my son a gold Cadillac in the backyard with a new motor, new transmission just because I named him after Elvis Presley.

Q. Would you like to have your life story turned into a movie?

A. The people say that's what needs to be done. You won't believe all the newspaper stories. Look at this clipping: "Living the Dream Here in Holly Springs." There's 150 articles just like that. Can't keep track. On the TVs last night, there were 189

mentions of Elvis. Everything from weather forecasts to Las Vegas auctions. I have over 31,000 tapes, with trunks full of tapes from around the world. Montel Williams is talking about coming back.

Q. Why did you name your son after Elvis?

A. Here's a world famous picture of Elvis as a kid, and my son's a ringer for him. The picture of Nixon and Elvis is the most requested in the archive. Both Nixon and Elvis were born on January 8. I turned down \$250,000 for one LP in my collection. There's only 15 of those records in the world, according to *TV Guide*. It's the most valuable record in the world. Here's the report card where Elvis flunked music. Here's a talent contest form where his name is misspelled. Wood from his birthplace in Tupelo, boarding passes to his airplane, bricks off the back of his house.

Q. What else do you have in the cupboard?

A. Shaving cream. Aftershave. Lighters he used to light cigars. Graceland was in here the other night, and they said we're so far ahead of them they couldn't catch us in a million years. Listen to what people have said about GracelandToo. I didn't write this, *you* did: "[It] is the Smithsonian Institution of Elvis; The 9th Wonder of the World; the Taj Mahal of Elvisology; Better Than Graceland, Disneyland, and [Michael

Jackson's] Neverland Ranch; If alien life should ever visit this planet, this is the first place they should visit to claim American culture." One night Elvis outshined the moon. More people watched his satellite show from Hawaii than watched the moon landing.

Q. You claim to have the last film of Elvis before his death, is that correct?

A. There are strange pictures I took at his house two minutes after he died. There's electricity shooting out of his light fixtures five feet tall, gold figures flying around his jungle room, and white lights around his jumpsuit. I picked the first flowers that grew on Elvis's grave 22 years ago and stored them in plastic bags. There was a woman from Germany passing through who found out she had a death in the family. So they sent her down to Tupelo to quickly see all the sites, and she showed up here after she was done. I scared her by using Elvis's voice from "Are You Lonesome Tonight" and she peed all over herself. I told her, 'Honey, you lied when you said you loved me. But I have no cause to doubt you. I'd rather want to hear your lies than to go on living without you.' And she pissed all over herself.

Q. Do you believe Elvis is still alive?

A. No.

*GracelandToo* is at 200 East Gholson Avenue in Holly Springs Mississippi, USA. Price of Admission is \$5.

### New Feature!

## Restaurant Review: Cozy Corner BBQ

By Neel Gupta  
Restaurant Reviewer

I bet that a good number of you are reading this in the Rat (except for all of you forced to live off campus). If you are in the Rat, though, I bet you wish you weren't. Rhodes students go out for food a lot, because sometimes we need real food. At least I do. Yes, the pizzas in the Lynx Lair are tasty, albeit a bit doughy. Anyway, being in Memphis, one of the few things we are blessed with is an abundant array of pork places, and a lot of them are good. But just recently, I was introduced to the best BBQ I have ever eaten.

Cozy Corner BBQ, at 745 North Parkway, is conveniently located across from the Chism Trail grocery store for your last minute purchases, and right next door to Bill's Twilight Lounge for your evening debauchery. I had been apprehensive of entering an establishment in such an unsavory neighborhood, but when I read a

*New York Times* review calling it the best BBQ in Memphis, curiosity got the best of me.

I walked in and was greeted with a sign reading "no french fries." This place is for real. They take their BBQ seriously, and, judging by the famous people they have on the wall that have eaten there as well (Play of Kid-N-Play, Sherman Helmsley, and Katie Couric, among others), so do their patrons. Never before have I seen a BBQ restaurant with Cornish game hens on the menu and at such a reasonable price (\$6.95 for the complete dinner), too. Granted, these hens aren't of the same caliber that you are going to find at Three Oaks or something, but they are pretty good, and the sauce is what makes them so good.

There are two kinds of BBQ eaters: the dry ones and the wet ones. I am a big fan of Charlie Vergos' dry rub, and not so much a fan of Corky's sugary molasses they call barbecue sauce. Cozy

Corner finds the happy medium. Their sauce is a spicy, vinegar-based sauce that they apply sparingly because, after biting into one of their ribs, your mouth is on fire, should you elect to go with the spicy version. To finish off your delectable hen, wipe your mouth with one of the two pieces of Wonder Bread they so graciously provide. You don't really need napkins. The bread is also good for soaking up whatever sauce may be left next to the bones of your hen's carcass.

So, whenever you are in the mood for good barbecue and the Rat's spanikopita or chicken parmesan isn't doing it for you, take a trip down North Parkway for some real barbecue. Raymond and his crew will be more than happy to see you, and, while you're there, have a fried pie to prepare your palate for the experience it's about to have. But go early, they close at 7 on most nights and keep an erratic vacation schedule.

## Are You Lonesome Tonight?

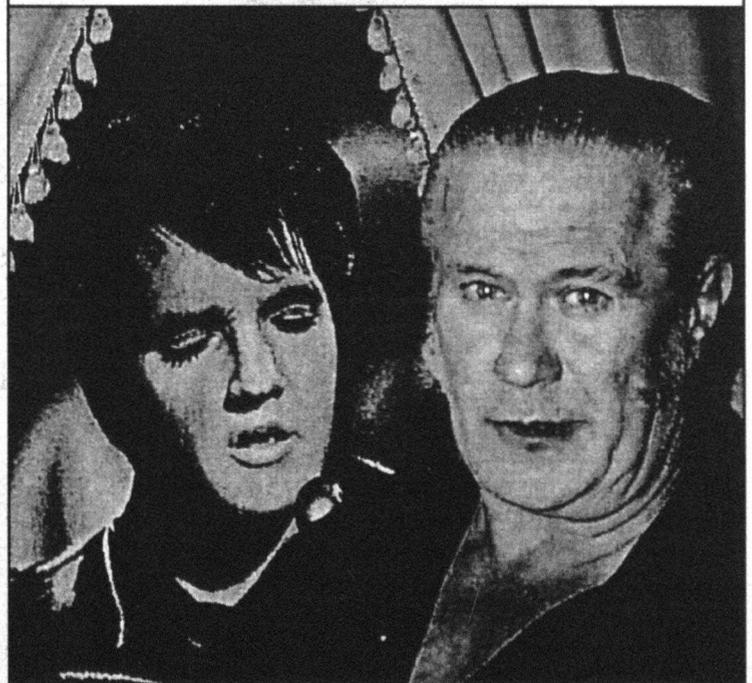


Photo By Blake Rollins ('00)

Are you rockin' one, two, three o'clock in the morning? Drop by GracelandToo in Holly Springs and pay Paul MacLeod a visit. MacLeod's home is open 24 hours a day for suspicious and supportive minds alike. There must be a light burning brighter, somewhere....

## Lynx Football Finishes on Top

By Jeremy Smith  
Staff Writer

On November 6, the Rhodes football team finished their 6-3 (4-2 in the SCAC season) with a 32-25 victory over Millsaps College in Jackson, Mississippi.

The Lynx fell behind 10-0 after the end of the first quarter on a field goal and a 54-yard TD run by the Majors. Rhodes inched its way back into the game on two field goals by Andy English ('03), a 26-yarder and a kick from 37 yards out, and cut the lead to 10-6. The Lynx dominated the third quarter and came back with a vengeance. Running back Menachem Leasy ('01) scored on a one yard touchdown run to give Rhodes its first lead, 13-10. Tailback Hayes Mathis ('02) scored on a five-yard run to make the score 22-10. Andy English ('03) kicked two more field goals, including one just before halftime, to increase the Lynx lead to 25-10.

In the fourth quarter, Rhodes struggled to hold onto the lead. Leasy scored on another one-yard plunge into the end zone to seem-

ingly put the game out of reach at 32-10. However, the Majors put a scare into the Lynx during the home stretch as Keith Hopkins scored on two TD runs of 25 and 17 yards, the last run with 1:23 remaining in the game. These quick drives put the game in danger as the Majors fought back to a 32-25 deficit. However, the Lynx held onto the ball and managed to prevail.

On offense the Lynx had an up and down game. Running back Kevin Gennusa ('03) played another brilliant game with 149 rushing yards on 25 carries, an impressive 6.0 average. Fullback Leasy only had two carries for two yards, but both runs resulted in touchdowns.

Pat Williams ('00) had a tough final game as quarterback for Rhodes. Williams completed 10 of 31 passes for 164 yards but with three interceptions. Patrick Finley ('00) led the receivers with four catches for 95 yards, including a long 46-yard reception. Andy English ('03) had a good kicking day as he converted four of five field

goal attempts and only missed from 48 yards. Unfortunately, the offense also lost two fumbles in addition to the three interceptions.

The defense used a strong effort to shut down Millsaps' attack except, for an early lead and a late comeback. Cornerback Jeff Sholtz ('00) accounted for seven unassisted tackles while linebacker Chris Huff ('02), strong safety William Henry ('01), and free safety Clark Madison ('00) each added five tackles. Defensive end Ryan Parry ('02) had four tackles and he forced and recovered a fumble. Strong safety Henry had a sack for a ten yard loss, while defensive end Derrick Barwick ('00) also had a sack for an eight-yard loss. Leasy forced a fumble.

Overall, Rhodes football players felt that the team didn't play up to their ability but managed to win. As cornerback Corliss "Coco" Givens ('01) says, "The game was an indication of our season with its ups and downs, but we came out on top in the end." Wide receiver Kila Wilson ('01) agrees and reports, "While the team didn't play as well as we should

## Lynx Swimmers Start Season

By Brad Damare  
Staff Writer

The Rhodes Men's and Women's Swim teams began their second season last weekend with an invitational meet against Delta State University. The Lynx had agreed to compete against Delta State, a Division II school ranked 12th in the nation, as a practice in preparation for their first official meet. Although Delta State defeated the Lynx swim team, several individuals set personal records, as the young team responded to the tough competition.

"Overall, I'm pleased with our performance this weekend," said head coach Steve McGrath. "The returning swimmers are swimming a lot faster than they did at this time last year, and our freshman recruits

have added a depth to the team that will definitely propel us forward in the conference standings. Even the head coach for Delta State remarked that he was impressed both by the performance of our team and the confident attitude of our swimmers."

Despite the defeat, most of the swimmers are optimistic about the coming year. "I'm really looking forward to our competitions now," said senior Nick Grojean ('00). "You can tell that the level of performance and team morale is so much higher. . . . This is going to be a great year."

November 13 marks the official start of the season for the Lynx, as they travel to Hendrix College in Conway, Arkansas, to take on their first conference opponent.

have, we fought for the victory." Givens feels that the team showed great improvement this season and fell just short of an 8-1 record, expecting an even better year next season, despite the loss of several seniors, because of capable young players.

The Lynx will see the departure

of thirteen seniors, including defensive end Joby Dion, wide receiver Pat Finley, quarterback Pat Williams, middle linebacker Zac Jumper, and offensive tackle Steve Smith. Before next season, coach Joe White faces the tough task of replacing these players with talented newcomers to the program.



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