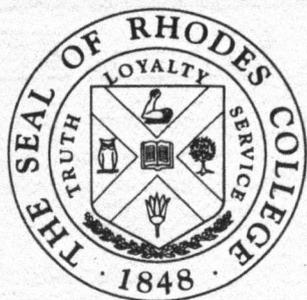


# Special One-Page *Rhode'ster*, Page 8!



# THE **SOU'WESTER**

The Weekly Student Newspaper of Rhodes College

Vol. LXXXV, No. 15

Wednesday, March 4, 1998

## RSG, SRC, Honor Council, Pub Board Election Results

### RSG RESULTS

Candidate	Number of Votes	%
<i>President</i>		
Neeta Venepalli ('99)	343	59.2
Kate Bishop ('99)	236	40.8



### *Vice-President*

Teal Baker ('00)	502	86.0
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### SRC RESULTS

Candidate	Number of Votes	%
<i>President</i>		
Stefanie Johnson ('99)	506	86.6



### HONOR COUNCIL RESULTS

Candidate	Number of Votes	%
<i>President</i>		
Eric Johnson ('99)	291	50.6
Amy Whigham ('99)	284	49.4



### *Vice-President*

Amy Killebrew ('00)	401	69.1
Alok Madan ('99)	179	30.9



### PUB BOARD RESULTS

Candidate	Number of Votes	%
<i>Pub Board Commissioner</i>		
Kan Comkornuccha ('99)	509	86.6



All results compiled by Chris Sippel ('98) and Karl Dzelzkalns ('98) during a three-hour process that ended with the posting of election results at 11 p.m., March 2.

*Interesting results of the election include:*

- Eric Johnson's win over Amy Whigham for Honor Council President included a seven vote margin. The two candidates ran for Honor Council Vice-President last year, with Whigham emerging victorious by 11 votes.

- Neeta Venepalli received 331 votes last year for RSG Vice-President. This year she received 343 votes, an increase of 12 votes.

- The estimated number of ballots cast in this election was 704, representing roughly 50% of the student body.

## Daughdrill Articulates Depth Of Christian Commitment At First Seidman Lecture

By Ford Baxter  
News Editor

President Daughdrill professed that he would approach his subject carefully last night and stick to his manuscript "because this is a matter of some tension and complexity." If he chose his words carefully, however, he was by no means timid in his use of them.

After rendering the audience a short course in the history of "protestant higher education" which chronicled the "gradual, small and subtle" shift toward secularism, Daughdrill endeavored to show how Rhodes defies this historical trend.

In 1848, Daughdrill noted, four fifths of college presidents were clergy. While the manifestations of Kantian, Darwinian, and Cartesian world views have helped squeeze religion out of the academy, and the last vestiges of religious certainty have been swept away

with the currents of sixties existentialism and postmodern relativism, Daughdrill argued, Rhodes stands against this erosive tide with redefined Christian commitment.

Once strongly Church-affiliated colleges are now reduced to noting historic ties and promoting "vague and vacuous values," Daughdrill said.

As a result, "students lose a public language to assert what they believe." They are "forced to use a liberal vocabulary" when that vocabulary may not allow them to express their beliefs.

While Daughdrill is visibly proud that "Rhodes has chosen the path less traveled" in American academia, he wants to make certain the college stays on that path. Daughdrill believes that the most important means by which the college can make certain a religious commitment in name and form is through professors committed to

promoting the ideals laid out in the college's mission statement.

Daughdrill sees that there is a problem, however, in that academic culture finds "belief" rather repugnant.

"Faculty find the need to conform to the secular humanist model for fear that they will be excommunicated [from the academic community]," Daughdrill said.

He asks why this suspicion of Christianity is so pervasive among academics, why faculty culture has to be different from student culture, parent culture, board culture, administration culture, and American culture.

"Atheism in higher education is pervasive," Daughdrill said.

The result, Daughdrill observed, is a net loss of academic freedom. Academia has so feared the intrusion of some dogmatic, oppressive specter of religiosity that it has altogether ex-

cluded any contribution to the search for truth from the religious sector, Daughdrill argued.

The freedom to "support God," the freedom to simply "believe" has been taken away in modern academia.

One can study the Bible in two ways, according to Daughdrill: skeptically or submissively. We should approach it both ways, simultaneously allowing the Bible to speak to us on its own terms, allowing it to affect us, while also analyzing it as a piece of literature.

Treating the Bible solely as a piece of literature at a church-related college is "like treating the sun like all other sources of light."

During the question and answer session, Daughdrill extended his remarks to note that all religious texts should be treated in this manner.

"I have adopted the Ramadan tradition of fasting," Daughdrill said. "I

think there's a great deal to learn from mystics."

The skeptical tradition for obtaining new knowledge, the scientific method, reasoning, etc., is important, but equally vital, Daughdrill argued, is the submissive tradition.

"Some truth can be known by scientific methods, but we will completely miss other truths [if we are not willing to believe]," Daughdrill said.

We should seek both kinds of truth, with the knowledge that none of life's ultimate questions can be answered by science, questions such as: Who am I? Where am I going? What is right and good? How should we treat each other? What is the meaning of life?

In much of his speech, Daughdrill pointed to the Religious Studies Department's role in particular.

See Daughdrill, Page 3

## N'Awlins, A Fractured Fairy Tale

JAMES SPEARS  
EDITOR, BOOTLEGGER

Student Elections are in a couple of weeks, but I've never been one to stay at a party until it was completely over, so I'm cutting out a little early. Writing a farewell column is a funny thing. Part of me wants to break into "Auld Lang Syne" and part of me wants the whole thing to pass silently away so I can move on to bigger and better things.

I suppose I should give some sort of summary of what I've learned here over the past four years. But I'm still working out that part. So instead I'll tell you what happened to me over the eight days between Mardi Gras and last Wednesday.

On Friday Damon and I decided to go to New Orleans. I was working with four hours of sleep and two recently finished papers. My car took my work study check and I had been unable to procure some corn whiskey for the trip (yes, I realize it's illegal). So while my car was happy, I was not. But that wasn't important.

We jumped into the car around six after various parties drug their collective feet and hit the Dairy Queen in Batesville, Mississippi. A dipped cone is one of the finer pleasures in life, and running on no sleep and the frustrated anxieties that a stifled trip down to the Southern Babylon brings

can work up a mean ice-cream appetite. After the brief respite and a solicitation for "miniature pygmy goats" we began our trip in earnest.

There were a lot of Texans on the road that night. Being a native who has recently disowned the state, I feel quite justified in saying unequivocally: Texans are the stupidest people on the face of the planet. We were hit with a flying Lone Star can, and saw some strange bestial-sodomy action in a camper van nearing New Orleans. It was all I could do to keep my beef jerky and Stewart's Creme Soda in my stomach and my hand from pulling out the Colt .45 nestled snugly under my seat and imitating Deniro in *Taxi Driver*.

Finding the hotel was a pain, and we were almost out of gas. But we found it, finally, and after a minor bad attitude adjustment, I fell comfortably asleep on the floor.

The next day was perfect. In all my wide experiences and world travels, nothing beats a sunny day with a slight breeze. Being good Americans we hit the Riverwalk and looked at all the touristy crap for sale. There was a life-size Stormtrooper for sale which was actually the coolest thing I've seen since Nintendo back in 1986.

The parade we saw was impressive. Jerry Springer waved and I actually snagged a few good beads, though my quick hands and amazing flying elbows were no match to the assorted drunken fembots flashing their flesh. As an aside, I tend to support the feminist movement, but I have to shake my

head in dismay at the way so many women could be convinced that plastic balls and string are worth catering to a bunch of drunken, college, frat-boy blockheads. I would have turned vigilante except for the fact I would have spilled my Guinness. So, disgusted, we returned to the hotel room, venturing out again a little later for some food.

Sunday was overcast and we all felt a little dazed while preparing to leave. The continental breakfast at the hotel lasted from 7 a.m. to 9:30 a.m. and we missed it both days. So we were hungry as well as tired and after more feet dragging we ended up at a restaurant that featured "Wop Salad" and boiled crawfish. Ah, it's so nice to see prejudice reflected in the local food-stuffs of a culture.

Finally New Orleans was behind us. Of course the trip was much more interesting than what I described, but if you want the full story you'll have to come talk to me personally.

We broke down in Batesville, Mississippi, a strange circularity settling over the trip as I kicked my car repeatedly. Actually, I surprised myself with my level of serendipity. The other five people in the car were just plain cold, I think. Luckily a good ol' boy from

the area towed my car into Batesville proper. The most helpless any human being can ever feel, I believe, is to be chain-towed by a drunk driver at 70 miles per hour and watch smoke thickly roll off your brakes. (If you're reading this, Darin, I appreciate the help. Good luck with that tax evasion thing and your sixth marriage. May you find the happiness you deserve from lending me a hand. Ha ha ha.)

My roommate picked up the lot of us around one in the morning and we arrived back in Memphis after two sometime. For all his hard work, one of Memphis's finest pulled him over and gave him a speeding ticket. We thought that to be a fitting end, so that's where I'll end.

My past four years could be traced similarly. Nothing extremely bad, just a bunch of weird occurrences that keep me a little skewed and edgy. I suppose I'll break down now and state my point in a glaringly obvious and paternal manner, just so it doesn't go unrecognized: Try to find something completely laughable about your life. It beats re-runs on TNN and will never cease to keep you humble and thinking. Once you stop thinking and rest on your laurels, boom, you're in Batesville, staring at the smoke rolling off your brakes.



### LETTER-TO-THE-EDITOR

To the editors:

In the article entitled "The Truth About Data Match" by Neeta Venepalli, I read a couple of comments that absolutely outraged me. The first one was about President Daughdrill's orientation speech. Neeta states that "they didn't see too many brown faces staring back at them . . ." If the Rhodes community could not understand, ". . . go talk to some brown people." Well, I must admit that being a "brown person" I DON'T understand what you're talking about either. I say that I don't understand because for the past four years, I have heard the pathetic laments of people like yourself on this campus of how, to use your words, "brown people" are taught not to accept relationships with others from another culture, etc. Funny, I have an older brother who just got engaged to his girlfriend of two years this past Valentine's Day. [My parents] are

ecstatic, and they love her just as much as they love their two sons. My parents have always taught me to be fair and impartial to others. But, please don't write things that makes people assume that all "brown people" are alike in this way. Obviously neither my family or I am.

Yes, I am angry. Not at Neeta, but at things that she said which can cause ludicrous generalizations and stereotypes. I can respect the fact that everyone has his/her own upbringing and opinion, but when these people ask others from their same culture to either prove or verify that which is NOT true, I cannot bring myself to comply, not to mention that it makes people look at ME differently. Maybe in the future, Neeta, don't think of yourself (or anyone else for that matter) as a "brown person," but as someone that is, well, another person. I know I have . . .

Chirag Chauhan ('98)

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As the official student newspaper of Rhodes College, *The Sou'wester* is produced entirely by the students on staff. It functions independently of faculty and administration. It is published weekly throughout the fall and spring semesters, except during exam periods and breaks.

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All staff editorials published in *The Sou'wester* represent the majority opinion of the Editorial Board composed of section editors and executive editors. Opinions expressed in *The Rhode'ster*, opinion columns, and letters-to-the-editor do not necessarily reflect the opinions of *The Sou'wester* Editorial Board. Letters-to-the-editor are encouraged; all letters must be signed and will be edited for clarity.

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3-Year	4/1,820	4/379	5/1,820	5/1,820	4/677	4/1,820
5-Year	4/1,199	5/205	N/A	N/A	4/445	4/1,199
10-Year	5/604	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

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2/98

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## Daughdrill

continued from page 1

In that department, Daughdrill said, "we want those for whom religion is a lived reality, not just an academic subject." "There is a difference in knowing about God and knowing God." What about teaching the Bible as the word of God, Daughdrill asked.

Daughdrill wondered why professors should become "neutral" in religious discussions. He recounted that during a recent campus discussion addressing the question "Is there room for faith in the classroom?" the consensus among the three Religious Studies professors on the panel was that they should not profess their personal faith. The professors felt that relating that information would compromise the academic study of religion that should be taking place, Daughdrill said.

One professor, however, said that when she studies feminism with her students she tells them that she is a feminist. "Apparently, she saw no contradiction," Daughdrill said.

"I suspect that they have a hidden agenda," Daughdrill said. He explained that professors must surely realize that their students are perceptive enough to see behind whatever mask they put on, just as students do with their professors in other areas of study. A professor's beliefs on an issue are important to the student, Daughdrill argued; their impact is significant. Daughdrill noted that Dr. Diehl wanted all the college's professors to be Christian.

"I disagree with that," Daughdrill

said. While he advocates the statement adopted by the Board of Trustees that the college should have a large majority of Christian professors, diversity of views is important.

During the question and answer session, Daughdrill expounded on the value of having students from other religious backgrounds at Rhodes. He notes that they provide the services of widening the campus world, "just being critical," and exposing false piety. Beyond this, highly important are "their friendships; the friendships of a variety of people makes us more sensitive."

Daughdrill concluded, however, that "diversity is a lower value than Christian commitment. . . We wouldn't have a separate department of Hebrew or Hindu studies; that's not who Rhodes is." While world ideological trends are increasingly moving towards valuing religion, and Christianity in particular, Daughdrill said, institutions of higher education continue to divorce themselves from this reality and promote a debilitating relativism.

Daughdrill takes pride in Rhodes' ability to clearly define itself. He thinks the college should go to great lengths to preserve that definition, if necessary.

The college has had an amazing climb up the national rankings charts while following its philosophy, but, Daughdrill said, if the college had to make a choice between losing a high place in the rankings and maintaining its Christian commitment, the Christian commitment would come first.

The full text of President Daughdrill's speech may be obtained by contacting the Office of the President, 843-3730.

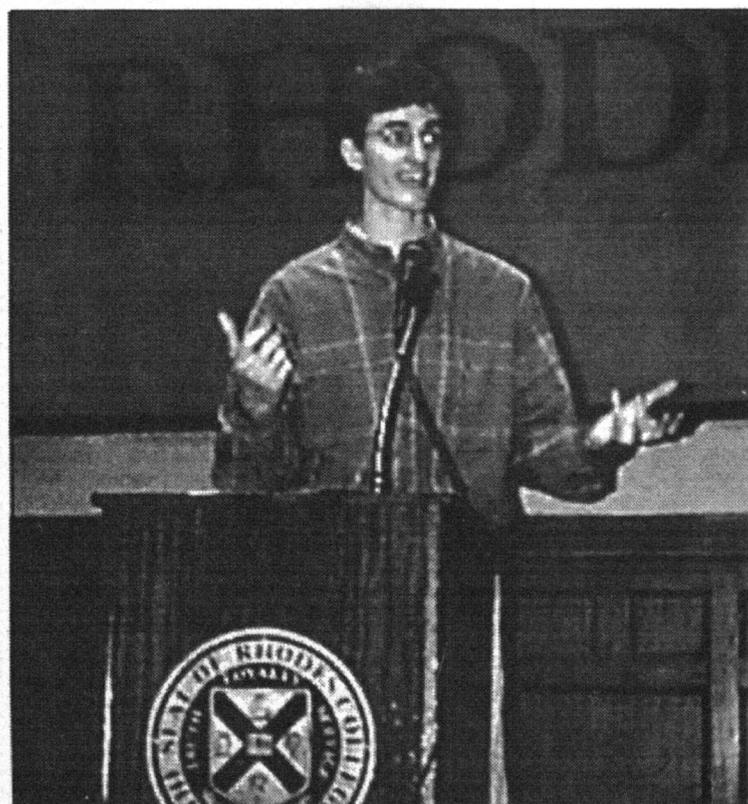


Photo by Andrew Shulman

Eric Johnson ('99) describes his plan for the future of the Honor Council at the Student Forum in the BCLC ballroom on Sunday, March 1. Johnson was one of six students elected to campus government positions yesterday.

## Extended Library Hours Welcomed, Questions Remain

By Hallman Graves  
Staff Writer

The new extended library hours, from midnight to 2 a.m., Sunday through Thursday, have been established to accommodate students' need for more library time. While regular library services are not available during extended hours, the additional hours provide a quiet place to study in the lobby and second floor stacks.

At midnight the library services shut down and the remaining students must sign in with the Campus Safety officer that monitors the extended study time. Any additional students that pass in and out of the library during the extended hours must also sign in.

Only members of the Rhodes community are able to use the library during this time.

While the extended hours of the library are in place only on a trial basis, Bill Short and Lynne Blair said that there are usually a minimum of twenty Rhodes students that use the

extended hours each night.

Dean of Academic Affairs John Planchon was credited with the push to extend library hours.

Neeta Venepalli ('99), RSG Vice President, finds discomfort with the apparent exclusion of RSG in this policy change, one that RSG has "actively pursued for years."

According to Venepalli, "RSG's role, with this issue, has been a persistent, informal and formal call to administrative attention that extension of library hours was an issue of genuine concern for students. When the decision was finally made to implement later hours for the library, however, RSG was not informed nor asked to participate in the discussions on the actual implementation."

Venepalli credits the Administration with responding to the student voice on this issue: "...what we need to focus on is further expanding administrative-student-student government collaboration on issues that arise in the future."

Friday hours will remain 8 a.m. to 9 p.m., and Saturday hours remain 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. The library will open at 1 p.m. on Sunday.

Although some students have expressed excitement over the extended hours, some have said they would still like Burrow Library to expand their hours even more or become a 24-hour facility.

Bill Short and Lynne Blair said they doubted the possibility of the library staying open any later on weekend nights and opening earlier on Sunday mornings. They commented that the Burrow Library was not designed to be a 24-hour facility and security reasons prevent it from being open to students all night long.

In addition, they said that the Burrow Library provides more hours than any of the surrounding colleges and opening earlier on Sunday may conflict with Rhodes' church affiliation.

## "Animal Minds" Results Inconclusive

By Steele Means  
Staff Writer

Dr. Colin Allen, associate professor of Philosophy at Texas A&M, gave a lecture at Rhodes on February 23 on the topic of animal cognition.

The study of animal cognition attempts to address the question of whether animals can be said to have "consciousness" and the manner in which this consciousness can be defined.

Animal cognition is related to the more general field of philosophy of mind, Allen's primary academic interest, which is the study of how mental phenomena relates to the physical world and the way in

which the physical brain can initiate immaterial consciousness.

According to Allen, "The vast majority of work and study done within the field of philosophy of mind deals with human minds," Allen said. "I became interested, while in graduate school, in pursuing the study of animal minds as well."

Chair of the Rhodes Philosophy Club John Trout ('00) was the chief coordinator of the lecture, which was made possible by funding from the Philosophy Club and the departments of Biology, Psychology, and Philosophy.

Trout is himself interested in the field of animal cognition and said that he wanted to bring a speaker

to the campus who could assist in legitimizing the search for the "thinking animal". Trout said that he, after discovering Allen's work, began to communicate with him via e-mail and eventually asked if he could give a lecture at Rhodes.

According to Trout, reaction to the lecture has been mixed. Trout said that Allen did not provide a definite affirmative or negative answer to the question concerning whether animals "think" and this left some people disappointed.

Much of the argument affirming animal consciousness is based on the evolution of mind argument, which states that mental capacity, like physical attributes, have slowly evolved and developed over the centuries.

"If one accepts the idea of animal thinking, the evolution of mind argument makes sense," Trout said. "However, it has met with much opposition over the years."

Trout also said that if one accepts the idea that humans have cognition and other animals do not, one is, within the terms of the evolution of mind argument, postulating that humans made a sudden evolutionary "leap" in mental capacity, which many scientists decry as extremely unlikely.



Dr. Colin Allen

## CAMPUS SAFETY LOG



2/23/98 TO 3/1/98

2/23	NO UNUSUAL ACTIVITY TO REPORT
2/24	1:15pm Bryan Campus Life Center: Lynx Lair - Suspicious persons. Two subjects escorted from campus 3:50pm Trezevant: Illness: MFD ambulance transported 4:00pm MPD T.A.C.T. Units on campus - preparation for Dees
2/25	1:44am University Street: MPD reports a black pick up truck in the area; suspected occupants of breaking into vehicles on neighboring streets. Not seen in Rhodes area
2/26	9:10am Sorority Row: Vehicle (Chronic Violator) booted and immobilized
2/27	7:00pm Williford: Illness - Campus Safety and Residence Life responded. 11:30pm 1800 Block of Tutwiler: Loud noise complaint to Rhodes Campus Safety and MPD. Party over before arrival
2/28	NO UNUSUAL ACTIVITY TO REPORT
3/1	8:45pm Trezevant: Illness. Handled by Residence Life Staff

### STATS

ESCORTS: 17	ACCESSES: 160
CITATIONS: 60	VISITORS: 1285
JUMP STARTS: 6	PROPPED DOORS: 4
ALCOHOL VIOLATIONS: 1	VEHICLES BOOTED: 1

## Cabinet Gets Six New Parking Spaces

By David Elder  
Staff Writer

Some students have expressed concern over the recent assignment of new reserved parking spaces to members of the administration. With on campus parking limited as it is, some students fear that these new spots will make it even harder for them to find a parking place.

The offices of Administrative Services, Student Affairs, Admissions, College Relations, and Media Relations were all granted reserved spaces on campus.

"The administration should be creating new parking spaces for students, not taking them away," Kyle Ryan ('99) said.

Some students consider the latest parking reduction part of a disconcerting pattern that started with the change in freshman parking

policy.

According to Dean of Student Affairs, Mel Hokanson-Richey, the "Freshmen" parking lot will be back in place for the first-year class entering next August.

Overall, however, the student body seems to have given these latest remarks little attention. Two spaces came out of the student lot in front of Voorhies, three spaces were from visitor parking, and one faculty/staff space came from outside of the Austin Building.

These spaces allow those cabinet members who already did not have a reserved space a guaranteed place to park 24 hours a day.

"It guarantees that in the case of a student emergency, a member of the Student Affairs office will be able to find a place to park on campus 24 hours a day," Hokanson-Richey said.

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# Llewellyn Looks Back on Rhodes Radio

AS SOME STUDENTS ATTEMPT TO START AN INTERNET RADIO STATION, BOB LLEWELLYN RECALLS HIS INVOLVEMENT WITH WLYX

By Brandon Barr  
Scene Editor

WLYX, 89.3 FM, was Rhodes's main radio station up until the late 1980's, when the radio station finally closed down.

Associate Professor of Philosophy Bob Llewellyn, who was the Associate Dean of Academic Affairs for much of the radio station's life, was very involved in the old station's supervision.

"WLYX was up and running for four or five years before I became the Associate Dean of Academic Affairs, though it had not really been positioned within our organization very well," Llewellyn said. "One of the things I was asked to do when I became Associate Dean was to establish some formal ties with the radio station effort."

According to Llewellyn, Rhodes actually had two radio stations. WLYX was the more powerful of the two, with better equipment and a 40 mile listening radius. The second station, WSWM, was a lower-power station.

The broadcast tower was directly behind Hassell Hall, but the studio moved several times. It was originally in the fourth floor of the tower in Mallory Gym. It then moved to the second floor Briggs Student Center, first in the middle section and finally settling down the hall into a nice, big studio where Counseling Services is now located.

The radio station was run by a paid manager and student and community volunteers.

"There was student interest in WLYX," Llewellyn said. "It was extraordinarily important, because it was a volunteer radio effort."

According to Llewellyn, worker organization was one potential for conflicts at the station. Since the

schedules. We had a tendency to favor them because we could count on them, and that suggested to students they were second in importance — and in some sense that was true, because when spring break came, you still had to put a signal on the air."

Llewellyn pointed out several reasons why the station finally went under. First, he pointed out that there was no organized academic program that supported the station.

"Radio was never embraced as a full and complete expression of what Southwestern was doing in the area of communication arts because, frankly, that kind of education was professional and

our academic program has never billed itself as a professional education program. So there was never that academic home or program that fully supported having a radio station."

Llewellyn also pointed out that financial resources were always a difficulty in keeping the radio operational.

"There was also a sense of irritation between the direction the people who ran the station (the volunteers) wanted to take and what the school wanted. There was a notion that WLYX was to be the alternative music source, and consequently was to be the voice in Memphis for all kinds of musical experimentation; and I think, to be honest, the school wanted a more traditional, classical, format — something like WKNO is now. So there was always a kind of philosophical tension."

The radio station, according to Llewellyn, faced some tensions near the end, because the Memphis Public Library challenged WLYX for its frequency. While the situation was being negotiated, Llewellyn said "a tragic thing occurred" that ended the station for good: a backhoe which was clearing

land for construction near the broadcast tower accidentally clipped one of the tower's support lines, and down it came. Replacing the tower was deemed too costly, so the FCC frequencies were given away, the equipment and record collection were sold, and that was the end of WLYX.

"Truthfully, I wish we had kept it because we'll never get a frequency on the FM spectrum again unless we pay tremendously high dollars to someone, so it would have been nice

to keep that resource going. But on the other hand, the college needed to take more seriously what it wanted to do with that radio station. If it really did want a voice in the local radio spectrum, we needed to treat it more seriously and devote more resources to it ... And we weren't prepared to do that."

*This article is the second in a two part series on Rhodes radio. The first part, in the February 25 issue, discussed Mark Anderson's efforts to start an Internet campus radio station.*

*"There was...a sense of irritation between the direction the people who ran the station (the volunteers) wanted to take and what the school wanted. So there was always a kind of philosophical tension."*

— Bob Llewellyn

station's FCC license required WLYX to broadcast 18 hours per day, year-round, community volunteers were used alongside Rhodes students to staff the station.

"It made sense to have student volunteers while school was in session," Llewellyn pointed out. "But what do you do when spring break comes, or in the summer when there are no students here? We had to have community volunteers as well as student volunteers. Part of our difficulty was to coordinate the available air time, because you could count on community volunteers for endurance regardless of student

## Peggy Pendergrass Changes Duties

By Amy Tidwell  
Staff Writer

Walking through Halliburton Tower is not quite the same now that Peggy Pendergrass, the switchboard operator, has moved to a new office in the Austin building.

Work study students became very familiar with Pendergrass over the years, because she processed their paychecks. Though many may not realize it, Pendergrass also processes the telephone bills that students receive in their mailboxes.

After working in Halliburton Tower for 12 years, Pendergrass moved to allow for expansion of the Admissions office.

Prior to working at Rhodes, Pendergrass worked for the telephone company in Memphis for 33 years. Her experience (and our good fortune) brought her to Rhodes. When her company started cutting workers back to part-time positions she retired.

She then found an ad in the newspaper for the switchboard position at Rhodes and applied for the position.

"Back then," according to Pendergrass, "Rhodes was so poor that if you dropped a paperclip you better pick it up." Since then,

Pendergrass has witnessed the growth of Rhodes and the addition of several buildings including the Bryan Campus Life Center and Buckman.

One of the biggest changes Pendergrass saw was the installation of the voice mail system. We take it for granted now, but before the new system, Pendergrass took personal messages for all of the faculty and staff.

Pendergrass is happy with her new office even though she misses the students who used to come by before.

"I would see her at 9:00 a.m. to turn in my time sheet," Lisa Roy ('99) said. "She has always been so helpful and cheerful."

"She is a bright spot on this dreary campus," Chris Stopera ('99) said.

At the moment, Pendergrass is not processing the work study checks and most students do not have a reason to go to the Austin Building, so Pendergrass does not get to see them.

Despite this disadvantage of her new office, Pendergrass likes the view from her window, because she "can see the campus and watch what is going on."

"All the people in the new building have been really nice," Pendergrass said. All in all, the move seems to be for the best, but Halliburton Hall is just not the same without her.



### SEMESTER ABROAD IN COSTA RICA

The Organization for Tropical Studies (OTS) and Duke University are accepting applications for the Fall 1998 semester for a **field-oriented, science based semester abroad program in Costa Rica**. Students earn 16 credit hours in tropical ecology, environmental science and policy, field research methods, and Spanish language and culture.

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Application deadline for 1998 Fall semester is  
March 20, 1998.



... A consortium of universities providing leadership in education, research and the responsible use of natural resources in the tropics.

# Arts & Entertainment

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SOU'WESTER

Wednesday, March 4, 1998

## Dark City Is Almost Enlightening

By Steve Perry  
Staff Writer

I assume you've come across a commercial about a bizarre, shadowy sort of film called *Dark City*. It looks like a bad music video involving memory loss and people with hats.

Your impressions are correct, but the movie has a storyline a lot stronger than its commercials indicate. I may as well tell you some of it, since judging by last week's box office receipts you won't be seeing it.

Each evening at midnight, time freezes in "Dark City" as beings known as "The Strangers" intervene and begin to alter people's memories with various additions to and subtractions from their minds. At the same time these Strangers literally reconstruct the city with their special psychic powers — they create new realities for these people who are given completely different minds. One person, named Murdoch, is not affected by these changes, and it falls on his shoulders to uncover who is manipulating the city and why.

Oh yeah, there's a dead prostitute on the floor too. As you can see, not exactly *Good Will Hunting*.

At the surface level, I was com-

pletely fascinated by this film. Its visuals were not exactly what I would call "stunning," but they were certainly different, as director Alex Proyas (best known for another film with a somber feel, *The Crow*) treated the city itself as a sort of dark canvas, using light to highlight what he felt needed to be highlighted. This gave the film a depressing feel that does in fact depress you as you watch it.

This was a rather dangerous thing for Proyas to do, for the lack of light makes it rather easy to fall asleep, and indeed one person I saw the film with did exactly that. But from my twisted point of view I found it all very engrossing, for the visuals were a departure from normal filmmaking and gave *Dark City* a truly Gothic feel that was last achieved on its level in the original *Batman* film. Proyas' use of the camera is certainly not on the level of Scorsese and other greats, but the world he creates is different and challenging, making *Dark City* one of the few films in recent memory that was enjoyable to watch simply because it was a challenge to watch.

Visuals are important of course, but, as those who have seen Scorsese's *Kundun* know, a film



Jennifer Connelly is approached by one of the Strangers in *Dark City*.

needs to at least attempt to create a story with those visuals as well. At this, *Dark City* both hits and misses.

We knew something was wrong in the city from the opening monologue, but what exactly was wrong was the mystery, and how it played out was, for a while, well done. I think it worked primarily because the mystery had a sense of terror attached to it. As each person in the film realized that, no, they couldn't remember what exactly they were doing last week, I asked myself the same thing.

Although the idea that reality as we know it could be manipulated by an outside force is not a new one, it remains a frightening one — not only because the idea of being manipulated is scary, but also because such manipulation implies that we are no longer independent creatures, and that suggests that we are not true human beings.

The driving idea behind the mystery, once revealed, was not a new one either, and that is the film's great flaw. There was a lot of talk of

the Strangers wanting to find what gives human beings their "souls," since the Strangers' own collective consciousness can give them creative names like "Mr. Book" but no sense of individuality. As a result, they tampered with memories to see if human beings were just a string of thoughts and no more, or if there was something truly fundamental about human individuality that they could incorporate into themselves to help their species. It is an old theme in science fiction, but *Dark City* could have made a much better run at exploring it than it did. In the end, Murdoch just sorta battled it out with the Strangers like a good action hero would do, no significance attached.

Call me a sucker, but I had hoped for something with a little bit of metaphor involved in the ultimate battle between individuality and collectivism.

It didn't help matters that Murdoch's ability to behave as the Strangers did was never explained, and even if it was, he was greatly outnumbered anyways. Yet he still won. The final battle managed to achieve what few movies can — become completely implausible while at the same time tossing any of the movie's significance out the door.

From there, *Dark City* went down faster than *Titanic*.

*Dark City* was further hampered by weak acting. Rufus Sewell, probably not known to most moviegoers, will likely remain that way, as his performance in the lead role of Murdoch was not terribly inspiring. Kiefer Sutherland, in what amounted to a mad scientist bit, either was doing a very good job or a very bad one. . . we'll assume that's a compliment. William Hurt and Jennifer Connelly had roles of little substance and are worth little mention.

As a result of shoddy plotting, *Dark City* becomes a low grade episode of "The Twilight Zone" with a nifty texture and a lot of gothic angst. It's not going to be the cup of tea for most people out there, as its dark look coupled with a convoluted plot is going to bore many people quickly.

Yet, personally, I was fascinated by its look and a movie plot that for once I had to try to unravel in my mind as I watched it. In the end, however, what really intrigued me was the fact it was the perfect example of a good film that could have been great — and that is what is truly depressing about this somber and soon to be forgotten film.

### Wilson Lectures On "The Message Of The Museum"

By Melody Barnett  
Associate Editor

On Thursday, March 19, Fred Wilson will give a lecture entitled "The Silent Message of the Museum" at 8 p.m. in Hardie Auditorium. This talk is the last event in the 1997-98 Moss Lecture Series.

Wilson is an artist living in New York City who has done extensive work involving the concept of the museum and the versions of history that are presented in museum displays. His best known work, *Mining the Museum* (1993), brought together The Contemporary in Baltimore and the Maryland Historical Society in an attempt to uncover those individuals and groups that had been denied adequate and/or accurate representation in the American museum.

In *Mining*, Wilson chose pieces from the Society's collection and arranged the displays to call particular attention to various histori-

cal portrayals of African-Americans and Native-Americans in the museum. These displays included: a collection of high quality nineteenth-century chairs grouped around a whipping post, all assembled under the title "Cabinetmaking"; several handmade dollhouses with white- and black-skinned figures in stereotypical roles and positions; the juxtaposition of a silver set in the Baltimore Repoussé style with a set of slave shackles; and a line of larger-than-life carved cigar store Indians gesturing with their empty, outstretched arms towards the portraits of several cigar store owners and their families.

Wilson's lecture will address some of the issues at stake in the representation of history through museum displays, as well as the powerful potential of reviving specific histories through the dramatic juxtaposition of artifacts as described above.

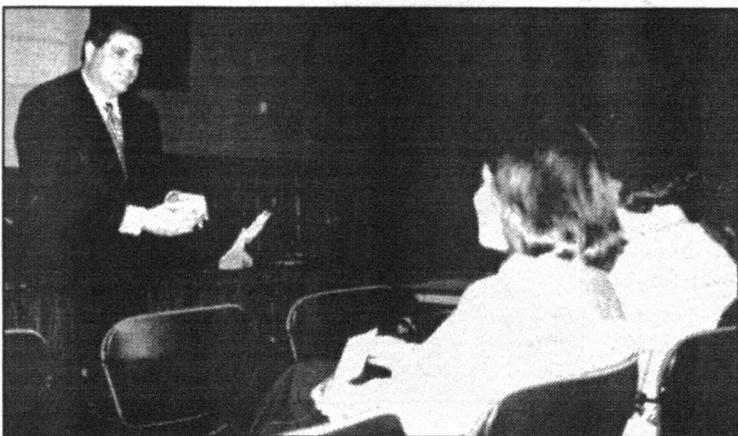


Photo by Chris McKenzie

Elizabeth Hood ('98) and Angie Wellford ('98) get advice from Dave Coleman "The Dating Doctor" at last Thursday's Creative Dating Workshop. The workshop was held in the BCLC's McCallum Ballroom, with about 50 Rhodes students in attendance.

### Attention:

Activities Board is postponing the Amphitheatre Party that was scheduled for March 20 until late April due to conflict with other campus events.

## 1997-98 Lynx Basketball Year in Review

### Lynx Lose to Hendrix In Final Game

By Jason Heller  
Staff Writer

The men's basketball team finished its season with one of its most heroic efforts this past Saturday at Hendrix College. The Lynx went into the most hostile playing environment they've seen all year with the intent of getting pay back on the Warriors for a rare loss in Mallory two weeks earlier.

Despite the intense emotion the Lynx played with in the first half as a tribute to their lone senior, Brendan Beehan, they found themselves down ten at half time.

The second half was a microcosm for the entire season: they played with great intensity but

they just couldn't catch a break. Totally erasing the once 16 point gap with about four minutes left, it looked like the Lynx would pull it out for Brendan.

However, after a few bad calls and a couple of shots that rimmed out, the Warriors narrowly escaped with a five point victory.

In his final collegiate game, Beehan poured in 29 points, grabbed 6 rebounds, and had 3 steals.

The lynx finished the season 14-11, 6-8 in the conference. Despite the disappointing final record, the future looks bright for the Lynx, who return four starters and thirteen letter men.

### Lady Lynx End Season With Loss

By Jeremy Smith  
Staff Writer

On Saturday, February 28, the women's basketball team journeyed to Conway, Arkansas, to play Hendrix, one of the best teams in the SCAC. Unfortunately, the Lynx lost to Hendrix 103-76. Coach McConnell feels that the team played better than the score indicates, but the Lynx couldn't stop the Hendrix offense.

Five players for Hendrix scored in double figures. This balanced offensive attack was too much for the Lady Lynx to overcome.

The women's basketball team finished their season with an 8-16 overall record and a 6-8 SCAC record. The Lynx finished fourth in the conference out of eight teams. It was a pretty good season, considering that eleven of the fifteen players are freshmen. Coach McConnell states, "I am a little disappointed about how our season ended up, but

the future looks good."

Coach McConnell and the players are hopeful that next season will be better than this year. The team will lose only one player after this year, forward Kate Maffei ('98). After next year, Kristin Reich ('99) will be the only graduating player. This season was a really good learning year for the freshmen, because many got a lot of playing time. Next year, the rising sophomores will have gotten a lot of valuable experience. This experience will help the Lynx to play more consistently and avoid the ups and downs that often plague young teams.

Coach McConnell cited team strength as the area that most needs to be improved. Also, the players need to keep developing confidence in themselves and in the whole team. However, McConnell emphatically declared, "The team definitely has what it needs to succeed in the upcoming years."

### Recollections of the '97-'98 Season

Compiled by Jason Heller

- Going 8-0, achieving the 21st ranking in the national poll despite losing four key players -Zack Moore, Steve Meyer, Whit Moloney, and Brendan Beehan- for a considerable time.

- Beating the University of the South, a NCAA tournament-bound team, by over twenty points at home.

- Watching Beehan join a select group of Rhodes basketball elite by scoring his 1,000th point in front of his home crowd.

- Having Beehan be only the second SCAC player in history to be named Div. III National Player of the Week. Beehan being named to the SCAC all first team for the second straight year, and Josh Cockerham being named to the conference's second team.

- Seeing the heart break when it was all finally over.

- Sophomore forward Patrick Yoder had this to say about the loss of Beehan to graduation: "Brendan was one of the reasons I came to Rhodes. His presence will be sorely missed on and off the court. He's more than just a great basketball player, he's a great person. Nothing would have given me more pleasure than to give Beehan a win on his way out, but sometimes you can't control the way things work out." Beehan is a great player and not only will the Lynx miss his presence in the middle next season, but they'll probably miss him more in the locker room.

### Rhodes Athletes Apply For Federal Grant

By Farrah Fite  
Staff Writer

On May 4th, "Timeout for Choices," one of the newest organizations on Rhodes Campus, will find out if they will be awarded a grant from the NCAA for up to \$28,000 over the next three years. And what will "Timeout for Choices" do with all this money? According to Dave Carr ('98), Student Committee Chairperson, they are "hoping to feed as much money as they can back to the athletes and students."

The program with the sports-related title originated when Students Affairs wanted a student-led program dealing with issues of alcohol within the Rhodes Community. The program idea was then picked up by Athletic Director Mike Clary, and Glenn Schwab, Head Athletic Trainer, was named program coordinator last spring.

Since that time, a "Timeout for Choices" Executive Student Committee consisting of representatives from each class and various

sports has formed. This committee has discussed and decided what issues they believe to be most important for this alcohol education and awareness program to pursue. Throughout this year, this group of student athletes have come together and developed a grant proposal which was submitted to the NCAA Sports Sciences Choices program in February.

The "Timeout for Choices" program plans to deal with alcohol issues with a different approach than other programs. "Timeout for Choices" acknowledges the need for education for students in alcohol-related issues including abstinence, complying with the law, and responsible decision-making for those of age. This program will be student led and an Advisory Committee comprised of professionals from throughout the Rhodes community will guide them.

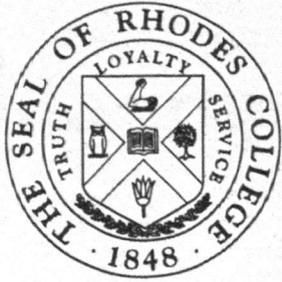
The program will continue through a three year phase, the first year focusing on Rhodes ath-

letes, the second extending to all students at Rhodes, and finally reaching out to the greater Memphis community in the third year. Next fall, the program will officially begin and the organization will host many activities which will be announced once they receive word about the grant. Although the committee has been informed that only one Division III school will be awarded this grant this year, Schwab remains optimistic and states that "with or without the grant, they still plan to do at least 50% of what they have planned."

The Student Committee is excited for the initiation of the program next fall and believe that the program will be a success at Rhodes and throughout the Memphis community. Although this entire process has been long and has required a great deal of work, most members agree with Carr in saying "the program will be worth it if we can reach a few students who haven't been reached before."

**Congratulations**  
**Brooke Edmond**  
**winner of the CLC**  
**Survey drawing**

# Oh My God! They Killed Marcotte!



## THE RHODE'STER

The Parody Student Newspaper of Rhodes College

Wednesday, March 4, 1998

This Page is a Humorous Parody. Read at Your Own Risk.

Page 8

## Gangland Hit Mars Student Elections

By Mary McCoy  
Rhode'ster Godfather

All the results from yesterday's Rhodes student elections were thrown out after the discovery was made that current RSG president Damon Norcross had used his connections to the Chicago Mafia for the explicit purpose of "discouraging" particular students from running for leadership positions in the RSG, SRC, and Honor Council.

Official ballots mysteriously vanished, and were replaced with ballots which included prominent members of the "Five Families" as viable candidates for elected positions. Apparently, "Don" Norcross and his underworld hench-(wo)men arranged for an entourage of long black cars which were strategically parked outside the Rat, and proceeded to kidnap any students who voted for official

candidates, punctuating the air with a spray of bullets now and then, just to be cute. Allegedly, certain students who resisted were taken for "shoe-fittings" down by the Mississippi River.

Although several students have been reported "missing," only one death report has been confirmed, according to Director of Campus Safety Ralph Hatley. Publications Commissioner Jonathan Nolen received a newspaper-wrapped fillet of cod outside his door early today, and issued a brief public statement to the Rhodes student body: "Matt 'Luca' Marcotte swims with the fishes."

The student body loudly exclaimed, "Oh my God! They killed Marcotte! You b\*\*\*\*rds!" Marcotte was apparently caught in the election crossfire, and took a bullet meant for RSG presidential candidate Kate Bishop when it

ricocheted off the Lynx statue.

Other candidates have reported harassment and attempts at "intimidation." Honor Council presidential candidate Eric Johnson discovered the head of a horse tucked beneath his sheets last week, and his running mate Amy Killebrew faced the wrath of Norcross's tommy gun as she attempted to purchase oranges from a fruit stand. She is currently recovering from gunshot wounds in the Rhodes Health Center, where she is being treated with Advil and allergy shots.

Norcross is still at large, but according to reliable sources was last seen standing along the side of the road in Batesville, Mississippi, next to a broken-down Plymouth Dynasty, and waving a strand of Mardi Gras beads over his head. According to Dynasty owner James Spears, "He won't get far."



Photo Manipulation By Mary McCoy and Brady Potts  
Soiling his otherwise impressive record as RSG President, Damon Norcross flexed his other powers as a Mafia "Don" in the past student elections.

## Saltpeater Contamination Kills Students' Will To Love

By Brady Potts  
Rhode'ster Sex Kitten

Yet another secret agenda on the part of the Rhodes College Illuminati was brought to light last week when an FBI investigation revealed that Ratman Tim "The Third Elder" VanderMeersch had apparently been lacing the food in the Rat with saltpeater, in a prison-documentary inspired attempt to reduce the philandering of Rhodes students by impairing libidos across campus.

Saltpeater, in addition to its usefulness in obliterating Redcoats and Yankees, is one of the only substances on the planet with the ability to turn Marvin Gaye's "Let's Get It On" into good studying music. Whether VanderMeersch was acting under orders from higher-ups or simply initiating his own moral agenda, unbeknownst to the administration, is still uncertain.

The food tampering was brought to light when a representative for the FBI consumed the tainted treats while on campus for the Career Services Job Fair as the

"Token-Non-Marketing-Job-Offer-For - Students - Majoring -In - A-Humanity-Or-Fine-Art." The FBI Agent became suspicious when a brush with the "Watson's Girl," famed for using her body to sell her daddy's spa products on the tee-vee, produced "no bubbles for the whirlpool," as he put it.

Further investigation revealed a suspicious drop-off in enrollment in Professor of Political Science Steve Wirls' classes. The hearthrob expressed relief at being reassured that he was still "dreamy," and that his hordes of forlorn, unrequited admirers would return to class as soon as the effects of the laced "Chicken Supreme" wore off.

The straw that broke the camel's back, however, was the 3 a.m. Glassell fire drill which produced only male students. The Rhodes Illuminati were horrified at what they perceived as signs of a dramatic increase in F.O.S.T.E.R. membership and, not realizing that the mix-up in hidden agendas was responsible for the exclusively male exodus, took vengeance on an outspoken supporter

of the group.

Pro-F.O.S.T.E.R. Sou'wester columnist Matthew Marcotte was found with his eyes and entrails removed in an apparent occult killing. The Neo-Pagan Student Union was framed for the murder, and a representative of the group exclaimed, upon viewing the body, "Oh my God! They killed Marcotte! You b\*\*\*\*rds!"

VanderMeersch was unavailable for comment, having fled the scene of the alleged food tampering. Further, most of the conclusive evidence was removed from the crime scene by a CIA-trained, Rhodes-employed "Hush Squad" led by Loyd "the Wolf" Templeton.

Luckily, commuter students, safe from the dangers of eating at the Rat, rose to the challenge posed by 1200 lethargic students and helped to restore on-campus Rhodents to their former vigor by holding a three-day love-in in the Frazier-Jelke amphitheater, having apparently taken President Daughdrill's call to emulate Sewanee last year to heart.

## Mardi Gras Riot Leaves One Dead, Hundreds Hungover

By Brady Potts  
Rhode'ster Bacchus

Last week, dozens of students who apparently didn't have any work to do attended the annual bacchanalia in New Orleans, sacrificing a few tanks of gas and an unexcused absence for the opportunity to swill booze and see lots and lots of boobs. Students who were forced by classwork to stay on campus for Mardi Gras, however, were determined to create their own Mardi Gras here at Rhodes, spread the spirit of excess across campus, and hopefully see lots and lots of boobs. But unfortunately, a riot ensued.

The trouble began when a group of New Orleans expatriates, frustrated by the college's persistent refusal to recognize Mardi Gras as a legitimate holiday, took matters into their own hands.

Donning masks, beads, and a bottle of Jose Cuervo each, the revelers burst into Clough, armed with cowbells and rakes and calling themselves the Crewe of Cuervo. After pilfering art supplies to decorate their fleet of old bicycles "liberated" from Campus Safety's basement, the Crewe proceeded to drum up additional membership for their madcap, tequila-fueled exercise in debauchery, despite initial disappointment upon realizing that most Greek organizations were already at the real Mardi Gras.

The first sign of trouble was a radi-

cal splinter group of students from Mobile, who, after a few liters of "liquid courage," began to loudly dispute New Orleans' claim to originating the tradition. With historical fact and a 12-gauge shotgun to back them up, the Mobilians quickly brought the parade to a halt, demanding that the Crewe hand over control. Hostilities escalated, and in a tragic moment Matt Marcotte ('99) was cut down by the Mobilians when he questioned the culinary merits of the "moonpie." The force of the blast blew him into the lower branches of a tree, where he hung by his beads until Physical Plant cut him down later that day.

Screaming, "Oh my God! They killed Marcotte! You b\*\*\*\*rds!" undercover Campus Safety officers quickly removed their masks and cornered the tipsy Crewe. However, their sympathies were quickly won by a really keen set of purple and gold beads wrapped around a jug of gin, and the parade continued unhampered until the Crewe incited a riot by screaming "You show 'em we throw 'em!" at a Women's Forum meeting. The resulting brawl left many injured, but the large amount of liquor on hand served as quite a dandy anesthetic. Thus chastened, the Crewe broke up and headed back to their rooms to nurse bruised ribs and prepare for the imminent hangovers.