

**150**  
**RHODES**  
1848 — 1998

# THE SOU'WESTER

The Weekly Student Newspaper of Rhodes College

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Wednesday, September 30, 1998

## Rush Problems Lead IFC To Consider Changes

By Amy Tidwell  
Staff Writer

The Rhodes Interfraternity Council plans to make changes to its bylaws as a result of nationwide and campus rush problems.

"IFC is working hard to set standards, because the Greek system [nationally and at Rhodes] has gotten out of hand," said IFC Vice-President of Rush Josh Solomon ('00). Solomon explained that IFC saw the need for more specific policies so that "rush could run more smoothly and be more fair to all of the houses."

IFC VP of Programming Jay Eckles ('00) agreed.

"Everything that has changed regarding rush is aimed at either

making rush fair for each house, making rush a fun and less stressful event for the rushees, or both," Eckles said.

One change made before rush was the institution of a new rule for distributing early bids. This year, according to Solomon, "no, fraternity [could] give early bids directly to rushees; they [had] to go through IFC." Solomon added that this takes some of the pressure off of rushees, because they now cannot be cornered by one fraternity.

After dealing with this year's rush violations, IFC is also examining the consequences of violations.

"We are responsible for adjudicating any complaints against a fra-

ternity as well as rush violations," Eckles said. "Right now the process is a little too complex and is not set out crystal-clear in the bylaws."

"Some houses commit violations because the consequences aren't as tough," Solomon said.

This year's rush violations and IFC hearings are kept confidential in order to protect the privacy of the individuals involved. However, Solomon stated that "talking trash about other fraternities, giving cups out at parties, having common containers at parties, and giving alcohol to rushees" are all IFC violations.

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### Shade in the sun?

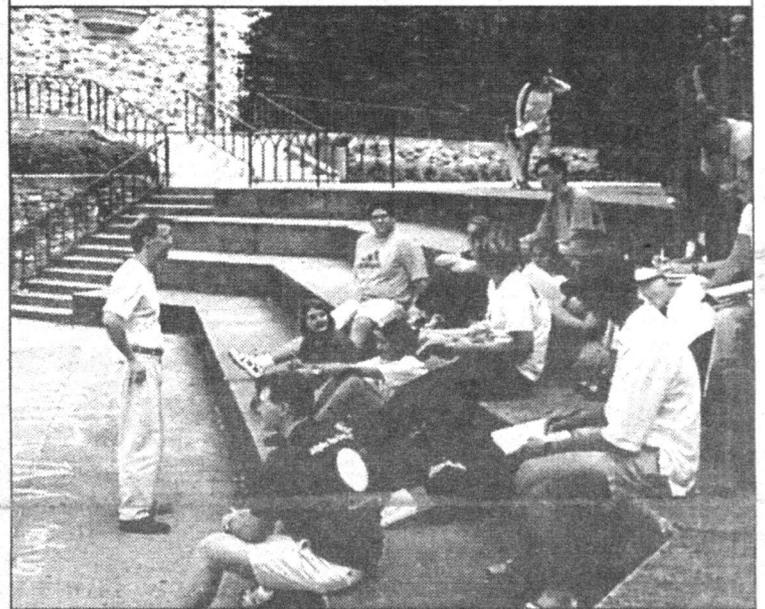


Photo by Brady Potts

Assistant Professor of Philosophy Pat Shade took advantage of good weather to teach his Search class outside after the Clough air conditioner broke on Friday.

## Political Instability In Russia Has Implications For Rhodes Study Abroad

By Kenneth Lukas  
Staff Writer

The recent terrorist bombings in Africa and the political instability in Russia have implications for Rhodes students who are thinking about study abroad.

On August 21, Director of International Programs Katherine Owen Richardson received a fax from Michael S. Steinberg of the Institute for the International Education of Students, <www.iesabroad.org>, addressing these problems and offering some advice on how to avoid trouble.

"In the wake of the bombing of the U.S. embassies in Nairobi and Dar Es Salaam and the U.S. missile attack upon sites in Afghanistan and Sudan, and publicized threats against this country and its citizens, we have heightened concerns about the possibility of attacks upon

Americans and American institutions overseas," the Institute's fax said.

The fax advised students not to congregate at American hangouts (such as bars) that might be targets for terrorists, speak loudly in English when walking with groups of other Americans, or dress in ways that readily identify them as Americans (e.g., baseball caps on backwards, American-college sweatshirts).

However, Richardson was quick to point out that such concerns should not necessarily discourage students from study abroad.

"Safety is a primary concern for everyone involved in study abroad—the students, their families, the institutions which send the students, and the institutions which host them," Richardson said. "Most study abroad professionals believe

that study in a foreign country is no more dangerous than study in the United States."

Problems in Russia stem from sources other than terrorism. According to the September 11, 1998, issue of *The Chronicle of Higher Education*, financial difficulties in Russia have led to a breakdown in public order that could lead to students' being robbed or burglarized. Students should be alert for dishonest educational programs or institutions. Additional information on possible dangers of study in Russia can be found in the *Chronicle* article.

Such problems are not unique to Russia. Nathan Ragain ('00) experienced difficulties while working in Novo Sibirsk, Siberia, over the summer.

"We found, applied for, and were given the job through a sort

of umbrella company called International Exchange Center, based in Riga, Latvia," Ragain said. "Most of the problems were because this company was not the best. Not exactly a racket, but we

were told we'd get paid, and the [Chkalovets] camp was told we'd work for free."

*See Russia, Page 5*

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EDITORIAL OF THE SOU'WESTER

## A Call For Courtesy

Rhodes College consistently rates among the most beautiful college campuses in America, if not *the* most beautiful. Ice storms and other acts of God tear trees down across campus, and still Rhodes retains its visual character. Until, that is, students arrive.

Were the Princeton Review, for example, to survey Rhodes in September, it is quite possible that Rhodes would rate somewhat lower on the "beautiful campus" listing. Fluorescent chalk rapidly becomes an eyesore after weeks of accumulation.

While we do not suggest that organizations and individual students should abstain from public expression, congratulations, or directions, the fact remains that nearly three weeks after Bid Day the sidewalks outside Williford are still covered with directions to various sorority houses.

This problem is by no means confined to women's Greek organizations, however. Various student groups routinely cover the campus with flyers, chalk, and now duct

tape. Perhaps students undertaking such projects should consider the circumstances surrounding their actions.

This weekend is Parents' Weekend; should the student body be represented by the still visible remains of campaign advertising proclaiming "Go Nads!" or should the statement that "(insert name) is the sexiest lil' sis on campus!" be left to linger in the minds of the large numbers of visitors on campus this weekend?

Further, should it fall upon the groundskeeping staff to pick up after Rhodes students? Such behavior is a symptom of thoughtlessness on the part of those who consider it someone else's job to clean up the remnants of activities put on by and for the benefit of students.

That Rhodes students should sometimes fail to consider what should be a question of common courtesy is unfortunate. The issue is simple: We need to clean up after ourselves.

LETTERS-TO-THE-EDITOR

Dear Editor:

The statements made in Mr. Mark Anderson's Letter-to-the-Editor in the September 23, 1998, edition of *The Sou'wester* are erroneous. In his letter, Mr. Anderson states that "the Honor Code is based neither on idealism nor on the pursuit of goodness, but on fear." The justification for this hyper-dramatic assertion is based on the "embarrassingly low standard" to which students are held in having to report known violations of the Honor Code. It is clear that Mr. Anderson does not understand the basic justifications for such a standard, and I am aware that many on the Rhodes campus unfortunately have similar misunderstandings. It seems to me that most students would like to enjoy the privileges of an Honor System (such as take-home exams, the ability to leave possessions unattended, etc.) without having to take the initiative to hold each other responsible for violating the agreement we collectively have made. I recognize that the responsibility of reporting a peer's dishonest actions is not an enjoyable one. However uncomfortable it may be, it is an honorable act to ensure the stability of a system that benefits all students. Surely Mr. Anderson would not dispute the integrity of an indi-

vidual who reported the identity of a drug pusher or a rapist?

Mr. Anderson further demonstrates his thoughtlessness when he states his opinion about the dismissal of Mr. Clare "Chip" Hodge from the Honor Council. He states, "How can we claim to be academically free when an elected representative is removed by the Honor Council in large part due to his academically divergent views?" It is clearly stated in the article about Mr. Hodge's dismissal that he was removed due to "issues of behavior, bias, poor attendance at meetings, and misinterpretation of policy." Although Mr. Hodge does have some "academically divergent views" (such as his belief that all testimony given by the accused should not be questioned, but rather automatically assumed to be factual regardless of the evidence), these views did not affect the Council's decision to dismiss him. I recognize that Mr. Hodge has stated that this is not the case, but that is most likely a reflection of his desire to avoid focusing on his unethical actions. I encourage Mr. Anderson, in the future, actually to read the justifications for a decision before initiating a public critique.

Respectfully yours,  
Eric Johnson '99  
Honor Council President

## Rhodes To Nowhere

By JUSTIN BAKER



"Man, this sprinkler situation has just gone too far."

## Should sidewalk chalk be prohibited?

**The Sou'wester is initiating a new opinion poll.**

**We will print a timely question about campus, local, or national events every week, starting now.**

**Cast your vote in the Rat: Mark your position on the slips provided and drop them in the box where you pick up *The Sou'wester*.**

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**If you wish, you may include your name and a brief statement — we just might print that, too.**

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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.

Staff meetings are open to the Rhodes community and convene in Tuthill every Sunday afternoon at 2 p.m. *The Sou'wester* is a member of the Student Publications Board, a six-publication consortium that includes the editors of all student publications, class representatives and at-large representatives from the student body.

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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## The Heart Of The Matter

GREG SIMS  
DON'T DRINK  
THE WATER



Borrow one of any Rhodes students' day planners, if you can wrest it out of his or her vice-like grip, that is, and you will find much the same content in each: Kinney meeting at eight o' clock; theatre rehearsal at seven; meeting for group presentation at nine; read 50 pages for Search; fraternity chapter meeting at seventhirty; track practice at four; finish problem set for chemistry.

Life for the typical Rhodes student involves floating from one meeting to the next while trying to squeeze a little reading in between and flood one's bloodstream with caffeine in anticipation of the late night of paper-writing ahead. Nowhere within that day planner, however, will you find a block of time labeled "Think" or "Learn."

"What absurdity," you may ask, "is this guy spouting off? Thinking and learning is precisely what college is all about. I've got \$25,000 a year that says

so."

My English professor is fond of telling our class, "Don't just read the poem, read the poem." I think we here at Rhodes need to be reminded not just to think, but to think, not just to learn, but to learn, else we find ourselves departing from this place in four years having squandered one of the greatest opportunities of life.

The inspiration behind this challenge stems from a resurgence of, or perhaps even my first, true interest in academics as an end in itself-learning for the sake of learning. This may come either as a shock or a breath of fresh air to professors (probably both), but I am actually enjoying most of my classes and the corresponding readings. I become frustrated when I do not fully grasp an argument or a concept, and the taste for understanding lingers on my lips like a bittersweet candy long after I step out of the classroom doors.

My frustration extends to the learning environment which predominates in American higher education, and Rhodes, despite its commitment to the liberal arts, cannot help but be a part of this environ-

ment.

Students operate under a "performance model" of education. The excitement of learning is often displaced by an emphasis on grades as the desired end. And why shouldn't they be? Just as in high school, the goal was to maintain a respectable GPA in order to get into college, so in college the goal is to keep up the grades to get into a good graduate program or sufficiently build up one's resume to enter the work force in a position at least marginally higher than a burger flipper.

Our system is set up to measure, to quantify learning and thinking. Now I have not devised a more amenable way of conducting academic affairs, but my point is that if 250 milligrams of learning is all that is prescribed for an A in a class, we tend to fill the prescription exactly, without excess. All of us are familiar with the "study and flush" routine.

Added to the performance pressure is the hectic schedule of most Rhodes students. There are all too

many days where I am blocked in meetings and other commitments, volunteering or otherwise, and don't start my schoolwork until ten or eleven at night. Do not misunderstand me. These extracurriculars are invaluable and I would not trade the experiences I've had, the people I've interacted with, or the lessons I've

it is up to the individual to discover and explore the vast expanse of ideas and knowledge out there.

The wise Don Henley sings, "The more I learn, the less I understand." Now he could have meant that learning breeds more confusion here. In fact, anyone who saw my stupefied and bewildered face the day after typing my capital punishment paper for my Contemporary Theology class would have agreed.

But a funny thing happened while writing that paper. Only five pages were required, but I stayed up until four Tuesday morning working on it. By one o' clock, I was no longer concerned about my grade. Now it was personal. I wanted to resolve the issue for myself, to own it, to internalize it.

That is the key. That is what we must do to think and to learn. In the process, we will realize that the more we learn, the more we discover how much there is to learn about. To finish Henley's thought, we must try "to get down to the heart of the matter."

*Students operate under a "performance model" of education. The excitement of learning is often displaced by an emphasis on grades as the desired end.*

learned through them for the world. I encourage each of you to invest yourself in something other than school.

But the unfortunate side-effect of all this involvement is realized at midnight while wading through the quagmire of Durkheim or Machiavelli. Once finished, we are so worn down from the journey we would rather wash our hands of the matter and be done with it. Check one more item off the list.

But back to this learning as an end in itself stuff, for this is the really exciting part. Beyond all of the performance pressures and hectic schedules,

## Graffiti: The Art That Brings Us Together

JEREMY MUNGLE  
FACE MUNDO  
ROMAM



an unedited record of life at Rhodes College can be found as close as the nearest roll of toilet paper. I am speaking specifically of the countless lines of anonymous graffiti that are hidden away around our campus. This graffiti speaks to anyone that has some time to kill.

graffiti is scattered all over campus wherever people find themselves bored and alone. Virtually every building bears the marks of Rhodes' unsung vulgar poets, but there are a few that stand out.

Burrow Library has (as is fitting) the largest collection of graffiti on campus, and perhaps some of the oldest. From the basement stalls to the sound resistant cubicle on the sixth floor, Burrow contains a rich and varied graffiti tradition.

some of the grout writing in the men's basement bathroom rivals the Sistine Chapel in patience and execution. I have spent many hours over the years staring at the vicious dialogue between members of the greek system and those whose oppose them as my mind wandered from school work to the walls of my study carrel.

is it not amazing that the repulsive musings of some neanderthal about female

*most of the graffiti on campus is not especially thought-provoking or creative. much of it is simply foul, but a few inscriptions show hints of genius.*

anatomy or an imbecilic reference to Dave Matthews can seem so much more interesting than electron orbital patterns or the french revolution?

that epicenter of liberal thinking, LaRosa revolutions, and nude women, Clough Hall, houses our most intellectual and controversial graffiti. the most vituperative graffiti I have ever seen is faintly written in the east stall of the men's basement bathroom. one

could spend many class periods reading the wooden desks in room 417.

they have preserved a written record of the confrontational slogans that frequently accompany juvenile ideologies alongside their only slightly less juvenile retorts. the Victor Coonin idolization graffiti helps to temper some of the ridiculous marijuana propaganda and odd doodles that are also found on these desks.

most of the graffiti on campus is not especially thought provoking or creative. much of it is simply foul, but a few inscriptions show hints of genius. some of my favorite texts include:

- "Flush Twice, It's a Long Way to the Rat"
- "Charlie Landreth was an ATΩ" (both in Burrow Library)
- anything from the Rushing/Weeden contest, but especially, "Holden Rushing = Big Fat Ugly Woman" (in Buckman)

- "Is — Your Dad?" (in Clough; ask me and I'll point it out to you)
- "John Carpenter has a Commodore 64" (in the Math Building)

while what our graffitist has to say is important (well, sometimes), execution can make or break a great piece of graffiti. permanent black marker ink is usually the most eternal (only stain jammer can tame it) and easily readable pigment. ball point pen ink is rather transient and highlighter ink is virtually unreadable. far too often, the clarity of a nice piece is ruined when the artist tries to go over his work again to make the words darker.

the choice of font is another consequential decision for a graffitist. elementary lowercase is the most common and generally works well, but even simplistic calligraphy can add so much to a piece and really catch the attention of the reader. cursive almost never works well and sloppy penmanship is never appreciated. using all capital letters can make a state-

ment, but frequently comes across as overbearing.

originally, I read our graffiti for entertainment purposes, but I eventually came to see it as something more. being obsessed with the insignificant things that are constant in the human experience, I came to see graffiti as a timeless expression of our more primitive instincts. graffiti seems to me to be an outlet for our socially unacceptable thoughts and urges that are universal. it probably always has been.

some excellent examples of graffiti have survived from antiquity that would be right at home on a desk on the upper level of the Math Library. I have seen the same graffiti written in a Burrow bathroom scratched into the side of a wooden latrine in the mountains of New Mexico. I find our graffiti strangely comforting because it reminds me that despite all our education and all our trappings of civilization and all the effort we go through to prove that we have advanced beyond our ancestors, we still share a similar leisure activity.

## Service/Learning Pleases Students, Grows Substantially

By Andrew Sullivan  
Staff Writer

A year after the Rhodes Service/Learning (S/L) program's official beginning, student response to the program is overwhelmingly positive, and faculty participation and course offerings have increased dramatically.

Seventy percent of students enrolled in S/L classes last semester agreed or strongly agreed that the S/L component of the class "enhanced the academic content of the course," according to a recent survey conducted by Rhodes.

Eighty percent of students surveyed felt that the S/L component helped them "to understand course materials in a new way and connected the course to 'real life' situations."

The program's original participants included eleven S/L student fellows, who were each paired with a S/L professor in summer 1997. Each professor then taught a S/L course in fall 1997.

Assistant Professor Joseph Favazza and Professor F. Michael McLain, both of the Religious Studies department, wrote the grant proposal that gained funding for the program from Rhodes President James Daughdrill's discretionary fund.

According to Favazza, there are now at least twenty faculty members teaching what he considers S/L courses, though not all the classes are part of the official S/L program. There are now seventeen trained S/L faculty members

and seventeen S/L student fellows.

Among the early S/L classes were Assistant Professor of Philosophy Pat Shade's "American Philosophy," McLain's "Hunger, Plenty and Justice," Assistant Professor of Art Carol Stewart's "Beginning Sculpture," and Associate Professor of Biology Charles Stinemetz's "Plant Biology."

Associate Professor of Religious Studies Steven McKenzie's "Race and Religion" course is one of the new S/L classes. He taught the course last year without a S/L component and said he thought at the time that "there was something missing."

McKenzie explained that this semester's students, in addition to attending BSA meetings and visiting the Civil Rights Museum, will each spend at least twenty hours working with a Memphis group that "is involved in some way with racial reconciliation."

The groups his students have chosen include MIFA, Souper Contact soup kitchen, Memphis Diversity Institute, and Christ United Methodist Church.

"I'd like to see the students try to begin to build a bridge between the academic work that we're doing, in terms of the biblical material, and the real world," McKenzie said.

Stewart's sculpture and "Lifestudy" classes are working with women who have been involved in abusive relationships. With help from Stewart's students, the women "are going to make

some sort of autobiographical quilt."

"We are thinking of suggesting that the women do a past, present, [and] future," explained Stewart. "The students are learning the techniques in class, then they are going to do a workshop with the women in which they help them make their own quilts. We'll furnish all the materials." Stewart described the quilts as "a catharsis."

In the future, she hopes to work with the Civil Rights Museum, with whom she has worked in the past. She also helps to do a masks project with recent parol-

ees who are living in a halfway house.

The future could hold changes for the S/L program. Dean of Academic Affairs John Planchon convened a group of faculty this past summer to look at curriculum

and philosophy of Service/Learning," Favazza said. "We just want to make sure that, pedagogically, we're sure how it works and why someone should do it. And making sure that people are very clear that when you do it, it's got to have learning objectives tied to it."

"We don't want to say, 'You've got to have this many hours of service for it to be Service/

Learning,' but we are moving forward to say, perhaps, if it's truly a Service/Learning class, if there are truly learning objectives tied to the service, then [the service] should be required, not optional."

*I'd like to see the students try to begin to build a bridge between the academic work that we're doing, in terms of the biblical material, and the real world.*

— Associate Prof. of Religious Studies Stephen McKenzie

changes. Their report, part of which concerns S/L, will be presented to Rhodes faculty during the current semester.

Attempts will be made to develop a more "comprehensive plan

## Daily Themes Will Return To Curriculum

By Matthew Shipe  
Staff Writer

English 155: Daily Themes, one of the English Department's most popular courses, will return to the curriculum next semester after undergoing minor changes.

Daily Themes is a class designed for first-year students who are superior writers. The class can be taken instead of English 151, which is the basic composition class that all students are required to take. Daily Themes requires that a student submit a short paper, or "theme," five times a week. Entrance into the class is through permission of the instructor.

Until this fall, the class had

been offered every semester and had been taught by Assistant Professor of English Elizabeth Kamhi. Her departure this summer left no one to teach the class this fall. The course will now be taught by Assistant Professor of English Mary Pitts, who is new to Rhodes this semester.

Pitts said that she plans not to do anything "too drastically different" with the class. However, Pitts stated that she does plan to add a research component to the course.

"I am planning to include research . . . so that the course will better fit the goals of critical thinking and writing," Pitts said. "I am going to keep the daily themes, but

just require some research in the course.

"Also, during the semester I would like to see the students combine their daily themes into two longer papers, one at the midterm and one at the final."

Pitts also stated that she would like students to use the Internet as a source.

"I am enthusiastic about using the Internet as a resource in the Daily Themes context, in the spirit of the way the course was designed," Pitts said. "There is so much exciting stuff on the Internet that it wouldn't hurt students to come in contact with it for some rich writing material."

**Announcement:**  
RSG has rescheduled the food-services vote for Thursday, October 1, at 7 p.m. in the Orgill Room. The student body is encouraged to attend.

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## Campus Safety Log

9/21/98 TO 9/27/98



9/21/98	NO UNUSUAL ACTIVITY TO REPORT
9/22/98	10:22pm Trezevant Hall: Fire Door Activated. Reset, no fire.
9/23/98	9:28am Robinson Hall: Larceny of money. Report taken.
9/24/98	NO UNUSUAL ACTIVITY TO REPORT
9/25/98	6:10pm Trezevant Parking Lot: Hit-and-run reported. Report taken.
9/26/98	4:00am Trezevant Social Room: Money box found. Turned over to R.A.
9/27/98	4:35am Memphis Police Department on campus to investigate a D.U.I. and hit-and-run that occurred off campus. One arrest was made, subject transported to jail, car towed.
STATISTICS	
VISITORS:	1,032 CITATIONS: 112
CARS BOOTED:	0 ESCORTS: 6
ACCESSES:	143 JUMP STARTS: 0
PROPPED DOORS:	0

## Honor Council Holds Independent Election For Open Position

By Kathryn Royster  
News Editor

Tyler Buckner ('00) was elected to the Honor Council on September 17 under unprecedented circumstances.

According to the official Honor Council election report, Buckner received 76% of the vote for the available Junior Male Representative position. His opponent John McCants ('00) received 24% of the vote; 22% of the junior class voted.

"I decided to run for Honor Council because I felt that being on the Honor Council would give me a valuable opportunity to lead and to work for the betterment of the campus community," Buckner said.

"I feel that it is my duty to support and uphold respect for the Honor Code," he added.

Honor Council President Eric Johnson stated that the Council handled the election in an "unprecedented" manner.

"Usually RSG runs all elections; this was a little different in that Honor Council handled it all ourselves," Johnson said. "There's nothing in [the Honor Council constitution] saying we need to go through RSG at all. The council

has different needs when it comes to an election. We felt that our needs weren't really being served by RSG and haven't been for several years."

According to Johnson, the Honor Council did not use the usual method of candidacy application.

explained.

In addition, Johnson said, the Honor Council "had no publicity via fliers" for ballot applications because they did not want students to confuse it with first-year election publicity, which was still posted when the Honor Council position became available.

Regarding the Council's overall handling of the election, Johnson stated, "I don't know if I'd do the same thing if there were more than one position

*We handled the election ourselves to see the work involved, to see how complicated it is, and to investigate the possibility of doing it ourselves in the future.*

— Eric Johnson, Honor Council President

"Applicants answered the essay questions 'Why are you applying for Honor Council?' and 'Why are you qualified?' instead of turning in [petitions] with signatures," Johnson said. "We made the candidates' answers available to the students beforehand so they could make an informed choice."

Although more than two applications were turned in, Johnson said, only two names were on the ballot because those were the only candidates to submit their applications on time.

Johnson stated that the Honor Council also broke with precedent by deciding ahead of time not to hold a runoff election.

"We said whoever gets the most votes wins, period," Johnson

open. I did hear some complaints that some people wanted to be on the ballot and couldn't, so I felt kind of bad about that. We handled the election ourselves to see the work involved, to see how complicated it is, and to investigate the possibility of doing it ourselves in the future."

Buckner stated that his plans as an Honor Council representative include representing his constituents and "objectively keep[ing] the best interests of all involved with the Honor Council in mind."

"I also hope that students will feel comfortable approaching me with any issues which may concern them throughout the year," Buckner said.

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**Bryan Campus Life Center**



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### Rush

*continued from page 1*

In addition to revision of the bylaws, "IFC has some long-range goals," Eckles said.

According to Solomon, IFC is addressing the issue of deferred rush by "looking into it, to evaluate the pros and cons."

"No vote has taken place [on deferred rush] nor is one expected to take place in the near future," Eckles said.

IFC is also looking at the possibility of a Greek weekend which would involve all members of the Rhodes community.

"It will also include community service and leadership building as the focus of some of the activities," Eckles said.

The weekend would be co-sponsored by the Panhellenic

Council.

As of yet, no formal arrangements have been made for the event.

### Russian

*continued from page 1*

Melissa Statom ('00), who also worked at the Chkalovets camp this summer, advised study abroad students to be careful.

"Make sure that you have definite plans," Statom said. "Make sure you know the country really well. Foreigners are really easy targets. You have to be flexible, and you have to have a good sense of humor."

Ragain agreed that students should plan for the unexpected.

"Make sure you have traveler's insurance that covers unexpected changes in plans,"

Ragain said. "A couple of people we were with got trapped in Russia. They needed to change their tickets and ended up paying about a thousand dollars."

Regarding these and other possible dangers of overseas travel, Richardson stated, "We would be foolhardy to think that bad things only happen overseas. If you're a tourist in Memphis and you go a good deal south of Beale, you're probably going to be in trouble."

"However, there are risks which are unique to overseas settings," Richardson added.

Students interested in overseas programs or who may have concerns about international study should contact Director of International Programs Katherine Owen Richardson in the Office of International Programs in 128 Palmer for information.

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# Arts & Entertainment

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THE  
SOU'WESTER

Wednesday, September 30, 1998

## "The Hypochondriac" Begins McCoy's New Season

### STRONG SHOWING BODES WELL FOR 1998-9 SEASON

By Joseph Quintana  
Staff Writer

Molière's French comedy of manners "The Hypochondriac" heads the 1998 - 1999 season at the McCoy Theatre. Directed by Barry Fuller and running October 1, 2, 3, 8, 9, 10 and 11, the play tells the humorous story of Argan, a hypochondriac who delights in the invention of ailments. If "The Hypochondriac" is any indicator, I foresee another great season for the McCoy Theatre.

Monty Montgomery ('99), an experienced McCoy actor, vividly brings to life the character of Argan, whose seemingly eccentric compulsive behavior takes the audience on a roller coaster of laughs.

Argan is an aristocrat who likes a doctor ready for his every whim, to keep him just barely away from the brink of "terminal illness."

Obsessed with his imaginary illnesses, Argan naively ignores, or denies, the vicious intentions portrayed by his second wife, Beline

— played with great melodramatic verve by Lindsey Patrick ('00).

Jill Peterfeso ('00) is excellent as Argan's daughter Angelique, who falls desperately in love with the romantic Cleante, resolutely portrayed by Jeremy Boyd ('01).

Soon after, the romance turns into turmoil. Angelique learns of Cleante's intentions to marry her and is overwhelmed with joy, but Argan is also presently making his own plans for Angelique's marriage.

Being the hypochondriac that he is, Argan logically decides that the person for his daughter to wed is, of course, a doctor-to-be — the vaguely effeminate son of Dr. Lillcrap, played comically by Jason Willey ('99). Through a series of humorous encounters, Molière brings the emotionally wrought characters through the scenes for a jubilant conclusion.

Ty Hallmark ('99) helps tie the action together with a winning performance as Toinette, the family maid whose insistent nagging keeps the seemingly arrogant

Argan consistently irritated. Hallmark and Montgomery are particularly entertaining when they share the stage with their comical antics.

The set design of the Hypochondriac is stunning and fanciful, alluding to the vanity of the Parisian upper class of the 1600s; kudos to DeNae Winesette for designing the set with such an accurate eye to the era. David Jilg's costume designs are exquisite, and Laura Canon provides vibrant lighting. On the whole, it is obvious that the entire technical crew works well together, creating a very believable environment for the play to take an extremely solid presentation.

A hilarious and romantic story, "The Hypochondriac" is a must see this season. The colorful characters and playful dialogue will make the ticket well worth it.



Photo by Brandon Barr

**Monty Montgomery ('99) and Ty Hallmark ('99)** play Argan and the maid in Molière's "The Hypochondriac" at the McCoy Theatre. The play officially opens Thursday, October 1, but there will be a dollar-night preview Wednesday, September 30 at 8 p.m.

## NY Band moe. Delivers Country-Tinged Jam Rock

By Matthew Shipe  
Staff Writer

On the band's second major label album, *Tin Cans and Car Tires*, the band moe. travels into very familiar musical territory. That's not to say that it's unpleasant territory (in fact, it's quite pleasant), but it is nothing we have not heard before. The music on the album can be most easily be classified as "jam rock," with a tinge of country-rock mixed in.

moe. hails from Utica, NY, but got its start in Buffalo. The band consists of Al Schnier on guitar, Rob Derhak on bass, Chuck Garvey on guitar, and Vinnie Amico on drums, with Schnier, Derhak, and Garvey sharing vocal and songwriting duties on the album.

moe. seems to have been heavily influenced by bands like the Allman Brothers and Phish — not bad influences. The guitar playing on the album is excellent, and the vocalists at times are able to reach nice heights with their harmonies. The album, overall, is very winning and highly recommended to anyone who is a fan of "jam rock," or who owns any Allman Brothers, Little Feat, or Phish.

The album kicks off with the rather guitar heavy "Stranger Than

Fiction," which sounds like it could have been a bonus track off of *Eat a Peach*. The album then sinks to "Spaz Medicine," which is the weakest track on the album. This song sounds like a rather inspired Phish tune that meanders on for too long, and Schnier can not pull off a strong enough vocal to make this song winning. It is the type of song that probably sounds really good live, but comes off a bit stale on record.

The album, however, then takes a turn for the better, reaching its apex on the very next track: "Nebraska." This song has a very nice country-rock feel to it, and the song's vocal harmonies work especially well. "Nebraska" is the type of song that would sound perfect on a road trip mixed tape: the song's hook is perfect.

The rest of the album is very solid. The only "cringe" moment on the album (besides "Spaz Medicine") is the classical introduction into to "Plane Crash." The guitar that begins "Happy Hour Hero" sounds like it came straight out of the Little Feat songbook, but that's not a bad thing by any means. Such songs as "Plane Crash" (minus the classical intro) and "It" are stand-outs. The guitars are loud and dense on these tracks and the

hooks are engaging. Again on "It," the band's country harmonies shine. Sometimes, though, the band does not know when to cut off some of their jams, and some of the songs (like "Head") get a tad bit tedious — but the band does have a nice tendency to break out of jams with some vigor.

The album is at its best when it is most relaxed. The main lyrical theme to the album is the classic theme of life on the road, and it is when the band settles down and muses about traveling life that the band comes into its own. The endless nature of the road is articulated in "Hi & Lo," "Nebraska," and "Plane Crash." "Letter Home" is a collection of letters sent home from the road and it sounds like what Phish would sound like if it were a country band.

On the last track of the album, "Queen of the Rodeo," the band again returns to country-tinged rock, with winning results. It is when moe. leans more to the country aspects in their music that they are strongest.

moe. will be playing Newby's on the Highland strip on October 2. The band is scheduled to play at 10 p.m., with an currently unannounced opener playing at 9 p.m. The doors will open at 8 p.m.; tickets are seven dollars.



### picks of the week

#### video

Koyla

Winner of the Academy Award for Best Foreign Film in 1997, this Czechoslovakian film is an endearing gem. An out-of-luck cellist gets paid to enter into a marriage with a Russian woman who needs Czech papers. When the woman flees to her lover in Germany, the cellist is left with her small boy. The blossoming relationship is beautifully developed and perfectly acted by Andrej Chalimon as the child and Zdenek Sverak, who plays the brooding cellist.

#### recording

Soul Coughing

El Oso

The third album from the genre-crossing foursome from New York came out September 27, and it's sure to please new and old fans alike. The band's unique sound combines funky bass and rhythms with skit-tish guitar and wacky keyboard samples. The lyrics are a spoken word pop culture fest. The resulting product is, in a word, phenomenal.

#### event

Freak Engine

October 2, 10 p.m., Theatreworks

The first Friday of every month, this popular improv and performance art show hits Theatreworks (near Overton Square). As is the case with improv, sometimes the show may be a little off, but at its best it's brilliant. Get there early — Freak Engine has a reputation as a good show, so the lines may be long.

## Clinton/Lewinsky Issues Debated At Rhodes

By Steele Means  
Scene Editor

The release of the full report from Kenneth Starr on the Lewinsky case, Starr's allegations of perjury and obstruction of justice on the part of the President, and the initiation of a debate in Congress concerning its response to the situation has in turn sparked intense discussion in the public arena concerning those questions which surround this affair. Namely, are Clinton's acts truly "high crimes and misdemeanors," will Congress remove him from office, and should Clinton take the initiative and simply resign?

Members of the Rhodes community have also been struggling with these questions in the aftermath of the release of the Starr report. Both the College Democrats and the College Republicans have released official statements on this matter.

"The College Democrats' opinion on the issue of the Clinton Presidency is that it is sad and shameful, but that we should move on" according to the College Democrats' official statement. "We believe that this whole ordeal has been a successful partisan attack. We, as the College Democrats, do not believe he should resign yet."

According to the College Republicans' official statement, "In the case involving our current President, the issue is not that of sex, it is of perjury and obstruction of justice. While the President should not be held to a higher standard than any other U.S. citizen, neither should he be above the law. Should the President be found guilty of these offenses, which are considered felonies, the Constitution should be upheld. However... we should allow Congress to fulfill its duty and wait for its verdict before we declare whether or not he should resign or be impeached."

The campus discussion of this matter also recently took the form of a forum, which was held last Wednesday to discuss the future of the Presidency in light of the allegations by Kenneth Starr as well as to debate the issues surrounding this matter.

According to Assistant Professor of Political Science Stephen Wirls, the structure of the forum revolved around a panel of experts, consisting of himself, Professor of Political Science Michael Nelson, and Bill Haltom, a Memphis lawyer. The panel took questions concerning the case surrounding the President from both the audience and Associate Professor of Political Science Daniel Cullen, the moderator of the forum.

"We felt that this [the Lewinsky

matter] was an issue of interest and that we should talk about it," Wirls said. "The purpose of the forum was to answer students' questions and to discuss them."

Independent of this forum, many professors have worked to define their professional opinions on the legal and political issues surrounding this affair. One of the primary questions at this point concerns whether the House of Representatives will vote to hold impeachment hearings and if the Senate, in turn, will remove Clinton from office.

Not many of the professors interviewed found it difficult to believe that the House might authorize impeachment hearings to begin in the Judiciary Committee or that the House might even vote for an impeachment referral to the Senate. However, according to Wirls, it is highly unlikely that Congress will ultimately remove Clinton from office.

"[All of this] is perceived as a partisan attack," said Professor of Political Science Marcus Pohlmann. "There cannot be a credible one-party impeachment process unless public opinion swings in favor of the Republicans."

The President does retain high public approval ratings and this is surely a disincentive for the Republicans in pursuing impeachment. However, some of the professors interviewed said that if the public debate can be framed and organized around the perjury and obstruction of justice charges, and not "just sex," Clinton's public approval might drop.

Also, while both Wirls and Cullen questioned whether Clinton's acts are truly "high crimes and misdemeanors," both asserted that there is enough evidence to compel Congress to fully and methodically debate the issue and initiate hearings in the Judiciary Committee.

"There is enough evidence of perjury and a pattern of obstruction of justice to be persuaded that there was a pattern to derail a legitimate inquiry," Cullen said.

Although Pohlmann conceded that Clinton could have possibly lied under oath, he asserted that "there is no clear evidence of obstruction of justice."

Both Wirls and Cullen also asserted that Clinton should resign, despite the fact that they doubt he will, even if his acts do not technically constitute high crimes and misdemeanors.

Wirls asserted strongly that the sexual affair between the President

and Ms. Lewinsky is irrelevant and that, one way or the other, the fact that Clinton has perjured himself and obstructed justice has seriously weakened his capacity to be an effective President.

Cullen concurred that Clinton's ability to direct policy will be weakened by these allegations, especially since he is a "lame duck."

"The President will have little or

no moral authority and he will not be able to address matters which relate to personal morality," Cullen said.

These allegations will also have international ramifications, according to Assistant Professor of International Studies Sean Kay. Kay stated that, while the rest of the countries of the world are inclined to support Clinton, since they want the United States to have a leadership role in the interna-

tional community, they are at the same time wary of dealing with a weakened United States President.

Kay went on to say that, while the President may be weakened, "the powers of the Presidency are still there and it would be a mistake for a foreign leader to think that he can challenge the United States [due to Clinton's present weakness]."

### Students Respond To Lewinskygate

—Teal Baker—



Do Clinton's actions constitute high crimes and misdemeanors? Yes, they do. What is at issue here is not his extramarital affair with Ms. Lewinsky, rather it is the crimes he has committed in his attempts to cover up the affair—namely perjury, obstruction of justice, and witness tampering. These crimes are flagrant abuses of our judicial system by the man charged with preserving, protecting, and defending the Constitution and are indeed serious enough to be considered "high crimes and misdemeanors". I believe enough evidence has come to light to support criminal charges on these offenses and that this evidence should compel the House Judiciary Committee to initiate impeachment proceedings. If President Clinton is not willing to admit that these crimes have compromised the Presidency, then it is the responsibility of Congress to protect the integrity of the office.

—Chris Leroy—



No, I don't believe that such actions should lead to Clinton's impeachment. The main reason I believe this is that such a process would take a high toll on the effectiveness of how the country would be run, while the whole thing drags on. Furthermore, although his personal conduct was incorrect, in the sense that it went against some of the important moral values his country

was founded upon, I don't think America would suffer a blow to its credibility in international politics. American national security was not threatened by Mr. Clinton's behavior, but removing him from office would seriously undermine the leading role it has in world geopolitics. I think the President has realized the significance of the criticisms brought against him and that the right conclusions will be remembered from this year by controversial debate without having to resort to impeachment.

—Matt Marcotte—



If ALL of the allegations in the Starr report are true, I'd say that Clinton would have reached at least very close to, if not over, the edge of what I would consider "high crimes and misdemeanors". However, based on the evidence we have seen presented so far, I'd say there is very little proof of most of Starr's accusations. In fact, what frightens me more than the information contained in the Starr report is that we have spent over \$40 million dollars investigating President Clinton and the at-least borderline illegal actions taken by those who have been investigating him, including leaking information from a sealed grand jury proceeding and pressuring witnesses, including Monica Lewinsky.

—Neeta Venepalli—



Knowing mostly the lurid details being flashed everywhere, I don't believe Clinton's behavior is

grounds for impeachment. Personally, I might not like it if my President has affairs with women who don't dry-clean, and I might be mildly disillusioned by his decision to hide and obfuscate the issue rather than coming clean, but this doesn't really affect his stance on policies of health care, education, race relations, and traditional family values. Well, maybe this affects the last one. I'm wary when this issue is shrouded in language of "morality" and "character" and "traditional family values" because this leaves room for those who possess all three to denigrate those who don't (in their minds). Considering the UN gave him a standing ovation, it would be pretty funny if our Senate and House publicly censured him.

—Kevin Willoughby—



Did the President's actions constitute high crimes and misdemeanors? No, because there were no constitutional abuses of power like there were in Watergate. The President's actions were, however, harmful to many core values that are important to America such as honesty and fidelity. However, it is important to note that the way in which Mr. Starr has conducted his investigation, a politically motivated witch hunt and a prevaricated and merciless exploitation of Ms. Lewinsky, is equally responsible for the moral damage dealt to American values.

Quotes compiled by Steele Means



Photo by Iain Juden

**Jason Walter ('99)** blocks **Blake Cole ('02)**, #86, while practicing a kickoff return. The football team focused on special teams during their first practice after a loss to Maryville, in which Rhodes had 3 blocked punts and a missed extra point.

## Special Teams And Turnovers Lead To Big Football Loss

By David Lightburn  
Staff Writer

In a forgettable game this weekend, Maryville beat our Rhodes Lynx 48-6. On paper, the game did not look as completely one-sided as the score indicated. Rhodes was able to run the ball well, rushing for 215 yards, thanks to 91 yards from Bernard Quinn ('01) and Pat Williams ('00), who added 65 yards on 14 carries. Rhodes also controlled the ball on offense, holding on to the ball for 32:57 on the game, nearly six minutes longer than their opponent.

It was the costly turnovers and mistakes that finished the Lynx in

the end. After falling behind 7-0, the lone Lynx touchdown came early in the second quarter on a run by Darrell Brown ('99). Rhodes missed an opportunity to tie the game on the extra point and the score stood at 7-6. The missed extra point seemed to be a foreshadowing of things to come. The Lynx offense turned the ball over 5 times on 4 interceptions and one fumble, mistakes that proved to be costly. The punting unit had 3 punts blocked, giving the Maryville offense very good field position for the majority of the game. Maryville went on to score 41 unanswered points, as the Rhodes offense and

special teams left the defense in tough predicaments by turning the ball over deep in Rhodes territory.

At halftime, Maryville led by the comfortable margin of 27-6. They added one touchdown in the third quarter and two more in the fourth period to finish the game with a 48-6 win. Maryville moved the ball well on offense, executing plays to the tune of 281 yards rushing and 6 touchdowns. Defensively, Rhodes was led by Jason Jones ('00) with 7 tackles and Joby Dion ('99) and Courtney Smith ('02), who both had one sack. The Lynx look to rebound next week when they face Washington University at 1:30 here at Fargason Field.

## Wottle Returns, Breaks Record

By Grant Gandy  
Staff Writer

The men's and women's crosscountry teams showed improvement at Saturday's Vanderbilt Invitational in Nashville.

The men had their best showing of the season and finished 4th overall, ahead of Tennessee rivals Vanderbilt University and Belmont University. The team's improvement was largely due to Mike Wottle's ('99) return after an absence of two meets and the resurgence of Rob Cooksey ('99). Wottle ran 27:55, the fastest ever for a Rhodes runner on Vanderbilt's five mile course which, according to coach Robert Shankman "is deceptively hard and tends to be 45 seconds

to a minute slower than other courses we run." Cooksey, who previously held the Rhodes course record, ran a season best time of 28:48.

Emily Ferguson ('99) had a stellar race that Coach Shankman called "one of the best of her career." On the more difficult course, Ferguson, Joy Johnson ('99), Megan Emery ('99), and Anna Pinchak ('00) all managed to run within seconds of their times from last week. Their efforts contributed to a fifth place finish and a win over the University of Memphis.

The Lynx are off this weekend, but return to action October 10, when they host the Rhodes Invitational at Plough Park.

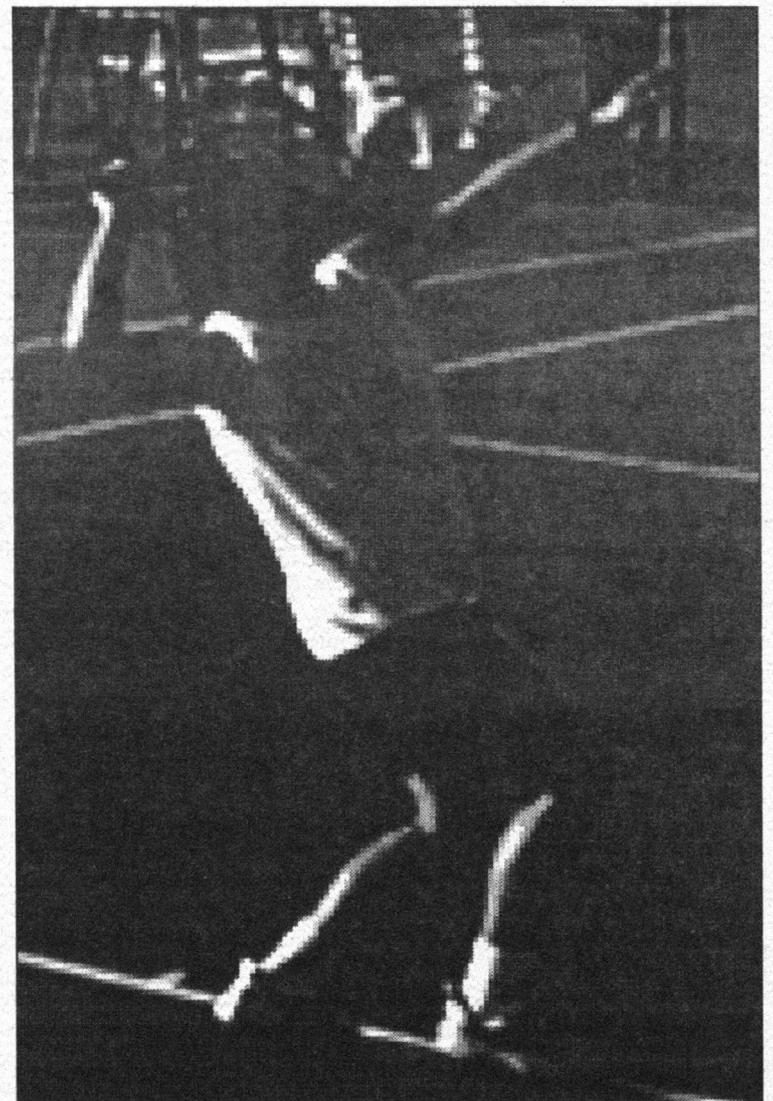


Photo by Iain Juden

**Sarah Marshall ('99)** works on her serve during practice. The men's tennis team will travel to Emory University this weekend for the regional Rolex Tournament. The women's team will participate in the tournament during the weekend of September 10th.

## The Homerun Race

Mark McGwire

70

Sammy Sosa

66