

THE SOU'WESTER

The Weekly Student Newspaper of Rhodes College

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Campus News...

All stories courtesy of U-Wire

Students and faculty at Vassar College (Poughkeepsie, NY) rallied on September 20th to protest the history department's decision to exclude members of the Africana studies department in the selection of a new African-American history professor. The rally included music, signs, speakers, guerilla theatre and an exorcism, a traditional African religious tradition to ward off negative spirits. Protestors wish to incorporate the Africana and African-American departments more closely, while the history department wishes to emphasize both departments as linked to the history department itself. They believe that students and faculty do not play a sufficient role in determining the courses.

Music lovers at Princeton, Georgia Tech, the University of Florida, UCLA, UC Berkley, and the University of Michigan have no need to fear for their MP3's, as these six schools joined four others in refusing to ban Napster. Three schools agreed to block on-campus access to the service after Howard King, an attorney for Dr. Dre and Metallica, added them to a lawsuit filed against Napster last spring. King does not plan to immediately sue universities who refuse to ban Napster, instead planning to informally convince them of their obligation to do so. In his lawsuit, King refers to the 1998 Digital Millennium Copyright Act, which states that internet service providers are not responsible for copyright violations committed on their network, if they are unaware. However, if made aware of such violations, they are expected to take reasonable steps toward prevention.

A recent survey by Duke University determined that driving while partially asleep has approximately the same effects on coordination as driving with a blood alcohol level of 0.05. According to the National Institutes of Health and the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, roughly 50,000 crashes and 1550 fatalities result from such accidents. Charles Lee, of the North Carolina Safety Patrol, said that in certain cases, those who cause accidents while sleep-deprived can be prosecuted by North Carolina state law.

Apples or oranges?

Macintosh to PC conversion begins

By Sara Mason
Staff Writer

Computer changes on the Rhodes campus in the past few months represent a shift from a Macintosh-based platform to a PC-based platform. The transitions have already begun within the staff offices of the campus and will slowly begin to affect faculty members when the three-year warranty on the Macs now in use expires. These changes, however, are not mandatory, and those who wish to continue to use a Macintosh platform may do so.

There are several attractive reasons for this Mac-to-PC shift, as were explained by Bob Johnson, Dean of Information Systems. First of all, with the introduction of a new system software package, called the Banner system, and ultimately the database, Oracle, which runs under Banner, PCs provide a quicker and more reliable means of access due to the program format. Banner is the central software package for data entry for on-campus handling of financial aid, student and housing records, alumni and development, human resources, and financing records.

Also a factor is the higher request for PCs due to the vast selection of software which is available for the PC and not necessarily for the Mac. In addition, most of the offices undergoing or that have already undergone the shift find that the

conversion process is much easier if the entire office converts en masse, which eliminates possible Mac/PC compatibility problems.

Yet another reason expressed is that the college is able to receive attractive deals due to the volume of computers bought each year. The computers being bought are Dell computers due to the fact that Dell has provided the best package deal and provides exemplary service. Dean Johnson said in an article in Rhodes Weekly that, "...we are recommending and providing software training from Productivity Point for Windows NT, Microsoft Word and Excel, and Netscape to help new users adjust to their PCs."

Although Information Services is requesting that faculty members follow along in the shift to PCs, there has been no mandate issued thus far. Dean Johnson met with professors this past May during five "coffee hours" in order to address the issue. There is still some opposition to the shift, but overall, the process has been a smooth one. Macintosh computers are still being purchased for the campus, especially to replace those on which the warranty has expired. However, the support and maintenance of both platforms is difficult at times, due to a lack of desktop computer support technicians who are expert in both platforms. There are

Alumnus holds rally to announce new organization for young Democrats

By Mia Hood
Staff Writer

Rhodes graduate Shea Flinn ('95) addressed members of the College Democrats last Monday afternoon in front of Burrow Library. Twenty-seven year-old Flinn was a theatre major here at Rhodes and, since graduating, has worked in the Los Angeles entertainment industry with stars such as Cybill Shepherd. Three years ago, Flinn changed direction and returned to study law at the University of Memphis.

Last week, Flinn came to talk about not his stint in L.A. or as a law student but his new path as candidate for District Representative of Tennessee. His message was simple: young people need to vote. Encouraged by the Rhodes po-

litical scene, Flinn pointed out that when he was at Rhodes, political activism consisted almost entirely of Republicans. Now, he is encouraged to see the activism of the 90-student-strong College Democrats. He believes the voting system can gain a great deal from the increased participation of these young people.

Young people's participation in the political system, in fact, is a large part of why Flinn is running. This was the idea behind the formation of Tomorrow's Democrats, a youth organization that promotes political awareness, encourages young people to help campaign for young Democratic candidates, and provides financial support for younger candidates—like Flinn—when they are just

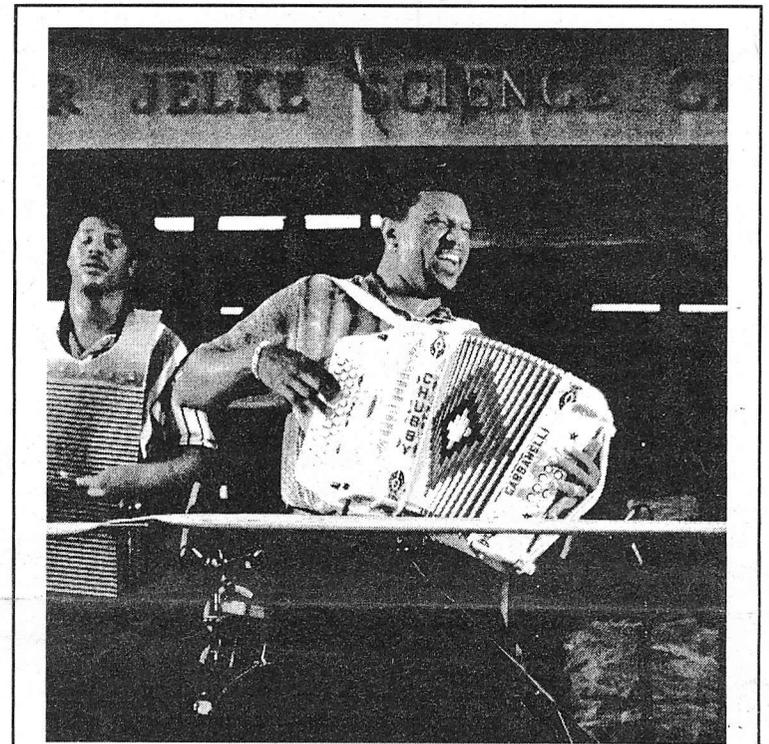


Photo by Jordan Badgett

Chubby Carrier and the Bayou Swamp Band entertained the crowd last Saturday night at the RAB-sponsored Fall Fest.

some applications that do run better on a Macintosh system, such as the software used in publications.

In the future, the Rhodes campus is beginning to look toward a computer system in which staff, faculty and students use a standard system determined by the college, as Wake Forest University does. This plan has not yet been decided upon, and will not occur without broad-

base support. For the moment, the focus is on initial conversion processes and the support and training involved in this shift..

Dean Johnson expresses that, "We are here to work with people, not tell them what to use." As a result, the Rhodes campus will continue to support both systems until it is no longer economically or functionally practicable.

entering the political arena.

Headed up by Matt Koon and Jeff Sullivan, Tomorrow's Democrats are enlisting college students around the Memphis area to volunteer for several upcoming activities. On Saturday, September 23rd, for example, Tomorrow's Democrats met at the Democratic headquarters at White Station High School to go door to door in East Memphis and communicate to residents what issues are important to Flinn and what exactly he wants to change.

When he talked to the College Democrats, Flinn made his desired changes clear. If he is elected, Flinn chiefly wants to put a stop to political agendas for incumbents and start thinking about public service. Last July, Flinn pointed

out, the state could not work out their budget in time, so they played with the numbers, and made cuts to many public service sections of the budget. This, he said, is wrong.

Flinn wants to put the focus back on the people, and his way of doing that is reaching out to both ends of the age spectrum. Flinn wants to increase funds for higher education and for prescription medication for the elderly.

Mostly, Flinn wants to get young people involved. The 18 to 35-year-old demographic is not represented enough in all elections, and he wants to change that. He encourages young people of all political leanings to take advantage of their right to vote and to become active in the political process.

Feel the love. Or else.

EVE STRAIN
EVIL INCARNATE



The best part of being alive so far has been the capacity that I have had, as an intelligent person, to make fun of everyone. My nickname is Evil, after all. I have to confess to a few instances of mischief-making and mocking. However, I try to be conscious of the ill effects of this, especially of those jokes concerning my friends.

I became conscious of this while seeing a play about a girl who was an amateur stand-up comic. She grew up using her sense of humor as a weapon against everyday problems and situations. The heroine was doing fine with her moral code until she saw how much her jokes were hurting her best friend, who was the subject of a lot of her ridicule. The play ended with her quitting one of her stand-up routines right in the middle of her performance in order to spare the feelings of her family and her little homie g. Kudos to the playwright for making a character with whom many people can probably identify, including me.

I am a hypocrite, and I know this—I have hurt people thoughtlessly (hard to believe, isn't it). While hopefully my own actions teach me how I should better act, similar situations apparently do not cause so much ethical anguish within a lot of people. We've all seen someone who

did something completely asinine and thought, "Wow, what a jerk, I hope they go to hell." We've all done things that may be interpreted by the unkind as asinine acts but were, well, merely products of dormant stupidity finding an outlet. We've also done rude or hurtful things to one another, and either not realized that we've been cruel or not cared about the consequences. Often we don't think about these things until we're the subjects of this indifference.

Rhodes is a lovely example of a microcosm of human incivility. Chivalry is still struggling for life around the campus, I'll admit; but have you noticed the subsequent effect upon an unfortunately large chunk of recipients of chivalry (traditionally fe-

There appears to be a dichotomy between the way people expect to be treated and the dehumanizing way they actually treat one another.

males)? They've become that much ruder. Witness two girls meeting at a door and trying to push through at the same time. How amusing it can be when they give one another dirty looks in passing.

Or how about all the plastic-cup-toting students lounging about in the road snaking between Clough and Townsend & Co., semi-oblivious to the 2-ton machines trying desperately not to hit them in the quest for parking? Some drivers try harder to be careful than others: a friend of mine complained a few weeks ago of being

a few feet shy of appearing on a Campus Safety report as a machine-struck pedestrian. In some respects, we treat our lives and the existence of other people as a bother. People are objects to avoid, for one reason or another; this is a strange attitude, considering that many people want to be regarded as human beings, and not as objects. There appears to be a dichotomy between the way people expect to be treated and the dehumanizing way they actually treat one another.

While I'm almost sure that concern for human existence exists *somewhere* on campus, it doesn't appear to be entrenched in the attitude of the student body as a whole. Sure, some girls love their little sises, but how well do many Rhodes students know one another?

I know I'm a social recluse, but I know I'm not alone when I say that I find myself being completely clueless when friends talk about people in my own graduating class; and don't even ask me whether I know more than ten underclassmen. I don't know which to find more disturbing, though—my ignorance or the fact that when I do hear (or talk) about people, it's usually just gossip.

Some people try to hold onto friendships, but a lot more intersections than friendships are made in these four short years. This could be

due to the intense nature of college life; our perceptions of friendship are complicated during this time in ways often completely different from the type of social interaction we enjoyed in grade school. Back then, most of us were friends with people who had known us for a long time and who we felt had some kind of interest in our well-being. In college, we are forced to make new acquaintances, pick a life path, deal with being truly adult, and survive in perhaps the realest world many of us have known.

In this light it may be understandable that people have become self-protective. However, to become so callous as to ignore the capacity to suffer pain in other people is unforgivable. We should be able to do better than this, kids.

There is something to be said for human dignity. We don't realize that we shape people's college careers, for ill or for good, in our everyday interactions with them; when someone is dehumanized, it tends to have an ill effect on him or her. I'm not trying to be pedantic; I'm merely suggesting that we attempt to treat other humans as if they were actually humans too. "Be kind, for everyone you meet is fighting a hard battle," says Plato; you're not the only one with an upcoming test, or a sick grandma, or problems with your boyfriend. Remember that everyone has a bad day every so often, but don't think that just because you're having a bad day (or even a bad life) that the world owes you a license to be inconsiderate.

Try to be nice. Or I may use my evil powers in order to regulate.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Dear Editor:

"To sum up," said Bob Coleman in his column *Running the Vulgarathon*, "don't take [cuss] words so damn seriously. Are they 'bad' words? Not really. It's all in how you look at it." I disagree with this statement on two levels.

First, these words are 'bad' words. Now, I do not say 'bad' as in morally debase, though it may be so; I say 'bad' because they do in fact have a stronger connotation than their supposed synonyms. Do, as Coleman suggested, 'prostitute,' 'slut' and 'ho' all mean the same thing? Yes, in the same manner that 'unlucky,' 'bad' and 'hellish' do. Each of these words gets a justifiably different reaction based on its spe-

cific meaning. There are certain and linguistically necessary degrees of description associated with each word.

Now, these degrees are most certainly a product of society (it is, after all, part of a language), but that does not make the degrees any less real. For instance, our society dictates that we read from left to right. Some societies differ on this, but in our society it is a very real thing. And if you write a book with vertical lettering, you can expect people to say something about its awkwardness. Perhaps you think this analogy an imperfect one because writing from left to right has become efficient and 'vulgar' words are simply a matter of taste. This brings up my next point.

It is not, as Bob Coleman says, "all in how you look at it". It is also in how other people look at it. I know the staunch individualists may disagree, but I imagine even those who concur most strongly with Bob's article are guilty themselves of finding certain words inappropriate for themselves and others to use.

What about ethnic slurs? 'African-American,' 'Black' and 'n*gger' all mean the same thing. Yet, we do not use the third, even if we are not racist or especially if we are not racist. Why? Can you not say it objectively without any degradation? Sure you could. But it is offensive to others and should not be used. I hate to even mention it in this article. Are you not thankful for that asterisk? Well, the same offense is carried with

such words as 'f*ck,' 'mother-f*cker,' and 'g**dammit'. These words degrade (in some people's eyes) the act of making love, their mothers, and their God. Should we not cater to these? If not, then why do we cater to others?

I am not at all for censoring what individuals are allowed to say, but I find no problem with a group of people asking others to realize the offense of these words and appealing to their senses to withhold such language. I furthermore have no problem with these individuals fighting to keep these words off of public television and other such things. It could very well be that they are correct in doing so.

-John Ramsey ('02)

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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 Buckman every Sunday afternoon at 5 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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Attention EVERYBODY: take responsibility

BOYD
ABRE LOS OJOS



First, I would like to begin with an explanation regarding my byline—the little bit of text that appears beneath my last name. The byline says “Abre los ojos.” This won’t surprise most of you, but that’s Spanish. (It’s also the title of a fantastic movie from Spain directed by Alejandro Amenabar; if you like Hitchcock-style psychological suspense, this is the best you can do—but I digress.) It means “Open your eyes.” It’s something I think our campus needs to do—the sooner, the better.

What I am about to say has been said before, but I think many people on this campus need to hear it again. The iron fence which surrounds our campus is all too much a part of this campus’s mentality. Whether we do it consciously or not, we think of ourselves as isolated from the rest of Memphis, the nation, and the world—these few weeks of Olympic activity excluded, of course.

So many of us, and I include myself in the number, fail to fully realize

the impact which our actions (or lack thereof) have on the world. We don’t acknowledge the many and myriad ways in which we are inextricably connected to the world beyond the black iron spikes. Rhodes does not exist within a vacuum. And I’m not talking about a one-way connection either, as if it were somehow only *our* actions that had importance and we could remain untouched by world events. We *are* affected, in subtle, yet profound ways. Whether we admit it or not, the world we live in and the community we participate in shape us.

So when I say we need to open our eyes, I mean we need to become aware of the connections that tie us—our selves and our actions—to the world. That is the first step.

Acknowledging that first step entails responsibility as well. If we are tied in such a way to the world beyond Rhodes campus, then we are responsible, to some extent, for the state of that world. If we acknowledge that the impact of our own individual actions extends beyond the personal realm, then we are responsible for the impact that they have. This is something I whole-heartedly believe.

This is Rhodes’ 75th year in Memphis. I cannot imagine a better time

to celebrate and acknowledge the kind of connections I’m talking about: our ties to the Memphis community. And I think it is happening. The service-learning classes we offer, which provide an opportunity to apply the skills and knowledge learned in the classroom to real-life situations where values are challenged and tested, are an excellent step in the right direction.

Whether we admit it or not, the world we live in and the community we participate in shape us.

Rhodes students, faculty, and administration need to embrace service-learning as an integral part of what we offer as a “top-tier” liberal arts institution.

I want to name Campus Green as another example of a step in the right direction, towards acknowledging our connections to the community beyond Rhodes and taking responsibility for our actions. As a private, academic community of approximately 1,500 students and numerous faculty and staff, Rhodes consumes a tremendous amount of energy and resources. Paper, electricity, water, and aluminum (to name just a few) are all devoured at alarming rates by our

community. We are very wasteful people.

The students of Campus Green have fought a largely uphill battle against this wastefulness for almost four years now with little support from the Rhodes community as a whole—administration, faculty, and students combined. There are of course exceptions, and I applaud those

who have offered their support to this little-appreciated campus organization. Currently, they are too few of us doing so. I’m not saying we need to attend meetings or vote for the Green Party. All I’m asking is that we make that oh-so-excruciating-effort to put aluminum cans and paper in the recycling bins.

Finally, I wish to address a particularly relevant issue to this subject, namely voting. If we acknowledge our own individual responsibilities for our actions and their impact on life outside of the iron fence, then I think it should be fairly clear that voting is a crucial responsibility of ours. In acknowledging our share in the state of

the world around us it is important that we address the roots of the problems we face as a society, not just the surface issues.

In other words, we need to do more than just put a band-aid on the wound; we need to address the circumstances that led to the wound itself. Voting is our key to doing this. And if we are going to vote responsibly, we need to be educated on the issues involved. We need to inform ourselves and think for ourselves in making our decisions. I once knew a Rhodes student, a friend of mine, who told me that they voted the way their dad told them to. DON’T let your parents do your thinking for you. Ask for their advice and opinions, but think for yourself and make your own decisions. After all, isn’t that what a liberal arts education is for?

This year, voter registration is going to take place September 28th through October 4th in the Rat and outside the mailroom. You will have an opportunity to register to vote here in Memphis or apply for an absentee ballot, if necessary. Take advantage of the opportunity. Educate yourself. Think for yourself. Take responsibility for your actions. Don’t just do what Daddy says.

We have the ability to make our individual voices and opinions known in this country. Use it.

Study abroad but wear your clothes!

JENNIFER
DUROVCHIC
THE NAKED TRUTH



So you’re afraid to go overseas to study. What if no one understands me? What if no one likes me? What if it’s too hard? What if I fail and screw up my GPA? So what if you do? You’ll come back with enough culture shock stories to keep your friends laughing for at least three months. I am an example, although I did manage to be understood, to make friends and keep my GPA stable.

I studied in France last year and learned a lot about France, but even more about myself. Upon leaving for France, I would not have said that I was a typical American. I was more liberal, better informed and more open to new situations than the average American. Yet, it took me less than a week to realize that America had instilled more of her values and ideas than I had previously thought.

It was my first weekend there and

I was invited to go the beach with about seven other foreign students who were in my class. I was of course very happy that I was doing something with people my age, considering my biggest fear was not how my French would be, but if I would be able to make friends in French.

Saturday morning comes along and I am getting ready for my weekend. I am in the shower, happily humming to myself and shaving my legs. I put my toe and just a slight bit of pressure on the soap dish that is porcelain and is mounted IN the wall. It tumbles into the bathtub with chunks of plaster and dirt and a huge crashing noise.

It took me less than a week to realize that America had instilled more of her values and ideas than I had previously thought.

The water at this point is getting cold. I try unsuccessfully to shove the soap dish back in the hole it left. It doesn’t work. Here I am naked, shivering and half shaven with a gaping hole in the shower wall. Panic sets in.

I have to tell my landlady, and I have to leave for my weekend trip. I finish shaving because I am going to the beach, obviously.

I throw on my clothes and run to my room, praying the whole way that she won’t go to the bathroom and see the damage that the stupid American girl has done. I flip frantically through my English-French dictionary for the word “dropped,” so I would at least be able to tell her what I had done. I figure it out in past tense with the right word order and practice a few times.

I finally tell her a few minutes later in my best French that I broke the shower. She comes, looks, says oh well,

no big deal, and tapes a department store bag over the hole. It stayed there the entire year, even though I offered to pay to fix it.

My weekend is off to a brilliant start. I finally find the train station

after walking around what is a very small town looking at my huge map. We arrive at the beach and walk around for a few hours. We reserved one hotel room for four people to stay in, unfortunately there were eight of us. Four people decided to take their sleeping bags and stay on the beach. I was definitely in the hotel room, as were two other girls. The fourth place was up for grabs, either a Swedish boy or a Swiss girl.

Turns out it’s the Swedish boy. There are two beds. My American Puritanism comes out in full force and takes control of my mind. For hours, I worry about the sleeping arrangements. Of course, it is me that shares a bed with the Swede. Normally I may not have balked at this (yes I would have, but I will pretend that I wouldn’t). But it was a hot day. He was unsuitably dressed for warm weather. He ate a whole stick of butter on his bread at breakfast. He kind of grossed me out.

The two other girls were perfectly comfortable with the situation. They weren’t sleeping with him. I made a sleeping bag out of my sheet and slept

on the edge of the bed. I was not well rested the next day, nor was I in a good mood.

We arrived at the beach after walking for miles, me cursing the entire way about how much the stupid Europeans walk and what did they think I was some sort of walking machine. The beach was nice, once we got there.

It turned out that I was thrilled that I had put my suit on at the hotel as everyone else dropped their pants and put on suits, right on the beach. This shouldn’t have shocked me. I knew people went topless at beaches in France, but I was still shocked. It only took my first weekend to show me that I wasn’t who I thought I was, that I was more American than I had hoped.

In closing, I must say thanks to America and to my family for instilling in me such a Puritanical mindset, but even bigger thanks to France and my European friends for kicking it the hell out.

So take the plunge. If you are thinking of going abroad, you’ll learn so much more than a foreign language.



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Campus Safety Log



9/18/00 TO 9/24/00

9/18	3:00pm	Bailey Lane, Traffic Accident - no injuries - report made
	5:30pm	Hassell Hall - Larceny of a purse reported - Purse recovered, no loss
9/19	3:55am	Bellingrath Hall - Alarm - faulty smoke detector, Maintenance notified, all okay
9/20	11:26am	Faculty/Staff Lot Kennedy - Phoned in report of two suspicious females in the parking lot. Campus Safety investigates and validate the persons as legitimate visitors.
	11:20pm	Hein Park (east of Campus) near Charles Place. Suspicious vehicle located by Campus Safety. Not occupied. Area checks okay
9/21	NO UNUSUAL ACTIVITY REPORTED	
9/22	12:42am	Robinson Hall - Alarm - false
	2:20pm	Robinson Hall - Injury, Memphis Fire Department Ambulance transports to hospital
	5:00pm	Tutwiler west of University (north curb), Larceny from a vehicle. Between 5:00pm 9/21 and 5:00pm this date, a car parked along the north curb of Tutwiler was broken into (with a coat hanger). An in-dash radio/CD and cell phone were reported missing.
	5:00pm	Bryan Campus Life Center Fitness room: Larceny of a wallet and keys reported to have occurred on 9/17/00. Partial recovery of some missing items. Items found on University near north gym gate and on soccer field. Currency and keys still missing. Victim noted no suspicious persons in the area at the time of the theft.
9/23	10:14pm	Bellingrath - alarm - false
9/24	NO UNUSUAL ACTIVITY REPORTED.	

STATS:

ACCESSES: 143	JUMP STARTS: 4
VISITORS: 1,504	CITATIONS: 173
PROPPED DOORS: 3	ALCOHOL VIOLATIONS: 4
ESCORTS: 30	BOOTS: 1

Presidential campaign heats up

By William Baldwin
Staff Writer

Last week in politics marked a comeback for Governor Bush in the polls that showed him losing ground to Gore ever since the Democratic Convention. Rising oil prices, good appearances on *The Oprah Winfrey Show*, and Gore's controversial Hollywood visits may have contributed to the upswing.

Friday, President Clinton announced that he would allow the release of some oil from the strategic petroleum reserves to try to build up domestic stockpiles for the upcoming winter. The vice president agrees with the decision and thinks it will lower home heating oil costs in the Northeast, even though he did not agree with the same idea last January. The president and vice president's critics state that the president is making a political calculation in an effort to make up for "an administration with no energy policy." In addition, critics say the move is purely for show and will have no impact, as it is in such small

amounts that the market will not be affected.

Gore pointed out that the circumstances have changed in the market and that the oil release would go only for heating oil and not gas. Gore supporters say that the people of Pennsylvania, a key state in the election, will not care if the oil is released for political reasons as long as they have lower oil prices.

Both Bush and Gore made the talk show circuit this week. Critics are saying that Bush is pandering to women voters who have been favoring Gore since the conventions. Political experts also say that the candidates' appearances on the daytime talk shows allow them to escape the tough questions that they should be asked.

The Bush campaign pointed out that Gore's tough talk about possible government action on the entertainment industry apparently took a back seat when Gore accepted money from Hollywood fundraisers.

RSG Update

Dear Student Body:

In an effort to keep you as well informed as possible, I have asked *The Sou'wester* to print a weekly letter from Rhodes Student Government regarding the happenings within the Senate.

Already this year, the Student Senate has accomplished much. The first major change was the cancellation of 2 of the 3 monthly formal meetings, which have been replaced with 2 additional informal meetings a month. Though this does not affect the Student Body immediately, our hope is that it will allow us to discuss issues more freely and help other students to feel more comfortable at our meetings, thereby increasing the non-senator student involvement. Thus far, it has worked beautifully.

Another internal change that has occurred thus far is the way in which the senators are to reach out to their constituents. In the past, the senators simply said "yes" or "no" upon roll call indicating whether or not they had spoken to 10 students from their class. This year, one senator from each class is responsible for supplying the names of 10 students with whom she spoke, and the issues about which they spoke. Upon receiving this list, I will e-mail these students, letting them know that their concern has been properly channeled.

Treasurer Chris VanDervort has been working on allocations. This has been a tough process considering only \$11,000 are available to accommodate \$22,000 worth of requests.

The issues currently under debate are numerous and will be more thoroughly discussed in coming letters. Among these concerns are library hours, gym hours, meal equivalency issues, and, as can be expected, issues concerning food service and dorms. More detail and follow-up will be given in subsequent letters.

Our meetings are held every Thursday at 7:30 p.m. in 108 Buckman. The entire campus is welcome to attend. We are currently working on what you might call an outreach campaign. If you have any questions or concerns, we want to know! Please feel free to contact me, any of your class senators, or President Corliss Givens.

John Ramsey, RSG VP

('04- John David Willingham, Lindsey Chapman, Chrissy Auger, John Sexton, Siamac Salehy; '03- Tyler Sanders, Ben Chastain, Sandra Scott, Amy Paine, Brian Waggenspack; '02- John Goss, Robert Campbell, Jennifer Morris, Frank Cain, Matt Helland; '01- Rebecca Beach, Amanda Flaim, Kalman Benschath, Allison Dulaney, Catherine Neely)

Students breach taboo topics in diversity forum

By Drew Hughes
Editor-In-Chief

The choice of snacks for Tuesday night's forum in the Briggs Student Center on the issue of self-segregation among campus organizations seemed anything but coincidence. As one student exclaimed, "The Nilla Wafers® represent Rhodes now, the Rainbow Chips Deluxe® are where we want to be."

The forum was sponsored by the Diversity Group, a new incarnation of the group formerly known as Students Talking About Race Relations (STARR), and was attended by upwards of 25 students representing various ethnic backgrounds. The purpose of the exchange was to provide an open forum for a discussion of the role self-segregation plays in campus life.

The discussion revolved around whether self-segregation is a problem or simply a natural result of socialization, and to what extent it helps or hinders the integration of the Rhodes community.

"On many campuses, minority students feel that self-segregation is neces-

sary for social survival," said Adrian Killebrew ('04).

Brad Damaré ('01) responded that "what these groups have to realize is that self-segregation is an obstacle to integration." Damaré added later that although campus organizations based on race or ethnicity, such as the Black Student Association, do not exclude students on the basis of ethnicity, "they cannot expect those students to come knocking. They [the groups] have to reach out to those students."

Kila Wilson ('01) attributed a lack of integration on campus to many students' failure to feel comfortable with students of other races. "This lack of comfort is due to a lack of communication and a lack of understanding."

Other diversity-related issues the participants raised included the Greek system, pre-orientation for minority students, concern for the college's retention rate, and seating patterns in the Rat and at football games.

The Diversity Group plans to hold monthly forums on topics related to diversity at Rhodes.

How to Get Involved in the Dean Search

Students interested in the search for a dean of the college should be thinking about where they believe the college should be directing its efforts academically:

How can we stimulate more intellectual and academic discussion outside of class?

What revisions in the curriculum do you think would be beneficial?

Should we move to more interdisciplinary courses?

What would it take to get students more active in faculty research?

Are there lecture series you would like to see initiated? On what topics or issues? How do we get students invested in taking part?

—suggestions courtesy of Dr. Bette Ackerman, associate professor of psychology, chair of the Search Committee for the Dean of the College



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Arts & Entertainment

Page 6

THE
SOU'WESTER

Wednesday, September 27, 2000

Fall Fest rocks despite low attendance

By Alison Stohr
Staff Writer

The concept was beautiful. Fall Fest was meant to be a mini-Rites of Spring for the fall season...I can almost taste the possibilities. But somewhere between the planning stages and the execution, something went wrong.

For those of you who didn't notice the giant letters plastered on the front of Frazier-Jelke last week, the hard-working members of R.A.B. put on a three-band show Saturday night in the amphitheatre. And they produced an excellent, entertaining cabaret of musical amusement, but they made one fatal error. They forgot to tell people to come.

The night started off at the early hour of six o'clock with Chubby Carrier, a zydeco band from, where else, Louisiana. The talent of the group was amazing, with each and every member being able to sing, dance, and play a musical instrument--often all at the same time. But the crowd was the smallest it would be all night, peaking at about thirty people, most of whom were transients and only stayed for a few minutes.

As I sat watching the band and the few members of the audience who decided to prove to me, yet again, that white people cannot dance, I couldn't help but feel sorry for Chubby Carrier. Not only because they, too, were being forced to

watch the live display of rhythm-impairment, but also because they had to feel slighted by the tiny crowd.

Next up was Mesh, an alternative group from St. Louis making their first appearance on the Rhodes campus. Although they played a short set, only staying on stage for about an hour, they were definitely the highlight of the evening. They are an up-and-coming band that just signed with a major record company, and their first album on this label will be released in January. Their sound reminded me of last year's Rites of Spring favorite, Vertical Horizon, but with a little more of an edge.

The boys had a nice repartee with

the audience, often alluding to the fact that the show would have been much better had we all been drunk, themselves included. The battle between the lead guitarists followed by the bass and drum solos were excellent and proved that each member could hold their own on stage. They definitely left the crowd wanting more, and I only hope that the meager number of spectators won't deter them from returning for the big show this spring.

Last up was a Rhodes regular, Gran Torino. They played a solid show, and drew what was by far the biggest crowd of the night. Their combination of alternative, ska, and rock beats proved to

be a big hit with those in attendance, most of whom found it hard to resist moving along with the beat. This was the first band I've ever seen that had two drummers on full sets, which, along with a brilliant brass section, made for some superb musical stylings.

The arrival of a good couple hundred people just as Gran Torino was finishing up showed me just how great Fall Fest could be. It has enormous potential, and hopefully the lackluster response of the student body was just a first year fluke. I am looking forward to next year's festivities, and hope that more than the twenty of you who went this year will be there with me.

A hip-hop visionary: Wyclef Jean dazzles with *Ecleptic*

By Christian Masters
Staff Writer

Finally, during an age of boy bands and pop culture, a man steps out from the crowd with an album so different, it electrifies the listener. Interested? Check into Wyclef Jean's new album *The Ecleptic: 2 Sides to a Book*. Wyclef has collaborated with artists including Mary J. Blige, Earth, Wind, and Fire, Whitney Houston, Youssou N'Dour, Kenny Rogers, and wrestling star The Rock. And yet, even with these spectacular features illuminating each track, Wyclef manages to stand out, his distinct lyrical message adapting to each superstar's melody.

It's a long-awaited escape from modern rhythm. Wyclef Jean's first solo album, *Carnival*, had only one commercially successful track, "Gone Til' November." Now, we are greeted by musical

medleys which are diverse, but each excellent in their respective genres. Who could have expected a successful collaboration with Kenny Rogers? Wyclef pulls it off in his third track, "Pharoahe Monch Dub Plate." Rogers' rusty voice rattles through thumping bass as Wyclef interjects occasionally with a shout or a rhyme, blending hip-hop and country.

It seems as if Wyclef can meet any challenge as he goes into a legitimate, well-worded song about strippers with "Perfect Gentleman" and follows it up with "Low Income," a personal favorite about the troubles of a poor husband. Another great aid to the album is Wyclef's producing experience. It becomes more and more obvious as the album progresses, as he changes the beat to suit the singer. Jean had a clear vision for this album, and it shows.

This album is great for bumping in

your car, with the harsh bass thumps of "Thug Angels" and "Pharoahe Monch," as well as exquisite for grinding on the dance floor with feel-good songs like "It Doesn't Matter" and "Runaway" (featuring disco stars Earth, Wind, and Fire). However, I believe *The Ecleptic* is best suited for home listening. As you listen to his lyrics, you realize that the whole album is a collection of hip-hop sermons detailing our world's gritty reality. In "Thug Angels" and "Diallo" (featuring the energetic rhythms of Youssou N'Dour), he cries out against racism and the brutal actions of the police. He complains about being forced to either "sell crack or make rap" in "Pullin' Me In," and condemns gangsta rappers for lying about their "accomplishments."

Wyclef Jean speaks of reality with the help of his guests, and one reason

The Ecleptic is so diverse is because life is diverse as well. Each song is a cry to his friends, to God, or to us. "Their sound is our sound," as Whitney Houston sings. We can identify with him as he identifies with us: that is the reason why Wyclef will become a legend.

Describing the album in a few words is difficult, but it is as if someone threw

Bob Marley, gangsta rap, a minister, and some scrumptious bits of flavor into a blender and turned it on high. There is something for everyone, and believe me, you will be dancing in your tiny dorm room the minute you turn it on. Then you'll hear the message. It has to be heard to be believed, but *Ecleptic* is definitely one of the best albums of the year.

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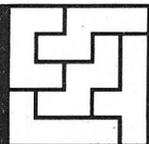
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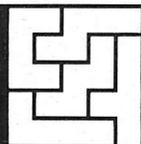
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Rhodes Puzzler



#3, September 27, 2000
5 points

Last week's Malco movie pass winner: *Lauren Mize*

Mr. Bumble is planning a walking trip across a desert. The trail he will follow is exactly 100 kilometers long, but he can only walk 20 kilometers a day.

Fortunately there are shelters placed every 20 kilometers. During each day's travel, Bumble eats exactly one day's worth of food. He can only carry 3 days worth of food with him at a time, but can store as much food at the shelters as he wants. Food can only be stored at shelters (the shelters are initially empty) and there is an infinite supply of food at the start of the trail.

How can Mr. Bumble cross the desert in the least number of days?

The Rhodes Puzzler is sponsored by the Math/CS Department of Rhodes College. Send your solution (with name!) to puzzler@rhodes.edu, place a Word or text document named "<your name>.doc" in the Puzzler folder located on the Academic Volume (under Academic Programs), or turn in a hard copy to Kennan Shelton, 318 Ohlendorf. All solutions must be received by 5:00 p.m. Saturday. A weekly winner will be randomly chosen to receive two free movie passes, donated by Malco Theatres. Semester winners will each receive gift certificates for dinner at a local restaurant. For a complete set of rules, see the Rhodes Puzzler homepage at <http://www.mathcs.rhodes.edu/puzzler.html>.

THE MASSEY SCHOOL
at
BELMONT UNIVERSITY

Rendezvous: awesome food, vibrant ambience

By Ted Gentle
Staff Writer

When picturing most rib places, one usually envisions some cramped, greasy little shack somewhere in the corner of town. Though The Rendezvous does have its fair share of grease, what helps to make the restaurant so memorable is the energetic and friendly atmosphere. The food is only part of why you go.

In addition to the colorful lighting and constant traffic of people coming in from the downtown streets, The Rendezvous has just about the friendliest service you are likely to find. The first time I went was on a bustling Friday, when the waiting area is choked to the gills and hungry patrons seem to be crawling the walls.

Despite this high stress environment, the waiters seemed calm and jovial. In almost no time at all a waiter was showing us to our table. "C'mon guys," he said. "I'll take care of you." We ended up with a large table right out front without even phoning ahead of

time.

Once seated, I was able to look around and observe what the regular customers were like. What with the high prices and popularity of the restaurant, I was expecting a relatively upscale crowd. But as the incoming flocks kept piling in, I was surprised by the wide variety of people that this place appealed to. Everyone from fun-loving college students like us to families to groups of guys about to begin the night shift were there. This might have something to do with the location of the restaurant, which is right in the heart of downtown Memphis—where just about anyone can be swept into its warm, fragrant bars and hallways. With jazz and R & B on the jukebox, delicious food simmering on the grill, and local sports on the television playing to a vocal crowd, The Rendezvous becomes more than just an above-average rib place. It seems like nothing less than one of this town's cultural arteries.

Oh yes, the dry ribs themselves aren't too bad either. You may have

heard. I must confess to not being a tremendous fan of ribs on normal occasions, but the moment you walk into that doorway and the smell washes over you, the only choice is surrender.

I ordered a full plate of ribs, which soon vanished in a blur of hands and teeth. They are a bit pricey, but when you bite into that perfectly seasoned meat, you will know where the money went. And unlike places such as Dreamland, The Rendezvous doesn't just offer ribs. With pulled-pork sandwiches, lamb cutlets, even grilled cheese for the kiddies, the restaurant serves a wide variety of food. There are even salads for those not into the whole greasy meat thing.

So, there is a lot to love about this place. Everything from the milieu to the people to the mouth-watering food keeps you coming back. Its famous reputation is well earned, and it remains one of the best things about the city of Memphis.

Take a trip tonight. And bring some spare change for the jukebox.

Featured this week:

✓ The Center for Southern Folklore has reopened. Even if you missed the grand re-opening party this weekend, you can still go down there and have a good time in Pembroke Square at 119 S. Main St.

The Center consists of both a retail and a public entertainment section. An internet café, reading areas, media stations, and a bar serving popular drinks such as beer, coffee, and soda will be featured in the retail area.

The public section hosts Southern arts and crafts, information, and the prerequisite stage. Foods billed as "Southern specialties" will be served as well.

The hours of operation are:

Sunday-Wednesday: 11 a.m. - 7 p.m.

Thursday-Saturday: 11 a.m. - 11 p.m.

For more information, call 525-3655 or visit their website at www.southernfolklore.com.

✓ The first "Taste of Midtown" festival will be held on Saturday, September 30th from 11 a.m. to 9 p.m. at Overton Square. Top chefs from the Midtown area will give free demonstrations on cooking, and restaurants will offer selections from their menus. Many organizations from the Midtown area, such as the Pink Palace, the Zoo, and the Memphis Park Commission will be promoted as well.

The festival will close down Madison St. between Cooper and Diana at Overton Square from Friday night until early Sunday morning. The festival is free; food and drink tickets are 50¢ apiece, and free samples are available.

For more information, contact Kathy Smith, Overton Square Marketing Director, at 278-6300.

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Women's volleyball splits against conference foes at SCAC Western Divisionals, 2-2

By Lauren Ferrera
Staff Writer

This past weekend, the Rhodes Lynx traveled to Millsaps College in Jackson, Mississippi for their first SCAC Western Divisional of the season. Five teams attended the conference, including the Hendrix Warriors, the Millsaps Majors, the Rhodes Lynx, Southwestern College, and the Trinity Tigers.

Before their first game on Friday, Coach Samantha Wolinski said "We are ready to play, and it's time to show them who we are." On Friday, September 22nd, Rhodes played Southwestern. The starting line-up for Rhodes consisted of Sarah Rinn ('03), Yvonne Godfrey ('03), and Michelle Haworth ('03) along with Naomi Long ('02), Jackie Ehrentraut ('02) and Mary Walters ('01). In the first game of the match, Godfrey led the way with a total of three kills and Long with seven attempts. Overall, Godfrey had

a total of eight kills, yet the hard work was not enough to defeat Southwestern who won the match in three games.

Shortly after, the Lynx challenged Millsaps College. This was one of their most anticipated scheduled games of the conference, and it could not have ended any sweeter. Rhodes won the match in three strong games: 15-13, 15-13, and 15-11. Here, Ehrentraut led the team with a total of ten kills.

On Saturday, September 23rd, the Lynx had their first match of the day against Hendrix College. Recalling the Rhodes-Hendrix match last year in which Hendrix beat Rhodes by a large margin, the Lynx were ready for a huge defeat. Needless to say the Lynx won in three quick games winning 15-7, 15-1, and 15-13, with sophomore Jasmine McNeill ('03) scoring the match point with an ace.

Later that afternoon, Rhodes

played the Trinity Tigers. Before the match began, the Lynx knew what they were up against. Coach Wolinski said earlier, "This is the team that will prove to be our toughest challenge yet," and they couldn't think of a better team to go up against. Needless to say, it was a very strong match for both teams. Both teams' long and powerful rallies were quite nerve-racking for the players and coaches. However, in the end, Trinity came out on top in three games.

After the Trinity game, the Lynx left feeling very satisfied by their performance from the previous two days. The Lynx went up against some very powerful (and division ranked teams), and left with a solid record of 2-2. This Friday, September 29th, Rhodes will play Ouachita at 7 p.m. in the BCLC; and on Saturday, Rhodes will host a Quad where they will play Lipscomb at 12 p.m., Austin College at 2:00 p.m., and Fontbonne at 4:00 p.m.

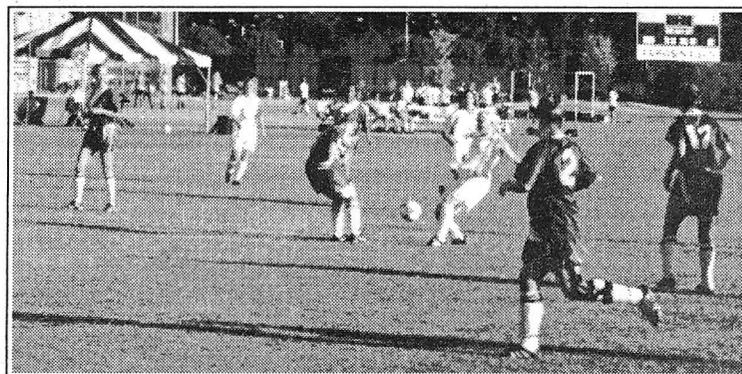


Photo By Scott Holmes

Shawn McCarthy ('03) drives toward the goal in the Lynx's first win, an 11-0 home victory against the University of the Ozarks.

Lady Lynx record first win

By Heather Best
Staff Writer

The Rhodes women's soccer team was very busy this past week. They played three games in a six-day stretch that started last Tuesday in a home game against the University of the Ozarks. All the team's improvements over the past couple of weeks paid off. Rhodes finally emerged with the first victory of the season, 11-0. The Lynx scored goals from positions all over the field; even the defense managed to score. The team racked up an astounding eleven goals by the time the final whistle blew, and goalkeeper Sarah Pruett ('02) recorded her first shut-out of the season.

Unfortunately for the Lynx, they just didn't maintain the same level of energy into the weekend. It seemed that the stress of being on the road every weekend has really gotten to the team. At Rose-Hulman and DePauw, Rhodes faced their first conference opponents. Rose-Hulman gave Rhodes trouble from the beginning of the game Friday with their tremen-

dous speed up front. They snuck in a couple of goals, but Rhodes stayed in the game by putting in a couple of their own, courtesy of Kirsten Rosaaen ('01). As the Lynx tried to break the 2-2 tie at the end of regulation, Rose-Hulman capitalized on a loose ball and scored with only three minutes remaining.

Discouraged at losing to a beatable team, Rhodes then had to step onto the field Sunday against the fifth-ranked team in the nation. The Lynx expected the DePauw game to be a challenge, but it was considerably more difficult than it had to be. Rhodes seemed to have a hand in defeating themselves. On the bright side, the Lynx scored on this highly ranked team with a goal by Elaine Odle ('04). However, the final score was a discouraging 8-1.

This weekend the women's team needs to prepare for what promises to be the biggest game of the year: Trinity. Paired with Trinity on Sunday will be the Southwestern game on Friday, another conference game.

Men's soccer sweeps Rose-Hulman and DePauw to improve to 15th in nation

By Lance Ingwersen
Staff Writer

The Rhodes men's soccer team capped off yet another weekend with two wins, bringing their overall record to 7-1, and moved up another spot in the national rankings to #15. The Lynx catapulted into the rankings the weekend of September 15th-17th after defeating then 4th ranked and perennial power Wheaton College 3-1. Nick Reed ('02) started the scoring in the first half with a free kick that was deflected out of the keeper's reach at the near post. Josh Klein ('01) put the Lynx ahead by two when he beat his man to the inside and hit a low, driven shot to the far post. Wheaton got their lone goal with just minutes to go in the first half after a very questionable call by the officiating crew. The Lynx came out just as strong in the second half and took control of the game. David Wishnew's ('01) goal 30 minutes into the second half

sealed the victory for the Lynx.

On Sunday, September 17th, the Lynx faced a physical Wisconsin-Whitewater team, but jumped out to a 1-0 half-time lead on Josh Klein's volley from 15 yards out. The second half favored the Lynx in much the same way, as Wishnew scored two more goals in leading the Lynx to a 3-0 victory. Wishnew's efforts from the weekend earned him SCAC "Player of the Week" honors.

This last weekend, the Lynx traveled to Indiana to take on Rose-Hulman and DePauw University in the first two conference games of the season. Overpowered and undermanned, the Rose-Hulman Engineers could do little to stop the Lynx. Wishnew led the Lynx in scoring for the second straight game with a hat trick. Todd Stoner ('01) and Klein also scored for the Lynx in the 5-0 rout of Rose-Hulman.

On Sunday, the Lynx traveled to Greencastle, Indiana to take on

DePauw. The Tigers came out strong, seeking vengeance from last year's 2-0 loss to the Lynx. After the first ten minutes, the Lynx started to slow down the pace of the game. The first half featured missed chances for both teams. In the second half, the Lynx fended off waves of attack from an energized DePauw team before Brian Powell ('04) finished a header off of a great cross from Michael Phillips ('04). Wishnew found the back of the net for the second goal of the match with a great individual effort.

After the game, Coach Marcinko expressed his pleasure with the results from the weekend, citing the "great team effort, solid defensive play, and a dangerous attack." Marcinko also emphasized the play of the non-starters who have "stepped in and played well, often setting up or scoring the big goals." The game against a much underrated DePauw team was a huge win for the Lynx, who are hoping to extend their current seven-game winning streak with two more conference wins over Southwestern and 5th ranked Trinity this weekend. The games are at 2:00 p.m. on Friday and 12:00 p.m. on Sunday. Remember, too, that Sunday is "Couch Day" at the game and whatever group comes out to the game with the most couches (and fans) will get free pizzas and Rhodes soccer apparel.

Field hockey splits at home

By Melanie Telzrow
Staff Writer

The Rhodes field hockey team took on two teams this Saturday, losing against Centre 4-1 and beating Lindenwood 2-1. The first game was delayed due to rain, but Centre came ready to challenge Rhodes and scored in the first half. In the second half, the Rhodes team dominated the field of play, and Lee Thomas ('04) put in a goal to tie the score. However, about 20 minutes into the second half the Centre team pressured Rhodes and scored another three goals. The team realized that in order to win the game against Lindenwood, they had to focus on what lay ahead, not the loss behind them.

Coach Dean summed up the overall feeling when he said, "The road from here becomes more difficult. Last season we surprised some teams; however, everyone we play from here

on out realizes that they are playing a quality hockey team that will play hard for 70 minutes."

With this in mind, the Lynx geared up for their second game of the day. Within the first five minutes of the second game, Lindenwood scored on Rhodes. However, Rhodes stepped it up and increased their intensity. After a tackle by the goalie on three Rhodes players, the team received a free penalty "stroke" in front of the goal. Lee Thomas ('04) scored on a beautiful penalty shot. The energy of the Lynx increased, and they pressured Lindenwood for the rest of the game. In the second half Lindsay Bond ('03) scored the second goal for Rhodes which won the game and secured a 6-2 record for the Lady Lynx. The team faces Centre this upcoming weekend in Danville, Kentucky, and they are determined to prove that they can come back from defeat and beat the Centre Colonels.

1st Annual "COUCH DAY"

Rhodes Soccer vs.
Trinity University

Oct. 1, 2000 @NOON

The student organization with the most couches
(and fans) at the game on Sunday wins free pizza
and Rhodes Soccer apparel at halftime