

THE SOU'WESTER

The Weekly Student Newspaper of Rhodes College

Vol. LXXXIX, No. 16

Wednesday, February 20, 2002

Campus News

All stories courtesy of U-Wire

A Boston College (Chestnut Hill, MA) chair designed for an African-American professor has been vacant for three years, since it was vacated by its first holder. In 1999, the committee designed to fill the Honorable David S. Nelson Professional chair proposed hiring Julianne Malveaux, who is an economics scholar, a columnist for USA Today, and has taught at the University of California-Berkeley. She was told she would be offered the job in 1999, but the college did not formally make the offer. According to the original holder of the chair, the position was created to appease demands for an increase in African-American faculty.

A member of the Alfred University (Alfred, NY) chapter of the Zeta Beta Tau Fraternity was found dead this past Tuesday behind his fraternity house. Initial coroner's reports rule out foul play. He was attending a Zeta Beta Tau conference in Syracuse, NY, and was severely beaten there. Press releases from the Alfred Police Department indicate that this may have contributed to his death. Though the circumstances of his death are unclear, the ZBT chapter of Syracuse University (Syracuse, NY) is not implicated, as they missed the conference due to Rush commitments. The victim had been missing since Saturday.

A University of California-Berkeley (Berkeley, CA) was suspended and is being investigated after reports of illicit behavior in the class came to administrators. The classes are student-run, and nicknamed "DE-Cals," for Democratic Education at Cal. The sponsoring professor is required to sign off on and police the content of the course, but the professor who oversees the course indicated that she "did not police the content." The classes of DE-Cals are not funded by the university, but are given use of campus facilities and give some credit towards graduation.

A Review: *Monologues* raises awareness, impacts Rhodes community

By Tara Cho
Staff Writer

This year's presentation of *The Vagina Monologues* is its second run at Rhodes campus. The purpose of this dramatization is to raise money for abused women while educating the public about the harsh realities of various types of abuse that women throughout the world are forced to suffer.

Although the topics of some of the monologues were very serious and eye-opening, their fluidity was eased along with stellar comedic performances by cast members such as Jena Balton ('02) ("My Angry Vagina") and Liza Hanson ('05) ("The Woman Who Loved to Make Vaginas Happy").

The shock-factor of this experience was very high. The candid use of varying synonyms for the female anatomy intermingled with the graphic details of some horrid accounts of victimization combine to create stunning but true images representative of women as a whole, regardless of race, economic class, or any other subcategory.

The show's producer, Rhodes' Jennifer Marshal ('03) feels that the show was "a huge success." Last year's presentation was an introductory one, including free admission and minimal donations. However, this year's performance

had over 450 in attendance, while raising over \$4000 for the V-Day fund. The sale of t-shirts, "Vagina Friendly" buttons and vagina-shaped chocolates contributed to the funds as well.

Marshal, along with cast members and co-organizers Jessica Anschutz and Lauren Bell, felt very positive about the effect this year's show had not only campus-wide, but also throughout the community.

The powerful impact of *The Monologues* is brought forth by the straightforward nature of presentation. Upon viewing this show, a topic about which society is generally uninformed is made explicit. There is room for neither hesitation in the expression of subject matter nor denial of the seriousness of this worldwide problem facing women of all ages.

One blatant benefit of this show, other than the general entertainment and relaxed audience, is the fact that such an effort be made to relay vital information found detrimental to men and women alike. The atmosphere within Blount Auditorium, particularly brought forth by the performers, gave a glimpse at temporary unity.

Compelling production induced laughter, tears, and a boldly rigid reality based upon

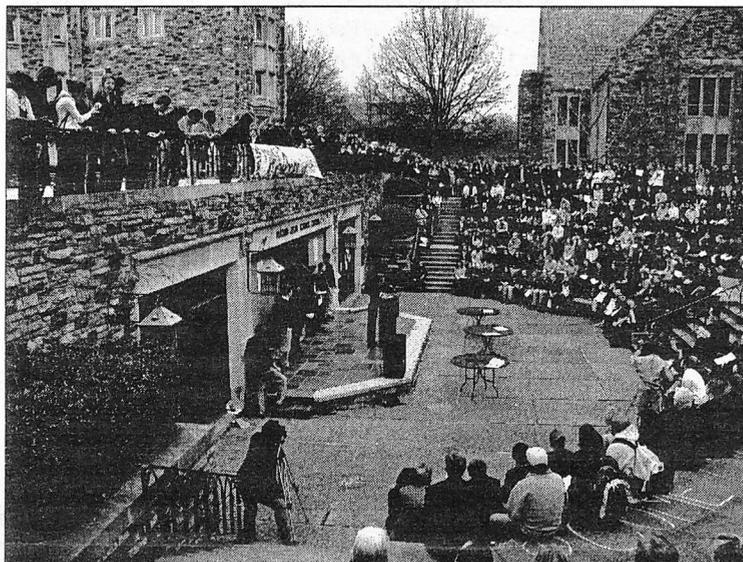


Photo by Margie Hall

Pictured: Keisha Moses ('03), the Vice-President of the Black Student Association, as she addressed the large crowd who turned out in support of Friday's rally, which was held to raise awareness about racism on campus. Keisha said of the event, "This problem transcends individuals, and it impacts the community as a whole. I hope to see positive changes come from this, because Rhodes is a positive place. The whole community expressed that these acts aren't welcome here."

factual statistics and personal accounts. Reality became somewhat less harsh by the follow-up information concerning what each individual--male or female--may do to stop these tragedies from recurring.

The *Vagina Monologues*

came to the stage in the mid-1990s, when Eve Ensler, the author, wrote them to combat feeling of repression about sexuality and negative body images that she found in many women. It is currently being staged and published in twenty countries.

The world today: international news updates

Compiled by Frances Rabalais
Executive Assistant

Last week President Bush issued a new policy on the kidnappings of U.S. citizens who are abroad. In contrast with the old policy in which the government declined to intervene in the kidnapping, the new policy features a review of possible military options that the U.S. could take to try to free the hostage.

Two trendy New York restaurants, Chicama and Sabor, are facing legal pressure from Viagra's

manufacturer after offering a seafood dish titled *Viagra Ceviche*. The meal contains no Viagra, but the restaurants' owners claim the meal acts as an aphrodisiac. Though Pfizer says that the restaurants are guilty of trademark infringement, the restaurants do not plan to change the dish's name.

George W. Bush has plans to visit the fortified Demilitarized Zone during his six-day visit to North Korea, where he will speak of his vision for a united Korea. In keeping with his labeling North Korea as part of the "axis of evil," Bush

will emphasize that the U.S. cannot allow North Korea to develop weapons of mass destruction. There will be angry demonstrations highlighting the damage Bush's comments have done to inter-Korean relations.

In the Texas trial of Andrea Yates, the mother who drowned her five children in her bathtub, prosecutors and defense attorneys argued Tuesday over whether or not to allow the children's pajamas into the evidence. Prosecutors, who eventually won the conflict, claimed that the evidence contributed to the issue of Yates' willingly mur-

dering her children, but defense attorneys retorted that having the clothing as evidence would influence the jury.

The Pentagon established an Office of Strategic Influence to control the war on terrorism outside the United States. The office is responsible for engineering policies for information operations and warfare to be carried out by military specialists in countries in opposition to America. The new office only works outside of the U.S. and aims to reach Islamic populations around the world

Tolerance is not a high standard

By Jen Moll
Op/Ed Editor

Not surprisingly, the opinion articles in this issue of the *Sou'wester* primarily address the issues of race and diversity on campus. Much discussion has taken place on campus in the last couple of weeks, some may say to the point of exhaustion. Yet, I have found that almost every conversation I have been involved in has been unique in some way. I feel that these opinions on race and diversity deserve both our attention and patience.

I, personally, am concerned with the conflation of race and diversity that I believe has taken place. While discussing the situation on campus with my father, he asked me why Rhodes is trying to be diverse. At first, I found the question somewhat rhetorical, but ultimately could not give him an answer. He

was attempting to illustrate that "diversity" has become a nice descriptor for many academic institutions. Yet, this label has no meaning until a genuine commitment has been made by the members of these institutions. I think we all agree that simply admitting a certain percentage of minority students every year is not going to accomplish much. Race is an important component of diversity, but what about socio-economic status, religion, and sexual orientation? Why does the college not attempt to draw them in as well? Is it because college books do not give percentages of students that come from lower income brackets; or because a student whose parents make less than \$20,000 a year in combined income would not be visibly distinct in the web page pictures? I am not saying we should start giving full scholarships to ho-

mosexuals based on their sexual preference, but I think we would begin to attract students with a greater range of experience if we demonstrated a less homogeneous environment.

Also, we need to be careful not to make Rhodes a place where white privileged kids can benefit from being exposed to people of other races. We should strive for an environment where all individuals can mutually gain something from each other. Right now I do not feel we are giving much of anything positive to the minority students on campus. We should move beyond "tolerance" to concern for each other as members of a community with a point of congruence. When Rhodes advertises they value diversity, they should make it clear that they *only* want students who are committed to learning from and respecting others. Right now, I cannot say that the stu-

dents at Rhodes even tolerate each other. The term tolerance for me implies a very minimum requirement that anyone should exhibit toward other human beings. Can we not do any better than that? We should not treat this as the standard to which we aspire.

When confronting other opinions, let us not approach them with an attitude of defensiveness. Is it not a bit absurd to complain about the level of discomfort or inconvenience that the racial majority might be experiencing right now? Diversity and celebration of each other is something we are all going to have to work toward. Obviously we have not been doing enough. I thank all individuals who have been willing and brave enough to share their opinions with the Rhodes community. I encourage you to do the same.

You do not have to sign the petition

By Jessica Ezell
Guest Columnist

You do not have to sign the petition. That is certainly not the politically correct thing to say on the Rhodes College campus these days, with everyone running around like wild (oops, better not finish that simile) trying to prove that he or she is not a racist. But, you say, I am opposed to racism, and although I may not agree with the entire document, I need to actively show my support in some way. You are going to sign the petition on principle, you say. Besides, the demands that you disagree with in it are harmless. You consider the petition to be merely a starting out point. They (the authors) are not going to reach all of their goals, anyway.

Racism, "the belief that race accounts for differences in human

character or ability and that a particular race is superior to others," and "discrimination or prejudice based on race" (thanks, *American Heritage Dictionary, Fourth Edition*) is both irrational and ignorant. Those individuals that sincerely express racist sentiments are, at the very least, deluded and, more often, deranged. By deciding to abstain from signing the petition, you do not automatically align yourself with these idiots. By not signing, you are not publicly rejecting every idea presented in the petition, you are simply acknowledging that you do not support the petition in its entirety.

You should not sign your name to any document unless you genuinely agree with the entire document. Any good attorney will affirm that words come back to haunt you. If you do not believe that affirma-

tive action, for instance, is necessary and beneficial, you may wish to rethink your signature. Some would argue that affirmative action is merely a euphemism for legalized racism, though that is not the focus of this article. Also, do not overlook the word "sacrifice" near the bottom of the page. Enactment of the petition's demands will not be free; it will cost you (or, more accurately, your parents), you can be sure.

If you are opposed to racism, as I suspect the overwhelming majority of you are, demonstrate your attitudes in your actions and in your words. Voice your opposition. Participate in marches of protest. Write articles expressing your concern. Make yourself heard, but do not sign a petition that you do not agree with simply because you believe it is the only thing you can do to prove that you are po-

litically correct.

Over six hundred students and faculty have already signed the petition. This is an overwhelming number, considering the size of the population at Rhodes College. On Wednesday, it will be available in Java City and in the Rat for more people to sign. With such abounding support, the petition cannot merely be viewed as a means of displaying anti-racist sentiment. Because of its success, the petition and each of its demands will be taken seriously—each demand, individually. Do not underestimate the power of such widespread endorsement, and do not assume that all of the petition's goals will not be met. If the administration responds to these demands, those of you who have signed the petition will have no room to complain. Still think it is harmless?

Are we doing all we can to promote diversity?

By Wesly Robinson
Guest Columnist

Bronte wrote "prejudices, it is well known, are most difficult to eradicate from the heart whose soil has never been loosened or fertilized by education," meaning ignorant people are racist.

Along with all of the students at Rhodes, I received President Troutt's e-mail on Friday, February 8. It was sent the afternoon a lot of people left campus for the binge-fests and voy-

eurism of Bourbon Street. When many of my classmates sped away from campus towards that long stretch of highway in Mississippi, they left behind a frightening void here at Rhodes. Two students here had their cars keyed. It was not the random vandalism we sometimes see during rowdy weekends, like broken windows or knocked over garbage cans. This incident was not a nondiscriminatory act of damage like "mailbox baseball" out of a moving car, or those

teen years of egg tossing or toilet paper rolling for a different time. There is a more serious problem on our campus.

Why were these cars keyed? Is it because the students are black? This does not sit well in my stomach. Here we are, ironically in the midst of Black History Month, a few miles away from where Dr. King was killed, and "nigger" is keyed into the cars of my classmates. All of the progress our society has made unifying different cultures was

spit on by the actions of this racist person. This maeopic, narrow-minded, ignorant individual should be tarred, feathered, and thrown into the Mississippi River.

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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 Briggs every Sunday evening at 6 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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Member, Associated Collegiate Press (ACP)

Communication requires listening as well

JONATHAN RUSSOM
Fumbling Towards Ecstasy



other person (though I thank my editor Jen Moll for thinking otherwise).

I recently realized a few things.

1. Many of you are tired of hearing me publicly announce my opinions.

2. I have spent a perhaps disproportionate amount of my time here at Rhodes publicly announcing my opinions.

3. I am tired of publicly announcing my opinions.

The combination of all these realizations places me in an awkward position regarding this, my last editorial column in *The Sou'wester*. I have nothing to say. I need to listen instead. I wish I could use this column as a way to listen, but the nature of newspaper printing makes this difficult.

I ask you to help me.

The rest of this column is blank. Tear it out and write to me, please. Tell me your opinion on something, or tell me about some experience in your life that merits sharing with some person outside yourself. Call me. E-mail me. You do not have to sign your name if you do not want to. I just need to hear other people tell me what

they think/feel/do. I do not have time for dates, so I will only accept offers if you are really really cute. I am serious about all this: I am waiting to hear from you, oh people of Rhodes College. You have ingested so much that I have prepared; now give me something back. It is only a fair share. (box 2205, extension 5506, RUSJM)

I long ago realized one thing:
1. I am in no way more qualified to speak my opinion than any

Staff deserves our respect and consideration

By Patrick LaRochelle
Guest Columnist

A few days each week, as I walk toward my room, I greet the back of a woman in the doorway of my hall bathroom. A mop or a bucket hangs from her rubber-gloved hands. Usually she jumps with a small shriek. Then, breathless, she greets me back. That is Eleanor.

Then there is Larry. He works in the Rat, mostly behind the scenes. I met him one Tuesday night at a party that my friends organized for the Rat workers. A few days later, as he pushed out a cart of trays, I yelled his name from the smoking section of the refectory. He was so startled that he literally ran into the wall, with the trays falling everywhere. When I ran up, he shook my hand and then pulled me in for a hug. Now every time he sees me we shake hands and then he pulls me in for a hug. As I said before, that

is Larry.

Then there is Jessie and Tracy (a.k.a. Stacy) and Trina and both Mary's and C.J. (whose sister is Kayla)—not to mention Vanessa and Verna on the weekends and Joe in Kennedy and Olivia and Rommie in White. But let us not forget Kim and Pat, and Bessie and Packman and Sherria and Maxwell—and speaking of Maxwell, you should see that woman dance and sing! By the way, have you met Mary's children, who hang out until after lunch on Sunday? Anisha is four. Kea is seven. Then there's Veronica and Nicki, and finally Mary's gregarious daughter with the beautiful, scoliosis-arched back: Raquel Washington. Speaking of dancing, Raquel is not too shabby herself.

I write this not to flaunt some mnemonic prowess or to demonstrate outstanding goodwill toward humanity. Frankly, if you had asked me during my first or second year at Rhodes, I could not have named any of these people.

Through the example of friends, however, and the gradual realization that my dorm stays clean and my food gets served because of real people, I have tried to do better. This year, I have realized what I was missing for so long. And beyond what I was missing, I have realized what these faithful employees of Rhodes College have been missing for so long—my thanks, my friendship, sadly even my awareness of their presence.

Today, as I sat in my social room studying, a woman entered the room to use the microwave. I said hello. No problem. Frankly, at first I really had no desire to go deeper. As most people know, I am a nerd, and I really wanted to return to my books. To do so, however, would have marked the utmost hypocrisy, because I had just written the majority of this article. So I asked the woman her name.

"Olivia," she answered, and passed back the question. We began to talk. Olivia said that she

had worked in my dorm for eleven years. I made some joke about being a baby when she started, and she modestly told me of Joe, who has worked in Kennedy for over forty years. Olivia has lived in Memphis all her life.

She has four children. One is very sick, but as she said, "He's in the Lord's hands." One of her grandchildren is blind. With pride she spoke of his academic and athletic accomplishments. He cannot see, and yet he swims and runs track. Needless to say, I was impressed. After a few minutes, she left to eat. I returned to my books. But we will talk again soon.

To close this article, I want to make a challenge to the whole Rhodes Community, including myself. The challenge is this: to honor these men and women, and the many others whom I have not mentioned. These people are here to keep our campus clean and running smoothly. They are not here to keep our

rooms clean. Without them, we would probably be like the proverbial prodigal son, wallowing in our own refuse—and very, very hungry.

So if you wake up one morning and realize that the vomit on the bathroom floor is yours, or if you realize that one of those thousand cups in the parking lot was dropped by your hand the night before—or for that matter, even if you come upon someone else's litter—pick it up or clean it up. That goes for me as well.

The staff of this campus, the men and women who have worked here often longer than we have been students here. They have enough work. They do not need us to give them more. They do, however, deserve our thanks, our service and our friendship.

If you need a place to start, I am fairly confident that the next time you hand your Lynx card to anyone, her name will either be Kim or Pat.

Continued
from Diversity,
Page 3

The Rhodes community should clarify that this kind of intolerance is not welcome here. The faculty and students who

consider themselves educated, intelligent, or at least a person of human decency should stand up against the actions of this person and anyone who reflects these views. It is awkward that at a time when there should be unity among American students, there is a division.

I have a message for the person or persons responsible for these racist attacks: Why do you

not leave? I have the feeling that there are not enough ignorant people in this school that share your beliefs. You are outnumbered by the open-minded students and faculty, and I am speaking for all of us when I say pack your stuff and go. Why do you not save your offensive remarks for your backwood clan meetings? You are a joke and a coward and if you had courage

you would let us know who you are. Rhodes laughs at you and what you stand for.

At the same time, we need to ask ourselves, are we doing all we can to discourage racism? I believe we are not. The general make-up of the school remains homogenous which encourages this type of ignorance. We have a committed faculty, most of which are extremely dedicated,

but I think we need to broaden our horizons, not just with the courses, but with the professors themselves. We can do this by opening the doors to more minority instructors and students. Diversify Rhodes, diversify. If we are "one of America's premier liberal arts colleges" it does not mean we can rest on our laurels. It means that we must continue to achieve progress.

Student Announcements

The second annual Senior Auction will be on Friday, February 22, at 6:00 p.m. in the Lynx Lair. There will be beer and pizza specials. All are welcome to attend. Also, there is still time to make a donation. Please e-mail helmc@rhodes.edu with any donations.

Rhodes Christian Fellowship invites everyone in the Rhodes community to a night of sharing and worship focused on prayers for healing and racial reconciliation on our campus on Wednesday, February 20, from 8:30-9:30 p.m. in Hardie Auditorium.

Friends of VECA will clean up three houses owned by VECA this weekend. All who are interested should meet on Sunday, February 24, at 1:00 p.m. behind the mailroom to have some fun and help out our neighbors.

Venus Envy Art Show is looking for female performance artists, musicians, poets, and singers to perform at the opening of the art show on March 30, between 6:00 p.m. and 9:00 p.m. at 960 S. Cooper. We are producing 5,000 catalogs distributed in Memphis and St. Louis, and performers will have their names listed. For more information, go to www.intermission.org/venusenvy, call Allana at 274-0363, or e-mail venusenvytn@yahoo.com.

On Wednesday, February 20, FOSTER and Westminster Fellowship will hold a joint meeting at 8:00 p.m. in Rhea Lounge as the first in a two-part series on homosexuality in the Christian Church. We will discuss the references to homosexuality in the Christian Bible with Prof. Carey Walsh. On Thursday, February 28, the second part of the series will be at 5:15 p.m. in Rhea Lounge beginning with a dinner. Further details on the second meeting to be announced.

Rhodes Planning Cooperative is sponsoring a web cast on Sustainability and the Built Environment this Friday, February 22. The subject is "New Urbanism, Haymount, and the Law." There will be refreshments at 5:30 p.m. in 207 Kennedy. The web cast will be at 6:00 p.m. in 201 Kennedy.

The International House will host a Food Festival on Thursday February 21, from 4:30 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. in Hyde Hall. The festival will feature samples of food from local restaurants serving international cuisine, including Asian and Latin American dishes. All students are welcome.

Order of Omega applications are available now for all members of Greek organizations. These are available from each respective chapter president and are due to Daniel Fordham (box 1412) by Monday, February 25. If you have any questions, please contact Eric Swindle or Daniel Fordham for more information.

Rhodes College Recreational Services

Offers
Intramural Volleyball
Six on Six play

Registration Deadline: Friday, March 15
Captains' Meeting: Tuesday, March 19 at 8 p.m.
Season Begins: Sunday, March 24
For more information contact Erin LeBlanc x3779 or Kim Rhodes x3013.

Rub-A-Dub-Dub; Four Girls In A Tub-Boat

Car Wash!

This Saturday, February 23, 11:00 a.m.- 2:00 p.m.
Location: Parking Lot Behind The Mail Room
Minimum Donation - \$5 please
All proceeds will support the Rhodes College Crew Team in buying a new boat.

Rhodes College Recreational Services

Offers
Intramural Soccer
Six on Six play

Registration Deadline: Friday, March 15
Captains' Meeting: Tuesday, March 19 at 6 p.m.
Season Begins: Sunday, March 24
For more information call Erin LeBlanc x3779 or Kim Rhodes x3013

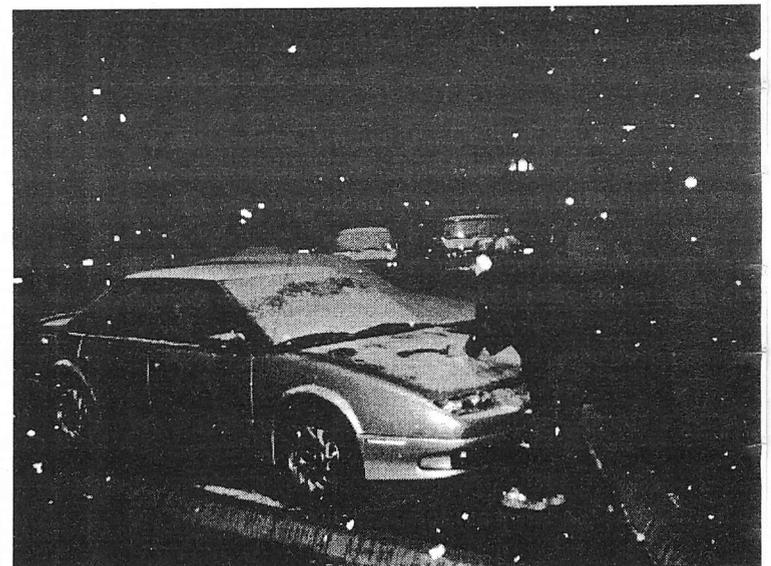


Photo by Amber Shaw

While enjoying the fresh snow, Shannon Keeling ('04) scrapes some off of a car in the Voorhies parking lot. "It was so much fun playing in the snow- I'd never seen so much before, and it stayed overnight." Keeling was among the multitudes of Rhodes students who took the opportunity to frolic in the evening snowfall.

Like sports?
Like to write?
Like to write about sports?
Then you should work for us!

The Sou'wester is looking for a Sports Editor for next year.
Please contact Scott Holmes at holsb@rhodes.edu or x5662.

Campus Safety Log



2/11/02 TO 2/17/02

2/11/02	11 a.m.-1:30 p.m.	Larceny of a bike - Between White Hall and Refectory, quad area
2/11/02	12:55 a.m. Unknown Unknown	East Village "A": Noise Complaint - turned music down McCoy Lot: Vandalism - Tire deflated: May be related to earlier reported "hate" crime of keyed car. Under investigation Mail Services - "hate" mail delivered to three students (inner campus mail). Under investigation.
2/12/02	6:03 a.m.	Tutwiler west of University: Larceny from 2 vehicles. MPD on scene, cars processed - good finger prints obtained, also on video, turned over to MPD for further investigation
2/13/02	2:20 a.m. 3:45 p.m. 10:10 p.m.	Bellingrath Quad - Report of fire crackers being shot off. No one found in area upon responding Bellingrath - Obscene phone calls: Under investigation - from off campus, phone company helping to trace call Robb Hall - Noise complaint: complied in turning music down
2/14/02	3:10 a.m. 3:30 a.m. 7:06 p.m. 10:40 p.m.	East Village "A": Noise complaint - playing guitar too loud, complied Stewart Hall - Vandalism: Racial slur printed in ink on wall. Under investigation. Java City - Briggs: Illness - transported to hospital Tutwiler and University - Suspicious persons and vehicle: matched the description of the earlier suspects wanted for the vehicle break in on 2/12/02. Campus Safety followed three suspects, that were later picked up at Jackson and University. MPD notified
2/15/02	4:45 a.m. 6:30 a.m. 7:30 a.m. 3:50 p.m.	Tutwiler and University - Suspicious persons and vehicle return to the area. Campus Safety, again followed until the suspects left the area. MPD notified BCLC - Injury Robb Social Room - Vandalism - window broken Blount Hall - third floor: Complaint - printed sign altered with apparent intent to change meaning of sign.
2/16/02	12:15 a.m.	Blount Hall - drug paraphernalia seized
2/17/02	NOTHING UNUSUAL REPORTED	

STATS THIS WEEK:

PROPPED DOORS: 9	ESCORTS: 40	ACCESSES: 109
VISITORS: 1,202	CITATIONS: 99	JUMP STARTS: 2
CARS TOWED: 0	A.V.: 5	BOOTS: 0

Students, faculty, staff, and other community members still have the opportunity to sign the petition at the following times and places:

Wednesday, February 20	Thursday, February 21	Friday, February 22
Java City 9:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m.	Java City 9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.	Java City 9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.
Refectory 4:30 p.m.- 6:30 p.m.	Refectory 4:30 PM- 6:30 PM	Refectory 4:30 p.m.- 6:30 p.m.

The Undersigned Members of the Rhodes College Community,

Recognizing that "diversity" remains an unachieved goal of the college despite repeated, credible self-studies and recommendations such as the report of the Diversity Task Force;

Outraged by the recent events in which members of our community felt at liberty to explicitly violate the property and dignity of African American students;

Saddened by the fact that these events are not isolated incidents, but rather indicative of an atmosphere at Rhodes that is hostile toward difference and fostered by apathy;

Commit ourselves to embodying and promoting the honor and integrity of all members of this community, and expecting the same from all students, faculty, staff, and administration. Furthermore . . .

We demand public defiance of all bigoted speech and/or action made by any member of this community.

We demand that the appalling image presented by an institution where most service positions are held by African Americans, while few faculty and administrative positions are held by African Americans, be actively combated by:

1. Increasing the number of African American faculty and administrators, an action which will enhance the environment and academic quality of our institution;
2. Conducting a public review of the compensation, work conditions, job satisfaction, and community value of the service staff.

We demand the creation of a Dean of Multi-Cultural Affairs who will be empowered to improve the aforementioned hostile atmosphere by:

1. Developing and implementing cultural sensitivity training and programming for all members and in all settings of the Rhodes Community;
2. Ensuring the investigation of and response to incidents of bigotry and/or intolerance that occur in and outside of the classroom, and publicly disseminating information pertaining to the prevalence of these instances;
3. Proactively publicizing and facilitating the means of addressing the above issues.

We demand that Admissions publications include explicit statements that deter and dissuade intolerant students from applying.

We demand a public review of Financial Aid policies and practices examining the low recruitment and retention rate of African American students.

We demand sacrifice from all the members of the Rhodes Community to achieve these goals and the aggressive pursuit of new funding for these initiatives by a committee on the Board of Trustees devoted to diversity issues.

In all these efforts, we ask that the faculty, as academic authorities and role models, take an active leadership role.

These demands can only be the beginning of the larger and more consistent effort necessary to eradicate intolerance of difference on the Rhodes College Campus.

Contact People for Student Anti-Racism Movement:

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Arts & Entertainment

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THE SOUTHWESTER

Wednesday, February 20, 2002

Second City comes to Rhodes

By Kim Kirkpatrick
RAB Junior Representative

What do Jackie Kennedy, Jimmy Hoffa, and a bulimic mouse in Tienamen Square have in common? They were all a part of the performance on February 16 by the famous comedy group Second City. Rhodes Activities Board hosted this campus wide event.

Originating from a small group of students from the University of Chicago theatre department in the fifties, Second City has grown to become a well established group known as a "temple of satire" (Time Magazine). Currently, Second City has five touring troupes that perform at colleges, performing arts centers, festivals, and theatres all over the world. Internationally, they have performed for such varied events as Scotland's Glasgow's Mayfest and Edinburgh's Fringe Festival. Nationally, Second City maintains resident theatres in Chicago, Toronto, Detroit, and Cleveland. Training facilities exist in each of these locations, as well as New York and Los Angeles. Sec-

ond City has been a training ground for a number of famous comedians including Joan Rivers, Robert Klein, John Belushi, Dan Aykroyd, Bill Murray, Martin Short, John Candy, Chris Farley, and numerous others. It is this stigma of stardom that Jen Bills, current member of the comedy group, says is the best and worst part of her involvement. "I have studied theatre for years. In college, I was 'hardcore' into theatre, it was so much fun! But now, I have been taken to a new level. Filling the shoes of so many amazing people with such amazing careers is a bit scary, yet incredible!" Bills states.

Ms. Bills was not the only one who thought this group was incredible. For Rebekah Miller ('05), "It was my first time to see a performance by Second City and it was very impressive. I thought it was great how they were so versatile and able to adapt their show to the college audience." Second City's performance featured a number of sketches, songs, and improvisations collected from their forty years of experience. One act featured audience participation with

questions posed to a panel of supposed experts from the Oprah show who came from a number of backgrounds including an olympic player, the editor of "Spin City," and a sketchy proctologist. During another act, a hippie named Tofu accompanied by her pianist Granola sang a song dedicated to the whales. "The show was hilarious...Their sketches were funny enough, but the improv was uproarious...almost as much so as the drunken buffoon who kept yelling from the back of the auditorium. I'm sorry for anyone who missed it - without a doubt, people laughed, cried, and tinkled themselves!" added Shannon Cian ('02). "As a member of RAB, we were happy with the performance. It was a good study break for the students and we hope to have Second City again," said Kate Hazelrig. So, what do you think? Got suggestions for future RAB events? Write rab@rhodes.edu or contact your class representative of the Activities Board.

If you are interested in attending one of Second City's shows or want more information, check out their webpage at : www.secondcity.com.

Wolfsinks its teeth into viewers

By Emily Ramsey
A&E/Scene Editor

The Brotherhood of the Wolf (Le Pacte des Loups, 2001) by Cristophe Gans is one of two French movies to be released in the United States within the last few months. This phenomenon of foreign movies has hit not only the more artsy theatres, but the larger and more frequented theatres. Whether this affair with the foreign movie will continue into the future, only time will tell.

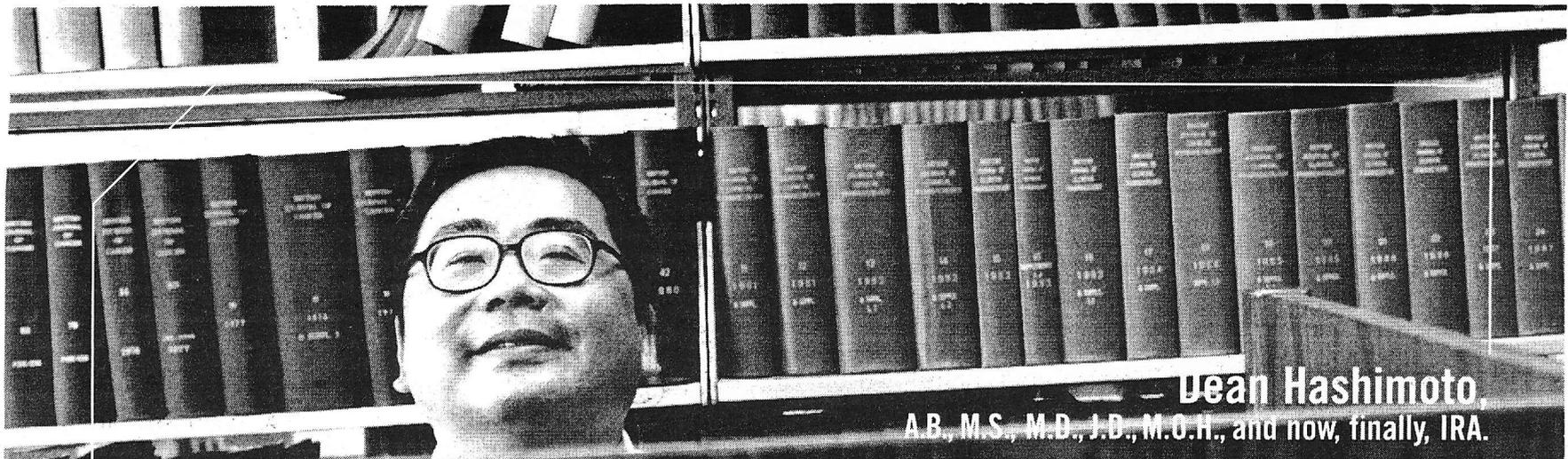
The movie combines several familiar movie genres and themes to create an eclectic film that comes at the viewer from as many angles as there are characters. Predominantly a period horror film, it also involves elements of a romance, a social and regional commentary on pre-Revolutionary France, and a martial arts spectacular reminiscent of Bruce Lee films. The plot is intense and involved, often surprising the viewer with the addition of yet another scene or character to attempt to thicken the mystery. Although the ultimate perpetrators of the deaths become evident about halfway through the film, how the crisis is solved remains to be seen until the last minutes of the movie.

The film opens with the Chevalier de Fronsac, a soldier once stationed in New France, and his friend Mani, an Iroquois Indian, traveling to the coun-

tryside to investigate a rash of mysterious murders. The locals claim that a large wolf or beast has been the culprit, the work of the devil upon a sleepy French town. Fronsac, however, does not believe their superstitious claims, looking for a more rational explanation. Much of the rest of the film engages Fronsac in his hunt for this creature, and further intrigue as he involves himself with town officials, clergy, and a romance, eventually stumbling on the secret to the murders.

Although not the best film I have seen recently, this was certainly an interesting one. Gans takes a very artistic approach to the filming, attempting new and rather unorthodox feats with the cinematography. A rash of quick shots, frequent close-ups, stop action, and slow motion shots pepper the screen, serving to add a modern flair. Their regularity, however, begins to lose its effectiveness after a short while and begin to detract from the plot of the movie.

Adapted from the true story of the beast of Gevaudan that terrorized provincial France during the mid-1700s, *The Brotherhood of the Wolf* seeks to present a modern film marketable to multiple audiences, interests, and nationalities.



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Do not judge a restaurant by its cover

By Andrew Bennett
Staff Writer

The La Guadalupana restaurant, at 4818 Summer Avenue, is an easy place to miss, as it is tucked away in the middle of one of the numerous strip malls found up and down that street. The owners themselves have done little to make their presence known; a single rundown sign above the door is the only piece of identification to be seen. But La Guadalupana's anonymity made my visit there almost more enjoyable, since I left my meal satisfied and pleased that I had found a hidden jewel of a Mexican restaurant in the least likely of places.

Being a Texan, I have up to this point been disappointed in the quality and quantity of Mexican restaurants in Memphis; the best I have been able to manage on my limited budget

has been midnight trips to Taco Bell, something I am not proud to admit. But after my experience at La Guadalupana, my faith in Memphis dining has been at least partially restored. Upon entering the restaurant, I was struck by the place's dinginess and lack of show; The dining area consisted of a large open area immediately in front of the kitchen, which was open for all to see. There were a few items hung on the wall, masks and dolls mostly, which I suppose were there to lend to an atmosphere of "Cultural Authenticity." There was a jukebox placed against the far wall as well, and it kept my companions and myself on our toes with its mix of tejano and popular Latin music (Ricky Martin is still being played somewhere, in case you were curious). Aside from these two atmosphere builders, the place was strikingly bare. However, I was not there for the atmosphere; I was there for the food,

which I had heard was both excellent and cost-efficient. This turned out to be more than accurate. Almost immediately after we had taken our seats at a table, the waitress was there with a basket full of hot chips and fresh, homemade salsa, which was nearly addictive; throughout the meal there was a constant flow of salsa and chips to and from our table. I took my time examining the menu, even though I was already aware of what I would order. The cuisine is divided into two sections, single item entrees and specific dinners, and I noticed that the descriptions of the entrees were printed in English while those of the dinners were printed in Spanish. While this made my decision easier, I was not able to adequately peruse the combination plates. I did recognize that they covered a lot of area, accommodating the tastes of many different types of food lovers. The shrimp dish looked especially tempting, but my financial resources forced me limit my consideration to the less expensive single entrees.

This was definitely the right thing to do. La Guadalupana offers tacos, burritos, gorditas, soupas (as they

point out on the menu, this is not soup), and other dishes at extremely sensible prices, ranging from a dollar fifty for a taco to four dollars and fifty cents for a burrito. At first I had my doubts as to the quality of such cheap food; I am definitely unaccustomed to spending less than ten dollars on a meal and considering it a truly enjoyable dining experience. My reservations were cast aside, however, when I saw our waitress emerge from the kitchen with her hands full of plates stacked high with tortillas and freshly ground beef, the smell of which had me on the edge of my seat, ready to dig in. It should be noted that La Guadalupana's cooking styles are authentically Mexican, and not Tex-Mex, a fact which I was not prepared for, but which I gladly accepted once the benefits were there before me. I had ordered a beef taco and a beef burrito, and the presentation of both was unfamiliar to me. The taco consisted of two thin tortillas, piled high with beef that was only partially ground and perfectly seasoned, topped with raw onions and what I believe was cilantro, and accompanied with a slice of lime, something I had never seen before on

a plate of Mexican food. The burrito was similarly constructed, with the addition of sour cream and the house sauce, but its distinguishing feature was its size. I feel like I've seen my fair share of burritos, but I have never seen one so large as those they serve at La Guadalupana. I sprinkled both of my items with limejuice, added some salsa for that extra kick, and dug in. I had expected to finish everything I ordered handily when I entered the restaurant, but I soon realized this was not to be. This realization came after approximately one third of the burrito had been done away with; I reluctantly, but contentedly, acknowledged my defeat, and asked the waitress for a box so I could continue the fight another time.

For those of you who, like me, enjoy nothing more than gorging yourself on exceptional Mexican cuisine and paying eight dollars altogether to do so, it is imperative that you take your appetite and a pair of elastic-waist pants to La Guadalupana on Summer Avenue. It may not look like much, but it has got what matters most: great food at low prices.

An Expression of Gratitude from Kappa Sigma Fraternity

By Michael Lamb and Joey Sherrard
Staff Writers

The Phi Chapter of Kappa Sigma would again like to thank the students, faculty, and staff who helped to make our second annual Phi-lanthropy Week a huge success.

Combining the leadership, determination, compassion, and generosity of our brothers, we joined together to provide food and fellowship to the hungry and homeless at Souper Contact, helped tutor and mentor elementary students one afternoon at Knowledge Quest, and enjoyed the smiles and laughs of those we served as we hosted a field day of fun and excitement on the Rhodes campus for the children in the Big Brothers Big Sisters program here in Memphis. To see the smiles on those children's faces on that Saturday morning made the many long hours of planning and preparation well worthwhile.

Phi-lanthropy Week also consisted of more than direct community service; it also included a tremendous fundraising drive that has just ended recently. Our Lip Sync Contest was again a tremendous success, providing entertainment for the student body while simultaneously generating almost \$1,500 in funds. And with the donations of generous business own-

ers and alumni, we were able to donate a total of \$5,392.54 to Big Brothers Big Sisters of Memphis.

But the brothers of Kappa Sigma need your help again. In order to raise money for the Ronald McDonald House, we are currently selling the "Best Book in Town," a coupon book that is valued at \$1,500. The "best books" contain super values at places that many of us Rhodes students frequent, such as Malco Theatres, Sonic, McDonald's, Sub-way, Domino's, Pizza Hut, IHOP, Sekisui, Garibaldi's, India Palace, Blockbuster, and LaserTron.

It also contains other discounts that maybe not be used as frequently but which are certainly valuable, such as free greens fees at various Mid-South golf clubs, tickets for Opera Memphis, the Memphis Symphony, Circuit Playhouse, or Playhouse on the Square, and even free admission to bowling lanes. The coupon books sell for only \$10, with \$5 going to the book company and the other \$5 going to the Ronald McDonald House.

If you are interested in helping the Ronald McDonald House and in enjoying big-time savings at your favorite places, please see a Kappa Sigma within the next few days to purchase your book and to take advantage of the many wonderful discounts and benefits it has to offer.

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Lynx split weekend road games

By Matthew Pate
Staff Writer

With the season winding down, the Rhodes Lynx men's basketball team took to the road last weekend to face conference foes Millsaps College and Oglethorpe University. The last time the Lynx faced off with the Majors and the Stormy Petrels, they came out on top in both games and looked to recreate their successes.

The Lynx were also looking to end a five game losing streak on the road, which extended all the way back to early January.

The Lynx's Friday night opponent was the Millsaps Majors. The Majors were coming off a loss to Sewanee and were without one of their top players, Thomas Adams, who the Majors lost earlier this season to a knee injury. As a result of this injury, the Majors played a more up-tempo style, often times using five guards on the court and relying heavily on their

other all-conference performer Daniel Waguespack. The Lynx were unfazed by this change in style, as they jumped out to an early 21-10 advantage.

However, the Majors were able to stay in the game and fight back to take a five-point advantage at the half. The second half was dominated by the Majors, shooting over 50 percent from the field including six of ten from beyond the three-point arc *en route* to an 89-77 win. In the loss, the Lynx were once again paced by forward Stephen Russell ('05) and guard Bryan Baird ('03) with seventeen and sixteen points respectively.

Trying to put their sixth straight road loss behind them, the Lynx traveled to Atlanta to face off with the Oglethorpe Stormy Petrels. The Lynx were confident going into the game, having beaten the Petrels by 21 points earlier and knowing that the Petrels had only won two conference games thus far.

As in the Friday game, the Lynx came out strong early and were able to sustain the charge through to a 41-32 halftime lead. In the second half, the Petrels came out and tried to exert themselves physically in hopes of getting back in the game.

However, the Lynx absorbed the physical play and were able to create some offense out of it, converting on fourteen of eighteen free throws for the game.

In the end, the Lynx emerged victorious in large part due to big contributions off of the bench from Carl Yoder ('03) with sixteen points, sinking eight of his nine shots, and Wes Cain ('05) with fifteen points.

The Lynx play their final two games of the season Friday and Saturday at Mallory-Hyde Gymnasium against Southwestern University and Trinity University. Saturday marks the final game of the season for the Lynx, who hope to end the year on a winning note.

Women's Basketball drop two on weekend road trip

By Brian Clark
Athletics Department

The Lynx women's basketball team (13-10, 10-6 SCAC) lost two road games over the weekend to Millsaps and Oglethorpe. Rhodes was hoping to continue its winning streak to four conference wins in a row, but the Majors of Millsaps had other plans Friday night, burying the Lynx by a score of 71-49. Despite trailing by only four points at halftime, 34-30, the Lynx could not contain or match the upbeat Millsaps team.

Millsaps' Jessica Dunlap led her team with 23 points and ten rebounds. The Majors shot a staggering 49 percent from the floor for the entire game.

For Rhodes, only two players reached double digits in points, Erin Fleischer ('04) with eleven points and Anna Kizer ('03) with ten points. Jessie Hunt ('02) pulled down a team leading ten rebounds. Even though eleven turnovers looked to be the factor that cost Rhodes the game, the primary reasons proved to be poor shooting coupled with superior play by Millsaps.

On Sunday, the Lynx looked to turn things around against the Stormy Petrels of Oglethorpe. Rhodes defeated Oglethorpe at home earlier in the sea-

son by a score of 70-44. From that score one might assume it would have been an easy afternoon for the Lynx. However, for the second straight game Rhodes' opponent played one of its best games of the season. The Lynx lost to Oglethorpe 73-65 in overtime.

Oglethorpe's Heather Francoeur led all scorers with 22 points. She came up with some very big shots down the stretch to force overtime against the Lynx. Rhodes tried to build on a seven-point halftime lead, but could not put away the Petrels.

Kerry Wingo ('02) led the Lynx with sixteen points. For the second straight game Hunt led Rhodes with ten rebounds. A telling statistic is that Rhodes only made four three pointers in the game, which is a low number for a team that shoots the ball as well as Rhodes.

Despite the disappointing weekend, the Lynx still have an outside chance of finishing in second place in the conference. However, they will need help from some other teams in the conference. This is the last weekend of conference play for the season. Rhodes will take on Southwestern Friday night at 6 p.m. and then finish the regular season on Saturday at 6 p.m. against Trinity.

Not that it matters, but... For some reason people are tuned in to the Olympics

By John Zeanah
Sports Editor

Only four years after the Winter Olympics in Nagano, Japan drew the lowest television ratings for Winter games since 1968, an astounding number of viewers have tuned in to this year's games in Salt Lake City, Utah. The reason could be that suddenly people are actually interested in the individual events, but my guess is that either the spread of patriotism has put tens of millions of people in front of their televisions each night (tuned in to NBC), or people just really love scandals. Whatever the case may be, the 2002 games have registered high television ratings so far, flooded news reporting, and rekindled much of the interest in Olympic games that was lost in Nagano.

Of course the highlight thus far has been the vote-swapping scandal in the pairs figure skating competition which originally put the Canadian duo, who showed a flawless performance, on the silver podium, while the Russians, who recorded a couple of minor mistakes, took the gold. In light of the rich history of scandal and controversial judging in figure skating, evidence quickly revealed that the French judge committed her vote to the Russians in exchange for their support for the French ice dancing tan-

dem. On Friday, the International Olympic Committee ruled to award Canadians Jamie Sale and David Pelletier a gold medal, making them co-champions of the event with the Russians. Individual figure skating events started Tuesday with the women's short program competition, where decorated American skating veteran Michelle Kwan hopes to finally claim the gold.

On Saturday the men's hockey event saw another rematch between top gold medal contenders the United States and Russia, which, since 1980, has been one of the Olympics' most heated rivalries. The Russians led 2-1 in the highest rated hockey game in 22 years until Brett Hull scored the tying goal in the third period to close the game at a 2-2 draw.

The American team defeated Finland the night before 6-0, and shut down Belarus on Monday by the score of 8-1. Russia took down Belarus on Friday by a score of 6-4, but dropped their match with Finland Monday 3-1. Sweden has also proven to be a top contender for the gold beating Germany, Czech Republic, and Canada already.

The quarterfinal matches will be held Wednesday, when the U.S. takes on Germany, Russia hopes to rebound against the Czech Republic, Sweden looks to extend their wins against Belarus, and Canada takes on Finland.

In the women's hockey competition, the American team has recorded four straight blowouts, amassing 31 total goals and only allowing one in four games. They face Canada on Thursday for the gold medal game, as Sweden and Finland match up for the bronze.

The total medals count as of Tuesday put Germany on top with 28, followed by the United States with 21, and Norway with seventeen. Olympic highlights for the American team include gold medals in the two-woman bobsled, the men's halfpipe snowboarding, women's halfpipe snowboarding, men's 500-meter and 1500-meter speedskating, and women's 1000-meter speedskating.

In addition to Ross Powers' gold medal in the men's halfpipe, Americans Danny Kass and Jarret Thomas took the silver and bronze medals respectively to complete a full sweep of the event.

In the men's 5000-meter speedskating event, American Derek Parra posted a world-record time of six minutes and 17.98 seconds, only to be beaten by Jochem Uytendaele of the Netherlands, whose new world-record time of 6:14.66 placed Parra on the silver podium. However, Parra broke another world record on Tuesday in the men's 1500-meter speedskating, finishing with a stunning time of one minute and 43.95 seconds to claim the gold medal.

Rhodes takes sixth in finals

By Melanie Telzrow
Staff Writer

Last weekend, the Rhodes swim team competed in only their fourth SCAC Conference swim meet. The team took nineteen swimmers and two divers to Sewanee with hopes of a strong finish. As expected, Rhodes swimmers turned out top performances, sending almost half of the team to the finals to score points for the team.

At the conference meet, events are swam in the morning preliminaries and the top sixteen advance to finals. On Thursday, Anne Kathryn Rice ('03) and Chad Jones ('03) placed eighth and fifteenth, respectively, in the finals, while Julie Mediamolle ('02) finished tenth in the 50-yard freestyle and Sarah May ('03) placed fourteenth in the 200-yard individual medley.

The women's "A" 400-yard medley relay of Mediamolle, May, Melanie Telzrow ('02), and Kelley Savage ('03) finished fifth and the men's "A" 400-yard medley of J.R. Tarabocchia ('03), Jon Wood ('02), Brett Stauffer ('03) and Brian Waggenspack ('03) placed sixth.

Friday was a huge scoring day for Rhodes, due to the number of strong individual events. Outstanding swims include a fourth place finish for Savage in the 100-yard butterfly, fourth place

finish for Wood in the 100-yard breaststroke, and a fourth place finish for Mediamolle in the 200-yard freestyle. The women's "A" relay of the 800-yard freestyle took fourth while the men's took fifth. Rhodes divers Mary Johnson ('03) and Daniel Head ('04) finished sixth and eleventh respectively in the three-meter and one-meter events.

On the last day of competition, Rhodes geared up for a long day of events. This day proved to be the most exciting, with a ninth place finish for Rice in the 1650-yard swim and a first ever Rhodes conference win for Chad Jones ('03) in the 1650-yard swim.

Other amazing swims for Rhodes include a twelfth and fourteenth place for Telzrow and Tarabocchia in the 200-yard backstroke, seventh and fifteenth place finish for Mediamolle and Jason Wagenmaker ('03) in the 100-yard freestyle events, and a tenth place finish for Wood in the 200-yard breaststroke. Savage placed fifth in the 200-yard butterfly, and the 400-yard freestyle relays took sixth and seventh for the men and the women, respectively.

With several scoring opportunities for Rhodes in the finals, the women's team finished fifth and the men's team finished sixth, securing a sixth place spot for the team overall.