

# THE SOU'WESTER

The Weekly Student Newspaper of Rhodes College

Vol. LXXXIX, No. 11

Wednesday, January 16, 2002

## Campus News

All Stories Courtesy of U-wire

University of New Mexico (Albuquerque, NM) professor Richard Berthold—a notoriously engaging, entertaining, brash, and outspoken cultural and social critic in the classroom—sparked controversy with his ill-timed comment, “Anybody who can blow up the Pentagon has my vote.” Provost Brian Foster said a letter of reprimand would be placed in Berthold’s personnel file, he will not teach freshman classes for the immediate future and he will undergo an in-depth post-tenure review. Foster said he will follow a specific plan for complying with the standards of professional behavior for the classroom that are described in the Faculty Handbook.

Thirty-nine of the 68 Middle Eastern students who withdrew last semester from classes at the University of Arizona (Tucson, AZ) have re-enrolled for the spring, said university spokeswoman Sharon Kha. The students, mostly from the United Arab Emirates, withdrew in mid-September due to fears and concerns about the September 11 terrorist attacks, said Nasser Alnuaimi, president of the Muslim Students Association. Seventy-three students total left UA last semester due to the September 11 attacks, Kha said. Sixteen were U.S. citizens, 15 were called to active military duty and one was requested home by his parents. Forty-four of those students re-enrolled this semester.

Studies from Northwestern University (Evanston, IL) suggest that men and women seem to come from different planets when it comes to soaking up knowledge in a college setting. The findings in “How Much Do Students Learn in College?” detailed the results of the College Basic Academic Subjects Examination, a test measuring knowledge gained in four subject areas throughout the college years. In all subject areas, women’s scores from the time they entered college until graduation increased about one-third less than men’s totals. The authors of the study used college grades, ACT scores and race as a statistical control on their data. Eagly said the control lowered the women’s test scores as it accounted for women having higher grade point averages.

## Deans’ Council tables Deferred Recruitment decision

By Scott Holmes  
Associate Editor

In the fall of 2001, the Deans’ Council considered the implementation of Deferred Recruitment. The adoption of the Council’s proposal would move the Greek fall recruitment to the spring semester. The Council began looking at Deferred Recruitment proposals after the suggestions of two studies, “Liberal Learning and the Residential Life Experience at Rhodes College,” a reaccreditation study done by the Diversity Task Force. These studies and the Dean’s Council addressed such concerns as first-years’ academics, the campus’s sense of community, retention rate, and multicultural interaction on campus.

On December 7 Dean of Students Bette Ackerman announced the Council’s decision to adopt the Pan-IFC proposal for a modified rush, which would still take place in the fall. While this announcement came as a victory for Pan, IFC, and RSG—all of whom voiced their concern about the proposal—Deans Llewellyn and Ackerman, however, were both quick to point out that “The college community needs to understand that the Deans’ Council

tabled the issue, which will be re-considered in two years” said Ackerman.

Dean of the College Robert Llewellyn added, “What the Deans’ Council did was to recognize that the College was not ideally positioned to adopt the practice of Deferred Rush at this time, and so an early fall rush was endorsed for two more academic years; this means that we will come back to the matter.” Dean Llewellyn also noted that the administration is “pleased with the responsiveness of the sorority and fraternity leadership, and the role of Pan and IFC, in making changes in the early fall rush to make is less problematic.”

The President of the Interfraternity Council, Daniel Fordham, stated, “The Interfraternity Council is pleased that the Deans’ Council accepted the proposal and believes that, in the long run, a fall rush period, not a Deferred Rush, will best serve the interests of the fraternities and the College.”

Lisa Doody, Panhellenic Vice President of Rush, in her letter to the Dean’s Council stated the Panhellenic position: “While Deferred Recruitment does have positive aspects, we feel that it is not the answer to these problems.”

## Banner Web should run smoothly in 2002

By Margie Hall  
Editor-in-Chief

Registration for the spring 2002 semester was hectic this past November due to problems with the implementation of Banner Web, the software which has replaced Alpha for the student information system. The library system, e-mail accounts, and the PLAN file and fingering programs will remain on the Alpha server, while financial aid, student accounts, registration, and course schedules have been switched to Banner.

According to Bob Johnson, Dean of Information Services, the student information services was part of the Banner package that was installed for

use by the administration. He says that the program is “technologically fine, we’re just learning as an entire institution how to use the product.”

The tree system of registration was switched from Alpha to the Rhodes Banner system by a local software developer, and was not part of the original Banner package. The tree process is quite unusual, according to Dean Johnson, and it had to be “fixed, tweaked, and adjusted” to be executed properly, as it was newly developed for the Banner software.

The process of making schedules after students registered took “longer than we had hoped,” said Dean Johnson. He attributed this to not knowing exactly how the program

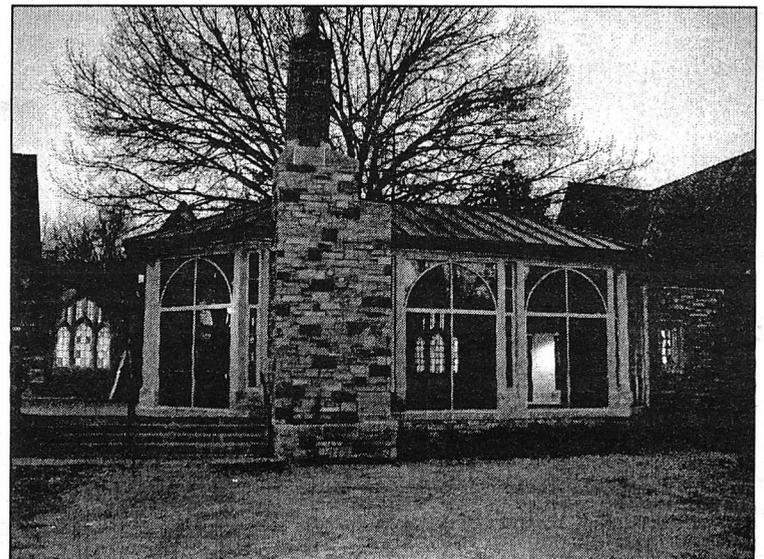


Photo by Scott Holmes

The 1300 square-foot conservatory will consist of a glassed-in social room, complete with new furniture, kitchen, and study spaces. It is located in the Voorhies-Townsend-Trezevant quad.

The Pan proposal that was implemented by the Dean’s Council creates a rescheduled fall recruitment that removes parties from weekday afternoons and skit parties. Pan’s willingness to work with the council is evident in their proposal, which states, “While houses hold this [skit] party as part of a fond tradition, the houses are willing to

make these changes to [their] fall recruitment schedule.”

Pan and IFC are both continu-

**See Recruitment,  
Page 4**

**Any announcements?**

Put it in *The Sou'wester!*

Inform the student body of your events.

Any and all student organizations are encouraged to place announcements and advertisements in *The Sou'wester*.

Articles and opinion pieces are welcomed, as well.

Email submissions to [souwester@rhodes.edu](mailto:souwester@rhodes.edu).

Submissions must be received on Monday in order to run in the week’s issue.

## How the Grinch stole college football

By Dennis Grzeskowiak  
Guest Columnist

If you follow college football, you have heard the argument between people that support the Bowl Championship Series (BCS) and the people that support a playoff system. The national championship game played at the beginning of this month has added fuel to that debate.

The Miami Hurricanes played the Nebraska Cornhuskers for the championship in the Rose Bowl. The Hurricanes were the only undefeated team in the country, therefore solidifying their right to play in the game. The Cornhuskers, however, were blown out in their previous game against the Colorado Buffaloes. Despite this fact, and despite the fact that Nebraska did not win its conference championship, the BCS computer ranking system put the Cornhuskers ahead of Colorado and the Pac-10 Champions, the Oregon Ducks.

Many people took umbrage to this situation, believing that Colorado or Oregon should be in the championship game against Miami instead of Nebraska. This gave the playoff-supporters more legitimacy to their argument, especially when Nebraska was dominated both offensively and defensively by a superior Miami team.

Those in favor of a playoff system declared that college football was robbed of a true national championship game because Miami was not pitted against Oregon, who dominated Colorado in their bowl game.

Division 1-AA college football will always face the charge of not having a "true" champion as long as it retains the current bowl situation. There will always be a third or fourth team that has a claim to play in the championship game that will be left out in the cold. This is because the rankings that the BCS rests on are matters of opinion, polls tallied by votes of sports-writers and coaches that are often regionally biased.

It is because of these polls that a team like Oregon, who only lost once and won its conference championship (thus making it the superior team to that of Colorado and Nebraska), will never play in the national championship game.

The sports-writers who com-

prise the group that determines the polls are mostly from the East coast. Meaning, they are asleep by the time Oregon or any other team from the Pac-10 plays, and give first place votes to traditional football powers even if those teams are having down years.

*Greed is keeping players and fans from experiencing the most exciting and meaningful college football games ever played.*

This explains why teams like Nebraska and Florida that have two losses and did not win their respective conference championships are still ranked in the top five.

The BCS was created in the late 1990s to prevent situations such as what happened this past season. Supposedly, the BCS was to have prevented the biased polls from having so much influence and therefore present a clear-cut national champion. Obviously, this has not happened. So why not replace the BCS with a playoff system to decide the national championship?

There is one answer to that question: money.

There are four major bowl games that rotate the national championship: the Rose Bowl, the Orange Bowl, the Fiesta Bowl, and the Sugar Bowl. Every year the national championship game between the top two ranked teams is played at one of these sites, while the teams that have conference ties or are highly ranked play in the other three bowls.

These eight teams make \$13.5 million each for appearing in one of the four bowl games. This amount of money is significantly less than the hundreds of millions ABC makes in advertising fees, and that the bowls and the NCAA make from outrageously priced ticket sales, merchandising, and corporate sponsorship.

Certainly, one would believe that there is more money to be made if there was a playoff system and each weekend there was a high-caliber game on TV. However, this would take away revenue from the four bowls that constitute the BCS. It is the simple fact that there would be more ways the large pot of money would have to be split up.

This greed is keeping players

and fans from experiencing the most exciting and meaningful college football games ever played.

It should not be surprising that greed and money have such an impact in Division 1-AA college football.

Look at the way the rules and regulations keep players from receiving any rewards from their ability. Players cannot receive gifts of any kind from agents, and are forced to live on a monthly pittance given to them by the college.

Compare this to the millions that the school receives from appearing in a major bowl game as well as the revenue from ticket sales and merchandising. Compare this to the millions of dollars the head coach makes (for example, Steve Spurrier's replacement at Florida, Ron Zook, who now makes more than his former

boss, NFL coach Jim Haslett).

Sure, the players get a free education, but the money the school loses is more than made up for after opening day ticket sales. In fact the amount of money a Division-1 college football program makes often bankrolls the rest of the athletic department and still leaves a profit for the school. So why, if the school is making so much money off their talents, can the college players not be paid for each game?

The gift rule is a joke when every player on the team is allowed to receive a DVD player, a TV, and a watch for playing in the Orange Bowl. These types of gifts are allowed when the corporate sponsor who is paying the NCAA millions of dollars is the giver. But if one of those nasty agents or alumni give a player a TV, a year of eligibility is taken away.

How can the NCAA try to impose a sense of morality on the players when its own greed makes Division 1-A College Football the only college sport in any division that does not have a playoff system?

### Come participate in these upcoming Rhodes-sponsored activities.

January 17: Viewing of *Serendipity*  
Blount Auditorium at 9 p.m.  
Sponsored by RAB

January 20: *The Art of Dr. Seuss*  
Dixon Gallery and Gardens  
Meet behind Briggs at 3 p.m. to caravan  
Free Admission with Rhodes ID  
Sponsored by ResLife

January 21: Visit to Civil Rights Museum  
Meet behind Briggs at 11 a.m.  
Sponsored by ResLife

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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 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.

#### REACHING THE SOU'WESTER

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<http://www.students.rhodes.edu/sw/>  
Member, Associated Collegiate Press (ACP)

## United we may stand, but divided we are

JONATHAN RUSSOM  
GI Jane



GI Joe, who is a Real American Hero, came up to me a few weeks ago and started speaking to me. I'd been trying to avoid her and all her fellow Real American Heroes since 11 September, when they all started to get red, white, and blue in the face.

That was making me kind of nervous, because my face was still just freckled. They'd been eyeing me funny, so I started walking with my head turned downward just a bit.

Then I missed the distribution of the ass signs, and it was impossible to remain inconspicuous. Everywhere I went, people noticed that my rear was not saying "United We Stand." All the other rears were. And the stars and stripes that I'd always thought

were so pretty, well, once I couldn't go three seconds on Poplar Avenue without seeing them, they kind of lost their grandeur.

I wasn't unaccustomed to feeling outside the dominant culture of my homeland. For years I'd known deep inside that I wasn't a Real American Hero. Hell, I like sex with men, so I can't even serve in the army. But it was more than that. I was for some reason pre-occupied with the social, economic, and legal inequalities I saw raging in the cities and countries around me. I couldn't have undying and unquestioning pride in that.

"United we stand," GI Joe said to me, putting her hand over her heart. It was like a salute, and I shivered.

"Umm, good day to you," I replied, trying to walk past her.

Not so fast. She put her hand out toward my shoulder to stop me. "Where is your ass sign? Don't you support America?"

I wasn't really sure how to answer her question, but I thought

anything positive-sounding would get me out of the situation. "Yes. I participate in my local economy and pay taxes."

"So you trust in the actions of our government?"

Damn. "Not all of them, no." "What is your problem with America? Why do you not like America? Why do you live here if you don't support America?"

I didn't know what to say, so I got a bit whiny. "Are you just bothering me because of my color?"

She reared back and looked down at me with indignation. "Absolutely not. I am concerned for the well-being of our nation, and your sign-less ass makes me suspect that you are not patriotic."

I'm a card-carrying member of the ACLU, so that offended me a bit. I promised her that I would put a sign on my ass, but after I did, my roommates wouldn't let me out of the house. They were afraid a rear that said "We're not as united as we say we are" would get shot or at least beaten.

I snuck out anyway to buy some tofu for dinner, but it seems that the Real American Heroes have their cameras specifically trained for grocery aisles offering "foreign" foods. GI Joe shot me from behind a stand of Leggs pantyhose, beat me while screaming "communist faggot liberal tree-hugging terrorist", and hauled my dissenting ass down to the United We Slammer.

I get to make one statement before the judge: I don't understand what "United We Stand" means. We're not all alike, and we don't all agree. How can I feel united to you, judge?

You belong to a legal system that still refuses to allow me to marry a man, adopt children, and build the family I desperately desire. I am denied freedom.

People starved on the streets in front of the World Trade Centers. They were denied freedom. The people who died in the attacks aren't the only ones worth fighting for.

You want me to just pretend

that we're equal so we can all smile grimly like we're disturbed to bomb the hell out of some foreign people that none of us gave a first thought to before one of its radicals questioned our political, cultural, and economic domination of the world?

At least one-fifth of the adults in this country can't even read "United We Stand," but you want them to be able to say it as you blow turbans to smithereens. What are we supposedly standing for? Because I swear I can't think of one single thing we're all united about. And if it's supposed to be some general pride in this Real American Hero machine, I can't say I feel it.

Is that a crime?

Jeez, I'm not trying to tear down the nation; I JUST WANT TO KNOW THAT I AM ALLOWED TO EXPRESS OPINIONS OTHER THAN THE DOMINANT ONES WITHOUT FEARING FOR MY SAFETY OR WELL-BEING.

Am I convicted?

*Editor's note: contractions have not been omitted upon author's request for stylistic impact.*

## All you need is love; love is all you need

EMILY McDONALD  
Voyeur Extraordinaire



mirror for each other in which they may see the best version of themselves reflected. This reflection must get addicting! They isolate themselves on this island away from the world, upon which they become oblivious to others as they lose themselves in their mirror.

One lover will clear space in her schedule to spend time with this person and believe that the time has been productively spent. If something exciting happens to one member of the pair, the only thing the person can think of from then is to tell the other member of the pair.

Once a person is a member of a pair that calls themselves "in love," they donate most of their money, in the form of gifts and future investments, to the cause of their "lover's" happiness. The lover seems a vault in which to store spare time, personal narratives and money. I say, how dangerous!

The identities of the two lovers become interwoven and practically unintelligible from one another. Their social lives and

personal lives begin to overlap increasingly the more serious the two become.

In the media and in many marriages, the goal of the couple is to become One! One mind, one agenda, one personality. And the individual of the pair becomes a half, rather than one whole person. It all seems quite emasculating to me, but that's just my opinion.

We are born alone, we feel pain alone and we die alone; these are the facts. Humanity has come up with the solution of love for these uncomfortable problems. Our culture teaches us constantly to toss all of our hope into romance. Love conquers all, all you need is love, love is a many splendored thing, etc.

In our consumerist country there is a high priced bounty on the head of the "One" that we are meant to love most, and many have been noted to say that they will go to such places as the ends of the earth to find this individual.

Once we are coherent, the race begins as we learn of the "One" whom is meant to solve our individual problem of loneliness, and the rest of our life is a quest. Look to the movies, to music, to television, and you will see that, according to our culture, love IS all we need.

What is the result of the seed our culture has planted in us? A crazed need to find a mate who will complete us, single women foaming at the mouth after inhaling romantic comedy after romantic comedy, and a whole lotta people who deem themselves worthless because they are not a part of a couple.

We live within the cage of idealization of romance that our society has built for us, unable to look past the walls made of Julia Roberts' movies, single red roses and piles of greeting cards.

The idea of a significant other becomes a sparkling entity of perfection rather than a vault to throw time, secrets and money into. The lover is an excuse not to integrate with soci-

ety at large. The lover is a crutch who aids the individual towards a false conception of self-acceptance.

Right now you are probably thinking I am a heartless "beeYATCH," for belittling the importance of Love. Maybe I am.

Still, our society has become entirely too dependant on their idealized notions of romantic love. Love is waiting for us in so many corners of reality that it seems a shame to leave romance carrying the weight of happiness.

Whether you are alone or together, time is passing and brilliance is dawning. You will not find life if you let yourself be leaden down with cultural baggage and allow one person to hold the combination to your peace of mind and inspiration.

I do still get choked up watching *Ally McBeal*; won't somebody throw her a freaking bone, she's been such a trooper!

*Editor's note: contractions have not been omitted upon author's request for stylistic impact.*

Ahhhh, Love; it's everywhere. Seems like today it has become the root of all being, living and meaning. Love has been clipped and shaped into a list of clichés that our minds have soaked up and refuse to purge. Love has been so layered with quip upon quip that it lives in our minds as a huge breathing being hungry for souls. Once a pair has designated themselves as being a member of the Love, they then have permission by our society to lose themselves completely in the eyes and ears of one another.

Sociology has named the television the newest opiate of the masses, but what about romance? I've actually seen people just sit and stare at one another, a strange sight. The lovers act as a

RHODES COLLEGE  
Recreational Services



Bring It!

5-on-5 Basketball

Register now in the Rec Services office of the BCLC.

Sign-up Deadline: Friday, Jan 25

Mandatory Captain's Meeting: Tuesday, Jan 29

Season Begins: Sunday, Feb 3

For more information call Kim Rhodes at x3013 or Erin LeBlanc at x3779.

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## Recruitment, from Page 1

Pan and IFC are both continuing to work on making other improvements. These improvements include implementing faculty advisers and Greek study hall. In this way, the social and academic arenas of the Rhodes campus can merge.

Dean Ackerman said that the Dean's Council is also working on improvements, stating, "In the interim, we will begin to implement

new programs for the first-year students, and we will assess a number of characteristics of the campus community: climate, engagement in curricular and extracurricular activities."

Dean Llewellyn added that the investigation into Deferred Recruitment was not "an attempt to disassociate the College from a Greek system."

The Dean's Council, like the members of PAN and IFC, are invested and interested in the social well-being of the Rhodes community.

For now, at least all involved in the Deferred Recruitment decision can agree on that.

## Statement of Purpose: Campus Greens

By John Knight  
Campus Greens Member

As the Rhodes College chapter of Campus Greens, a non-profit, student organization related to the United States Green Party, College Greens (not Rhodes Campus Green) represents and promotes Green, progressive politics at local, national, and international levels. We hope to educate and provide alternative political perspectives to the main-line political duopoly.

Internationally, Green Parties have grown into a burgeoning global movement, including sponsoring Mexico's current president and national, elected officials in Germany's legislature. In the U.S., the Green Party and Rhodes College Greens support what we call the ten Key Values (in no particular order):

**Community-Based Economics:** We propose a radical, progressive restructuring of local, national, and global economic power, for example, opposing corporations' domination of markets and supporting local businesses and endeavoring to attain a living wage for all workers.

**Decentralization:** We desire

### Publications Center to move to Briggs

Today, the student Publications Center will move from its current location in the basement of Palmer to the second story of the Briggs student center.

It was moved to its current location from the basement of Briggs

There will be a sign on the door; feel free to bring by any submissions.

decentralized power structures that respect equality and individual consciousness among all communities.

**Grassroots Democracy:** Coupled with Decentralization, Grassroots Democracy understands the necessity for all people to engage themselves in the political machinations that affect their lives.

**Ecological Wisdom:** We advocate education, awareness, and implementation of clean and efficient energy and resources on and off campus, respecting the environment as an undeniably crucial aspect of social justice and life in general.

**Gender Equity:** Need we say more?

**Future Focus:** We promote consciousness of the effects that our deliberate and involuntary actions of the present and the past will have on the near and distant future, as well as the present.

**Non-Violence:** Recognizing violence as a perpetrator of fear and hatred, however well-intentioned (or disguised to be so), we exclaim that non-violence is elementary in approaching a peaceful existence with each other.

**Personal and Global Respon-**

**sibility:** Politically, Ecologically, and Socially, we witness the urgency for empowering others to respect their neighbors both locally and globally, as well as themselves.

**Respect for Diversity and Social Justice:** These last two values endeavor to avoid ethnocentrism and to respect that justice is the singly just means for approaching a peaceful world.

Based on these principles, we hope to further involve ourselves as we have with Voices for Peace, a non-violent, pro-legal response to the September 11 attacks directed by the Mid-South Peace and Justice Center, a Teach-In in the Orgill Room regarding U.S. aggression and war against Afghanistan, and our interactions with the Tennessee Green Party, the Tennessee chapter of Campus Greens, and the national body of Campus Greens.

On campus, we hope to promote diverse expression and reduce the apathy so prevalent among the majority of our scholastic community. For further information, see <http://www.campusgreens.org/index.html>.

Express your opinions in

## Forum

A supplement to *Sou'wester* news coverage focusing on issues of national and global importance. Students are encouraged to write on pressing scientific, economic, cultural, or political opinions.

Interested? E-mail Margie Hall at HALMN.

### In tribute to the memory of Martin Luther King, Jr...

Memphis native Ernest Withers will speak at Rhodes on Tuesday, January 22 at 7:30 p.m. in the McCallum Ballroom. Born in Memphis in 1922, Withers left the U.S. Army in 1946, and went on to lead a career as a self-employed African-American photojournalist in the American South. He is known for his work on the African-American civil rights movement of the 1950s and 60s. He worked with Medgar Evers, Ralph Abernathy, and James Meredith, as well as King, and caught on camera such events as the Montgomery, Alabama bus boycott King's assassination.

Withers' photography also included baseball's Negro Leagues and the Memphis music and social scenes. In October of 2001, Viking Press published a collection of Withers' work with the music scene, *The Memphis Blues Again: Six Decades of Memphis Music Photographs*. This book will be available for sale and for signing by Withers during the January 22 event, entitled "A Conversation with Ernest Withers."

## Campus Safety Log

01/07/02 TO 01/14/02



1/07/02	10:30 a.m.	Gym Parking Lot - Suspicious Person reported by student. Checked Okay - Employee of Rhodes
	1:00 p.m.	Stewart Parking Lot - Broken glass reported on ground - Okay, no forced entry
	8:00 p.m.	Tutwiler/University - Suspicious Person reported by student - Campus Safety located and followed subject out of the area - No unusual activity observed
1/08/02	2:00 a.m.	Spann Townhouses - Noise complaint - Asked to lower noise - Complied
1/09/02		NOTHING UNUSUAL REPORTED
1/10/02		NOTHING UNUSUAL REPORTED
1/11/02		NOTHING UNUSUAL REPORTED
1/12/02	1:55 a.m.	Spann Townhouses - Noise complaint - Asked to lower noise - Complied
1/13/02	9:00 p.m.	Buckman Computer Lab - Larceny (cash stolen from wallet)
1/14/02	12:30 a.m.	Spann Townhouses - Noise complaint - Asked to lower noise - Complied
	5:00 p.m.	McCoy Theater - Injury - Victim Transported to hospital by MFD Ambulance

### STATS THIS WEEK:

PROPPED DOORS: 14  
 ACCESSES: 132  
 CITATIONS: 87  
 CARS TOWED: 1  
 BOOTS: 2

ESCORTS: 22  
 VISITORS: 978  
 JUMP STARTS: 11  
 A.V.: 0

## Nominations for Clarence Day Awards due February 8

It is time once again to solicit nominations for the Clarence Day Teaching and Research/Creative Activity Awards to be presented at Awards Convocation, Tuesday, April 16.

Nominations for each award should be forwarded to the Office of the Dean of the College and must be received by 5 p.m. Friday, February 8.

Each award brings recognition to a Rhodes colleague, and both provide substantial stipends to the recipients. Please take time to nominate someone you believe deserves such recognition. Complete information concerning the awards, faculty members who are eligible and past recipients can be found as a hot link on the Academics and Student Life websites.

### The Clarence Day Award for Outstanding Teaching

Full-time faculty members who have taught at least three years at Rhodes and who have not previously been awarded this prize are eligible for nomination.

Selection criteria are: The award recipient demonstrates excellent teaching over the past three years as reflected in student course evaluations. The award recipient's teaching demonstrates imaginative and creative pedagogy and currency in the subjects taught. The award recipient has a strong record in motivating students toward advanced study in the award recipient's discipline.

The nominator should provide a written statement that describes how the nominee's teaching meets the criteria stated.

### The Clarence Day Dean's Award for Research and Creative Activity

Full-time faculty members who have taught at least three years at Rhodes and who have not previously been awarded this prize are eligible for nomination.

Selection criteria are: The award recipient has accomplished unusually significant professional work in the past three years. This work consists of scholarly or research publication, artistic production or performance. This work is judged to be an important contribution to the award recipient's discipline or related disciplines. This work must be demonstrated to have had an important effect on the award recipient's teaching, directly benefiting Rhodes students by its influence on course content or pedagogy.

Department chairs should assume a special responsibility for nominating department members who are likely to be strong candidates. The nomination should clearly identify the work that provides the basis for the nomination. If possible, the nominator should provide evidence that the work is of unusual significance and that it has influenced the nominee's teaching.

# The world today: international news updates

By Amber Shaw  
 Copy/Layout Editor

Fifteen servicemen received the Purple Heart on Tuesday for being wounded in Afghanistan at a special ceremony in Fort Campbell, KY. Two Air Force Special Operations airmen and thirteen Army special forces also were recipients of the Purple Heart. These men were hurt either in Kandahar or at an uprising by Taliban prisoners at a fortress. In addition, four soldiers were given the Bronze Star. Awaiting the peace-seeking

mission of Colin Powell, Pakistani General Pervez Musharraf stated his country's strong support for the people of Kashmir, a region disputed between Pakistan and India.

Powell participated on the National Kashmir Committee, which was formed to promote Pakistan's view on Kashmir and pressure India to negotiate. General Musharraf ended Pakistan's support of Muslim terrorist groups who have waged guerrilla warfare and tried to liberate Indian-held areas of Kashmir from

the Indian security forces there.

Arthur Andersen and Co., the accounting firm responsible for Enron's financial statements, dismissed a partner and took action against several others after it was disclosed that numerous Enron-related documents had been destroyed. Enron's bankruptcy has prompted a government investigation of the Bush administration's handling of the matter. Wall Street officially delisted the stock Tuesday.

Two students were injured Tuesday in a New York City

school shooting. The shooting occurred at Martin Luther King, Jr. High School on what would have been the leader's 73rd birthday.

The two students were shot with a 0.830-caliber handgun by a youth who was not currently attending school. A dispute over a girl supposedly prompted the shooting.

American-born Taliban fighter John Walker will be tried in a civilian court rather than a military tribunal on charges of conspiring to kill American citi-

zens, said Attorney General John Ashcroft Tuesday. Walker will face up to life in prison for the conspiracy charge, as well as charges of helping terrorists and engaging in forbidden business with the Taliban. Walker's own written statements and interviews with questioners prompted the charges.

Dave Thomas, founder and senior spokesman of Wendy's, passed away January 8, 2002 of liver cancer. Thomas had a slow-growing carcinoid tumor for over a decade.

## The new *Lord of the Rings*: A solid film adaptation of Tolkien's revered creation

By Dave Hurt  
Staff Writer

For all of you *Lord of the Rings* fanatics out there, I am sorry if this review upsets your purist sensibilities, but this is just the opinion of one man writing on one movie adapted from one book. Obviously, in the interest of time, some things were omitted from the film adaptation that are present in Tolkien's original work (it is four hundred pages long). For example, some of the four day trips become one minute edited versions of the original text. This leads to the inevitable danger of filmic oversummation, a practice that contributes to the absence of that "voyage" feeling, a pitiable condition in film adaptations where the audience becomes so visually rushed that they miss out on the prolonged struggles of everyday life.

Director Peter Jackson (*Heavenly Creatures* and *The Frighteners*) alleviates this cinematographic rush, however, by allowing for character development. For example, the character of Frodo (played by Elijah Wood) changes from a happy-go-lucky Hobbit of the shire to a troubled hero with the weight of the world on his short, stout shoulders. Even in a very limited time, through this character evolution, the audience travels with Frodo both physically and mentally through his ups and downs.

The film also succeeds in its adaptation from a purely filmic standpoint. Jackson, who also did a large part of the cinematography, takes the audience on a visual voyage by creating a wide and varied landscape through a multitude of angles and geography. So while difficulties always arise when converting that which is written in to that which is seen,

Jackson overcomes these difficulties by capturing the epic feel of the book through variation of character and cinematography, thereby allowing the film to stand on its own apart from the original text.

As has been stated, the cinematic omissions take little away from Tolkien's original text....save for one glaring exception—Tom Bombadil. The character Tom Bombadil represents all that is ancient, agrarian, druidic in Tolkien's work, and his omission leads to the omission of many of these ideas in the film.

For those of you not completely familiar with the written version of *Fellowship of the Rings*, Bombadil the hermit lives in an isolated forest away from the turmoil of the Shire and other civilized lands. He still retains some measure of control in his small pocket of nature (he

knows the language of trees and senses all that the forest sees and hears), but he finds himself encompassed by an ever-growing hierarchy of darkness (Mordor). In this way, Bombadil mirrors the position of many of the world's aboriginal cultures, marginalized by industry, global markets and the god of efficiency. Though the characters Gandalf and to a lesser extent Frodo indirectly represent traditional, agrarian ideals, they cannot completely fill the void of Bombadil's omission.

Now, that being said, any other gripes that I could possibly conjure fall to the wayside when one considers this awe-inspiring work. The technical aspects break new ground with digital technology. There were no seams in the special effects, and I was hard-pressed to discern between what was computer generated and what was not,

which is more than I can say for other movies (George Lucas is dead to me). The acting verges on superb, with Ian McKellen embodying everything that is Greyness, Elijah Wood exuding passable Frodosity (He's come a long way since *The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn*.) and finally Sean Astin adding to the mix with his Rudyesque Sam Gamgee.

I have heard moaning about the open-endedness of the last scene, but hey, it is a trilogy, as in one part of a three part story. When Han Solo gets frozen at the end of *The Empire Strikes Back*, it is not particularly satisfying, is it? But it made a lot more sense when you watched *Return of the Jedi*, now did it not? So for all of you nay-sayers I would say, be patient. In closing, I would recommend this movie to anyone who has a pulse.

## Wes Anderson's *The Royal Tenenbaums*: The fall of a patriarch through the eyes of a child

By Ted Gentle  
Staff Writer

Director Wes Anderson's *The Royal Tenenbaums* plays like a fable, or a children's picture book, telling the story of dying patriarch Royal Tenenbaum's (Gene Hackman) efforts to reunite with his children before he passes on. These children are prodigies who never lived up to the genius shown during their youth. There is Chas (Ben Stiller), a financial expert still suffering from his wife's demise in a plane crash, Margot (Gwyneth Paltrow), who wrote a Pulitzer prize-winning play at the age of twelve, but has not written in years, and Richie (Luke Wilson), a tennis champion left unstable by the pressures of a big tournament. All these trials are chronicled in the film's opening sequence to the ironic melodies of "Hey Jude," setting the tone for the rest of the film.

Anderson, along with actor-writer Owen Wilson, has made two previous films about young, alienated, would-be-overachievers: 1996's *Bottle Rocket* and 1998's *Rushmore*. In *Rushmore*, the main character Max Fisher undertakes so many extracurricular activities that he is unable to pass any of his high school courses. He possesses a "divide and conquer" mentality, and though the film ultimately admires his enthusiasm, the specter of Bill Murray's failed millionaire character hovering over the film has led many to suggest that the story could easily be retitled *Charles Foster Kane: The High School Years*. In that same vein, *Tenenbaums* could be compared to Orson Welles' later work, *The Magnificent Ambersons*, as both deal with the same theme of the fall of a lineage. The key difference is that here, this sobering subject is offered from a disconnected, almost childlike perspective.

The entire film is photo-

graphed in vivid primary colors, like something from a coloring book, and the camera itself often faces the actors at above eye-level, as if they were infants. Based on landmarks seen in the film, one would assume that the story takes place in New York, but smaller details, such as the Tenenbaum home address of "375th Street Y," or the Gypsy Cab company, bring a dreamy unreality to these familiar locations as if to suggest that they were being half-remembered from childhood. Anderson has often described his films as having "an innocence, a fairy tale quality," and here this is taken to an extreme.

The irony is that, unlike the previous two films, the principle characters are not children, but adults trapped in their former childhood, both its glories and its traumas. Their old successes and dysfunctional upbringing at the hands of Royal are all they are capable of remembering. The film hardly mocks its char-

acters for this, but rather uses their lack of maturity to display them in a whimsical, almost compassionate light. This can be seen in an early moment when Royal, in an attempt to get to know his grandchildren, takes them on an outing that includes shoplifting, throwing rocks at cars, and playing in traffic, or when Bill Murray, after being left by Margot, attempts to smoke a cigarette for the first time. This is a film that loves its characters and that makes them endearing despite their flaws.

Recently, in an interview with *Film Comment*, when asked what filmmaker working today he would choose as his successor, the great Martin Scorsese named Wes Anderson for displaying his own "concern with deeply personal subject matter." Anderson has spoken at length about his upbringing in Austin, Texas, where *Bottle Rocket* takes place, and about his days at St. John's High School, where, like Margot and Max Fisher, he became in-

involved in theater to assuage his loneliness. In one scene in *Rushmore*, when Max reads off a list of his classmates, the names given are of Anderson's actual friends from childhood. His films are simple, almost minimalist, but manage the difficult task of chronicling the troublesome early chapters of his life with warmth and honesty.

Some critics have accused *Tenenbaums* of stepping away from this with its more elaborate structure and darker storyline, but to say this is to miss the point. Even in this new setting, the sense of hope is still there. In early interviews, the twenty-something Anderson essentially seems like a brilliant, but still awkward and immature youth, and these films are his story.

To watch *The Royal Tenenbaums* is to experience the pain of a lonely, eccentric child who is still too young to be cynical.

## El Porton Mexican Restaurant offers a variety of fare

By Amber Shaw and Frances Rabalais  
Copy Editor and Executive Assistant

The uniform strip mall location of El Porton is one of both convenience and cliché. While the outside appears as if it's any suburban chain restaurant, the interior correctly places one into a rather tacky quasi-mexican atmosphere. Typical metal and vinyl restaurant chairs and veneer tables dot an area surrounded by imitation terra cotta walls and arched doors and windows, which mimic an outdoor plaza of a Mexican town. This, combined with various cultural artifacts, including an abundance of soccer memorabilia and Mexican currency, actually parallel the food's quality: fairly authentic, but still with quite a bit of holdover American influences.

The abundant menu allows even the pickiest diner to find a likeable dish. Most meals are categorized into combinations (including vegetarian), enchiladas, grilled meals, and side orders. Because of this logical system, finding a desirable meal is easy. Most of the dishes are also numbered for further ease in ordering.

Upon sitting down at the table, the diner notices the hallmark of a decent Mexican restaurant (or at least the chance for decent Mexican): the almost entirely Spanish speaking wait staff. These waiters are prompt with service and friendly, but sometimes the language barrier is a difficulty in ordering and receiving the

desired dish. When chicken enchiladas with a cheese sauce were ordered, cheese enchiladas were brought in a misunderstanding. While the initial mistake was troublesome, the speedy correction of this error eliminated all difficulties in the delay.

A diner's encounter with El Porton's food is almost immediate. Warm, crisp, and slightly salty chips arrive at the table accompanied by fresh, flavorful salsa soon after sitting down. With these delightful edibles, no other appetizer is necessary, but the smooth and creamy white cheese Queso is a nice addition.

Since the serving of entrees is prompt, even the most voracious diner will not need to gorge himself or herself on chips before the main meal arrives. The Combination Number One with a taco, two enchiladas of any type, and rice or beans is a nice variety of tastes and flavors. The crisp taco shell filled with ground beef, lettuce, and white cheese appropriately balances the creamy refried beans and firm enchiladas. Combination Number Ten also includes similar items as well as flavorful Spanish rice.

A flavorful marinade on the chicken in the enchiladas and fajitas enhances both entrées. The bold taste leaves a pleasant tang and compliments the other vegetables and cheeses of the dish. A variety of steak, chicken, shrimp, and peppers is included in the mixed fajitas allowing for an array of choices when as-

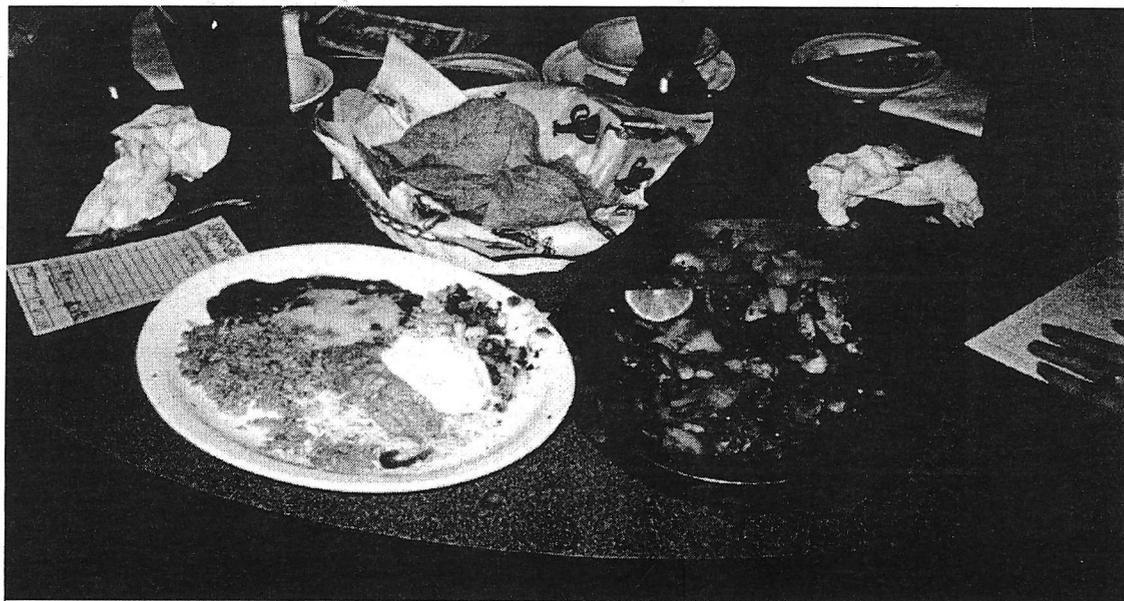


Photo by: Amber Shaw  
This is just one of the dishes you can sample at El Porton Mexican Restaurant. Pictured above are mixed fajitas, rice, and beans with guacamole and sour cream. El Porton Mexican Restaurant is located in the Poplar Plaza shopping center on the corner of Poplar and Highland.

sembling a fajita. Rice, beans, guacamole, and sour cream also come with the mixed fajitas making it a filling choice for the hungry diner.

A delicious meatless entrée of bean burrito, bean chalupa, and cheese quesadilla is only one of the many vegetarian options on the menu, which encompass a variety of combinations of enchiladas,

chalupas, burritos, and quesadillas. The tomato-based ranchero sauce tops the bean-filled burrito, and the chalupa consists of beans, lettuce, tomato, and cheese on a fried corn tortilla. For the diner who prefers a plainer fare, the quesadilla is simply white cheese in a grilled tortilla. The vegetarian choices at El Porton are plentiful and sure to please any diner.

The bustling restaurant attempts

to portray a sense of Mexico with its colorful interior and Spanish-speaking waiters, but it never quite achieves the desired effect. A special attraction to the college student is the moderate price and generous portions of most meals. Though the atmosphere of El Porton leaves something to be desired, the Mexican food is perhaps the most authentic that one can find in Memphis.

### RHODES to spring Break

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Join in this incentive program to shape-up for Spring Break!

Log in minutes when you work out on cardio equipment (treadmill, stairstepper, elliptical, rower, recumbent bicycle), the indoor track, pool, or aerobics classes\*. Prizes will be awarded for achieving hour milestones.

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- 20 Hours: Waterbottle
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#### Anything But

A collection of figurative paintings by Diane Hoffman, Associate Professor of Art

On display in Clough-Hanson Gallery Now through January 24

### A Call for Submissions

Senior Anthropology/Sociology major Hilary Currin is putting together a performance piece on the topic of eating disorders and body image. She is looking for submissions that emphasize the more emotional aspects of eating disorders rather than the medical information. Any artwork, poems, monologues, or simply a willingness to help is appreciated. Submissions will be anonymous.

Contact Hilary Currin at [curht@rhodes.edu](mailto:curht@rhodes.edu) or x5583.

Work must be submitted by February 22.

## Men's basketball: midseason report

By Stu Johnston  
Staff Writer

The Rhodes men's basketball team has commenced its season and completed thirteen games since the last issue of the Sou'wester. Over that period, Rhodes has compiled a 4-9 record overall and 1-6 in the strong, deep Southern Collegiate Athletic Conference (SCAC).

The rocky start has been a disappointment to Lynx fans, but there have definitely been bright spots for Rhodes this season.

First of all, this is the youngest team Rhodes has fielded in recent memory. After losing SCAC player of the year Neal Power (21.6 points per game), along with inside threats Ross Armstrong and Patrick Yoder, the Lynx found themselves without a bona fide center. However, several of the younger players have stepped up to make contributions to the cause.

Stephen Russell, a highly touted freshman from Columbia, Tennessee, has led the way thus far. Listed at 6 foot 7 and 215 pounds, Russell was runner-up to Mr. Basketball in the state of Tennessee

during his senior season of high school.

He has helped fill the void under the basket and is a surprisingly adept ball handler and three-point shooter, often playing more of a "point forward" than post position. After thirteen games, he is averaging 16.8 points and 5.8 rebounds per contest.

After Russell, the team's scoring and rebounding leader, four players average between nine and eleven points per game. Guard Bryan Baird ('03), the team's biggest threat from the perimeter, is averaging 10.5 points and shooting 38 percent from beyond the three-point line.

Austin Lutz ('04) is the team's other double digit scorer at 10.1 per game, and is also one of the conference's most accurate foul shooters at 82.4 percent. Guard Wes Cain ('05) and scrappy forward Carl Yoder ('03) are both scoring better than nine points per game, with Yoder shooting 58 percent from the field.

The Lynx have had an especially rough time since Christmas break, and are currently riding a five-game losing streak.

However, early season victories over Huntingdon twice, the University of Chicago, and conference foe Trinity, were impressive wins for the Lynx.

The SCAC is always a difficult conference. DePauw and Millsaps have both been ranked in the top ten this season, and DePauw was once as high as second.

DePauw returned all key performers from last year's third place team, and Millsaps was the conference champion a year ago. Recent losses have dropped the two teams to twelfth and nineteenth, respectively in the most recent Basketball America Division III Top 25, but the Lynx will have their hands full with both. Rose-Hulman tied with Millsaps for the conference title during the 2000-01 season and is playing well again.

After a 67-58 loss to Hendrix at home this Saturday, the Lynx return to action with two home games this weekend. Nationally ranked Millsaps comes to Mallory Gymnasium on Friday night, and conference cellar dweller Oglethorpe is in town on Sunday afternoon.



Photo by Coach Bill Cochran

Taking time out from chipping lessons, Brad Oser ('05) poses with students of the Mid-South Junior Golf Program. Both Rhodes golf teams participated in the program, helping Memphis children prepare for national competition.

## Golf teams give lessons to youth

By Bill Cochran  
Men's Golf Coach

The Lynx Golf Teams have been putting in some extra practice time, but not just on their individual games. Recently they have been working on Saturdays instructing some sixty junior golfers in the Memphis area in conjunction with the Mid-South Junior Golf Program.

The youth, ages seven through seventeen, are working toward qualifying for the National Drive, Chip, and Putting Competition, in addition to learning more about the strategies and facets of golf.

Team Captain Dave Weisbeck ('02) and Dan Norton ('03) have worked with the kids on driving the ball from the different ranges of the course. Brad Oser ('05) has been the main instructor for chipping and the other elements of the short game. Pat Browne ('03), Robert Bender ('02), and Laura McKinney ('04) have spent their time working with several of the youth on improving their putting skills, the most important part of the game.

The golf teams do not start competitive play until later in the semester; the men start their season in Jackson, Mississippi on February 24 at the Pizza Hut/Bell South Intercollegiate tournament.

The girls do not start until spring break in March, travelling down to Shreveport, Louisiana to compete at Centenary College.

Rhodes Basketball  
vs. Millsaps

Friday, January 18

Women at 6:00 p.m.

Men at 8:00 p.m.

Mallory Gymnasium

Come support the Lynx!

## Not that it matters, but... Steve Spurrier has a lot to prove in his new position

By John Zeanah  
Sports Editor

I just wanted to take the opportunity to talk about some happenings in the world of sports that exist outside of the iron gates. Now that the NFL regular season has drawn to a close and is already one week into the playoffs, teams are starting to reevaluate their staffs, particularly the position of head coach. I was considering doing an article on the playoffs, giving my predictions and such, but ever since the St. Louis Rams' defense registered a pulse, talking about who is going to win the Super Bowl has been rendered pointless. But I will give fair warning to those who are keeping up with the playoffs to watch out for those sneaky Chicago Bears. Oh wait, the Rams have home field advantage, so never mind.

Now back to the sidelines, starting with the home side of the Metrodome in Minneapolis. Only days before the last game of the season for the Minnesota Vikings, Head Coach Dennis Green called it quits after ten years of reasonably success-

ful coaching that landed his team into the playoffs eight of ten years, but never into the Super Bowl.

The Vikings have replaced him with Mike Tice, the Vikes' defensive coordinator, who very well could be tied up in court hearings into the beginning of next season due to the death of defensive tackle Korey Stringer in practice at the beginning of the 2001 season.

Along with Green, a few other coaches have been let go at the end of the season as well. The most controversial may be Tony Dungy of the Tampa Bay Buccaneers, who actually took his team to the playoffs. However after the embarrassing 31-9 loss to the Philadelphia Eagles in the wild card game last weekend, the Bucs made it official that Dungy was gone and that Bill "I have no allegiance to any team" Parcells would be his likely successor. Even though nothing has been reported, the most likely spot for Dungy next year will be taking Jim Mora's job in Indianapolis. But Mora should not worry since the Panthers and the Chargers have positions to fill as well.

Getting to the point of all of this,

Monday the most hated man in Southeastern Conference football was hired in replacement of Marty Schottenheimer to coach the Washington Redskins. After twelve incredible seasons with the Florida Gators, Steve Spurrier has landed a job after abruptly resigning as Gators' head coach on January 4, two days after his team demolished Maryland 56-23 in the Orange Bowl.

So the question that has been plaguing football experts recently is not who is going to the Super Bowl, but instead, how will one of the most successful coaches in arguably the most dominant conference in college football fare in the NFL. Obviously the first concern regards his attitude towards defense. Even though Spurrier has recruited some strong defensive players in his tenure at Florida, including recent defensive standouts Alex Brown and Lito Sheppard, his feelings towards building a strong defense have been apathetic at best. It goes without saying that bringing this attitude into the NFL will not cut it.

Just ask unemployed Jim Mora, whose Colts had the number two of-

fense in the NFL but finished with a pitiful record of 6-10. The defense ranked third from the bottom, another statistic that Spurrier may want to pay some attention to.

Additionally there are many other facets of the NFL game that Spurrier is not accustomed to, particularly free agency which he will get a good look at when the postseason comes to a close. The Redskins have a whopping seventeen unrestricted free agents this year that they must handle.

Included with these free agents in the responsibilities of shaping the team, Spurrier also has to worry about the future of aging defensive star Bruce Smith, as well as the quarterback position in Washington. Spurrier will have to decide how to replace Tony Banks at quarterback, assuming the new coach would not want him leading the team another year, opting possibly for drafting a quarterback with calculated potential.

As much as I would like to predict a bleak outlook for Spurrier's future, this is a man who only lost 27 games in twelve seasons in the SEC and in the state of Florida. It is hard to be a critic against those numbers.