

THE SOU' WESTER

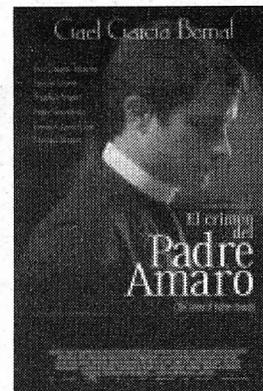
VOL. LXXXX, No. 17

3.5.03

Iraq Debate

Ted Stonbely replies to columnist Jessica Paz's recent editorial in support of war against Iraq.

See **Opinion**



Movies

Kevin Terrio reviews the Oscar-nominated foreign language film El Crimen del Padre Amaro (The Crime of Father Amaro).

See **A&E**

School consolidation brings uncertainty

By Amber Shaw

Memphis Mayor Willie Herenton's proposed consolidation of Memphis and Shelby County school districts has raised many questions about the feasibility and financial stability of a Shelby County megadistrict.

Herenton first suggested a public referendum to decide the fate of the Memphis city school system January 21, but since then the proposal has been shadowed by arguments over the legality of such a vote. While some officials believe that the city council has sole control over the fate of the Memphis school district, others, including State Elections Coordinator Brook Thompson say that its Memphis' school board that should decide the district's future.

The city school system was established as an autonomous body separate from the city of Memphis in 1869, but city council member Allan Wade believes that the act expired in 1968 because it was never renewed by the legislature. However, Thompson asserts that Memphis city school district is a special school district and not a normal city school district, as stated in state law. This determination, cited from a 1996 legal opinion from the state Attorney General's office, switches the authority over schools in Memphis from the Memphis city council to the Memphis School Board. This opinion is not legally binding and is pending a court

ruling or attorney general's legal opinion.

Included in the controversy is a debate over who should actually vote if the referendum is to occur. Some say only Memphis city residents have a vote in the decision, but others assert that all Shelby County residents have a right to decide the fate of the two school districts.

If the referendum does occur on October 9 and succeeds, state law mandates that the consolidation would be up to a transition board, composed of nine members of the city school board and seven members of the county school board instead of the Shelby County Board of Education assuming full responsibility, as commonly believed. Eventually a planning commission, appointed by Mayor Herenton and Shelby County Mayor A.C. Wharton would take over the administration until a final countywide election would determine a new, consolidated school board. The county school district would have no say in planning or structuring the new district, just as Shelby County residents would not have a vote in the referendum, because the county is statutorily required to provide education, says Stephen Smith, director of government relations for the Tennessee School Boards Association.

While Shelby County has little input into the eventual decision, much of the controversy over Herenton's proposal lies in the political friction between Mem-

phis' city council and school board. Council members are relatively mixed on the referendum idea, but the majority of members are leaning toward a yes vote for a referendum. The school board, in contrast, is generally opposed to the proposal. Board member Hubon "Dutch" Sandridge told *The Commercial Appeal* that an elected school board provides adequate public input for the Memphis city schools, and it should be the board's decision to consolidate and not the general public's.

Financially, the proposed consolidation of the two school districts remains unclear. Some advocates, Herenton included, believe that abolishing the city school district would eliminate costs of building and acquiring schools in recently annexed areas such as Cordova as well as economize on misuse of funds. Currently the city schools are operating with a nine-month academic year budget of \$731 million, while the city government's full year operating budget is only \$460 million. Many city council members believe that the Memphis school board has lost the ability to manage tax-payer dollars wisely, and Councilman John Vergos cites this drastic difference in operating budgets as a main reason why the school district should be abolished.

However, while some are questioning the fiscal responsibility of Memphis city schools, all of the other three major school districts in Tennessee have consolidated and experienced some degree of negative results. Since combining city and county schools, each district has seen increased spending from that of two separate systems. Many opponents to consolidation in Shelby County argue that such a result could plague Memphis.



Photo by Miriam Dolin

CONSTRUCTION BREAKS GROUND

Digging for the construction of Barrett Library began on Monday. The projected completion date is the fall of 2005. Only a third of the new library will be filled with the current number of books in the Burrow Library, but an operating budget for Barrett Library has not been established.

Despite the passionate arguments on both sides of the consolidation issue, the October 9 referendum remains a hypothetical solution to an issue with no concrete resolution in sight.

Some facts compiled from articles and editorials from The Commercial Appeal.

Bredesen considers tax revenue sharing options

By John Zeanah

When Governor Phil Bredesen submits his budget plan to the General Assembly on March 10, he will have to make a decision on the use of state income tax funds. Bredesen originally announced that the minimalist state income tax would be given solely to the state government, but he is now considering a plan that would only take

nine percent from what cities and counties currently receive under the law.

The income tax, known as the Hall tax, was created in 1929, and it taxes interest and dividends rather than wages and salaries. The tax yields approximately \$150 million each year for the state, with 62.5 percent going to the state government and 37.5 percent going to cities and counties where the tax revenue generated.

Because of the tax distribution, large cities like Memphis, and more affluent areas like Germantown and Shelby County, receive the largest share of the revenues. The nine percent increase in the state's share corresponds with Bredesen's proposal to take nine percent of local share of other taxes in Tennessee. The state is struggling with a pro-

Bredesen, continued on Page 6



THE SOU'WESTER
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TED STONBELY I DON'T WANT A BYLINE

The international situation: U.S. policies questionable

Editor's note: Mr. Stonbely is responding to Jessica Paz's article, "The U.S. and Iraq: action is necessary," which ran on Page 2 of the February 26, 2003 issue of The Sou'wester.

Dear Jessica-

I am dedicating this column to you because I feel it is imperative that this conflict be given the broadest range of debate possible. I encourage differing opinions, but I feel that your argument is at times baseless and very narrow in scope.

First, your facts are not entirely accurate. Saddam Hussein came into power as president in 1979. He had been the vice-president of Iraq for some years, and was the power behind the previous president. Second, your wild claim that Hussein is bent on world domination is ludicrous. He was, before the Gulf War, a championed ruler of the Arab world, fighting off the Shiite rebellion that erupted in Iran after the fall of the Shah. Hussein was welcomed for being more secular than most other Arab leaders, and the U.S. willingly aided him by green-lighting his use of chemical weapons in the eight-year war with Iran after supplying the anthrax, and possibly other chemical and biological weapons. His funding came

from Saudi Arabia and the U.S., along with Kuwait, who called in their chips early and precipitated the Gulf War.

You fail to mention many important aspects of this conflict. It is true that Hussein has in some ways flouted international law. However, Iraq's flouting has been no worse than most other countries', including Israel, which has hardly a scant mention in your harangue. Do you not know that America is referred to as the "Great Satan" because of our pro-Israeli policies? Whose tanks, fighters, and helicopters do you think are blowing up innocent Palestinians, destroying infrastructure, and disabling their government? Is bulldozing homes really the way to achieve security? We have promised the Arab world a solution for a long time and have once again put them on the back burner, claiming that establishing a democracy in Iraq would set the model for the rest of the region. On Saturday, the Arab League once again claimed that a primary goal of America's Middle East policy should be ending the Israeli conflict. Plus, it is America that tells the world to "shove off" when we protect Israel from having to relinquish its illegal nuclear capabilities,

when we won't acknowledge an International Criminal Court, and when we won't sign Kyoto without offering alternatives. On a side note, America also continues to embargo Cuba while the international community annually votes for that embargo to be lifted.

You seem to forget that America is the only country to have used nuclear weapons in a war and that the U.S. is also establishing contingencies and precedents for "tactical" nuclear weapons to be used in Baghdad. The war plan from the Pentagon is atrocious, I wonder if you have read it? It calls for up to 3,000 precision-guided missiles to be unleashed upon Baghdad in the first 48 hours, in comparison to the 300 to 400 that were used over the entirety of the Gulf War, which lasted for 39 days. I know that in Afghanistan, the Pentagon claimed 75% accuracy for such bombs, and these will now be unleashed in Baghdad, which is a crowded urban space where the distinction between civilian and military targets have been blurred. I know that Saddam is a person of questionable ethics, but where is your humanitarian concern for the innocent lives that will be lost, lives that had nothing to do with Saddam Hussein? Your

verdict on Iraq does not take into account that Hussein is the president of a political party. His people have little say over their ruling; they are not accepting of his power. Therefore, they should not be punished for being born under his rule.

Further, I find it appalling that you and other Americans who believe in our fundamental liberties, as outlined in the Constitution, would support the process by which this war is being pursued. Congress has abdicated their essential duty and power of the declaration of war. They signed it away with the Congressional resolution, passed in the fall, that gives President Bush open-ended powers in this situation. These are grounds for dismissal of every Congressman or Congresswoman that voted yes for that resolution. They failed in their duties and should summarily be fired. Plus, why should I believe blindly in Colin Powell's speech to the UN when Hans Blix said most of it was out of context and untrue and US intelligence support for the inspectors has been called garbage?! It has NOT been proven that Hussein has nuclear capabilities, unless you are privy to more intelligence than the rest of the world. It has been proven that he possesses illegal delivery systems, particularly the Al-Samoud missiles, which exceed the range of acceptable weaponry by something like 15 miles. Meanwhile, North Korea is turning on reactors, testing missiles during South Korea's presidential inauguration, and claiming that they have missiles that could reach our West Coast. Not to mention that they have gotten most of their nuclear material and technology from Pakistan, our "staunch ally" in the War on Terror. So which is the imminent threat? Inspections have worked, are working, and will work, as long as there is a commitment to them and to the policy of containment.

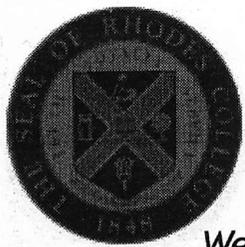
You ask why certain European countries have decided to

support the war in Iraq. I don't think I know exactly why they would do that, but it might be helpful to broaden the scope of the issue. The countries that are siding with us -- England, Spain, Italy, Latvia, Romania, Bulgaria, et cetera -- possess, with the exception of the U.K., who is our lapdog, fledgling economies and are aspiring members of the European Union. So, the issue at hand might not be just whether these countries think Hussein is an imminent threat to the world, but which actions would be most advantageous to their efforts to become members of the E.U.

I found it somewhat ironic that you yourself used such ploys as yellow journalism, pathetic appeals, and calls to patriotism to push your point of view. Saddam is most assuredly a dictator, and has all the trappings associated with dictatorship. However, this war is not the right way to achieve security for America. In my opinion it will only fuel further anti-American sentiment and Islamic fundamentalism. If you can point to an example of prospering democracy in a post-America intervention, then let me know.

When you say that your position is not pro-war, but "Pro-kicking Saddam in his Maniacal Hairy Butt," you mean military action, right? Which would make you pro-war, and which makes me pro-peace. When you say, "NO ONE WHO IS HUMAN IN ANY WAY, SHAPE, OR FORM WANTS TO GO TO WAR," you must mean everyone but you, because that's what your opinion amounts to: a rallying cry for a bloody conflict that sets up further divisions among Western Allies and our relationships with other regions. We are engaged in a six-front war with Iraq, North Korea, Colombia, the Philippines, Afghanistan, and here at home.

See U.S., Page 3



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PAGE 3

OPINION

U.S., From Page 2

Instead of healing the wound of the Arab/Israeli conflict, we are going to roil feathers further by imposing our military, economic, and cultural will upon the Arab world. Plus, bin Laden and Hussein are not friends. They are bitter enemies, and Hussein fears Al Qaeda intensely. So why would he willingly sell them arms that they could use to destabilize his own regime?

Lastly, Bush is the president because the Supreme Court decided so, not the people, and not because he was elected. I believe there needs to be a fundamental reform of the electoral process so that the people's voice can be heard instead of the voice of the Electoral College.

I find it disappointing that you play yourself off as patriotic and in favor of democracy, but won't allow for dissent from other democratic nations. I especially find it amusing when you add epithets of shame to world leaders' names, like "Shady Chirac." That's very clever, but I hope you realize that the people of these countries are going to oppose this war with or without their representatives. In your hurry to curtail a possible threat you don't seem

to realize that our liberties are being deconstructed not by outsiders, foreigners, and revolutionaries, but by the same people who are claiming to protect us. We are handing away constitutional obligations and liberty. I believe that patriotism is defined more by the struggle to preserve the great traditions of dissent rather than capitulation.

Without the people's consent, Bush has amassed over 200,000 troops in the Gulf Region, and no one is able to get a clear estimate for the cost of this conflict. I hope that in your future articles about the job market, you take into account the depression that could ensue from such huge deficit spending, which all the while gives the rich a tax break. I hope you know how to prepare the populace for that.

So please, before you go proclaiming that war is the right way, think about what that really means for our society, Iraq's society, and the world. You seem happier simply putting your trust into our president as the end-all, be-all authority than really assessing the situation. That is a grave mistake that will send many American soldiers to their deaths, all with your support.

DAVID BAER CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Boycott of Grizzlies: uninformed, unnecessary

When the Grizzlies played the Celtics on Monday the crowd was well over average, despite protesters waving signs saying, "Be fair with our share," or, "This deal is no good." Organized by two black-owned contractors, the boycott is a response to the controversy over the new arena. But is this boycott justified, or even reasonable? That would be a no.

Firms complain that African-American contractors are not getting their fair share of work on the new FedEx Arena. Protestors claim that black-owned firms only account for five percent of the work force, rather than the promised 25 percent. However, protestors fail to remember that the Memphis Public Building Authority said they would hire 25 percent "minority-owned" contractors, which they have already done. Those in support of the boycott fail to recognize that other minorities are benefiting from work at the arena. The Building Authority does not distinguish between ethnically-owned contractors, and they only want what is best for the city.

The boycott was initiated after a black-owned mechanical firm lost a significant multi-million dollar contract to the white-owned Morgan and Thornburg, Inc. They lost the contract because they

The biggest problem with the boycott is that it attacks the Grizzlies team rather than the source of the problem.

were outbid. Morgan and Thornburg simply came up with a better offer, which is how contracting works. It would not make sense to hire minority-owned contractors if they are going to drive up the cost of the new arena. We need to focus on quality and expense.

The biggest problem with the boycott is that it attacks the Grizzlies team rather than the source of the problem. In theory, the boycott would limit attendance at Grizzlies games, a franchise that is already struggling with a diminishing fan base. But that is

only in theory. Very few protesters showed for the first boycott, and many of those who did said that they were paid five dollars by some guy to do so. Either way, the contractors should be dealing with the Public Building Authority instead of attacking the team.

The mayor has called this boycott an act of desperation. The contractors need to sit down with city officials and work out their problem. Their quick decision to boycott the Grizzlies makes them look rash and uninformed, especially when they lack the necessary facts. The boycott organizer had not even looked over figures showing the minority contractors hired for the building of the arena before Monday's failed boycott.

This issue is getting out of hand. Because of problems like this, the new arena is going to take longer and cost more to build than expected. People need to get their facts straight before they attack the city. Basically, leave the Grizzlies alone and let's finish the new arena quickly.

The Sou'wester wants YOU!

To fill up our pages with your illustrious opinions

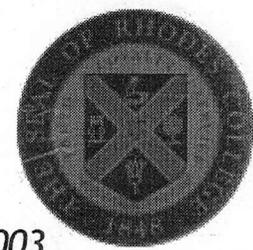
Email halmn with submissions or questions.

Thirsty Thursdays in the Lair

If you are 21, you can spend your Lynx Bucks on beer. 'Nuff said.

Featuring cheap beer, as always. *The Sou'wester* and Aramark are always up for improvement, so now Thirsty Thursday features fun beer snacks like jalapeño poppers, fried cheese, and potato skins. It's yet another fun, unhealthy way to blow that \$50.

8:30 p.m.



Wednesday, March 5, 2003

Right wing stealth missile under fire of left wing hypocrisy

ADAM BOYD

Miguel Estrada is having a difficult time getting his nomination to the U.S. Court of Appeals for the D.C. Circuit confirmed by the U.S. Senate, despite a lack of judges on federal benches, even though he already has the required 51 votes for confirmation and 55 total. The problem is not his qualifications. He graduated magna cum laude from Columbia (also Phi Beta Kappa) and Harvard Law, where he edited the *Harvard Law Review*. He then clerked for Amalya L. Kearsse of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit and later for Justice Kennedy of the Supreme Court. Following this clerkship, he served as Assistant U.S. Attorney and Deputy Chief of the Appellate Section, U.S. Attorney's Office in New York. Later, he began work for the Solicitor General's office. He has argued 15 cases before the Supreme Court winning two-thirds of those and recently received the American Bar Association's highest rating in every possible category.

The problem is not his background. There is no dirt to sling here, and many have hailed him as the American success story. Estrada immigrated to the States at the age of 17 from Honduras with little proficiency in English. He quickly learned to read, and his subsequent academic and professional success has been noted. If approved to the U.S. Court of Appeals, D.C. Circuit, he could very well be the first Hispanic to be appointed to the Supreme Court of the United States.

The problem is not his character. Miguel Estrada's sole source of criticism comes from Paul Bender, under whom Estrada worked during part of his time in the Solicitor General's office. While Bender has labeled Estrada an ideologue, his comments on performance reviews of

Estrada's work include the following:

"All dealings, oral and written, with the courts, clients, and others are conducted in a diplomatic, cooperative, and candid manner."

"Is constantly sought for advice and counsel. Inspires co-workers by example."

"...states the operative facts and applicable law...with concern for fairness, clarity, simplicity, and conciseness."

"...displays an exceptional understanding of the major factual and legal issues involved in an appellate court."

The problem is not a lack of background on Estrada. Tom Daschle and Charles Schumer claim the short paper trail on Estrada casts doubts on his fitness to be a federal judge. Schumer claims, "His mind is a mystery." Late last week, the White House, answering the complaints of Democrats who say they do not know enough about him, asked any senators with questions regarding Estrada's views to submit written questions, with a promise of a reply by March 4. No questions were submitted. Senate Democrats have requested internal memos Estrada wrote during his time in the Solicitor General's office. Internal memos are considered work product and cannot be viewed outside the scope of the attorney-client relationship as such documentation is covered under Professional Rules of Conduct 1.6. Attorneys are oath-bound not to transgress this line for fear of reprisal in the form of disbarment. For such a request Democrats were sharply rebuked by the White House and all seven living solicitors general, four of whom are Democrats. The Justice Department has turned the memos over anyway, despite the fact that 67 other Justice Department employees were appointed without handing over internal documents. In his hearing before the Senate Judiciary Committee, Estrada an-

swered 100 questions and 25 more written questions following his hearing, more than double the number double the number that Clinton's three appointees answered. Tom Daschle has stated that Estrada refused to cite rulings of three Supreme Court cases in U.S. history with which he disagrees. Daschle did not mention that Estrada was asked to name three cases of the past forty years. The question was an attempt to probe Estrada's feelings regarding *Roe v. Wade*.

All this leads us to the issue. The filibuster, blocking a vote on the Senate floor, has been employed by Estrada's opposition because Democrats fear Estrada may be too in-line with Supreme Court Justices Scalia and Thomas. In other words, he may be too conservative regarding legal issues. Opposing senators have labeled Estrada a "Stealth missile-with a nose cone- coming right out of the right wing's deepest silo," despite five years of work in the Clinton administration and the praise of prominent Democrats, including Gore adviser Ron Klain. Democrats really want to know how Estrada stands on *Roe v. Wade*, a ruling the constitutionality of which has been questioned even by sympathizers of the ruling since it was handed down thirty years ago. Estrada, however, cannot discuss this case without violating the ABA's Code of Judicial Conduct, Rule 8.1 Rules of Professional Conduct that states when a lawyer seeks judicial office, the lawyer should be bound by applicable limitations on political activity. As such, Estrada is adhering to his legally mandated code of conduct because cases involving abortion still come before courts. NARAL:Pro-Choice America, NOW, and other special interest groups have told Democratic senators that for the Democrats to receive their support in upcoming elections, they must filibuster any possible Supreme Court nomination by Bush

who poses a threat to abortion rights. And a position on the D.C. Court of Appeals would put Estrada on the fast track to the nation's highest court.

Alexander Hamilton stated in *The Federalist 76* that the Senate is to deny approval to an executive appointee for "special and strong reasons" that prevent the President from appointing "unfit characters from State prejudice, from family connection, or from a view to popularity." The Democrats' filibuster fails to meet these criteria. Democrats are bowing to pressure from special interest groups and are not weighing the case at hand with equanimity. As Hamilton said in the same article, "There is nothing so apt to agitate the passions of mankind as personal considerations whether they relate to ourselves or to others, who are to be the objects of our choice or preference."

Democrats recently have attacked Republicans for Bush's stance on affirmative action- a policy that, while benefiting some, has hurt some of those it was intended to help and has not yet proven to be the elixir to social and economic inequality. Added to Trent Lott's comments at Strom Thurman's birthday celebration, Democrats have gone so far as to label Republicans racist. Now with the possibility to see Estrada become the first Hispanic to sit on the bench of the D.C. Court of Appeals, and possibly the first Hispanic to sit on the Supreme Court's bench, Democrats are blocking the vote on the Senate floor, putting a question mark on their claim to promote diversity. Like Linda Chavez and Clarence Thomas, Estrada is not exactly what Democrats have in mind when they think diversity. They discriminate based on the possibility of a difference in ideology because Estrada's views might

be too in-line with the genius of the Court, Antonin Scalia, who believes that the Constitution must be interpreted according to historical context and textual meaning so that we do not fall under a government of individual opinions. The party with former Klansman Senator Byrd is quick to attack Republicans and conservatives for their concerns over affirmative action, a policy Clinton himself said should be reviewed regarding its fairness and benefits. But when the opportunity to cast a landmark vote for the American legal system regarding Miguel Estrada is placed before them, their actions betray an ideological inconsistency. If Democrats truly seek to promote diversity, now is their time to prove it.

Senate Republicans will force a "cloture" vote on Estrada this Thursday, the 5th of March, despite being five votes short of the now-necessary 60 to break the filibuster. The vote would be an unprecedented move, going against two hundred years of Senate practice. Estrada's nomination could fail because of the reaction to the Democrats' filibuster, which itself threatens to set a precedent of 60 votes needed to confirm an appointee. This comes in light of Democratic complaints about Bush's abuse of power.

While Estrada has been assailed by some in the Hispanic community for not "representing their views," he has also garnered great support from many other arenas of the Hispanic community, including the National Hispanic Bar Association and the League of Latin American Citizens. The executive director of La Amistad, another group behind Estrada, has said, "Make no mistake- we in the Hispanic community are watching closely." As we all should be.



Wednesday, March 5, 2003

Campus Safety

2.27.03-3.02.03

2/17 NOTHING UNUSUAL REPORTED

2/18 6:40 a.m. Math Bldg: Employee trapped in elevator. Memphis Fire Department on the scene, was able to release.

4:30 p.m. Glassell Hall - Investigation re: Controlled Substance

7:25 p.m. Refectory - larceny from a building, report made, video reviewed.

2/19 12:40 a.m. University St - Suspicious Person: Confronted by officers, indicated he was lost and looking for an address: Officers escorted him out of the area and maintained surveillance on him until he completely left

2/20 NOTHING UNUSUAL REPORTED

2/21 NOTHING UNUSUAL REPORTED

2/22 9:30 a.m. Robb Hall - Fire Extinguisher found expended. Under investigation.

4:15 p.m. Bellingrath - Smoke alarm - all okay, reset alarm

2/23 2:30 a.m. Voorhies - Medical Emergency, Ambulance called to scene

4:10 a.m. East Village "A" Third floor - Arson: Memphis Fire department arson investigators investigating. If you have any information on the person(s) responsible for this, please notify Campus Safety Director Ralph Hatley immediately.

2/24 9:15 p.m. Fire Drills in selected halls - all okay

2/25 2:55 a.m. Williford Hall - Noise Complaint - all okay apparently just people playing in the snow as evidenced by "Snow Angels"

5:00 p.m. BCLC - Sports Forum - Suspicious Persons - Four (4) subjects escorted off campus. Not authorized to use facility

5:30 p.m. Bailey Lane - Suspicious Persons - Two (2) car loads of males at tempting to get on campus to

Campus Safety announces tighter parking enforcement

As construction has begun on the new library, Bailey Lane has been closed on the west at Thomas Lane and on the east at the Briggs loading dock. This closure is, of course, forcing the traffic flow north along Thomas Lane in front of the fraternity houses. Also, traffic on East Village Lane will increase as delivery trucks will use the North Parkway entrance between 7:00 a.m.-10:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m. until closing at 7:00 p.m. Cars parking along these main roadways (even for short periods) severely obstruct traffic. Campus Safety will be aggressively enforcing parking regulations along these roadways to include ticketing and towing vehicles parked on the sides of the street or sidewalks.

Campus Safety Continued

use BCLC - Not authorized - turned away

2/26 3:30 p.m. East Village Lot - Car Vandalized (Keyed with long horizontal scratch). Reviewing video tapes

7:30 p.m. BCLC - Sports Forum - Larceny from a building - Wallet. MPD notified, report taken

9:15 p.m. Charles Place Entrance - Limb fell, knocking down power line. MLGW notified

2/27 11:05 p.m. Glassell Hall - 3rd floor: Suspicious odor: Res Life and CS investigating

2/28 2:20 p.m. Lynx Lair - Assault and Battery - Report filed, no injury

4:15 p.m. University near Tutwiler - Vehicle accident - no injuries MPD on the scene

3/1 1:30 a.m. Spann Place - Noise Complaint - complied to turn down music

3/2 NOTHING UNUSUAL REPORTED

STATS

ACCESSES:	196	VISITORS:	2,781
CITATIONS:	264	PROPPED DOORS:	6
ESCORTS:	51	JUMPS:	4
BOOTS:	6	TOWS:	0
AVs:	0		

Of course, you could always get a desk job instead...

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TeachArkansas is a new initiative to recruit high-quality graduating seniors to teach in 32 school districts of the Central and Eastern Delta regions of the state.

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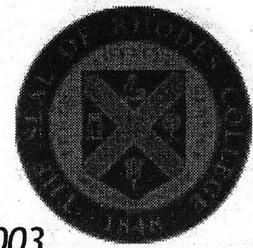
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Wednesday, March 5, 2003

Week in Review

International

PHILIPPINES An airport bomb detonated in a waiting area at Davao International Airport, killing no fewer than 21 and injuring 148. An hour later another bomb exploded at a health center about 50 kilometers away from Davao and injured two. No individuals or groups have yet claimed responsibility for the disaster, though several suspicious men have been detained. Filipino president Gloria Arroyo condemned the act and called an emergency Cabinet meeting to discuss security; meanwhile, the White House sends its condolences and suggests that the terrorist act is related to the Philippines' support of the U.S. in its "war on terror."

BRAZIL Despite 30,000 police officers and 3,000 troops patrolling the event, Rio de Janeiro's famed Carnival festival was celebrated with sin, parades, drag queens, and a samba dance-off among schools of 4,000 people each. Themes for the schools ranged from soccer to Brazil's African heritage to an end of poverty. Officials requested the army's presence at the Sambadrome to suppress the violence which

National

WASHINGTON The Pentagon ordered the placement of 24 stealth bombers in Guam in an effort to intimidate North Korea, suppressing the possibility of a military conflict with the potentially nuclear nation while armed forces are busy in the Persian Gulf. Authorities asserted that this deployment was absolutely not aggressive in nature, but rather was defensive. North Korea recently flipped on the switch to one of its nuclear reactors in what it said was a response to an "acute energy shortage."

NEW YORK A prominent lawyer wearing a t-shirt reading

inevitably occurs every year at the celebration. One death occurred on the first day of the festivities this year, but police presence suppressed any others.

SOUTH AFRICA A Johannesburg court found two police officers guilty of assault in what is considered one of the worst cases of brutality in the nation since the end of Apartheid. In 2000 the two white policemen allegedly set their dogs, who they said needed biting practice to cure their reluctance, on three black immigrants from Mozambique. A videotape circulated among police officers recorded the event and showed the officers laughing and refusing to provide mercy for the attacked men. The officers could each face up to five years in prison.

MEXICO FBI agents captured an indicted San Francisco priest attempting to seek refuge in a Mexican resort. The priest, who has been convicted of molesting two children and may have molested as many as 80 in years past, was deported from Puerto Vallarta and may be subject to five years in prison and up to \$250,000 in fines.

"Give Peace a Chance" underwent arrest at a public mall in New York. According to attorney Stephen Downs, two security guards approached him and his son in the food court of the mall near Albany and told him to "take off the t-shirt or leave the mall." He declined and was promptly cuffed, charged with trespassing, and taken to night court, where he was quickly released on recognizance. The director of an office of the State Commission on Judicial Conduct, Downs might be sentenced with up to a year in prison if found guilty.

All news compiled from CNN.com

Rhodes converts to recycled paper

Rhodes College took a major step towards a more sustainable campus and protecting southern forests earlier this semester. Rhodes began its total phase in of 100% PCW Badger Envirographic 100 recycled paper earlier this semester after a campaign by Rhodes Campus Green, Rhodes Planning Cooperative, and Rhodes College Greens. The campaign was marked with significant cooperation of the Physical Plant, especially the purchaser Charlene Craig.

Prior to this change, all of Rhodes's paper came from virgin tree fiber. Seventy-seven percent of the nation's pulpwood is cut in the southern United States. Now the paper is completely from consumer recycling, and it is whitened without using any chlorine. No other college in Memphis has shown this level of support for protecting the southern forests.

Joshua Low, the lead campaigner, commented, "This is a

major step matched by far too few colleges. It is satisfying to see such significant progress. Rhodes is leading southern colleges in sustainable purchasing."

Campus Green, Rhodes Planning Cooperative members, the Sierra Club, and the Dogwood Alliance are all welcoming this positive switch to recycled paper and protecting regional forests.

Mel Richey, the Executive Assistant to the President, stated, "I'm thrilled the campus has moved to recycled paper."

Source: Rhodes Communications Department

Bredesen, continued from Page 1

jected \$780 million budget deficit for next fiscal year that the governor is attempting to close.

Opponents of the governor's plan have other ideas for the shared revenue. House Speaker Jimmy Naifeh, also a Democrat, has proposed to gradually redirect the current local share of the income tax to fund public education. Naifeh assured that the money would still go to the respective localities, but would

be restricted for educational use. In addition to the upcoming proposal, House Democratic Majority Leader Randy Rinks has written legislation that would do exactly what Naifeh proposes.

Germantown Mayor Sharon Goldsworthy defends the current structure of income tax revenue sharing, stating that communities that receive the funds do not receive as much money for social programs as other communities.

The income tax has for some time been criticized for its distribution among more affluent communities. Approximately two-thirds of the income tax revenues go to 14 cities and four counties, out of 351 municipalities and 95 counties in the state.

Under the current city and county sharing, Memphis receives the most of all localities—over \$8 million each year, 16.4 percent of the revenues. Shelby County receives the most of Tennessee counties, with 2.9 percent share or almost \$1.5 million. Germantown receives almost \$1.3 million each year.

Some facts compiled from "Bredesen ponders sharing of state income tax" from The Commercial Appeal.

South Main Arts Festival - Saturday, April 26th

This is the fourth year for the free South Main Arts Festival. All of South Main is involved. The streets that cross South Main will be closed so that only pedestrians and the trolley will be allowed in the eight block area on South Main from Vance to St. Paul.

There will be a music stage on South Main at St. Paul which is located at the end of Central Station. A second music stage

will be located at the new promenade in front of the Civil Rights Museum.

The parking lot at South Main and Huling will have a performing arts stage and booths for art vendors. The lot next to the old Ambassador Hotel will be the children's stage with puppeteers and other children's activities. This area will also have the world's largest balloon sculpture. A historical walking tour

will be available from the Memphis Heritage location. Plus, all the fabulous art galleries and shops of South Main will also provide their own exhibits and entertainment. The loft tour will have five different lofts to view at \$5 per person.

The architectural scavenger hunt will be \$50 per person and will include prizes and a beautiful guide to South Main Architecture.

The Main Street Art Trolley Tour occurs the last Friday of every month

The Art Trolley Tour has happened every last Friday of the month since November of 2000. This is an opportunity for all the galleries and shops to have an Open House.

Each month features different exhibits and entertainment. In March the Memphis

Symphony will have a quartet perform outside in front of the new promenade at the Civil Rights Museum and another quartet will perform inside at Thames Interiors at 508 South Main.

Please note that the South Main Association spon-

sors the South Main Arts Festival and the "Last Friday of the Month Art Trolley Tour." You may contact Terry Woodard at 756-7249 if you need more information.

Source: Terry Woodard, South Main Association



Wednesday, March 5, 2003

How about Joe *Sequel*?

By Maggie Goodman

9:38 PM, Monday, February 17th, 2003—Shouts echo throughout the Rhodes Campus and in the homes of nearly 34.6 million other viewers. Why? Because he chose Zora. Yes, the illustrious, dashing, poor and slightly greasy (come on nobody's hair naturally looks like that) Evan Marriott gave Zora Andrich, along with the wives of numerous Fox Television executives, their long sought-after diamond rings on the *Joe Millionaire* finale.

The evening was indeed monumental for the pair and the entire Fox family—having, at one point, pulled in nearly 50 percent of all

women between the ages of 18 and 34 watching television!

Fox producers immediately began to roll their sleeves to milk the cash cow that was before them. *Joe Millionaire 2*...but how can this be? Obviously the secret is out on how the game is played. How can Fox pull off another gargantuan winnings in the Neilsen's and produce a spin-off with an even more intriguing concept? After hashing through a few ideas, here are the best and brightest little snippets I offer up to the reality series gods:

~Joe Geriatric... he may look old, but he's really just

Joe Sequel, continued on Page 8

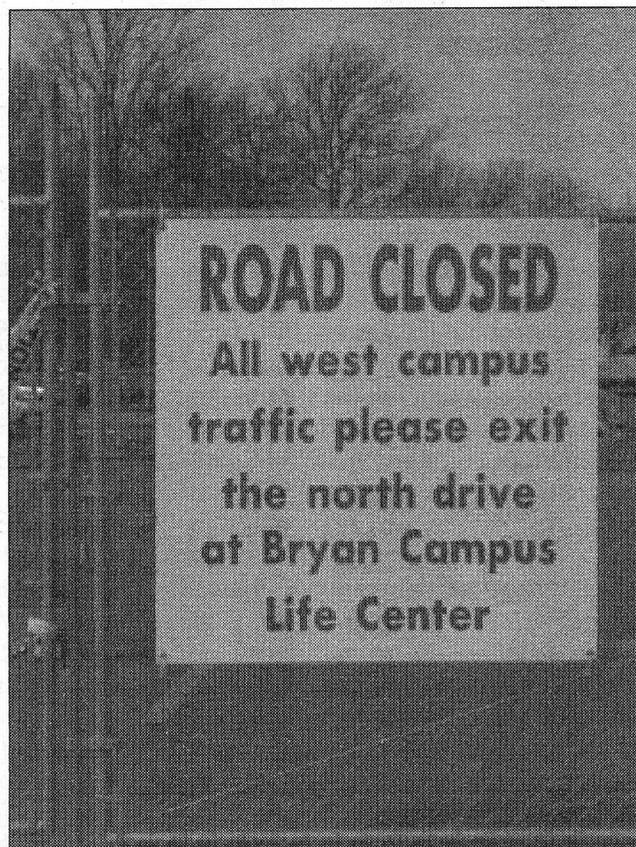
Photo by Miriam Dotin

TRAFFIC REROUTED DUE TO CONSTRUCTION

A the sign notes the blocked traffic thoroughfare on Bailey Lane between Briggs Student Center and Thomas Lane.

Since Monday morning, traffic will now permanently rerouted due to the construction and later location of the Barrett Library to be finished in the Fall of 2005. Students must now travel behind the Bryan Campus Life Center and through the McCoy parking lot to reach the east side of campus. The North Parkway entrance, however, will be open from 7:00 a.m. until 10:00 a.m. and from 3:00 p.m. until 7:00 p.m. Monday through Friday to accommodate the heavy periods of traffic coming on and off of campus.

Ground was broken on the new library last fall. Workers recently tore down the Frances Falls Austin building where Campus Safety was housed and Tuthill Hall where Career Services and Disability Services were formerly located.



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REVIEW

El Cremin de Padre Amaro (The Crime of Father Amaro) ~by Kevin Terrio

Perhaps his crime is more forgivable than the crime of bad filmmaking.

Every once in a while, a piece of foreign filmmaking comes along so deeply moving that through its sheer power jars the viewer out of complacency and teaches the audience some profound truth about the nature of the human condition. Unfortunately, this is not one of those.

Last year's critical and commercial success of the Mexican film *Y Tu Mama Tambien* made waves in the States and opened American eyes to the possibility that there is more to Mexican culture than Taco Bell, Tequila, and cockfights. Although *El Cremin de Padre Amaro* ("The Crime of Father Amaro") stands as the top grossing film in Mexican box office history, it simply lacks the crossover appeal of *Y Tu Mama Tambien*.

Maudlin and self-indulgent, the film plays like a two hour soap opera, intermixing religion and sexuality while spewing invective in the direction of the Catholic Church. Based on an 1875 novel by Portuguese novelist Jose Maria Eca de Queiroz, the film chronicles the travails of wide-eyed and quixotic Father Amaro as he arrives in his new parish and finds it to be a cesspool of corruption and hypocrisy. He finds his superiors cavorting with drug lords, taking bribes, and supporting guerrilla fighters. In time, his own mettle is tested as he is seduced by the pious and beautiful Amelia, a sixteen year old girl from the town who confesses to pleasuring herself while having sexual fantasies about Jesus. As he succumbs to temptation, he begins a voyage of self-discovery into the true nature of hypocrisy while realizing just

how far from his convictions he will stray in order to protect his own career and reputation.

This film had such an impressive box office performance in Mexico largely because of the controversy surrounding its release and the dismal portrayal of the Catholic Church. It aims to shock. Unfortunately, for an American public jaded to regular reports of child sexual abuse at the hands of the Catholic clergy, the shock just isn't all that shocking. While certain Catholics among us (especially those of us who suffered at the hand of nuns in parochial school for twelve years) may raise an eyebrow (and even take a sort of demented and perverse satisfaction) at seeing the Eucharistic host fed to a cat and a girl dressed as the Virgin Mary as part of sexual role play with a priest, it really just isn't enough to carry a film. The plot is pre-

dictable and trite, and the ending is so obvious that it is insulting to the viewer's intelligence.

After the sexual tension between Father Amaro and Amelia culminates in the consummation of their attraction, the movie falls apart. The second half is very difficult to get through. The movie never adequately develops any of the characters enough to make us care about what happens to them. The story develops like something lifted from a C+ creative writing assignment for English 151. There's really not much novelty here, and the movie doesn't stand up cinematically due to the sparseness of its narrative. Mexican society is permeated by religiosity, and most Mexican institutions (including the Church) are wrought with corruption. We already knew that, and just showing that again without much of a

plotline isn't enough to sustain an audience for 120 minutes.

El Cremin del Padre Amaro is rated "R" and runs exactly 2:00. The film is in Spanish with English subtitles, which requires a significant adjustment for those of us with our typical "ugly American" attitude that the whole world should speak English. Assuming you'll be seeing it in Memphis, you'll need to go to Studio on the Square (the only local theatre that is showing it). An aside on Studio on the Square; if you're hoping to go to a movie there on a Saturday night anytime between seven and ten, you might want to think about another theatre if you can find another one showing your movie. As atrocious as parking has always been over there, it seems to have reached a new low in recent weeks.



Mr. Shamrock 2003



Sunday, March 23, 2003

6 p.m., Hardie Auditorium

Come see your friends and faculty compete in the pageant for the Mr. Shamrock crown!

To nominate someone, e-mail arnrvf

Joe Sequel, continued from Page 7

a balding thirteen year old. Watch out, Sarah. Any "slurping" in the woods could mean jail time, missy!

Joe Deaf... he has heard everything you have said all along. And girls the middle digit is not sign language for I choose you.

~Joe Pepsi... he is not Joe Pepsi... he is Joe Pepsi Twist! (okay, so that one is taken)

~Joe Mama... no, Joe Mama!

And finally,

~Joe spelled with an e... yes he may look like a Joseph, but he has more missing than the "e" at the end of his name.

These are sure to be real ratings "beasts." However, no matter what comes of any sequel for Fox or of Evan and Zora's relationship, I have one final thought. Paul, the greatest butler in all the land... "baby, you are going places!"

How to Reach Our Authors and Us

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. The newspaper 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 the second floor of Briggs Student Center every Monday evening at 8 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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Wednesday, March 5, 2003

Lady Lynx fall to Hendrix, 68-57

By Lane Young

On Thursday, February 27, the Rhodes College women's basketball Team took on SCAC rival Hendrix College in the opening round of the 2003 SCAC Basketball Tournament. The match-up featuring the third-seeded Lynx and the sixth-seeded Warriors marked the third time the two teams had met this season. Rhodes was victorious in the previous two match-ups defeating the Lady Warriors 57-52 at Rhodes on January 18 and 73-55 at Hendrix on February 22. The third time proved to be the charm for the Warriors, as they were able to defeat the host Lynx and earn a spot in the semi-finals against DePauw University on Friday at 1:00 p.m.

Rhodes jumped out to an early lead 2-0 on a Rachel Hettinger ('06) jumper off of a Lora Filsinger ('04) pass, to give the Lynx their only lead of the game. Hendrix quickly answered with an Erin McKenzie jumper to knot the game at two apiece. Hendrix subsequently went on a 20 to six run over the next 13

minutes of the first half to take a 22 to six lead over Rhodes with 6:32 to go in the first half. The Warriors closed out the first half strong and took a 36 to 18 lead into halftime. Hendrix shot the ball well in the first half going 11 for 24 from the field, including four for eight from three-point range for 45.8 percent.

The Lynx outscored the Warriors 39 to 32 in the second half, and drew as close as eight points down the stretch, but simply could not overcome the large first-half deficit. The Warriors were able to come away with the victory due in large part to poor shooting by the Lynx as well as a tremendous advantage at the free-throw line. Hendrix got to the free-throw line 38 times on Thursday, cashing in on 29 of those attempts to shoot 76.3 percent. Rhodes was only able to get to the line eight times and made good on six of those attempts shooting 75 percent.

Senior guard Anna Kizer scored a team-high 21 points to go along with her four assists and three rebounds in 36 min-

utes of play. Freshman forward Taylor Cook had 17 points, five rebounds, and two blocks in 32 minutes of action. Freshman guard Rachel Hettinger added nine points, eight rebounds, and three steals in 35 minutes of play.

Senior guard Rosemary Boner finished with five points, seven rebounds, five assists, and two steals in 39 minutes of play. With her five assists in Thursday's contest, Boner moved into third place All-Time in the SCAC in career assists with 385.

This was the final basketball game for Lynx seniors: Rosemary Boner and Anna Kizer. The pair of four-year starters each played a major role in taking Rhodes College women's basketball from an eighth place SCAC finish in the season prior to their arrival to a top-three finish in this their senior year, Rhodes' best finish since the 1996-1997 season.

SCAC honors Lynx basketball players, coach

By Lane Young

In exclusive voting by the head coaches of the Southern Collegiate Athletic Conference (SCAC), Rhodes College women's basketball first-year head coach Matt Dean has been named the 2003 SCAC Coach of the Year. In his first season at Rhodes as the women's head coach, Dean guided the Lynx to a 15-9 overall mark (10-4 SCAC) and a third-place finish in the SCAC. The third-place finish is the highest for the Lynx since the 1996-1997 season.

Rosemary Boner ('03), who was tabbed as the SCAC's Defensive Player-of-the-Year for the second consecutive year, led the SCAC in steals all four seasons of her career. The senior had 121 thefts this season, averaging 5.0

per game, setting a new SCAC single-season mark and establishing her league-leading career mark at 390. The versatile guard averaged 8.1 points and 7.4 rebounds per game (seventh in the SCAC) and also finished fourth in the league in assists with 4.0 dishes per game. Boner was also honored by the coaches as an All-SCAC First-Team selection.

Anna Kizer was honored by the coaches of the Southern Collegiate Athletic Conference as a 2003 All-SCAC Second-Team selection for the second consecutive year. Kizer, who has led the Lynx in scoring the past two years, finished the season at 16.3 points per game (second in the SCAC). Kizer ends her career as the fourth all-time leading scorer in Rhodes history and 19th all-time in the SCAC.

Basketball players awarded for efforts

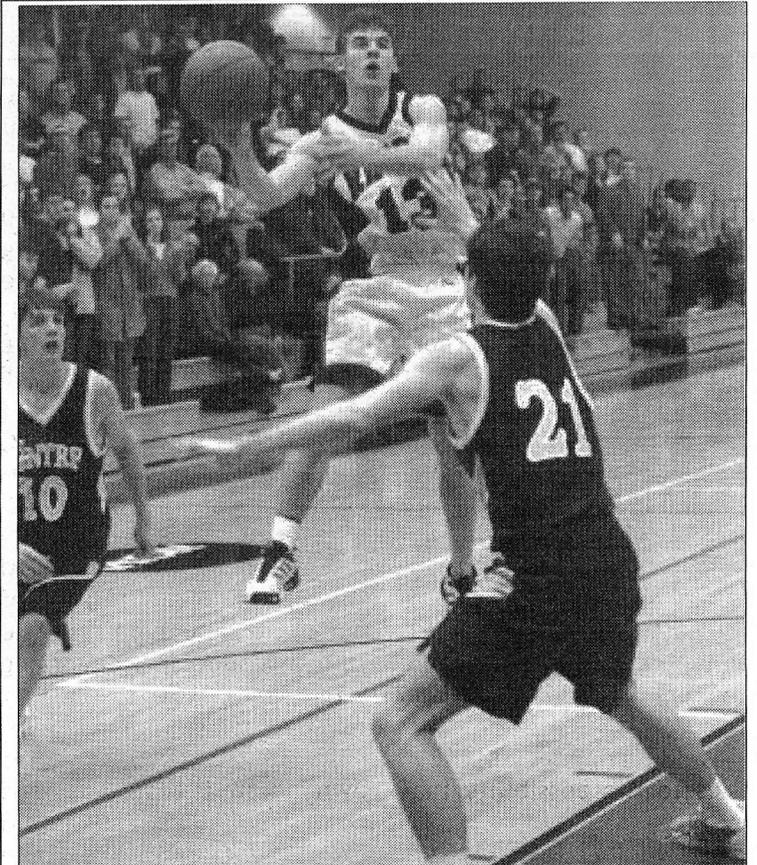
By Camelia Trahan

Two Rhodes men's basketball players received recognition Friday during the half-time of the Southern Collegiate Athletic Conference's semi-final game.

Junior Austin Lutz of the Rhodes College men's basketball team has earned Southern Collegiate Athletic Conference Honorable Mention honors as announced by the league office during the SCAC Basketball Tournament this past weekend.

Lutz was second on the team in scoring, averaging 12.8 points per game and 3.8 rebounds per game. The Birmingham, Alabama native scored in double figures in 12 games, including the first ten games of the season to help the Lynx to a 6-4 start. In addition, Lutz scored 20-plus points on three different occasions. He shot 44.3 percent from the field (77-of-174) and 88.2 percent from the free throw line (67-of-76).

Lutz had a huge game against Rose-Hulman as he led all scorers with 25 points in the 68-58 SCAC



LYNX AUSTIN LUTZ LOOKS TO PASS
Men's basketball guard, junior Austin Lutz, goes airborne to attempt a pass in a game against Centre College. Lutz and teammate Rami Almefty were awarded All-Conference status during a ceremony at the SCAC semi-final game.

victory on January 5th. He shot eight of 13 from the field, including two of five from three-point range and seven of eight from the free throw line. Lutz also added five rebounds, one assist and one steal in 36 minutes of play.

Lutz began his basketball journey at Vestavia Hills High School; thereafter he joined head coach Herb Hilgeman at Rhodes College where he helped lead the team to a 10-14 overall record and a 7-11 conference mark during the 2001-2002 season.

Lutz was also recently named to the third team of the 2003 Verizon College Division Academic All-District, for Region IV. The junior Biology major was the only SCAC player from this district to receive such an honor.

Freshman guard Rami Almefty was named New Comer of the Year and received honorable mention all-conference status along with teammate, Austin Lutz.

Almefty finished second among all first year players in

scoring at 14.9 points per game (seventh overall in the SCAC) in claiming the crown Newcomer of the Year. Almefty, the second consecutive Rhodes player to win the award, also finished second in the league in free throw percentage (86.5%), third in three-point percentage (40.6%), and ninth in field goal percentage (46.7%)

Almefty was also named SCAC Co-Player of the Week for week three of the 2002-2003 basketball season and was selected the second Rhodes Classic MVP for his performance against Maryville College.

From early on in the season, the Little Rock, Arkansas native showed no signs of being a rookie. The highlight of Almefty's season came when he posted his first collegiate double-double, 22 points and ten rebounds over Crichton. Rami served as a starter in 24 of 25 games this season.

WILLIAM FAULKNER *RHODE'STER POINT*

The sound and the server: a Rat for Emily

When the clock in Halliburton Tower struck noon, our whole campus went to the refectory: the men as a sort of respectful affection for what is such a campus monument, the women mostly out of curiosity of what an eggplant parmesan pizza sandwich might be, which no one save the refectory staff—combined cooks and biohazard technicians—had seen yet in the history of mankind.

My lunch is a fish.

From a little after eleven thirty until almost two o'clock of the long still cold weary dead March afternoon they sat in what school officials still called the refectory because their forebears had called it that—a dim smoky airless dining hall with the windows all barred and fastened for one hundred and fifty some summers because when the school was younger it was believed by those whose science was not yet perfected in the ways that the sciences which we teach nowadays have been so perfected by those in white coats and smudgy goggles who clink test tubes and explode watermelons but by those who long held the belief that heat and light and air and the earth—oh, the glorious earth whose rich fecund aspects enriches the roots of oh the many wheats and grains whose offspring should one day at last find themselves here, here in this place, this smoky airless dining hall—were not simply things made of things which were merely things not made of life but of unlife, but instead were living things made of things which were made of life! oh, life which caused them in the minds of these as-yet imperfed scientists to bar the windows in the fear that the living light and air and sun and earth and the king of all elements magnesium might enter and taint this airless dining hall with its polluting factors of light and cheer and would

tamper with the long-suffering scholarly demeanor so engendered by those forebears of the school officials who still call this hall a refectory.

The clinking of trays and of glasses would not cease, it would merely vanish. There would be Rat steak-smelling gloom sweet and oversweet with the twice-ripe bananas used in the mish-mash pudding placed for display among the students at the end of every week, now thrown against the inner wall by first year students on this cold March afternoon and now the sun distilled and hyperdistilled this pudding until it was just distilled enough to get those same first years really blitzed just in time for those exams which fell to them at this time in the midst of the term—the midterm—in which they were desperate for any type of distillation even to the point of eating old pudding. But about the pudding there was little sound: no, the pudding was not the subject of this light flutter of conversation, this flutter which like those sparrows which to this day no longer visit the refectory since the day in which they learned that landing near the refectory would only land them in the next day's sparrow Jell-o: no, this flutter brought with it the rank smell of bovine old flesh long embattled in over-cooking while the wan haggard face which overlooked it on the stove from above the faint circle of bubbling water which bore the aspect of ancient laundry long cooking, cooking away the stains of blood of the child crucified therein: this, oh this was the flutter of the odor not of verbenas but of Rat steak and the odor not ceasing but vanishing into and then out of long intervals like a stream. Out of an odorless hall it would abrupt (rat-beef-demon) upon a plate serene and decorous and perhaps awaiting catfish or lasagna but not this soul, this long tormented soul

who since the day of its inception conception reception contraception had waited to be merely released from its prison of overwrought overcooked flesh and merely anticipated the knife the fork the teeth the gnashing the grinding the deconstruction of its matter broken down by human saliva the restricting of the throat the esophagus the swallowing the swallowing the hot unrelenting enzymes the sweet sweet release that came only with the utter immolation oblation absolute deletion of its existence from this hot burning hollow plane of being in which earth and fire and wind and water and heart are chained and barred from entering this smoky airless hall! Release! Release! That is all that remains.

And that is why I like the Rat better.

The end.

ERNEST HEMINGWAY *RHODE'STER COUNTERPOINT*

A moveable feast (a different one)

The senior ate the chicken philly, the philly according to equivalency. The chicken was burnt. The senior laughed. It made a good end to his school day. His mind was starting to wind down. He knew he could choke it because he was hungry enough.

He liked the Lair, and liked it well enough. He had traveled the campus in his time there, and seen the places around to eat. He liked this one the best, he mused to himself, and he shook free the loose bits of charred chicken onto his plate. The Lair was quiet, save for the hum of the television and the show that was blaring on it. The senior hated the show, but he was too exhausted to change it.

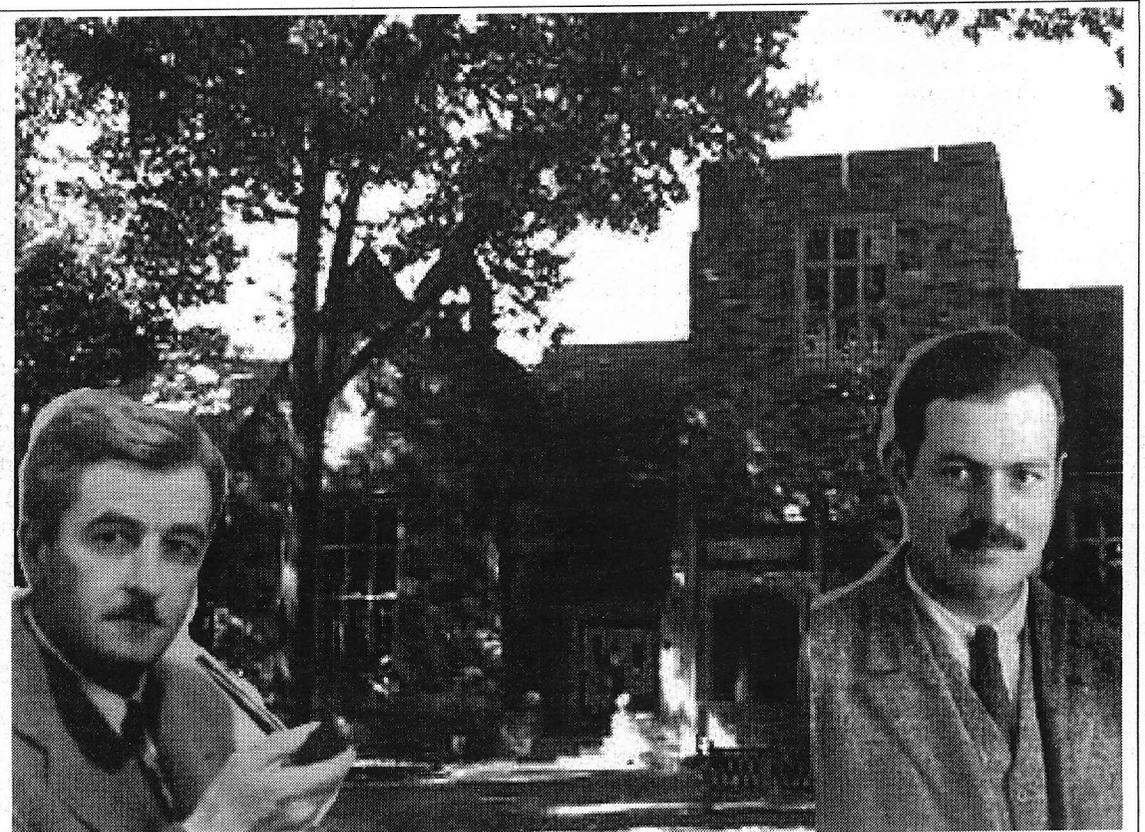
He knew the Lair was the place to get good food, man food. It seemed above all other eating establishments on campus to be the rugged individu-

alist. The food there was cooked by men for men. The women could have their share, he smirked to himself, in the same way they were welcome to the bull. If they thought they could tame it, they were welcome to it. This is why he liked the Lair. The Lair was like the bull. You had to tame it and kill it to eat of its prizes. And furthermore, unlike other eating establishments around, you only ate the bull's prizes when you ordered the bull's prizes. And the options are fried or nothing. Man food. The thought made a satisfactory hiss in his brain.

Throwing away his Styrofoam plate he continued his conversation with himself. It was the Lair, of course, but it is necessary that the place be clean and pleasant.

And that is why the Lair is better, you woman.

The end.



PAPA VERSUS WILL

Photo by Dr. Emmett Brown

Two of the twentieth century's greatest authors duke it out over what's really important: campus food services.



Wednesday, March 5, 2003

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RHODE'STER

THE RHODE'STER
founded BC 753

LORD OF THE BLING
"Lumber" Jack Leslie

BETTER OFF RED
Calvert Tooley
Chris Hathorn

ABSALOM ALSO RISES
Jamie Groover

GRECIAN FORMULA FOR SUSPENSE
Caroline "Smack my" Bishop

DANIELLE STEELE
Scott Holmes

SEVENTEEN MAGAZINE
Jason Jenkins

Ode on a bronzy lynx

By John Keats
Rhode'ster Ode'ster

1.
Thou still un-ridden cat of drunkenness,
Thou adoptee of bacchants and of sots,
Quiet mascot, who canst full well express
A boozehound's tale grandiloquently wrought:
What drunken revels hast thou, silent, seen
Of frat boys or the newfound freshman class?
From Glassell or from Williford come they?
What guzzlers, what drunks? What carousing ass?
What souséd ones? What hammered football team?
What shouts and laughter? What wild ecstasy?

2.
Heard bacchant calls are sweet, but those unheard
Are silent; therefore, ye sloshed ones, yell loud;
Not for the student ear, but, more endur'd,
Yell for the officers of campus proud:
Fair youth, beneath the Lynx, thou canst not move
Thy ass, for passed-out right there you must lie;
O wasted one, never, never can you ride,
Though winning near the goal—yet not above
Those bronzy thighs upon that back so wide
Wilt thou ever find thyself; so you cry.

3.
O Rhodent shape! Fair Lynx! Watched by the eyes
Of Ralph Hatley! Cat with a broad great back
So inculturated to drunk naked thighs;
Thou, silent form, dost teach us to be whack
As doth eternity: Cold Mascot still!
When liver illness dost these frat boys waste,
Thou shalt remain, an effigy outgrown
By adult wastrels, lost friend who still say'st,
"Boozing is fun, fun boozing—that is all
Rhodents know on earth, and all they need to
know."

Who got the Gooch?

I have a disease

By Dean Koontz
Rhode'ster Ma'ster of Suspense

I cautiously approached the cash register, at which the woman sat. I had to approach the cash register cautiously because I am blind. Also, because I have xeroderma pigmentosum, which means I am never allowed to go out in the sunlight. Have you ever heard of this disease? Well, it means I'm not allowed to go out in sunlight. Luckily, for me, the lighting in the Lynx Lair was low enough that it did not cause me to break out in hives or die.

The woman sitting behind the cash register was slender but mighty. The gleam in her eye (which I could not see, because I am blind) was communicated to my incredibly smart dog, Pooky, who in turn communicated it to me. Pooky does not communicate to me in English, because even though he is super-smart, he does not know English.

"I'm sorry," the woman behind the cash register said. "You're out of Bonus Bucks for the semester." My heart cracked and fell to the ground with a mighty crash. I am speaking metaphorically, of course. This did not literally happen. But I groaned with distress.

"How could this happen?" I asked incredulously. "Last time I came in here, I still had thirty two dollars left."

"I'm sorry," was all she said to me. Maybe she was saying it because I am blind and have xeroderma pigmentosum. But Pooky,

my super-smart dog, did not tell me the reason why.

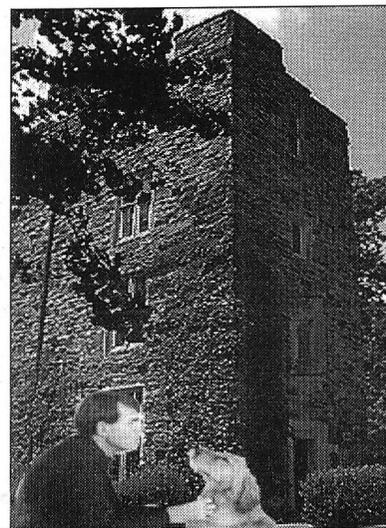
But surely I was going to investigate this suspenseful mystery, because even if I am blind and have xeroderma pigmentosum, I can still investigate mysteries. Who could have used up the Bonus Bucks on my card? Why? How? When? Where?

Due to my super-smart dog, Pooky, I was soon on the track of the perpetrator. Pooky said to me, but not in English, that he could smell the smell of evil, mysteries, and suspense a mile away. Fortunately, we were even less than a mile away from the perpetrator. The trail led straight to the third floor of Gooch (some may call it "Halliburton Tower," but Pooky told me that the real name is Gooch. I couldn't see any name plaques, because I am blind).

Once we arrived on the third floor of Gooch, I began to feel around for clues, as blind people with xeroderma pigmentosum are wont to do. Then I found it—a high-tech computer that was engineered to steal Bonus Bucks.

I gasped with a sudden dawn of recognition. I should have known all along! It was a nefarious plot, a plot that led all the way to the top. I will explain the nefariousness of the plot to you now. Pooky would explain it, but he is a dog, albeit a super-smart one. You see, this is what was going on...

The Rhode'ster would like to apologize for any inconvenience the abrupt ending of this tale may have caused you. We were paying Master Koontz by the word and ran out of money. But rest assured, gentle reader, that this fine adventure will continue in next week's edition.



One log to rule them all

Campus Safety Log (the first through ninth days of the fourth month of the third age)

Reported by J.R.R. Tolkien

Day One: It was a dark night when Havenstor, son of Herbalor, and his companion Ethenol, son of Badrimmer, left the comfort and safety found within the thick walls of the Rhodesidrim in search of beer. The fate of all races in Middle Memphis lay in the hands of these two first year students, for if they fail to complete their awesome quest, an ageless evil known as Sobriety will continue to haunt them. However, the destinies of the two were not so: they were soon intercepted by Campus Safety White Riders, the sinister agents of the Lord of Sobriety, and taken away to the bowels of the Rhodes Tower where they were tortured for the crime of attempted underage drinking.

Day Three: The ancient blade Seersucker, which was forged in the fires of Mount Nellyville by the first Elven lords and wielded by Theofir, son of Hypostir, in the battle of Halliburton Tower then broken in the fight against the Supreme Evil, Carol Casey, and finally re-forged by Ferisweel heir to the throne of Marahhrim, was confiscated by Campus Safety Tuesday.

Day Four: Creepy old man, dirty disheveled vagabond, pretty boy, and several midgets found wandering campus. Upon interrogation, they claimed to be on campus for an anti-racism rally. Several weapons confiscated, including sword that was broken. All nine escorted to nearby University of Mordor.

Day Nine: Student calling himself First and Fatherless forcibly removed from classroom Thursday after refusing to stop singing. He was placed in the custody of Timothy Sharp, who asked him where he got his boots.

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The Parody Student Newspaper of
Rhodes College

THE RHODE STER



VOL. LXXXX

NO. 53

Refectory manifesto

By Karl Marx
Rhode'ster Revolutionary

"Just as Darwin discovered the law of development of organic nature, so Marx discovered the law of development of human history: the simple fact that mankind must first of all eat, drink...before it can pursue politics, science, art, religion, etc."

--Frederick Engels

A specter is haunting Rhodes College—the specter of starvation. For years, students have eaten (or tried to find something to eat) complacently, patiently waiting for change—a new dish, longer hours, *another* way to cook chicken—anything to make the day more tolerable, to make taking a break from studying somewhat less painful. When ARO members came through the Rat and talked about the college's great food, students listened silently. When Phyllis handed out survey forms at the centralized CSC (card swiping center), they commented meekly. When Maxwell told them they were out of bread (of all things), they responded understandingly. To do otherwise could bring nothing good; at best, only angry Rat workers and an even *more* confusing table setup—perhaps one really *long* table this time.

With the students' quiet acceptance, though, conditions only grew worse. Delineating between weekdays and weekends became more and more difficult, and students began to wonder whether they would ever reach the Promised Land,

where there is an unlimited supply of honey and they never run out of milk. What was once a specter had then and has now become a reality, and unless students can band together to revolutionize the current system (and its notoriously inedible product), dark days lie ahead for hungry students at the Rat.

With the Rat food quality at an all-time low, the revolutionary effort has been gaining popularity. There is, among a growing number of students, a real revolutionary consciousness and a desire for change. Typical of this new revolutionary class is Jason Jenkins who is deeply involved with RCF (Rhodes Communist Federation). Like many others, Jason agrees that something must be done: "They've been serving leftovers at the Rat ever since my freshman year, and the original meal has never been found. Yeah, I definitely think we should have a revolution."

Jay Sulzmann has agreed to serve in the vanguard of this revolutionary effort. In spite of his denials and protests, Jay is a known Marxist. His campaign slogan, "not a totalitarian despot," failed to convince anyone who really knows him. Realizing the futility of such subterfuge, Jay has recently revealed his desire to lead the coming revolution against the Rat. Motivated by the same feeling of nausea which has led to countless uprisings in the past, Jay claims to have reached his limit. "We have seen the situation of the stu-

dents sink lower and lower. Students have been alienated from the means of food production, and now we can't even get fortune cookies." Jay thinks that reforming the system "will not do nearly enough. We need a complete revolution which will place me, I mean, *the student body*, in full control of the Rat." Jay's vision of the revolution not only aims at improving the food, but also involves uniforms and lots of goose-stepping.

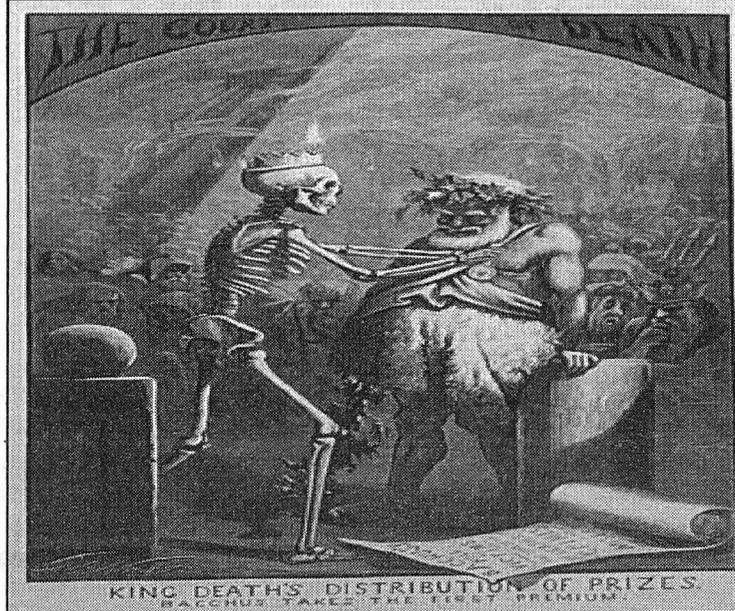
With students such as Jay and Jason leading the way, the revolution is destined to succeed. Rhodes students have nothing to lose but their hunger pangs. They have a world to win.

Furthermore, they have a message to share with the world, and that message is: STUDENTS OF RHODES COLLEGE UNITE!

EDITOR'S NOTE:

DEAR SWEET, GENTLE READERS,
AS MANY OF YOU KNOW, THE STAFF OF *THE RHODE'STER* IS AS LACKADAISICAL A GROUP OF SLACK-A-MUFFINS AS THEY COME. AS SUCH, WE, YOUR HUMBLE EDITORS, HAVE BEEN FORCED TO EMPLOY REINFORCEMENTS FOR THIS MONTH'S ISSUE. O FORTUNE OF FORTUNES THAT WE SHOULD HAPPEN TO HAVE CONNECTIONS WITH MANY OF THE PREMIERE NAMES IN WRITING. I DO SO HOPE YOU ENJOY THIS ISSUE WE HAVE SO ARTFULLY SET BEFORE YOU AND THAT YOU MAY RETURN FOR MORE IN THE MONTHS TO COME.

--YOUR HUMBLE EDITOR,
THE RT. REV. DR. BENJAMIN L. GROOVER, PH.D, M.D., ESQ., M. DIV.



Cartoon by Thomas Nast

BACCHUS AT RHODES

Not fulfilled anymore by the supply provided by the nearby Brown Jug Liquor, a gaunt, starved Rhodes freshman now turns directly to the god Bacchus for his booze fix.

News in brief

By Basho Matsuo
Rhode'ster Septedecimalist

Haikus required:
Now everything I write must
Have set syllables.

Babies attacking:
The streets fill with the blood of
Surprised families.

Carnage befalls town.
Every night evil people
Make the good turn bad.

Antiestablishmentarianism.
Wow, what a big word!

What is poetry?
Old McDonald had a farm
E-I-E-I-O.

Additional brief news

By Dr. Seuss, Th. D.
Rhode'ster Zizzerzazzertuzz

The day in the den was nothing but glum
No trumpets to trumpet no drummer to drum
But one little fox who had had too much rum
Decided to say, "Hey, kids, the den's dumb!"
So she packed up her bags and before you could spin
She'd dug a new hole and begun a new den
(You'd think that this might be too hard to begin,
But with some little foxes, you'd best think again)
What the den's name was she couldn't decide
She had her new den and it filled her with pride
Not a thing you might think I'd deride
But the whole thing's just trash with no *Rhode'ster* inside!

An ugly tree falls.
No one bothers to listen.
Now it feels unloved.

The Avon lady
Is chased by a pack of wolves:
Mascara running.

Internet fever:
Precious hours of our time
Checking our e-mail.

Clifton Bryant lives
In a tiny room with me.
All my hope is lost.

Where is the glory?
Someone said they had found it.
Don't ask Ichabod.

What do you get when
You cross pun with poetry?
A disappointment.