

THE SOUTHWESTER



VOL. XC, NO. 19

4.21.04

Review

Allison Brown reviews
Sony Pictures' newest
hit movie *Hellboy*, star-
ing Ron Perlman and
David Hyde Pierce.

SeeScene



Track

The men's and
women's track teams
fared well at last
weekend's Vanderbilt
meet.

SeeSports

Rhodes faculty adopts new curriculum

A lengthy process results in curriculum change

By Logan Wheeler

In the last few weeks, a serious change has been put into effect that will dramatically influence academic life here at Rhodes. The curricular reform proposal recently presented to Rhodes faculty by the Educational Development Committee was passed by a vote of 78:25 on Thursday, April 14, 2004.

Although this issue may seem to have appeared very suddenly, the EDC and Curriculum Committee have actually been redrafting and fine-tuning this new proposal for roughly a year. It should, therefore, come as no surprise that the proposal is the result of a great deal of hard work and dialogue between committee members, administration, faculty, staff, and student representatives. But what is this curricular reform proposal? For that matter, what is the Rhodes curriculum?

Perhaps the simplest way to visualize our current curriculum is to take a quick look at one of those dreaded declaration-of-major forms distributed by the Office of the Registrar. Aside from allowing space in which to plot out courses for a student's (hopefully) four-year college career, these forms also delineate a kind of checklist of the courses that every

Rhodes student is required to take in order to graduate. This checklist includes English 151, foreign language, P.E., Search/Life track, Humanities requirements, Social Sciences requirements, Natural Sciences requirements, and Fine Arts requirements. The current curriculum requires that every graduating student complete 112 hours of class. When spread out evenly across eight semesters, this means that an ideal semester is comprised of 14 credit hours. As many of you probably notice immediately, 14 hours is really kind of a weird number to take considering the fact that most classes are worth three hours. So, why does this discrepancy exist? Why is 112 the magic number?

If you were to ask around and try to find the answer to such questions, this is what you would discover: nobody really knows. The fact of the matter is that our curriculum has remained virtually the same for around 50 years. This means that the Rhodes curriculum actually predates Rhodes' presence in Memphis. Of a certainty, the 112 credit system was in line with most of Southwestern's peer institutions, but when we take a look at the curricula of Rhodes' peer institutions today, we will find that this is no longer the case. Most

similar schools follow a four-credit system that actually requires fewer classes for graduation and clearly explains the reasoning and purpose behind the foundational courses that are required.

The goal of the EDC's proposal is to modernize and revamp the Rhodes curriculum by making it more up-to-date in respect to schools within our category. Perhaps the most obvious change suggested by this document is do away with the old system of assigning a number of hours to each course and simply count every course as four credits. This means that every course would be worth four credits regardless of how often it meets, how long a class period lasts, or how much outside work is assigned. Coupled with the four-credit idea is a proposition to reduce the number of distribution and major requirements. This would also allow students to take fewer courses every semester. The EDC believes that if students were to take four courses every semester instead of five, more concentration could thereby be given to fewer topics. Hopefully, this would encourage a more critically engaged learning experience.

The EDC also hopes that reducing the number of re-

Curriculum, continued on Page 4



Photo by Julia Dobbins

STUDENTS ORGANIZE FORUM

Rhodes students Brooke McClelland ('05), Brandy Alexander ('04), and Jenna Sadar ('06) organized a forum to discuss issues facing immigrants to the United States.

Rhodes forum discusses immigrants' issues

By Michelle Hope

On Tuesday April 13, 2004, Rhodes College hosted a panel discussion about issues facing immigrant workers in the United States. The program was organized by Rhodes Students Jenna Sadar, Brandy Alexander, and Brooke McClelland in memory of Barret library construction worker Francisco Javier Hernandez who died in an onsite construction accident earlier this year.

The panel consisted of Rhodes faculty and alumni as well as members from the Memphis community. This included Bryce Ashby, the Director of programs at *Latino Memphis* and a Rhodes Alumnus who recently spent an extended time in Honduras working with the Peace Corps; Angel Gonzalez, an immigrant painter in Memphis who has made numerous failed attempts over the years to obtain residency for himself and his family; Rebekah Jordan, the director of the *Mid-South Interfaith*

Network for Economic Justice who has worked with union organizations on behalf of immigrant and non-immigrant populations; and Rhodes history professor Michael LaRosa whose specialty in Latin American history has taken him to Columbia for extended periods of research. The aim of the forum was to examine the issues and struggles faced by immigrant workers in the United States in recognition of the Rhodes commitment to the larger Memphis community.

For immigrants to the United States the struggle begins with the journey from their native country, but it in no way ends there. The emotional toll that this struggle can have on immigrants is deepened by the fact that many are forced to leave loved ones behind as they attempt to build a better future for themselves. Moreover, once in the United States, immigrants quickly find that basic tasks such as finding

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founded 1848

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ELIZABETH BRANDON

Cyber Bullies

Accessibility to the internet has provided means for constant communication for young people, bringing about interaction that they could not have had otherwise. However, increased use of instant messaging, chat rooms, e-mail, and text messaging has allowed bullies an easier way to harass other children. The term for this form of intimidation is "cyber bullying." These kids have the power of anonymity and can reach their victims any time of the day, inside and outside of school. Additionally, if someone tries to identify a bully, there exists less of a possibility of proving such because the accused can direct the blame elsewhere, such as claiming another person used his or her screen name. Able to escape parental supervision, they are capable of harassing other children without any repercussions. These advantages leave the bullied children vulnerable, unable to escape torment even in their own homes. The cowardice of cyber bullies' actions is apparent; they never have to face their victims and seem immune to punishment.

In this sense, things are getting much worse in school environments. Kids who once feared going to school and getting beat up on the playground now face psychological torment in the comfort of their own homes. Through text messages and instant messages, bullies send threats and insults to their peers. By breaking into others' accounts, they have access to anonymity. Reports state that some people have created whole web sites in order to aim their attacks at other students and even teachers. Kids that have built-in digital cameras on their cell phone have the capability of exposing others via internet within minutes.

In one instance, a student took a picture of an overweight peer getting out of the shower after gym and proceeded to send the picture out to the school through e-mail minutes later. This person can evade punishment easily by tapping into someone else's e-mail account. The possibilities are endless for these bullies and the harassment goes beyond name-calling and fist fights.

The danger of this form of intimidation lies in the fact that no one is safe from this form of assault. Such noteworthy progress in technology has permitted computer savvy kids to play with people's minds. It seems minimal, bullies fooling around on the internet and sending insulting messages to others. However trivial this antagonizing behavior may seem, it is harassment and can easily lead to more dangerous conduct. If someone receives physical threats, they can turn to their parents or even contact the police. But they may not always be able to identify their intimidators, and the anonymity diminishes the power of certain authorities. These bullying actions de-humanize interaction, causing words and emotions to become mere representations. Bullies no longer have to face their targets or the consequences of their actions, which seems to be just as detrimental to the mental health of the bullies, themselves. Cowardly, they hide behind their computer screens and invade others' privacy. There are preventative measures—parents monitoring internet use, schools modifying policy to prohibit such behavior, and guarding contact information. Though the victims are not helpless—they are capable of defending themselves—the problem prevails.

NOTICE

The Sou'wester seeks opinion writers for the 2004-2005 academic year. If you would like to share your opinions with the world, or at least *The Sou'wester* readership, contact Opinion Editor, Jeff Knowles at KNOJA@rhodes.edu

GOT OPINIONS?

Letter to the Editor

To the Editor:

The Rhodes Activity Board approached the planning for Rites of Spring with two primary objectives:

- To celebrate the 30th anniversary of Rites by bringing to campus nationally and regionally recognized bands.
- To increase the diversity of the lineup.

We are pleased to announce that among this year's headliners are the North Mississippi All-Stars, Verve Pipe, Lit, and Three 6 Mafia. No one could miss the fact that this is a diverse group.

While we believe that diversity is a strength rather than a threat to the community, we recognize that some people on campus may not enjoy, and may actually be offended by some of these bands. As in the past, the Board requests that students, faculty and staff "vote with their feet," that is, please refrain from attending the performances if you feel there may be music or lyrics you will find offensive.

We hope everyone enjoys the 30th Anniversary of Rites of Spring.

--Rhodes Activities Board

Rites of Spring Line-Up

Friday

7:00 P.M.

PHIL HAS TWINS

8:30 P.M.

NORTH MISSISSIPPI ALL-STARS

10:20 P.M.

THREE 6 MAFIA

Saturday

5:00 P.M.

GRANOLA SHRAPNEL

6:30 P.M.

JOE NORMAN

8:30 P.M.

VERVE PIPE

10:30 P.M.

LIT



Wednesday, April 21, 2004

PAGE 3
OPINION

ALEX HORNADAY

Economics, Schmeconomics

Now that presidential campaigning is in full throttle and we are careening hopelessly towards the always exciting and meaningless party conventions, one main issue, as usual, has risen to forefront of political discourse: the economy.

In February the jobless "recovery" looked quite bleak for our current President, but then in March, the "jobless" recovery turned the tables on the opposition. And despite the fact that political rhetoric should all be taken with a grain of salt, there are some real economic concerns arising from the campaign trail.

The first thing that anyone must remember is that the president has very little actual control on the economy. Certainly a president can make recommendations for policies that can generally positively or negatively affect the economy, but in the end there are so many factors and variables that go into our economy that we cannot accurately put responsibility on one person or even administration. That said, an administration is certainly accountable for its recommendations if they are misguided.

In the interest of bi-partisanship, I must admit that President Bush has a less-than-stellar record when it comes to economic policy. Steel tariffs were a dismal (and illegal) mistake and a failed political ploy as the steel unions have endorsed Senator Kerry. The self-proclaimed "free-trader" has also endorsed quotas on various Chinese products. At home he was on the right track with the tax cuts, but then dropped the ball when it came to cutting government spending. In fact, he

increased non-military government spending to levels that should make any Reaganite more than uncomfortable.

In an effort to please everyone (tax cuts and more government programs) George Bush has created a massive deficit that will definitely be one of his largest political hurdles. Were the opposition any better, I

United States, John Kerry hopes to please a rather small sector of our economy, but ultimately, instead of creating 10 million jobs in his first term (likely campaign trail nonsense), he will be sacrificing the innovation and growth that can create more jobs in other sectors.

John Kerry intends to punish multinational corporations—like Heinz, for in-

der-developed countries—hardly a principled foreign policy.

Furthermore, Mr. Kerry makes a large assumption in his proposal: that corporate decisions are made solely on the basis of tax. And while it is true that taxes do offer somewhat of an incentive to move abroad, he completely ignores market access, labor costs, and foreign industrial regulations as factors in decisions about production location.

He hopes to encourage further job growth with a corporate tax cut and a payroll tax credit for jobs created in the U.S. (somehow these tax cuts are less evil than Bush's tax cuts for taxpayers). He forgets that taxes are not the primary reason that companies choose to hire or not to hire more workers, but rather the change in productivity

from adding more workers versus the costs of labor as a whole, including wages, tax, insurance, training, etc. John Kerry's plan does not address the other costs of labor and cannot affect the productivity of workers. Taxes are such a small part of the picture that John Kerry's payroll tax credit is really an empty gesture.

If you think that the economy is bad now (it is not) and that George W. Bush is to blame (he is not), and that voting for John Kerry would be the answer to all our economic woes (it would not be), it may be a good idea to look into the specifics of Mr. Kerry's economic proposals. The costs of his proposal are tremendous, and the only real benefit from a John Kerry Presidency in 2004 is that it would keep Hillary at bay for another four years.

John Kerry's proposal is to jeopardize our own growth in other sectors and pull much needed income and employment from under-developed countries—hardly a principled foreign policy.

would have to carefully consider my vote.

While George W. Bush at least pretends to be a free-trader, John Kerry makes no attempt to appear so. Ignoring the disgruntled mumblings of pesky economists, John Kerry tries to suggest that protectionism is good for both the American people and the world at large.

According to the Senator's campaign website, "John Kerry has a plan to secure America's economic future and ensure that workers can achieve the American dream in our changing economy." An ironic statement, considering that John Kerry's plan will keep our economy from changing at all and thereby stifle the American dream. By keeping manufacturing jobs in the

stance—by double taxing them. Currently, U.S. companies receive a tax credit on income earned abroad so that they do not have to pay taxes on the same income to both the U.S. and foreign governments. By eliminating the tax credit, Mr. Kerry will attempt to blackmail multinational corporations to keep plants, offices, and jobs in the United States.

Doing so will force companies to spend much more on labor than is otherwise necessary, and companies, therefore, will be unable to invest in other areas that create higher paying jobs and higher standards of living for Americans.

John Kerry's proposal is to jeopardize our own growth in other sectors and pull much needed income and employment from un-

**DISAGREE WITH
SOMETHING YOU'VE
READ?**

The Sou'wester welcomes letters to the editor.

Letters must be signed and
will be edited for clarity and length.

Submit to Box 3010
or email to sou'wester@rhodes.edu.



Wednesday, April 21, 2004

Curriculum, continued from Page 1

quired courses will allow Rhodes students to explore new subjects by taking more electives. Oddly enough, the current curriculum fills almost half of every student's four-year schedule with distribution requirements. However, the new curriculum would hope to better balance required courses with major courses and electives. Such an evenly balanced distribution of classes would help the new curriculum approach a number of its goals.

These goals help to explain why students would be required to take certain classes. For example, instead of simply stipulating that each student take a fine arts course, the proposed curriculum briefly discusses the importance and necessity of art in human culture and requires that each student take a course pertaining to creative, artistic expression. The EDC hopes that this more goal-oriented curriculum would help future students to better understand the set of tools that a Rhodes education affords them while, at the same time, recognizing the utility of those tools in the outside world.

After spending a great deal of time hammering out the details of the proposal, the EDC began to send its committee members to departmental faculty meetings in order to discuss its underlying ideas and collect feedback. The proposal was quite popular with a large portion of the faculty, but it was met with some resistance as well. For example, several professors from the Biology and Chemistry departments were concerned that the four-credit system would fail to take into account the great amount of time and effort students spend in laboratories. After communicating the ideas of the curriculum proposal to the faculty, the final stage of the informational transfer began.

The EDC, administration, and Rhodes Student Government felt a common desire to speak face to face with the student body about the potential curricular reform. These groups pooled their resources and planned an open forum that took place on the evening of April 12. Signs and emails advertising the event went out to the student body soon thereafter. When the time finally came, the EDC, members of RSG, and some 200 interested students congregated in Blount Auditorium to discuss the issue. After Professor Marsha Walton, Chair of the EDC, took some time to explain the aforementioned basic ideas of the curriculum proposal, the floor was opened for students' questions.

For over an hour, students addressed their concerns and comments to the members of the EDC. These inquiries reflected a great deal of interest and consideration on behalf of the students. Some students expressed a feeling that reducing the number of classes in a semester would cheapen and water down the Rhodes academic experience. The EDC responded by saying that less is sometimes more; more can be learned by focusing on fewer topics.

Other students feared that this proposal would make it near impossible for a student to double major. The EDC replied that double majoring would still be a very real possibility considering requirement reductions across all majors. Other students asked specific logistical questions concerning the restructuring of one-hour music courses and science labs. The EDC admitted that several such details still needed to be worked out, but that the proposal would be sure to accommodate these situations. The discussion inspired heated emotions on both sides of the issue. It seemed that both the EDC and the attending students

left the room with an understanding of the proposal and its significance, but the average student seems to be relatively unaware of these developments.

The student forum took place two days before the final faculty vote. Amendments included such changes as requiring an average course load of 16 credits instead of a fixed course load, allowing courses to have a value other than four credits, increasing the credit value of science laboratories, and eliminating a portfolio requirement that demanded that students write several mission statements throughout their college career.

Although the faculty approved the proposal, there is still much work to be done. The foundational ideas of the new Rhodes curriculum will help the administration, faculty, and staff create a formal structure that will guide future Rhodes students through a hopefully more engaging educational experience.

The Class of 2010 will be the first to see the implementation of these new ideas, so no current students will actually be affected by the change. Nevertheless, it is our job as students to stay informed throughout the remainder of the process and give our input wherever appropriate. We stand on the shoulders of Rhodes students who helped to make Rhodes what it is now, and Rhodes students of the future will have no choice but to stand on ours as well.

**Want to write
news for The
Sou'wester?
Email HOPMR**

Phi Beta Kappa announces new members

The Rhodes College chapter of Phi Beta Kappa announced last week that the following students have been invited to join the society as Members-in-Course:

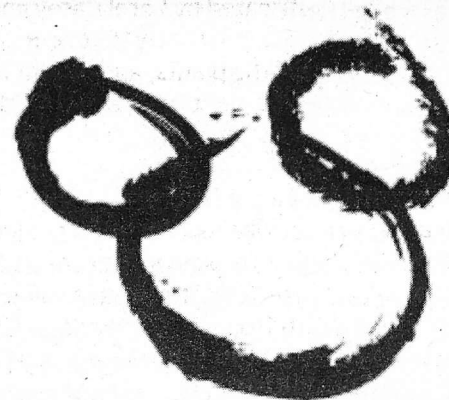
Class of 2004

Kara Bayless
Jason Brink
David Burke
Carl Carlson
Margaret Chambers
Elizabeth Coffee
Emily Costarides
Miriam Dolin
Natalie DuMont
Floyd Dunnavant
Rebecca Eza
Anna Glass
Casey Hall
Sarah Hall
Alexis Harris
Catherine Harris
Timothy Hayes
Erin Hoekstra
Mia Hood
Patricia Hughes
Kristy Kummerow

Kenneth Lamb
Michael Lyerly
Amir Paydar
Michael Phillips
John Sexton
Jonathan Spilman
Jay Sulzmann
Caroline Vance
Jennifer Vaughn
Emily Walker
Katherine Whitfield
Jesse Ziebarth

Class of 2005

Courtney Collins
Emily Furlow
Charles Hartigan
Frances Rabalais
Lisa Ulevich
Stanley Vance



Disney Career Opportunity!

Are you ready to start building your résumé and preparing for your future career? The Walt Disney World® College Program gives you the opportunity to take college-level courses for credit, network with Disney leaders and enhance your marketability in today's job market.

As a participant, you'll enjoy a social, multicultural environment with 24-hour secured housing and admission to all four Walt Disney World Theme Parks. Plus, you'll learn about next-step opportunities with The Walt Disney Company. This paid program is open to all majors and college levels. Find out more and apply online at wdwcollegeprogram.com.

Presentation attendance is required.

Rhodes College
Friday, April 23, 2004; 5:00 pm
Orgill Room



Dream It. Do It. Disney.

EOE • Drawing Creativity from Diversity • © Disney



Wednesday, April 21, 2004

PAGE 5 NEWS

CampusSafety

4.3.04-4.11.04

4/3	2:30 p.m.	Fargason field; University of Memphis, blue and gray football game, comes to an end, an estimated 4,000 people in attendance.
	7:50 p.m.	New library construction site; student was caught, attempting to climb to the top of the Barret Jr. library. Student was detained by Campus Safety officers after he came down from the building, and then turned over to Director of Campus Safety, Ralph Hatley. An incident report was filed.
4/4	4:23 p.m.	Memphis Police Department on campus to take a report concerning an off campus incident. Director of Campus Safety was notified.
4/5	10:10 a.m.	Physical Plant ground shop; larceny. chain saw; an incident report was filed.
4/6	11:52 p.m.	Memphis Police Department on campus to cite a student for speeding.
4/7	1:55 p.m.	Glassell hall; two marijuana plants confiscated by Carol Casey and Director of Campus Safety Hatley. Photos were taken of the plants, an incident report written and plants were later destroyed by Campus Safety officers.
4/8	4:20 a.m.	Easter break begins It was reported by a student that her car was broken into at the XYZ Club on Watkins. Nothing of value was taken, but the driver's side window had been broken out. Vehicle will be parked in the Robinson parking lot over Easter break.
4/9		NOTHING UNUSUAL REPORTED
4/10		Problems with the air conditioning in the computer lab. Maintenance has been made aware. Problem resolved by maintenance employee Dan Jacobs.
4/11		NOTHING UNUSUAL REPORTED

STATS:

ACCESSES: 72	VISITORS: 5,151
CITATIONS: 69	PROPPED DOORS: 2
ESCORTS: 24	JUMP: 2
BOOT: 0	TOW: 0

Forum, continued from Page 1

suitable living and working arrangements are more difficult than perhaps first anticipated. In addition, is the fact that even once these arrangements have been found, immigrants are often still in a situation where they are forced to experience poor conditions and pay. These struggles are made harder by the fact that many immigrants have poor skills in English conversation. These and other important issues were of principle concern.

The panelists were posed two main questions, the first attempted to address the obstacles that immigrants face in the workplace. The first issue identified here by former Rhodes student Bryce Ashby pay. Indeed, Ashby made reference to the fact that on many occasions immigrant workers can go for weeks without being paid and in some cases may even be issued payment which is not valid (i.e. checks that bounce). In addition, Ashby noted how workers are continually subject to exploitation and are rarely offered the same disability, liability, or insurance benefits that most native born workers in the same field enjoy.

In response to this, Reverend Rebekah Jordan suggested that one possible reason for poor conditions among immigrant workers is a lack of diversity in the workplace. Indeed, she noted how the tendency for immigrants to work under such poor conditions for low pay makes employers reluctant to hire other workers.

Moreover, though this poses obvious detriment to white or African American workers who do not get the work, it also affects the immigrants themselves. Indeed, it is likely that conditions and pay would improve considerably if more diversity were introduced into the workplace. Interesting here is the fact that, as Professor

LaRosa pointed out, immigrant workers are far more likely to experience accident or injury than American born workers due to these poor conditions. This trend may also, however, be explained by difficulties in communicating basic operating or safety instructions. The issue of language as a problem faced by immigrants in many areas of their transition was reiterated by immigrant worker Angel Gonzalez.

The second question posed to the panelists looked at the issue of documentation, and asked how being undocumented affects immigrant's experiences in society at large. Ashby in particular noted how being undocumented affects the education of immigrant children. Indeed, undocumented children are often not allowed to attend schools and those that are find themselves unable to move beyond a high school level. This lack of ability makes it difficult for immigrants to make a better life for themselves or to enact change on their immigration status.

In addition, being undocumented also affects quality of life. Indeed, illegal immigrants find it difficult to purchase property, insurance, and as Angel Gonzalez points out, face the realization that being undocumented means that should there be an accident, it is likely that no one would be notified. Reverend Jordan addresses further the emotional consequences of this fact. In particular, she notes the problematic nature of the term "illegal alien" in the way that it implies a lack of belonging.

In addition to the issues addressed by the forum, immigrants also face a number of other challenges. In 2002, the U.S Commission on Civil Rights explored various civil rights concerns facing immigrants to the United States, both legal and otherwise. Among the topics discussed

were civil rights, civil liberties, workers rights and working conditions, voting rights, and education issues. In almost all cases these issues are complicated by language. Indeed, low scores and poor testing by immigrant children in schools can be attributed to differences in language, class, and culture; poor working conditions for immigrants can also be explained by this.

More recently, the Commission proposed a multi-faceted plan to improve these areas by enacting a number of language programs across the country, noting the importance of immigrant labor to the economy. Indeed, as Reverend Jordan pointed out, the country's economy is highly dependent on immigrant workers and so this should provide incentive to work at improving these conditions.

Overall, though a number of programs have been established to aim at improving the workplace conditions and opportunities available to immigrant workers, there is a still a lot of work to be done. One complicating issue is that of illegal immigration since this not only subjects immigrants to poor conditions, but also leaves workers, legal and otherwise, in a position where they are unable to protest.

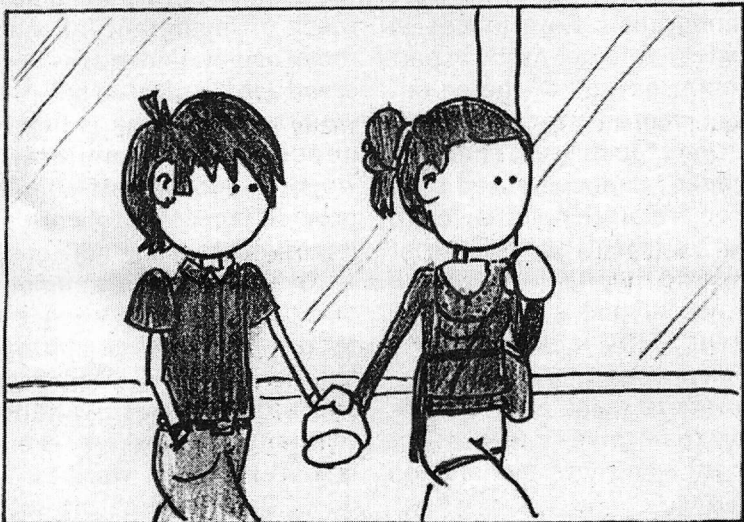
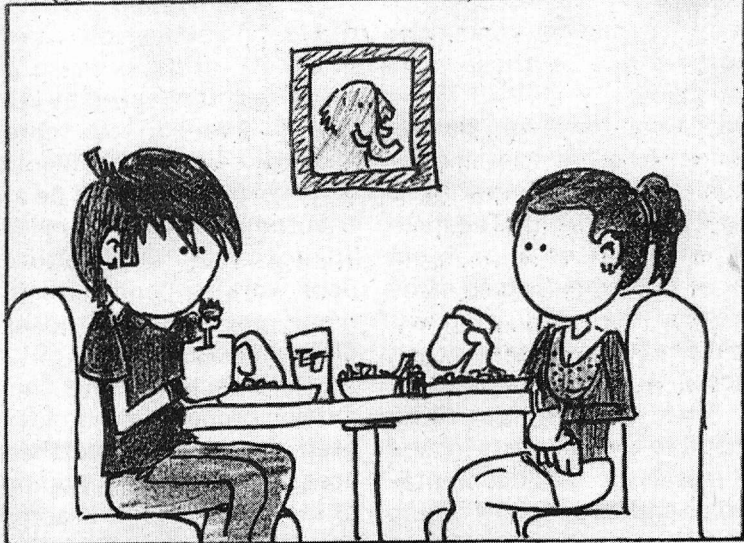
The fact is that immigrants face a number of struggles and sacrifices as they strive for a brighter future in the U.S. For the most part, however, immigrants believe that these sacrifices are worth it and they remain grateful for the opportunity to be here. This was certainly evident in comments made by Angel Gonzalez. This does not mean that we, as conscious citizens, should not retain an awareness of the issues facing immigrants, nor does it mean that we should not fight for better working conditions, not only for immigrants, but for all human beings.

Rites to Play, Saturday: 12-3 p.m.
Rites to Play Harder, Saturday:
2:30-4:30 p.m.



THIS WEEKEND

by LOGAN WHEELER



Interested in writing re-
views for The Sou'wester?
Email
KAYLA@rhodes.edu.

But whatever will I do, I am just a poor college student?

By Shelley Spring

If you've been in Java City lately during the day, you've probably noticed that the usual black screen saying "Lynx TV Channel 119" has been replaced. Now, from the hours of 1:40-4:00 on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday, and from 11:00-3:00 on Tuesday and Thursday, an actual commercial is gracing the screen. The exuberant face of Andy Greer, the befuddled confusion of Shelley Spring, and a cameo by Philip Ruppel now light up channel 119. Beginning on Summer Avenue, the commercial follows Shelley's haphazard Saturday afternoon. As a busy senior, it seems Shelley doesn't have time to save money so she can afford things. Thank goodness enthusiastic freshman and bargain hunter Andy Greer comes to her rescue time and time again to guide Shelley to locations participating in the Rhodes discount. From lunch to dry cleaning to car repair to

happy hour, the discount card covers it all.

The first location of Shelley's misfortune-turned-savings opportunity is Lenny's Sub Shop, a.k.a. chicken salad heaven on earth. With only \$5, how could anyone purchase a meal on a student's budget? As Andy points out, at Lenny's, with every purchase of a sandwich, you, yes you my freeloading friend, can get a drink and a bag of chips for free. After a satisfying meal, one would think the adventures would end there. But with the subtle slip of Philip Ruppel's hand, the shenanigans continue. After a literal and figurative journey to the dry cleaners, Shelley's joyous realization—that yes, dry cleaning is included on this discount card—is dampened by the fate of her car (but I thought she walked there....). Thanks to Andy's quick thinking, sensible financial management, and unrivaled brute

strength, Shelley's car makes it safely to Madison Automotive with the assistance of the culmination of masculinity: Philip Ruppel. While she's waiting, we can only assume that Shelley would only partake of non-alcoholic beverages at Neil's as she takes advantage of the two-for-one appetizer special.

Featuring the directional skills of Ashton Potter and Philip Ruppel, this Oscar winning performance was filmed and edited in less than three hours. Elaborate sets, props, and costumes were not used. Actual locations and current clothing styles of RSG members were utilized in filming in order to capture the reality of each situation. No acting styles or coaching techniques were employed. The card features discounts at local restaurants, movie theaters, dry cleaners and bowling alleys.

Make the most of Memphis arts in April

By Autumn Brice

IN ART:

Be sure to catch *Masters of Florence, Glory & Genius at the Court of the Medici*, part of The Pyramid's WONDERS series in Memphis. Stunning works of Renaissance painters taken from over 30 museums and collections in Italy will be on display beginning April 23; the exhibit will run until October. Call 312-9161 for more information, or visit the WONDERS website at www.wonders.org. **IN DANCE:**

Ballet on Wheels, a new classical dance studio and academy that opened in February, will participate in the Africa in April Cultural Awareness Festival. Call 870-4348 for more details, or visit www.balletonwheels.org. The

Africa in April website can be found at www.africainapril.org. The festival takes place April 22-April 25.

Ballet Memphis presents *Cinderella* May 1 and May 2 at the Orpheum Theatre. Call 737-7322 for ticket information, or visit www.balletmemphis.org. **IN MUSIC:**

The second annual Pickin' Picnic Bluegrass Festival is coming soon! This two-day festival celebrating Memphis's bluegrass heritage begins April 30. Call the Bartlett Performing Arts and Conference Center at 385-6440 for information. The BPACC can be located online at www.bpaac.org. **OTHER EVENTS:**

The South Main Association presents the South Main

Arts Festival, an all-day event that celebrates art and culture in Memphis, takes place this Saturday, April 24, from noon to 7:00 p.m. A main music stage at the National Civil Rights Museum will feature local musicians, including Voodoo Village, Charlie Wood Trio, Billy Gibson Trio, Memphis Soul Express, and Los Contadores. Street performers and art vendors will also battle for your attention at this amazing outdoor event. Restaurants in the South Main Arts District will open their doors to sell their delicious preparations on the street, and food vendors placed throughout the festival will also satisfy your cravings. Don't let this opportunity pass you by!



Wednesday, April 21, 2004

PAGE 7 SCENE

Dinner & a Movie

This week, Leah Kaye reviews Overton Square restaurant Bayou Bar and Grill, and Allison Brown reviews the comic book adaptation *Hellboy*, starring Ron Perlman and Selma Blair.

Hellboy is big on action, short on sense

By Allison Brown



Photo courtesy of www.imdb.com
RAISING HELL

Hellboy, played by Ron Perlman, fights Nazis transported from the past alongside love interest Selma Blair in *Hellboy*.

Yes, I am the same reviewer who usually pans action movies (after all, I'm the one who demanded my seven dollars back after seeing the third *Matrix* film), but this time I'm about to go against tradition and give my approval to a full-out action flick. Go see *Hellboy*. Don't think; just watch.

There are parts in the movie that make absolutely no sense, and the premise is as unfailingly corny as, well, a typical comic book, but this big-screen comic book adaptation far surpasses most of the recent films in the comic-to-cinema resurrection. The main reason for its appeal is that *Hellboy*, a lesser known superhero than, say, Daredevil or the Hulk, doesn't conform to the typical superhero cookie-cutter mold.

In the character of Hellboy, played by 53-year-old Ron Perlman, we have not simply a human who's had a convenient genetically-altered push into crime-fighting, as we so often do with superheroes; instead, we have a not-so-tiny tot who wandered out of a portal from (you guessed it) Hell during a failed Nazi experiment. Found by American and British soldiers, Hellboy is taken to America and raised by his surrogate father and mentor, the director for the FBI's Bureau for Paranormal Research, played by John Hurt.

Hellboy grows up in the Bureau tucked away from the public eye, which is probably a good thing, bearing in mind that he is about nine feet tall, the bright red hue of holiday ham, and has two things that look like miniature tree stumps coming out of his forehead where his horns used to be. He files his horns down every morning so he'll fit in better. Apparently, a bright red guy *without* horns is considerably less conspicuous than a bright red guy *with* horns. Again, don't think; just watch.

When the aforementioned Nazis find a way to catapult themselves into the present and unleash a monster/demon from inside an ancient statue, it's Hellboy and the underfunded Bureau to the rescue. Hellboy and his band of paranormal companions, namely his love interest, played by Selma

Blair, a young pyrokinetic woman whose mind accidentally lights things on fire when she gets excited, leap into action (Blair's character and Hellboy are a match made in heaven: Hellboy is, of course, fireproof).

While most of the fight scenes are obviously completely computer-generated, and the storyline is sometimes convoluted, *Hellboy* is still worth your while. It's easy to forget, among all the special effects and myriad obstacles, that you are watching a classic anti-hero story. Hellboy is the quintessential social outcast, yet he comes to the rescue of a world which knows nothing of his existence. During the many fights that ensue in this struggle, Hellboy is knocked down time and time again, but he always gets back up again, and is back in action with a crack of the neck and a smart-ass remark.

Hellboy, while it is certainly entertaining, is no exercise in intellect. If you want a movie that makes you think, or even requires that you pay attention to the plot, then save *Hellboy* for another night. If you want mindless fun and huge, elaborate action sequences, *Hellboy* is the movie for you. *Hellboy* doesn't make the mistake of taking itself too seriously, as many of the recent comic book adaptations have, and viewers shouldn't take anything too seriously, either. Again, no thinking, just watching.

Bayou Bar and Grill serves up casual Cajun

By Leah Kaye

Bayou Bar and Grill is a great "third date" location. Why the third? On the third date, you are no longer trying to impress the other; you have a pretty good idea that they are interested, and Bayou Bar and Grill presents the perfect place to have some fun in a casual environment, without cutting back on quality.

Other factors that make this suitable for a date include the close proximity to campus, in Overton Square, and happy hour weekdays from 4:00 to 7:00 p.m. The large supply of liquor behind the bar is displayed, as the dining area is very small and informal. There is also no check splitting, and the tables are all for pretty small parties, so I would recommend against choosing Bayou for lets-all-16-of-us-play-laser-tag-and-then-go-out-to-dinner parties.

The food could be described as "Cajunized" Huey's. There are lots of fried and spicy foods served in baskets, except it is a bit more expensive than we would have predicted for the quality of the entrees and their ingredients. Further, there is no lunch menu, and therefore no discount for coming during the daytime.

In fact, there may be even a greater disadvantage to eating at Bayou for lunch: the music. Rather than the anticipated Zydeco music which would have suited the atmosphere perfectly, it seemed that the TRL

pop music was coming from one of those commercial-free satellite stations: all crappy pop, all the time.

I will admit, we did not try the alligator or the duck dishes, so our meals were a bit tamer. However, they were quite satisfying: large portions, very hot food, lots of grease, hot sauce, and pickles. The fried oysters were pretty good, particularly for being served in Memphis. Also, the blackened burger was not so spicy that it overwhelmed the other flavors. There were many interesting appetizers to choose from, so count on picking something to tide you over.

The service was prompt, our food came out fast, and we never had to ask for anything. Our waiter was not overtly friendly, but he was still efficient. At least you will not catch him flirting with your date.

As we stopped in at Bayou on a dreary day, we were only able to get a glimpse of what Bayou Bar and Grill could be potentially. On a sunny Friday afternoon, I imagine it would be bliss to be sipping a mimosa outside on the patio with a few of my closest friends. Wait, is that Pink playing over the speaker? Oh, no, no; that is real Cajun Zydeco, complete with the BET Comicview Mardi Gras dancers tearing it up around me.

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 Tuesday 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, April 21, 2004

Track team competes at Vandy

By Ryan Call

Besides the slowest drive to Nashville in Rhodes track history, the Vanderbilt Invitational closed out the regular season with high performances from both the women's and men's teams. Friday night's cool air facilitated many great races for the distance squad, while the Saturday heat warmed up the sprint/field events and provided ideal conditions.

On the women's team, Corletra Mance ('05) performed well setting personal bests in the 100m (12.25) and long jump (16'8.75"). Her 100m time provisionally qualifies for nationals and ranks her 8th in the nation, while her long jump ranks her 4th in the conference.

Nation-leading 1500m runner Marie Brandeweide, raced to a personal best in both the 3000m (10:12.97) and 800m (2:15.99). Cheryl Finster ('04), led the women's distance team in the 5000 meter run with a strong performance (18:16.59), which ranks her 2nd in the conference this season.

Freshmen Jennifer Emo and Courtney Cockerell ran to personal bests (18:56.57 and 4:52.59) in the 5000m and 1500m respectively. Those performances rank them 6th and 5th in their conference events. Junior Lundy Plash ran to a personal best in the 100m hurdles (17.44) which ranks her 6th. She also recorded a personal best high jump (4'11.75") which ranks her 3rd in the conference, while Laine Royer threw the javelin 111'10" for another personal best and a 3rd place conference ranking.

The men's team also improved this weekend with many outstanding performances. Sophomore Nick Campbell recorded a personal best in the 400m hurdles (56.71). In the conference, he ranks 1st in the 100m hurdles and this past weekend's time places him 3rd in the 400m hurdles.

Cool and pleasant conditions for the 1500m led to fast races for John Mowrey (4:11.65), John Norfleet (4:14.97), and Will Sheftall (4:16.21), who each posted personal or season's best times.

However, senior Zach Glaser's 1500m race provided the most excitement. He dropped 16 seconds off his previous time and sprinted to a 2nd place conference ranking with the 3rd best time in Rhodes history (4:01.65).

The 800m race posted fast results as well: Zach Glaser (1:57.36), Joe Morris (1:58.16), and Casey Conley (1:58.97) all finished with personal bests and are now ranked in the conference top ten.

The distance squad also performed well as Scott Barrows ('07) (15:54.16) and sophomore Cookie Harrison (15:59.96) broke the 16:00 barrier and placed on the SCAC leader board in the 5000m.

Matthew Sauter ('05) ran to a personal record (9:02.13) for the 3000m. In the field events, Daniel Mack threw a season's best in the shot-put (42'3.25") which ranks him 4th in the conference.

The Rhodes track team plans to follow these excellent marks with a successful team performance at the SCAC Championship on the Georgia Tech track.

Softball improves

By Erin Chlum

The Rhodes softball team saw improvement in 2004, despite another last place finish.

The Lynx broke a two-year, 35 game losing streak in their first outings of the season beating both LeMoyné Owen College and Rust College and went on to finish 7-19.

Coach Amy Hall said, "It was really nice to see the girls pull off a win in their first day of action. It really gave the girls momentum to keep working and playing hard."

The Lynx recorded its first conference win since Feb. 17, 2002 when they defeated Hendrix 6-3 in the second game of a double header on Feb. 28.

A couple of young players helped lead the Lynx into winning territory. Cianna Pender earned SCAC Offensive Player of the Week for the week of February 15th and Kelly Goad earned the SCAC Pitcher of the Week Award for the same week.

Pender hit a home run in her first collegiate at bat to go along with two doubles in four plate appearances on the day.

In Goad's first collegiate start, she allowed only five hits and struck out 16 batters. Goad currently ranks fifth in the Southern Collegiate Athletic Conference in strikeouts and No. 26 in the NCAA Division III for strikeouts per seven innings with 7.5 strikeouts per game.

It was first time in two years a Rhodes softball player earned SCAC player of the week.

Rhodes swept three two-game season series against Rust, LeMoyné and Westminster.

After taking both ends of a double header March 22 against Westminster, the Lynx fell into a slump, losing its final 12 games.

The team capped its season this past weekend in a four-game home series against Millsaps.

The 2004 Lynx were led by captain Ashley Arnold ('04) who capped her college career with a bang getting three hits in her final games as a Lynx.

Some of the softball team stood out as team and league leaders. Captain Erin Chlum ('06), the only returning player from the 2003 team, led the team in batting average (.321) and on-base percentage (.463), while Jessika Morris ('07) led the team in slugging percentage (.416).

New assistant coaches Jane Wells and Mark Chubb helped the team's improvement in 2004. Centerfielder Martina Melliand ('06) said, "Coach Wells and Coach Chubb understood what each player needed to work on. They focused on the problem and help us to fix it. They both gave the support the team needed to encourage us throughout the year. We were better because of them."

The future looks bright for the Lynx softball program, as they only graduate one senior. With an experienced group for next season's squad the team is looking to produce a winning season.

Assistant Coach Amy Hall said, "Since we only lose one player to graduation the future looks very bright for Rhodes Softball. The nine other players coming back next year work hard and will continue to get better with experience. I'm excited to see where this team goes."

Senior equestrian competes in Alderwood jumping show

By Krysten Ivy

On April 3rd, Julie Alford ('04) represented the Rhodes Equestrian Team during the Alderwood Show at the Germantown Charity Ring. She entered two divisions, competing in a total of 6 classes.

The first division consisted of both fences and flat classes, but she chose to compete only over fences. The first of the two divisions presented 8 jumps standing at 2'3" for each class and approximately 16 riders were competing for blue ribbons.

When all three classes were finished, Julie walked away with a 5th place for under saddle and a 2nd place for equitation.

The under saddle designation describes a class where the judge is evaluating the horse's performance while the equitation classes focus on the rider's performance.

In her second division, Julie also selected the over fences classes. Approximately

10 riders were competing over 4 fences at the 2' level. Julie won both the under saddle competitions, naming her the division champion over fences. Unfortunately, she made a typically "rookie mistake" in her equitation class and was disqualified in the equitation class.

While this was Julie's first horse jumping show, she has been training with Claudia Keith, the volunteer coach for the Rhodes Equestrian Team, for about a year.