

# The Sou'wester

Rhodes College

Vol. 72, No. 4

4 PAGES



Photo by Debbie Wiener

## Mr. and Ms. Rhodes

Homecoming '85 was a wonderful occasion for everyone this year. Part of the festivities included the naming of Mr. and Ms. Rhodes. Pictured are this year's Mr. and Ms. Rhodes, Raymond Fields and Kathryn Hughes with President Daughdrill.

## An Interview With Jack Farris

### Reality Through Retrospect: Familial Or Adversarial

by Robert Finch

Last weekend was certainly a coming home for many of us, and homecomings are always accompanied by many emotions; happiness, sadness, and even bitterness.

Among the many of us present, I began to wonder exactly what some of these older, and more presigious people thought about the college today. After all, for most of us, Rhodes College represents four years of a liberal arts education. For others, and I say this with a great sense of respect, Rhodes represents a lifetime and career.

In particular, I am speaking of a recent English professor at Rhodes who has since pursued his career as a writer. In addition to his 24 years at Southwestern, Prof. Farris taught at three other academic institutions and has written several books. His most recent work, which is in the process of being published, is tentatively titled, "From Here to Sundown."

When asked about the college and his experience with academic institutions

as a whole, Farris responded, "Institutions are what they are because of the people in them. And everything one does within an institution affects others in that institution. In turn, this influences the program of that institution. In other words, the effectiveness of an institution is determined by the working order of the people within that institution."

When asked further about the working order of our academic institutions here in Memphis, Farris referred to several situations in which one might be able to better understand our community.

Approximately one year before Dr. Rhodes retired as president of the college, several faculty members petitioned for the right to examine section five of the college's bi-laws.

Section Five has to do primarily with the educational growth of the College, how the college is conducted, who made the major decisions, and what the primary aims were.

A committee was formed and discovered that virtually

all decisions concerning the college were made by either the President or the President in collaboration with the Deans. Upon this realization the newly formed committee pursued changes in Article Five of Southwestern bi-laws. These changes replaced the word dean and or president with the word faculty, in several instances; giving the faculty the authority to run the educational program. In every instance, however, final authority had to come from the Board of Trustees; just as it does today.

Just after these changes had been executed, a man by the name of David Alexander became President. Farris said, "Alexander was a free thinker with a creative intelligence, willing to examine all facets of educational growth, in which one spoke not categorically of students, faculty and administration, but rather collectively. It was a community of people working together for one goal, one cause."

The next three years,  
Continued on page 2

## Faculty Committee Votes For Two Terms

by Chris Allen

Wednesday, October 9th was a transitory day for Rhodes College. The faculty met to decide what curriculum would be most beneficial to the future of the college.

While not every faculty member saw his favorite proposal passed, after three hours of deliberation "the best decision was made," stated Dr. David Jeter, secretary of the faculty committee.

The following was voted on:

A two fourteen week term calendar taking affect in the school year '87-'88.

The number of academic hours required for a degree changed to 112 hours.

No more than 50% and no less than 25% of a student's total hours to be in the major field of study.

The Board of Trustees, scheduled to meet October 17th, will now review the faculty's decisions.

When questioned about the effects of the curriculum change on students during the three year transition period, Dr. Jeter made it clear that the faculty vote was on just a calendar change. "We were just making some general decisions. The problems that arise during the transition period will be discussed as soon as we have a base to work from."

English professor Dr. Jennifer Brady, Chemistry professor Dr. David Jeter, and Coach Gordon Ellingsworth, when asked about how the calendar change would affect them and their teaching, responded positively to the change.

Dr. Brady stated that Term 3 as it stood "lacked in intensity and enthusiasm." She went on to state that it is very difficult to perform well during two terms and then return to a third with vigor. "With the two term

system we are getting the seniors into the job market earlier," added Brady.

Dr. Jeter reflected that, although his favorite curriculum may not have been passed, he was pleased with the vote. "We will change to meet the calendar changes." What the vote did was provide a calendar that a majority of the faculty favored. "What is important is that whatever the calendar, the faculty stands behind it."

Coach Ellingsworth noted that Term 3 works out well with spring sports as it now stands, but "we can work sports around the curriculum." "I realize that Rhodes' academic excellence is most important to students. The kids that do play sports are very dedicated; I really don't see a problem whatever the calendar."

## Board Meets Today, Tomorrow

by Laura Johnson

The Rhodes College Board of Trustees will hold their annual meeting on campus on Thursday, October 17 and Friday, October 18. At Thursday's plenary session, the board will divide up into seven committees. The committees are The Board of Directors and Leadership, Development, Building and Grounds, Finance, Enrollment, Faculty and Educational Program, and Students and Campus Life.

Several items of special interest to students will be discussed in these committees. The Development Committee will tour the library and consider possible improvements. They will also work on a new ten year development campaign and vote on an expression of appreciation to Lillian and Morrie Moss for their donation to the college. The Moss endowment will provide for visiting experts and special programs in the field of visual arts.

The Building and Grounds Committee will discuss plans to renovate the gym, and to expand the Student Center and Refectory. Plans will also be made for the renovation and future use of the University and Evergreen Dormitories.

The committee on Faculty and the Education Program will vote on faculty proposals concerning the new calendar, hour limits for majors, and the possibility of changing from the course hour system to a course credit system.

The Students and Campus Life Committee will introduce the new athletic director, the new Kinney director, and the new chaplain.

On Friday the board will meet as a whole to discuss and vote on action taken by the committees. Apparently, no candidates for college. The Moss endowment will provide tenure will be considered, and no action will be taken on a "Project II."

## River Island Donated To Rhodes

by Fran Groves

Rhodes College science students may soon have the opportunity to explore nature on Spann Island, the college's own island in the Mississippi River. Jeanette Spann, class of 1930, donated 80% of the island to the college in 1983. Dean Tom Kepple is hoping to work with the Biology Department in organizing student expeditions to the area.

Located near Luxora, Arkansas, one hour from

Memphis, the 1600 acre island is only accessible by ferry. The area is uninhabited and consists primarily of flooded plains and wooded regions. Some 600 acres are currently rented to farmers who produce soybeans and cotton.

Kepple said the donation of an island was not particularly unusual.

"We have land in West Virginia, Memphis, and Ar-

kansas. The land in West Virginia is particularly valuable because it rests on coal that we may mine someday," he said.

He estimates the value of the island to be between \$800,000 and \$1 million, and said the college will eventually sell it. Kepple has planned an expedition to visit the island in November. Students interested in joining the trip should contact Jane Freeman in Administrative Services.

# News and Views

## Beyond the Ivy

Editors Note: The following are excerpts from an article in Rolling Stone written by Bret Ellis, a Senior at Bennington College in Vermont. He is the twenty-one year old author of Less Than Zero.

On his generation:

We are confused, this small group of people I'm talking about, because we don't have an identity. We're too old for the early-Eighties MTV generation. And we're too young to be grouped with the generation of mid-Seventies freshmen, the generation that makes up the late-twenties yuppie group. There was no identifiable generation between the mid-Seventies and the mid-Eighties -- there was simply this group of people who happened to come of age in a time when there was no clear cultural heritage. The late Seventies were just a mixing bowl for this burly, warped creature called the Young Conservative, who is the leading figure among college underclassmen today, right now.

On life at the Refectory:

Discussing this last term with a junior, a senior-to-be, like myself, I looked out over the crowded dining hall, and instead of seeing the blacks and grays and beiges - the mock-serious colors that had once been popular - there was a multitude of bright pinks and greens and pale blues and harsh yellows and reds and whites, the word ESPIRIT emblazoned on a lot of the girls, even some of the boys, nothing ripped or used, no Salvation Army, everyone looking unnaturally clean, boys shaven, everyone's hair combed neatly, fewer people smoking; of course, there were the two or three punks, but they were sitting in a corner, vastly outnumbered, and their efforts to define themselves seemed halfhearted compared to this new youth; even the hippies, whom there were fewer of, had cleaned up their act -- shorter hair, L.L. Bean sweaters. Looking out over all this, my friend said to me, "There are no more revels left." And if it sounded completely corny and lofty and obvious to me and if I wanted to ask him, "Well, what have they got to rebel against?" I still had to agree. I still didn't question him. I still had to nod my head.

On Student Activism:

I've talked to students at other colleges, especially politically outspoken ones such as Columbia and Oberlin and Berkeley and UCLA, and they agree that student activism has taken on a strange, pervasive party atmosphere. A keg in the name of nuclear disarmament or a keg in the name of antiapartheid or a keg for the starving masses of Ethiopia or for the prochoice movement. The one topic you'd think college students, especially males, would have protested against widely would have been the Solomon Amendment, which said that federal aid to students would be cut if they didn't register for the draft. But then, you think, who didn't register? And you have the answer. In reality, the only activists left on most college campuses are the teachers who were activists in the Sixties, who can't instill those values in a generation of students so party-close-minded.

## To The Editors:

Between noon Thursday October 3rd and 9:30 AM Saturday October 5th, my car was broken into and stolen from the Voorhies parking lot. This occurrence demonstrates the great inadequacy of our Campus Security. If indeed it was stolen at night, the North Parkway gate should have been locked. If the gate was locked, they (the thieves) would have had to go by the security hut to get off campus. This gave security a chance to stop the theft, not to mention the time in the parking lot while they broke into my car and hot wired it. I realize that there is a high auto theft rate here in Memphis, but that is no excuse for the lack of security here. Thanks to the 90% recovery rate of the Memphis Police Department, my car has been recovered with minimal damage. You might not be so lucky!!

Susan Baynham



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 Address: 2000 N. Parkway/Memphis, TN 38112 Phone: 726-EXPO

Staff Meetings are held wednesday at 6:30 P.m. in The Sou'wester office. Everyone interested is invited to attend.  
 Editorials reflect the policy of The Sou'wester as determined by its editors.

## On The Right: Republican Surge

by Matt Lembke

NOT SINCE THE PASSAGE OF THE Reagan budget and tax package in 1981 has the Republican Party enjoyed a week of major victories and shrewd political moves as that which occurred during the week of October 7. The combined effect of the bold capture of the PLO terrorists and the brilliant shift of domestic political focus from raising the debt ceiling to requiring a balanced budget has revitalized a Republican Party that had been growing very pale.

In Washington, Tip O'Neill and his legions of liberal big spenders anxiously awaited the chance to crucify the Republican Party for raising the debt limit above 2 trillion. Yet, Speaker O'Neill was strangely silent as the question came to a vote.

The reason? Two rising Republican stars, Senators Gramm and Rudman, along with conservative Democrat Fritz Hollings shrewdly attached an amendment re-

quiring a balanced budget by 1991 to the debt limit bill. In the blink of an eye, the embarrassing debt question was thrust into the background as Senate Republicans took the offensive. The flabbergasted Democrats, thoroughly outmaneuvered, tried to stem the Republican tide, but in the end, the Democrats were forced to accept the amendment. Thus, the Republicans, eyeing rapidly approaching 1986 mid-term elections, can claim a great victory on a question that had spelled electoral doom a week earlier.

The Republicans can once again, and rightly so, be seen as opponents of the massive federal deficit. The ultimate success of the new budget balancing act is a secondary concern. Of primary political importance to the Republicans was damage control, and they succeeded to an astonishing degree.

While the Republicans on the Hill were busy gaining domestic strength, the Reagan White House scored another great triumph when it engineered the capture of the Egyptian jet carrying the PLO terrorists who had taken the Achille Lauro and killed Mr. Klingoffer.

Many people at home and abroad have questioned the competence of the American military in recent years. Adding to the defeats of Vietnam, Jimmy Carter's debacle in the Iranian desert did little to bolster confidence in the American military's ability to respond to a crisis.

Mr. Reagan had promised retaliation against terrorists for many months. The problem until last week had been that no one except other terrorists could positively identify who was responsible for the violence.

Comically, hours before the successful operation, Continued on page 4

## Farris

Continued from page 1

"Were by far the most exciting years I have ever had in my association with education", Farris stated.

"The dream was alive, everyone had visions accompanied by a voice. Everyone was creative and accomodated each other. It was really more than an educational institution that operated by responsible association, it was operated by affection; people liked each other." Since the time of David Alexander, the college has had a series of presidents which forced the college to consistently change it personality. Remember, institutions are like people with personalities. Personalities and institutions can change. Change it has, and as Prof. Farris said, "Change of personality, change of direction, change of philosophy and change of tone."

"Tone is a very illusive but very useful word because it implies subtle relationships between the people, and this means all the people. When relationships are harmonious, one has a familial type tone; when relationships are in conflict or in opposition one has an adversarial type tone...But in all fairness", said Farris, "an adversarial relationship may well get things done, and even useful things that the familial tone would not or could not address."

Today, Dr. James Daughdrill serves as president of Rhodes College and has the full support from the Board of Trustees. This support is important due to its powerful nature, remember the

Board has the final say.

This arrangement enables Res. Daughdrill to directly influence the future of the college in such a way that the personality of our institution is not necessarily in many hands but rather by few.

Farris believes that the power to make educational changes no longer lies in the hands of the faculty but rather in the hands of the administration. "There has been a drift back toward administrative participation in the educational program", said Farris.

One thing that Farris referred to which gives insight into a possible adversarial type atmosphere here at Rhodes was the situation concerning tenure and SIRs.

SIRs are, as most of us know, teacher evaluations for students. Farris said that, "if, for instance, you have a professor who is untenured and that professor has the threat of certain evaluations and judgements such as SIRs, you are not only evaluating his teaching, but also directing it." The faculty resisted SIR evaluations for two or three years; they did not, however, resist evaluations. Farris said he often asked his students to evaluate his class in order to improve.

Referring to the SIRs, Farris commented that, "If a teacher is in any way compelled to teach under any kind of fear, his effectiveness in the classroom is thereby drastically reduced." At the end of four years, this reduction will show in the different type of product you have."

As Prof. Farris has said and I would like to reiterate, tone is very important. It is especially important to a College the size of Rhodes. For if it is true the ones who truly change that those with the greatest power in an institution are the ones who truly change that institution, let them also create a tone in which this change can be productive and exciting for the college as a whole!

### Faded Photos?



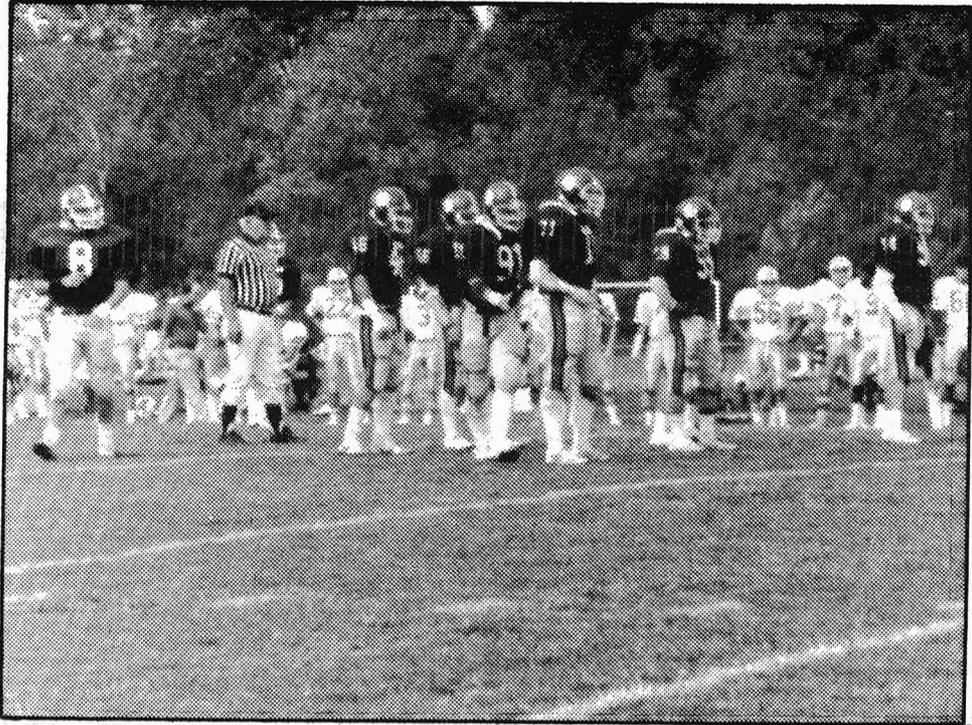
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# Sports



by Debbie Wiener

## Assault and Battery

For holding to a mere seven yards net rushing and for leading the CAC in total defense, our "Assault and Battery" defense has been named the Sou'wester's Player of the Week.

## The College Game: Going To The Dogs?

by John Campbell

When I was a kid, my dreams always were of playing the college game. I knew it took lots of practice, lots of dedication. My admiration for college athletes was infinite. Everyone in their childhood days had a favorite. College athletics brazen days are slowly evolving into a bunch of cheaters, liars, and backwards recruiters. Is cheating a bare necessity for a college team to succeed, much less compete? Something must be done to minimize these wrongful deeds. Slowly but surely the college game is losing all those admirers. No time to waste, action must be taken now.

The NCAA violations start early, as early as high school. Coaches and their recruiters swarm these blue-chip prospects. They are constantly on their backs. The recruiters seldom give the athletes time to ponder. All they do is

tell the family members that they will take care of their recruit and provide him with ample security. Why don't they tell the family and recruit that their university is currently violating NCAA rules, and that if caught are in jeopardy of an extensive probation. Well, honestly and integrity are eroding from society's values. Too many people today do whatever they can to succeed, even if they must be dishonest in doing so. Whoever is nailed for violations should be banned from the college game. These wealthy gents who slip in on practices to pay those players should never be permitted to do so. Close the practices. After all, practices are intended only for coaches and players. Open practices are a favor to the fans and press and it's a shame to close them.

Today, a college's athletic department receives a gen-

erous budget. Those powerhouse universities receive too much money. So much that they can afford to use a little on recruiting. A little on that player whose family is broke and whose father is without a job. Their income is so large that they are propelled to spend. To prevent excessive spending, cut the budget. Allow all Division I schools to maintain a moderate budget. Therefore, the colleges around the country will start each season with an equal amount of money. Television endorsements and bowl games add luster to that pot of gold. Those "extras" should indeed go back to the athletic department, for they earned it. But it should only be spent on upgrading the athletic program, not on cutting corners in recruiting. Not on buying players fancy cars and providing them with a lucrative allowance.

Continued on page 4

# Sewanee Is Right, But Rhodes Is The Winner

by Richard McNabb

Rumor has it that "Sewanee Is Right". But now we know better. So do the Sewanee fans who witnessed the destruction of their team by the keyed-up Lynx Cats. The score was 20-7. With the win, Rhodes moved to 1-1 in CAC competition and 5-1 overall. The frustrated Tigers dropped to 1-2 in the CAC and 2-3 overall. This is the first time in a long time that the Lynx have managed to defeat Sewanee two years in a row. Rhodes defeated Sewanee 38-14 last year.

Jim Hever, our top-ranked Division III placekicker, tied his school record with a 49-yard fieldgoal midway through the first quarter to open the scoring. Things were relatively quiet until the second quarter when the Tigers put together a well-educated drive which resulted in a 4-yard touchdown pass from quarterback Bobby Morales to tight end Steve Sullins. Morales then kicked the extra point. Late in the first half it was Hever again, this time scoring on a 37-yard fieldgoal. The score at halftime was 7-6 in favor of the Tigers.

The Lynx came back in the second half and took the lead for good with 9:02 left in the third quarter on a 7-yard touchdown, run by Donald Duggan. A two-point conversion attempted failed. The Lynx experienced a lot of trouble whenever they got within the Tiger twenty yard line. Fumbles and interceptions foiled three possible Lynx touchdowns. With the Sewanee passing game at full force, Rhodes 12-7 lead was indeed slim. Jim Elgin assured the victory when with 5:19 left in the game he hit junior tight end Shawn Abel on a 9-yard touchdown strike. Elgin then flipped a short pass to Ricky Preston for the two-point conversion.

This Saturday the Lynx will travel to Jackson, Tennessee for a game with the hapless Lambuth Eagles. Lambuth is in the midst of its inaugural football season and doesn't look to be much competition for the red-hot Lynx Cats. The Eagles have yet to win a game this season. The Saturday following Fall Break the Lynx will be back home to take on the very mighty Millsaps Majors.

## JC's

### Pop of the Crop

Michigan over Iowa

Arkansas over Texas

Tennessee over Alabama

Georgia over Vanderbilt

Auburn over Georgia Tech

SMU over Houston

PA State over Syracuse

Minnesota over Indiana

Colorado State over Air Force

Ohio State over Purdue

Rhodes over Lambuth

## Group Formed

by Chris Allen

Friday, October 25 marks the beginning of a unique opportunity. At 6:30 PM at the home of Don Lineback an informal Dessert-Discussion group will have its first meeting. Coordinated by senior English major Meg Beeson, the group's purpose is to allow educators to speak on various aspects of their professional research.

The first speaker will be Dr. Alan Jaslow. His topic, "Panamanian Life: Travels and Research on Amphibians and Reptiles" will be a slide presentation covering details of his research and aspects of culture in the Panama Canal.

Proposed to speak on November 8 is history professor Dr. Dennis Dickerson. English professor Cynthia Marshall is scheduled to speak on November 22.

Transportation will be

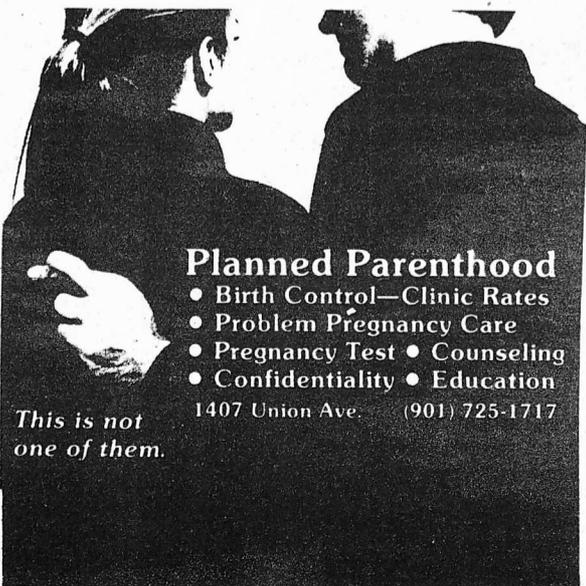
provided if needed. Plans are to leave from the rear of the Student Center at 6:15 and return no later than 8:45. A sign-up sheet will be posted in the mail room. There is a limit of 15 people for the group so it is important that you sign-up early. The deadline is 12:00 noon of the day of the meeting.

For more information contact Meg Beeson at 682-7014

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## Going To The Dogs

continued from page 3

It would take a strong watch by the NCAA to see how the money is spent, but a stern eye molds a stern product. Those who go astray are counted as lost sheep and should never be reacquired.

The college game is a great one. It hurts to see it slowly go down the tubes. Don't give in to the players. Stiffen the rules. Prosecute the violators. It is infested badly. Each season the game becomes more and

more scarred. Of course, the aforementioned suggestions can easily be avoided. Payments can be completed through postage and controlling the budget would be a tough, tight procedure.

Eventually, all the cheaters will be caught. They should be punished severely. Lies lead to more lies, honesty leads only to the truth. To those involved in the college game I say this - Be fair, be honest, but don't kiss anyone's rear.

## On The Right

continued from page 2

the great voice of the left, Dan Rather, piously proclaimed that Reagan's promise had once again gone unfulfilled.

However, through both military and diplomatic actions, the Reagan administration, led by the much maligned Defense Secretary Caspar Weinberger, proved to the world that the great American giants will not stand still in the wake of calculated murder. The action also showed that our high cost defense systems do work.

This victory is another in a string of Reagan moves

that have restored American pride. The Republican Party as a whole is sure to benefit from Reagan's bold action.

As Dan Rather said the day after the PLO terrorist capture, "What a difference a day makes." Yes, Dan, in just a few days, the Republican Party and President Reagan shifted course. The steady stream of setbacks ended abruptly, and the Party's prospects for 1986 and beyond seem infinitely more hopeful. These developments can offer little comfort to the Democrats.

Bravo, Mr. President.

## Scritti Currenti

by David Peterson

In an effort to promote creativity on campus, Currents last week sponsored a "write-in" by which students' thoughts might have an outlet.

A large blank banner was provided in the amphitheater on which students were encouraged to "write a profundity" and perhaps send another one in for publication in the fall issue of the literary magazine. For those who missed the thought-provoking ideas of the student body, below are a few excerpts:

On the lighter side...

"A profundity"

"Beat me, whip me, call me Edna"

"Roses are red/violets are

blue/I'm schizophrenic/And so am I"

The truly Profound...

"There's at least one prophet for every conceivable outcome"

"It's later than ever before"

"Life is only as hard as you make it"

"What is man?"

"If you don't play the game, you burn"

"You can't live without life"

"No matter where you go, there you are"--Buckaroo

Bonzai and Kathryn

The poetic...

"You were born/and so you're free/so happy birthday"--L Anderson

"Words, what are they? One tear can say more than all of them"

"I need somebody to tell me something new. Otherwise I might as well just swallow

away in self-pity, with only the faintest hope of a triumphant escape"--All Fall Out

"Fighting for peace is like making love for virginity"

"Castles made of sand fall into the sea eventually"

The bizarre...

"Brad Moody loves Kathryn Butcher"

"Furthermore, angels are smarter than we"

"...Mr. Abercrombie, you simply cannot bring penguins into the lobby," said

the nervous Maitre d'. /'Hawley-Smoot!' exclaimed Abercrombie, much taken aback..."

And perhaps the most thought-provoking of all, either celebrating mankind's attempts to strive for the highest goals or condemning the relentless selfish pursuit of the "Me generation" in this, the age of materialism...

"Get you some"

Currents encourages the student body to contribute artwork and literary works to Box BD by October 25 for the fall issue of the magazine. While all works must be signed, anonymity will be ensured if requested.

## Corrections For Last Week

The last paragraph of the Publicity Story should have been at the top of the second column.

The sentence beginning with Economic Pressure in from the left should have read: economic pressures, from within and without South Africa, could prove an effective means if inducement. Black boycotts of white businesses have already demonstrated this.

On page 6, the second paragraph in the continuation of From the Left should begin with: Lembke's article suggests that...

Credit to Sue Gibson for Memphis photo

## Express Yourself

Write A



Letter To The Editors

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FEDERAL EXPRESS - HUB: REQUIREMENTS:

Work hours - 11:30 PM - 3:30 AM Must be a freshman, Sophomore or Junior; taking a minimum of 12 credit hours; minimum 2.0 G.P.A.; no late evening commitments; ability to lift 70 pounds.

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Other part-time job opportunities are listed in the Counseling and Placement Center.

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