



Pumpkins were smashed.
Check out the aftermath.

See Page 7

October 31, 2007

The Weekly Student Newspaper of Rhodes College

New direction for CODA Talabani to discuss today's Iraq

By Jo O'Connor
Executive Assistant

CODA, or the Center for Outreach in the Development of the Arts, held the CODA Arts Leadership: New Directions Conference on Thursday, October 25. The convention gathered artists, consultants, and patrons from across the country to sit in on sessions that focused on current art issues, strategies for development, and pathways to careers in art. Many major members of the art community also presented, including John Abodeely and Rebecca Borden from Americans for the Arts, Karleen Gardner (Curator of Education at the Memphis Brooks Museum), and several representatives from college and university art programs. At lunchtime, there was an Arts Information Fair; some of the local arts representatives were Arts Memphis, Lantana Projects, Voices of the South, Media Co-op, Opera Memphis, Ballet Memphis, Folk Alliance, Recording Academy, Heart of the Arts, Memphis Symphony Orchestra, Brooks Museum, and Playhouse on the Square.

"The 2007 CODA Arts Leadership: New Directions conference on Thursday, the 25th of October, drew a lot of attention nationwide from other universities interested in learning more about how CODA, is integrating the arts into broader curricula and its arts leadership through service model," said CODA Assistant Director John Weeden. Covered in everything from the local Commercial Appeal to the national liberal arts college news site CollegeNews.org, the conference has indeed gained plenty of notice from those interested in art advocacy and its cultural influence.

"The Role of the Arts in Building Creative Communities" was the topic of this year's conference, as well as the topic for the primary presentation by



Photo Courtesy of John Weeden

Andrew Whaley speaks at the CODA leadership conference

Dr. Steven Tepper, associate director of the Curb Center for Art, Enterprise, and Public Policy and assistant professor of sociology at Vanderbilt. Dr. Tepper, who has a master's degree in public policy from Harvard and a Ph.D. in sociology from Princeton, is the author of numerous articles on cultural consumption patterns, the art sociology, and cultural policy. His past occupations include deputy director of the Princeton University Center for Arts and Cultural Policy Studies and consultant to the National Humanities Center, the American Academy of Arts and Sciences, and the National Assembly of State Arts Agencies.

Thanks to a grant by from the Robert and Ruby Priddy Charitable Trust, CODA continues to increase awareness of the arts community. The seminar's combination of panel discussions, strategy workshops, sharing of best practices, an arts fair, receptions and a banquet not only served to inform, but to connect those passionate about art development as a whole. It was, in the words of Weeden, "a public gathering--a gathering of minds and a gathering of passions."



Photo Courtesy of John Weeden

Rhodes students were invited to take part in the discussions.

By Avery Pribila
News Editor

On Friday, November 2, Iraqi Kurdish official Qubad Talabani will present a lecture entitled "The Other Iraq." Talabani's lecture will be held in Blount Auditorium at 5:00 p.m. The event, sponsored by the Rhodes International Studies Department, is free and open to the public.

Talabani is the United States

Representative of the Kurdistan Regional Government of Iraq, and son of the current President of Iraq, Jalal Talabani. Talabani, who currently resides in Washington, previously represented the Patriotic Union of Kurdistan in the United States. Talabani played a key role as a negotiator of the Transitional Administrative Law, the first constitution in Iraq after Saddam. He has ap-

peared on several major media networks, including CNN and the BBC to discuss Iraqi and Kurdish issues. He also served as a Senior Foreign Relations officer for the Kurdistan Regional Government following Operation Iraqi Freedom in 2003, where he worked closely with the United States-directed Coalition Office of Reconstruction and Humanitarian Assistance.

Barnett critiques War on Drugs

By Woody Lawson
News Columnist

As part of Peace and Justice week, Earl Barnett from Law Enforcement Against Prohibition (LEAP) spoke to Rhodes Students last Tuesday, October 23. Mr. Barnett is a retired major from the police force and a former U.S. Marine Corps veteran. Mr. Barnett has traveled extensively to such locales as Northern Thailand, Afghanistan, and Colombia. Mr. Barnett is uniquely qualified to speak about the War on Drugs. He made sure to stress that LEAP does not condone drug use. Following Mr. Barnett's introduction, he proceeded to give a superb criticism of drug prohibition.

Why has legalization not occurred? First, the political base does not exist. There are not enough politicians willing to support legalization. Second, people fear the unknown. Third, the commerce clause and the Harrison Act provide a loose justification for the War on Drugs. *Wickard v. Filburn* (1942) allows Congress to intervene.

Why should the War on Drugs be stopped? According to a UN study, the international drug trade accounts for 8% of the international market (\$400 billion a year). The weeds drugs are derived from have little or no value, but an ounce of marijuana is worth more than an ounce of gold, and an ounce of heroin is worth more than an ounce of uranium. The price of drugs increases 17,000 percent from where they are grown in Afghanistan and Columbia to where they are sold in Los Angeles or New York. Additionally, because there are more drug patrols, dealers have been forced to increase the potency of drugs in order to reduce the size of the shipments. All this could be eliminated if drugs were regulated.

Despite stringent punishments,

the U.S. government can only produce more numbers. They cannot prevent arrests, deaths, and addictions. The "collateral damage," (the government phrase) caused by the War on Drugs has killed many innocents due to misinformation and mistakes. According to Barnett, the government philosophy could be interpreted as "we can kill you to protect you." These draconian policies have not prevented cartels from being able to sell in every American community.

As a result of drug war policies, the U.S. now has a massive prison population. In fact, 22.5% of the world's inmates are incarcerated in U.S. prisons. Arrests have quadrupled since the 1970s, contradicting the established belief that harsher punishments would scare away users. Why is this? Arresting a robber or rapist stops robberies and rapes, but arresting a drug dealer only creates a job opening.

Barnett also pointed out that evidence exists that the War on Drugs also perpetuates institutionalized racism. A disproportionate number of minorities are imprisoned. In a 1998 Federal Household Survey, whites constituted 72% of all drug users in the U.S., while blacks constituted 13.5%. However, blacks are 37% of

those arrested for drug violations. In fact, of the entire prison population arrested for drug violations, 42% are black. Compare those figures to those of South Africa's Apartheid law. For every 100,000 people, 851 black men were imprisoned in South Africa. Here in the United States, 717 white men are imprisoned, but 4,919 black men are imprisoned for every 100,000. This isn't surprising if one remembers the original congressional hearing on drug illegalization. Those congressmen decided to, according to Barnett, "control minority misbehavior," particularly "black jazz players and Mexicans," through arrests.

Why should legalization occur? Barnett explained that, first and foremost, treatment is cheaper than incarceration. Money from the War on Drugs (\$69 billion a year) could be reinvested into treatment options. Moreover, there are 1.9 million arrested each year for nonviolent drug crimes. Viewing it from another perspective, there are now more prisoners than there were slaves in the U.S. before the Civil War. Each of these prisoners works for private corporate interests for anywhere from 16 to 20 cents an hour. Owners of prisons have hired lobbyists to demand longer mandatory prison sentences.

Events promote disability awareness

By William Bruce
Executive Assistant

This week, Rhodes Student Disability Services is sponsoring the first Disability Awareness Week. Over the course of the week, several events and displays will take place with the intention of exhibiting the services Rhodes College offers to students with disabilities, as well as promoting other related information to the campus community.

Disability Services' main goal

is to provide qualified students the means to succeed in college, despite any disabilities they may have. Over the years, the program has worked to allow equal opportunity to disabled students to engage in all the courses, facilities, and jobs available through the college. The program also calls for certain services needed by disabled students based on what disability they have. Some aid comes in the form of: books on

Disability, continued on Page 4

The bells are ringing, but will we respond?

By Joe Cody

There is a serious crisis within the classrooms at Rhodes College that is hampering your education. This problem has infected every building and classroom at Rhodes and prevents the intelligent discussion of students eager to learn. This issue is the hampered free speech within the classroom and the attack mentality against those who speak out and challenge the norm. For some reason, at Rhodes College it has become taboo and downright intimidating for a student to question such topics as feminism, race relations, and fringe politics.

Every student has experienced a situation where a topic such as race relations or feminism is broached, and when the professor asks for insight or questions, no one responds. Crickets chirp as the professor waits idly for someone to speak up. But no one does, and I will tell you why. They are scared to speak up. They are afraid of the backlash their classmates might bring upon them for speaking up. People are afraid to discuss these topics now. This is the crisis infecting our academic institution, the crisis that is debilitating to our education, especially at a liberal arts college like Rhodes.

In order for students, professors, intellectuals, etc. to truly understand subject matter, it must be totally deconstructed, and all views must be examined. This means some unpleasant matter must be confronted, and even though you may not like it, it is necessary—because only through this process can true learning occur. In order

to understand the Civil Rights movement, you must understand Jim Crow laws and the beliefs of those men who were responsible for writing those laws, even if their racism is downright sickening. In order to understand the growth of the feminist movement, you must examine the culture that preceded it, and the chauvinistic attitudes that permeated culture must be seen. The problem is, people do not want to examine these.

discussion. They belittle those who ask the hard questions. They verbally thrash opposing points of view without challenging or reconsidering their own. They insult, they ignore, they interrupt those who may not understand their point of view and think less of them for not believing as they do.

This is neither a partisan argument nor an indictment on any single person or party, and

“In order for students, professors, intellectuals, etc. to truly understand subject matter, it must be totally deconstructed, and all views must be examined. This means some unpleasant matter must be confronted, and even though you may not like it, it is necessary—because only through this process can true learning occur.”

They do not want to hear what offends them or what they do not believe in. They do not want to ask the questions that were offered in response to any given topic. They do not want to hear what other people have to say, or examine other points of view. Instead, they attack those who offer up

many of us are guilty of it; however, it is an alarm bell that must be sounded. It is the siren that has been wailing for sometime in academia but no one has wanted to respond to it or acknowledge it. It is the crisis that prevents you and me from receiving the best liberal arts education possible.

The importance of being civil

By Regina Simmons
Associate Director of Res-Life

This year, the Residence Life Office has adopted a new mission statement. “Learn. Engage. Challenge. Grow.” We have also redefined our goals. One of which is *to create an atmosphere of civility, where self-responsibility and mutual respect are not only encouraged, but expected.* To this end, we desire to let the residential community know why we will stress civility.

I suppose the notion of civility at Rhodes goes back to Community Day, the time during New Student Orientation when you hear about The Codes. That day culminates in signing the pledge to adhere to and uphold the Honor Code, Social Regulations Code and Commitment to Diversity. However, Community Day starts with the reading of a two-page article by Gary Pavela titled “Civility and Student Life.”

Pavela’s article is aimed at creating discussion about why we should be civil, not merely focusing on the definition. Just so we are all on the same page, the Residence Life Office defines civility as demonstrating self-respon-

sibility and mutual respect. So, the question remains, “why be civil?”

Some would say that the reason(s) to be civil revert back to the Golden Rule or even mere courtesy. But I believe there is a deeper reason. Pavela asserts that we are civil because

that, I believe, stretches us and teaches us.

Allow me a moment to tie this into the residential place of learning with an example. Rather than calling your RA when your neighbor is being excessively noisy, the notion of civility demands that you, first, ask

“Rather than calling your RA when your neighbor is being excessively noisy, the notion of civility demands that you, first, ask your neighbor to respect your desire to sleep, study, meditate, etc.”

“our nature is to create something greater than ourselves.” Yes, I want to leave this place better than I found it. Beyond that, embracing civility creates a constant awareness of others. And,

your neighbor to respect your desire to sleep, study, meditate, etc. The RA does not ignore the call for help, but empowers the residents to take responsibility of their living environment. Should you be nervous, the RA will support you, coach you and even go with you, but you will first ask your neighbor to respect your request. Opportunities for civility extend beyond noise and into the many interactions that you share with those you live close to and interact with daily.

The RA is your ally. They are the next line of action. But the first step lies with you. And, this goes for giving and receiving feedback from those who live around you. We ask that you take ownership over your living areas. Be civil and expect civility in return.

THE SOU'WESTER

Editor-In-Chief
Ford Porter

Associate and Layout Editor
Daniel Jacobs

News Editor
Avery Pribila

Opinion Editor
Nate Maxwell

Entertainment Editor
Adam Teer

Sports Editor
Andrew Skrzat

Copy Editor
Kristen DeLuca

Photography Editor
Gwen Weil

Online Editor
Holly James

Business Manager
Sara Haney

Staff Writer Chief
Kate Mara

Assistant Layout Editor
Lee Bryant

Executive Assistants
Jennifer O'Connor
William Bruce

How to Reach Our Authors and Us

As the official newspaper of Rhodes College, *The Sou'wester* is produced entirely by 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.

The Sou'wester is a member of the Student Publications Board, a three-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, but cannot exceed 350 words; all letters must be signed and will be edited for clarity.

Reaching *The Sou'wester*

Phone: (901) 843-3402
Fax: (901) 843-3409
E-mail: souwester@rhodes.edu
Address: Rhodes Box 3010
The Sou'wester
2000 North Parkway
Memphis, TN 38112-1690



ASSOCIATED
COLLEGIATE
PRESS

Have an opinion?
Of course you do!

So you should write for the Opinion section.
For more info contact Nate Maxwell at maxwn.

Can I say that? It is time for students to decide

By Douglas Lensing
President of Rhodes
Student Government

Every single day on this campus, Rhodes students hear something that offends them and, depending on the situation, their academic pursuit could be affected negatively. Does offense really threaten the academic pursuit, though? When someone is denied the ability to participate in the academic process by a statement threatened by a fellow student, the offender's words should thereby be grounds for punishment because it is harassment not because it is offensive. Most students would agree that this regulation is sufficient to ensure dignified discussion in each student's academic pursuit. It is important, though, to consider the negative effects such regulations can have on the campus climate, when applied broadly.

At the other end of the spectrum, every single day on this campus, many Rhodes students desire to say something, but choose to hold back out of fear of reprimand or punishment. They fear offending though they do not intend to offend. Most people would agree that if one is holding back comments in an academic discussion (no matter how uninformed they are), it inhibits the potential for academic growth. The two sides of this issue have been presented to me and all of Student Government through conversations with several students. The question is now: what is more important to us, Rhodes students, protection against offense or protection for even offensive opinions for the sake of academic freedom? Our task is to present the question to all of the students in order to develop a unified consensus among us. For there is no better way to graduate stu-

dents with a lifelong passion for learning then our students, motivated by their own interests, developing a consensus on the perennial controversy of free speech.

I will concede that Student Government and most students have a lot of learning to do about the effects of offensive or hate speech on the academic environment. Hateful words can have such a negative ef-

fect on people which might make them feel so uncomfortable as to discourage them from attending a class or participating in discussions. Former Stanford University Law Professor, Charles R. Lawrence III, argues that "We must eschew abstractions of first amendment theory that proceed without attention to the dysfunction in the marketplace of ideas created by racism and unequal access to that market". Professor Lawrence is saying that we must be aware that a free marketplace of ideas is not free when someone says something racist (in this case) for those offended will not want or feel comfortable responding for many reasons. Rhodes students have all been in

a class when someone says something that strikes a nerve, which flusters the class, and throws discussion off track. Most of us would agree that this is undesirable; but should we adopt policies that aim to prevent or punish it?

It seems to me that Student Government and our students also have a great deal to learn about the necessity for open

discourse in an academic setting. Some say, we must be careful when the choice is made to restrict speech to prevent members of a group from being offended. The word for this sentiment is "viewpoint discrimination". The Foundation for Individual Rights in Education's (FIRE) [Guide to Free Speech on Campus](#), explains "Viewpoint discrimination is prohibited, however, not only by the First Amendment but also by the Fourteenth Amendment's guarantee of 'equal protection of the laws,' which requires that the government apply the same rules equally to people in similar circumstances". This indicates that we owe it the Constitution, but more importantly,

to our pursuit of academic excellence that we hear all sides of an argument even if it is offensive. Unless one believes that a perfect filter can be created, one that prevents only hateful and worthless opinions from being expressed, then it seems that an academic community must err on the side of free expression and pay the price (which is a real one) of accepting that feelings will occasionally be hurt.

Knowing all the perspectives on the issue of campus speech will take more research, more conversation and more commitment from Rhodes students, before we can hope to reach any consensus. It is a complex issue. Better understanding can be found if Rhodes students commit themselves to that task. Rhodes Student Government along with the new organization Project Pericles will, over the course of this academic year, offer several settings to discuss freedom of speech. The first of these will be on November 14, 2007 in the Lynx Lair at 8:00 p.m. The purpose of this forum is for students to discuss what they think about student speech at Rhodes in a casual setting. Along with the forum, RSG is forming an ad hoc committee to continue this discussion with the leadership in our student organizations. The purpose of this committee will be to debate this controversial issue in hopes of forming some consensus among organizations about student speech at Rhodes. RSG will also sponsor a few speakers who have a specialized interest in this issue, and who are committed to helping students resolve it in an enlightened way.

The question of free speech at Rhodes is complex, but the force of the opinion of our students will undoubtedly form an answer.

"Unless one believes that a perfect filter can be created, one that prevents only hateful and worthless opinions from being expressed, then it seems that an academic community must err on the side of free expression and pay the price (which is a real one) of accepting that feelings will occasionally be hurt."

discourse in an academic setting. Some say, we must be careful when the choice is made to restrict speech to prevent members of a group from being offended. The word for this sentiment is "viewpoint discrimination". The Foundation for Individual Rights in Education's (FIRE) [Guide to Free Speech on Campus](#), explains "Viewpoint discrimination is prohibited, however, not only by the First Amendment but also by the Fourteenth Amendment's guarantee of 'equal protection of the laws,' which requires that the government apply the same rules equally to people in similar circumstances". This indicates that we owe it the Constitution, but more importantly,

discourse in an academic setting. Some say, we must be careful when the choice is made to restrict speech to prevent members of a group from being offended. The word for this sentiment is "viewpoint discrimination". The Foundation for Individual Rights in Education's (FIRE) [Guide to Free Speech on Campus](#), explains "Viewpoint discrimination is prohibited, however, not only by the First Amendment but also by the Fourteenth Amendment's guarantee of 'equal protection of the laws,' which requires that the government apply the same rules equally to people in similar circumstances". This indicates that we owe it the Constitution, but more importantly,

If we do nothing, the "terrorists" win

By Philip Kovacic

Semantics aside, the classification of what a mercenary "is" or "is not" is really irrelevant. As the disastrous, illegal, and immoral war in Iraq continues to sputter, the reality of our presence, whether official or contracted, becomes equally egregious. While international law may define a mercenary on strict grounds, the reality is that those who fight for organizations like Blackwater USA, do just that—they fight for the company that pays their salary.

According to the American Heritage Dictionary, a mercenary is classified as someone who is "motivated solely by a desire for monetary or material gain." I remind readers that while Blackwater employs a significant number of ex-military personnel, I doubt these "veterans" would volunteer to serve America in a contract similar to that of a United States soldier. These men and women are motivated by pay that is six times higher than the average U.S. soldier's pay, not by a desire to serve their country. In fact, according to a Reuters article from October 17, Blackwater received over \$600 million federal dollars in 2006 for defense contracts in Iraq.

Subcontracting governmental duty in Iraq presents an ethical conundrum. Readers need to be made aware that this is not the first time contracted employees

The ratified Uniform Code of Military Justice supposedly ensures legal accountability for action abroad by contracted personnel. In reality, this change in policy

contractors," a similarly fruitless semantic argument has allowed murderers to escape justice.

The reality in Iraq is life and death. As the touted "greatest" country on Earth, citizens of the United States must ask: do our actions fit our supposed greatness? The burdensome reality in Iraq is that in the failings of this war, we have failed as a country. We have failed to provide a definition of torture, we have failed to empower the Iraqi people, we have failed to find weapons of mass destruction, we have failed to allow Americans their right to privacy, we have failed to treat our global neighbors as ourselves, we have defied our claim to greatness, we have demonized Islam, and as of last week we began beating the war drums for yet another conflict in Iran. The actions of our country have real consequences for both our international legitimacy and for the countless innocent civilians murdered by trigger-happy murderers we call "contractors." Martin Luther King Jr. had it right when he noted that true peace demands peaceful means to attain peaceful ends.

"The reality in Iraq is life and death. As the touted "greatest" country on Earth, citizens of the United States must ask: do our actions fit our supposed greatness? The burdensome reality in Iraq is that in the failings of this war, we have failed as a country."

have been implicated in excessive and grotesque behavior. During the Abu Ghraib prison torture scandal, contracted employees working as interrogators were photographed committing the same atrocities as American military personnel.

The foundational issue with private security is that the men and women employed live largely in limbo above the law.

only applies to those currently employed by the Defense Department. While the estimated number of private contractors in Iraq is 160,000, the Defense Department only employs 7,300 contractors (none of whom are directly employed by Blackwater). Furthermore, since, according to Reuters, those employed by Blackwater are "civilians" and not "defense department

Student Voice

In the spirit of the SPS pumpkin drop, what would you like to see frozen and thrown off a building?



“A processed turkey.”
-Michael Towle ('08)



“A Christmas tree with ornaments on it.”
-Anna Moak ('10)



“Econ 101.”
-Daniel Sturtevant ('08)



“Homework.”
-Olivia Ryan ('11)



“The St. Louis Blues.”
-Patrick Kerwick ('11)

Nothing to Hide at Rhodes

By Rachel Quisenberry

Monday was opening date of the *Nothing to Hide: Family Diversity* Photo Exhibit in Barret 051. The purpose of the exhibit is to promote education concerning mental illnesses and to attempt to eradicate stigmas and stereotypes placed upon the mentally ill. People are not always treated well now, often by friends and family, sometimes by healthcare providers, and even by themselves. If those affected by mental illnesses knew more about their conditions and the medical and psychiatric treatments offered, then they would be able to function more easily in everyday society. Unfortunately, many do not know about or truly understand mental illnesses.

The exhibit was laid out like displays in a museum. A number of professional photographs were laid out along two rows of tables. Most photographs had two or three texts clustered around each of them. These texts were excerpts from interviews, reprinted and displayed with permission from the speakers. Many of these speakers either had some kind of mental condition themselves or were closely connected to someone with a mental illness.

While difficult to walk around and read every single testimony, it is well worth one's time. Each speaker had a very unique perspective on his or her situation, even though many were afflicted by the same mental illnesses. Among the conditions mentioned were major depression, obsessive-compulsive disorder, schizophrenia, bipolar disorder, and schizo-affective disorder, which is a combination of the previous two. The emotions expressed in reaction to these conditions, however, were even more diverse.

To give an example, one woman described how bipolar disorder affected her so badly that she had



WILLIAM BRUCE/The Sou'wester

Nothing to Hide, a photo exhibit sponsored by the Rhodes counseling center, promotes awareness of mental illness.

to stop working, but in the end she said that she started taking lithium and helping herself, and now she lives a relatively normal life. On the other hand, a mother who taught preschool testified, as she found out a few years after starting work, that her boss would not have hired her had her boss known she had cyclical depression.

As Rob Dove—who works at the counseling center in the Moore Moore building—pointed out when speaking to a group of visitors Monday night, the stories are not like that in *Pollyanna*. Things do not necessarily end well and with everyone singing “Kumbaya” together. But, as he said, they do leave one with a glimmer of hope. That hope he spoke about seems to relate directly to the mission statement of the exhibit.

Organizations like Family Diversity Projects, Inc.—which created the *Nothing to Hide* exhibition—hope to gain headway on educating the public about

disabilities. However, they cannot accomplish this goal alone. To find out more about diversity and disability awareness, visit their website at <http://www.familydiv.org/>. To hear more about the *Nothing to Hide: Family Diversity* Photo Exhibit specifically, visit <http://www.familydiv.org/nothingtohide.php>. This site also has a link to order the *Nothing to Hide: Mental Illness in the Family* companion book. Readers may contact Chenobia Webster at websterc@rhodes.edu for more information.

Monday night and Tuesday night, the exhibit was tucked away in room 051 on the lower floor of Barret Library. Despite a slight neglect in advertising, a surprising number of students found their way on Monday night to stop by and browse through the displays. *Nothing to Hide* will be on display in Middle Ground from 9am to 6pm every day this week beginning today, Wednesday. The last day for viewing will be Friday, November 2.

Disability, continued from Page 1

tape, extended time on exams, and captions for films, in addition to the personal attention granted to each registered student.

Currently 6% of the student body has registered as having some form of physical or mental illness, and Melissa Butler McCowen, coordinator of Disability Services, argues this to be an issue. “6% is by no means the entire population of disabled students,” stated McCowen, and the program can only offer aid to those who have registered. “Many people have different reasons for not registering for the program,” McCowen says, “fear of

exposing themselves is a strong influence. Most have unseen disabilities, such as depression or ADHD, and this makes it all the harder to identify.” Disability awareness week seeks to help resolve this issue.

The first event of disability awareness was week called *Nothing to Hide: Mental Illness in the Family*, and took place Monday-Wednesday (October 29-31). Rob Dove, director of student counseling, claims this event to be just as important to students with disabilities as it is to those without them. “People attach a stereotype to the population of the disabled and this showing seeks to remedy that issue, that way more will be willing to seek help,”

said Dove. He indicated how these events, “are designed to enlighten students to the idea that unseen disabilities can be as devastating as physical ones.” Additional events and details of the week can be found under *Daily Announcements*; some include trivia, demonstrations, and other exhibits.

Statistics indicate that currently 1 in 4 adults suffers from some form of mental illness, and by 2010, 1 in 3 will have a disability. “This week will set the bar for the program next year,” said McCowen, who also pushes the need for disability awareness week now more than ever.

CAMPUS SAFETY

October 21 – 28

10/21
3:50 pm: Door alarm in Barret Library set off by persons exiting a fire door. Alarm reset.

10/22
Nothing unusual to report.

10/23
6:43 am: Member of physical plant reporting the displacement of computers in the language lab in Buckman. Campus Safety discovered computers moved to accommodate a party.
9:57 am: Channel 13 on campus; directed to the Barret Library.
5:17 pm: Campus Safety collected an abandoned red mountain bike left by the Bailey Lane entrance. Item documented, tagged and placed in storage.

10/24
Nothing unusual to report.

10/25
5:18 am: Housekeeping reported to Campus Safety that a female student, who resides off campus, was asleep at the wheel in the freshman parking lot. Student assisted.
7:19 am: Light pole adjacent to the tennis courts, on the air strip, struck by a vehicle. Incident documented on video surveillance, investigated and driver located.
3:35 pm: Fire alarm Robinson; fire department in route. Campus Safety and RA on the scene; students had burnt something in the microwave.
3:50 pm: MFD on location; false alarm. Students allowed back into the building; alarm reset.
11:05 pm: Report of a strong odor of marijuana coming from 1st floor Voorhies. Officers dispatched. Incident documented.

10/26
12:09 pm: Fire alarm, Haliburton Tower; faulty smoke detector. Physical plant made aware.

10/27
2:00 am: All designated fraternity parties shut down for the morning.
7:21 pm: Report of a rodent running amuck in the social room of Robb Hall. Campus Safety responded; rodent in custody.
11:33 pm: Campus Safety assisted a resident on Snowden near McLean. Resident's vehicle had been vandalized, with several items taken from the inside of the vehicle and the trunk. MPD notified; will file a city report.

10/28
1:28 am: MPD patrolling the outer streets and alley ways.
6:15 am: Student found asleep at the wheel with his vehicle running in the Mallory parking lot; student resides off campus. Subject's car turned off and secured, and student escorted to his residence.



Photo Courtesy of Amy Ross

Over 90 Rhodes faculty, students and staff took part in the 5K Race for the Cure.

Rhodes team raced for the cure

By Amy Ross

This past Saturday, October 27th, over 90 Rhodes students, faculty, and staff participated in the Susan G. Komen Race for the Cure. The 5K walk/run is an inspiration to many who have been affected by breast cancer or know someone who has been affected. The Rhodes group was just a handful of the over 14,000 participants in this year's Midsouth Race for the Cure.

The Susan G. Komen Race for the Cure is one of the largest fundraisers for the Susan G. Komen for the Cure foundation. The foundation was started when Nancy G. Brinker promised her dying sister, Susan G. Komen, that she would do everything in her power to end breast cancer. Suzy was just 36 years old when she died of breast cancer. At that time, breast cancer was rarely discussed in public, and little was known about the disease. In 1982, that promise became Susan G. Komen for the Cure and launched the global breast cancer movement. Today, Komen for the Cure is the world's largest grassroots network of breast cancer survivors and activists fighting to save lives, empower people, ensure quality care for all, and energize science to find the cure. Thanks to events like the Komen Race for the Cure, the foundation has invested nearly \$1 billion toward fulfilling its promise and becoming the largest source of nonprofit funds dedicated to the fight against breast cancer in the world. The following timeline shows the incredible growth of the Race for the Cure in the past 24 years.

- 1983: First Race in Dallas, Texas with 800 runners.
- 1986: First Race outside of Dallas held in Peoria, Illinois, the birthplace of Suzy Komen.
- 1990: First co-ed Race in Wichita, Kansas. First National Race for the Cure in Washington, DC. Pink ribbons distributed to recognize breast cancer survivors.
- 1995: Race events are held in 57 U.S. cities.
- 1998: First Race event outside of the U.S. in Costa Rica. The National Race for the Cure becomes and remains the largest registered 5k in the world.
- 2000: First international Affiliate-hosted Komen Race for the Cure® in Rome, Italy. More

than a million people cross the finish line in the Komen Race for the Cure Series in a single season.
2002: More than 1.3 million people participate in more than 100 Races around the United States and in two foreign countries.
2008: Komen for the Cure to celebrate 25th anniversary of the Komen Race for the Cure.

A minimum of twenty-five percent of the net income from each domestic Affiliate Race supports the Komen for the Cure Award and Research Grant Programs, which fund groundbreaking breast cancer research, meritorious awards, and educational and scientific conferences around the world.

Up to seventy-five percent of the net income from each domestic Affiliate Race stays in the local community to fund breast health education and breast cancer screening and treatment projects.

The Memphis-MidSouth Affiliate of the Susan G. Komen Breast Cancer Foundation raises funds to support a variety of programs in Shelby, Fayette, Tipton and DeSoto counties. In 2006, the Memphis-MidSouth Affiliate contributed over \$390,000 to provide services including free mammograms, clinical breast exams and breast self-exam instruction to women in this community. This year, the Memphis-MidSouth Affiliate of the Susan G. Komen for the Cure has raised over \$444,000 with the 2007 Race for the Cure. The Race had 14,094 participants.

Many Rhodes students have been involved with the race individually for several years. In past years, some sororities such as AOII and AKA have formed their own respective teams. In order to encourage more students to get involved, a Rhodes Team for 2006 was formed. In the Team's first year, over 50 Rhodes students and faculty members participated in raising over \$3,500. That year, the Team received the College Award for Highest Fundraiser in that division. Now in its second year, the Rhodes Team of 90 members has raised over \$4,000 this year alone and once again earned the distinction of the College Award for Highest Fundraising.



GWEN WEIL/ The Sou'wester

Memphis community members helped with the STAND mock refugee camp that took place on Saturday, October 26 in front of the BCLC. The camp featured food and medical tents and attendees could take guided tours.



American Gangster

By Adam Teer
A&E Editor

November often brings new films that are award contenders and box-office champions. This November definitely starts with a bang in American Gangster.

American Gangster is one of the most publicized movies coming out next month, and if it brings in as much profit as the studios expect, it could be one of the top movies of the year. *Gangster* is based on the true story of Frank Lucas, a heroin kingpin, who builds his empire from the ground up in 1970's America, while being pursued by a hard-nosed cop. Denzel Washington and Russell Crowe take top billing, and they are already generating buzz for the upcoming awards season. This is their first collaboration since *Virtuosity*.

Ridley Scott directs this crime epic, and from reports from critics who have already seen the movie, he really makes an effort to break the mold of the traditional gangster movie. Scott tries not to make a Harlem *Godfather* or black *Scarface*, but instead takes a gritty, intense look at the American Dream. While this movie is going to have bullets and death a plenty, the one thing that *Gangster* will have is an authentic look at crime/gangster genre.

The moment I viewed the first

trailer for the film, I knew I had to see it. If you have somehow managed to miss the trailer for this movie, go online immediately and search for it. It is practically impossible to see the trailer without experiencing a subsequent desire to see the movie.

Not only does this film have Oscar winners Washington and Crowe taking the lead(s), there is plenty of talent playing support: Cuba Gooding, Jr., Armand Assante, rappers Common and T.I., Josh Brolin, and Chiwetel Ejiofor, a familiar face you will recognize from *Children of Men* and *Four Brothers*.

Gangster is one of the most promising movies coming out in the next couple of months. It is not going to be your average gangster movie, according to the critics. On IMDB.com, it already has an average rating of 8.8 out of 10. Rotten-tomatoes.com is currently reporting an 87% rating. So definitely go check out *American Gangster* when it is released on Friday. I will definitely be there. The only caution I can give you is that it is rated R for violence, pervasive drug content and language, nudity and sexuality. Also, the running time is two and a half hours. But what gangster epic can tell its tale in less than two hours? See you at the theatre!

A party in a little orange box

By Jonathon Cashon
Staff Writer

You should have heard about The Orange Box by now, and if not, someone in your life has failed you egregiously—to the point of betrayal. Let me rectify their mistake: this box contains the most value and variety featured in single software package this year. The Orange Box is not a game...it's an extravaganza. Valve Software has packed the award-winning, near-perfect first-person shooter *Half-Life 2* and its first "episodic expansion," the aptly titled *Half-Life 2: Episode One*—both previously released—with a triumvirate of awesome, comprised of *Half-Life 2: Episode Two*, *Portal*, and *Team Fortress 2*. The retail price is \$49.95 for the PC, or \$59.95 for the X360. For those of you who have never played *Half-Life 2*, now is your chance. Not only do you get to play through one of the best games of 2004, you get to play through the first two expansions, which are mighty fine in their own right and push back your cliff-hanger experience for a good number of hours (you lucky dog, you). For those of you who have played HL2 and *Episode One*, you already know how great the game is. And, while you may not get the insane value of Orange Box that the uninitiated do, it's still worth the buy. *Episode Two* continues the tradition present in the earlier games. You'll blast your way through zombies and evil/misguided Combine soldiers with the standard assortment of weapons. For those HL2 virgins out there...enjoy the gravity gun, when you get it. Killing an enemy by launching a toilet at them creates a rare kind of satisfaction.

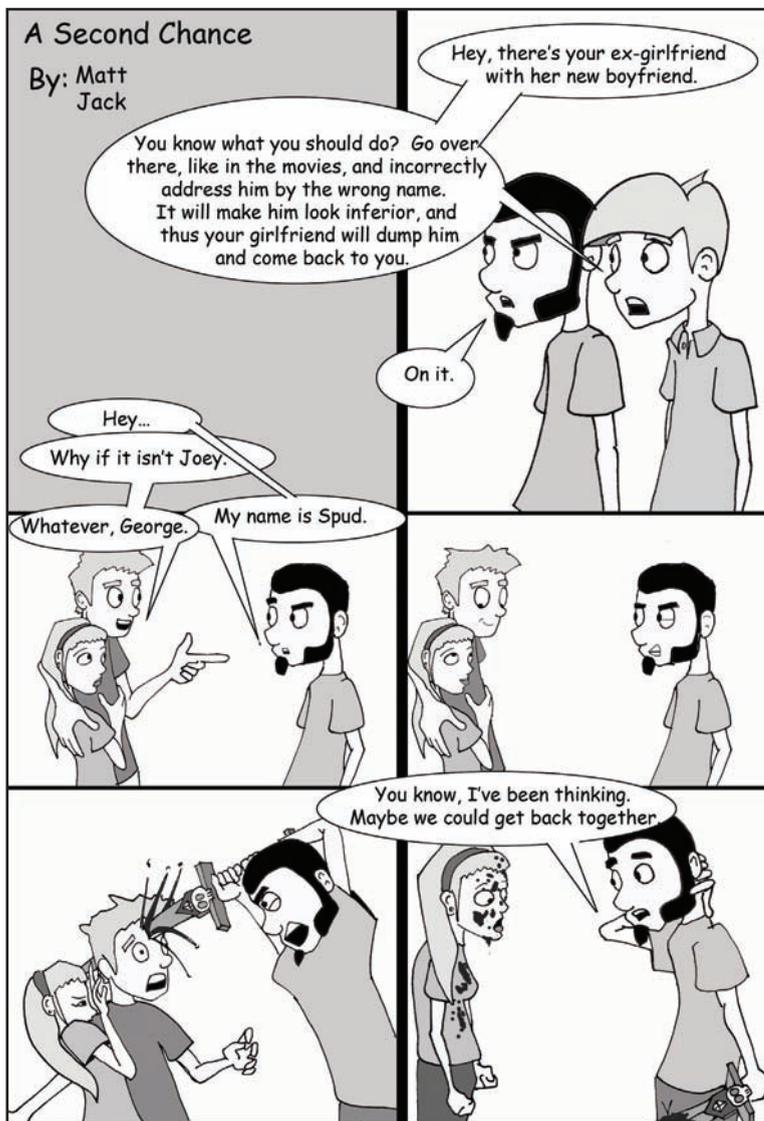
But that's not all! Nay, nay, sir. The real stars of the expansion pack, at least from an innovation and re-playability standpoint, are *Portal* and *Team Fortress 2*. Outside of being in first person, *Portal* is unlike anything you've ever played. Oh, *Prey* had warp gates, but was still a shooter. *Portal* is all about solving puzzles using, well, portals, which you place by shooting them out of a gun. You can warp yourself to another platform, launch yourself perpendicularly by falling into Portal A, and (thanks to the conservation of momentum) fly out of Portal B, located on a wall. Besides the game-play, *Portal* has a wicked sense of humor, in the form of a computer monitoring your progress through the game. All I'm going to say is that cake is involved. While *Portal* is short, it does feature a number of bonus levels and challenges to test your skills.

While *Portal* and *Half-Life 2* are great single-player experiences, *Team Fortress 2* has quickly become my multiplayer game of choice. Though it may be hard for some of you to pry yourselves away from *Halo* and *World of Warcraft*, *TF2* really deserves some attention. Rather than everyone playing essentially the same character, each player in a particular match picks one of nine classes. They're all pretty self-explanatory. "The Scout" can move fast and get behind

enemy lines, but dies easily. "The Soldier" is a good class, equipped with a damaging rocket launcher and able to take a fair amount of damage. "The Pyro" is good in closed spaces, where his flamethrower makes short work of enemies. "The Demoman" is excellent when clearing out holed-up enemies with his grenade launcher and defending territory with remote-detonated sticky bombs. "The Heavy" is a big guy with a big gun; he moves slowly but absorbs a lot of damage. "The Medic" helps his team by healing injured players and granting them bonuses. "The Spy" can disguise



photo courtesy of counterstrike-games.net



The Puzzler

What is the largest amount of money you can have in coins (in pennies, nickels, dimes, and quarters) and still not be able to make change for a dollar?

E-mail your answer to rinsl@rhodes.edu for a chance to win two movie tickets. The winner will be chosen randomly from all correct answers.

Good-bye baby, helllooooo there boom-mic

By Jonathon Cashon
Staff Writer

A word before we begin: this article is both a review of Ben Affleck's directorial debut *Gone Baby Gone* and a rant. In the interest of those of you who actually read the paper in order to plan your weekend, let me say this for the sake of expediency: *Gone Baby Gone* is a fine film and worth seeing. There. If you're busy, you can stop reading and do whatever it is you need to do. For the rest of you, enjoy this rambling piece of madness drafted a half hour before deadline.

As I said earlier, *Gone Baby Gone* is a good movie. I, however, feel no special responsibility to write a review for it as: 1) I have yet to hear of anyone who actually reads the *Sou'wester* for its movie reviews; and 2) many reviews already exist, and the consensus holds that *Gone Baby Gone* is at least worth the celluloid it's printed on (see: www.rottentomatoes.com). So what can I write up that is original and may be mildly entertaining? How about a diatribe about boom-mics visible on-screen! Why do such a thing at this particular point in time? Because GBG contains more boom-mic shots than I have ever seen in a movie. Now, that doesn't mean that the production was shoddy or that the movie

holds some kind of visible boom-mic record; it's just that I personally have never noticed that many instances of a visible boom-mic in a single film.

Let us back up a moment for the benefit of the un-informed reader. A "boom-mic" is simply a microphone (mic) attached to the end of a long pole (boom) which is dangled above actors (supposedly) just out of camera range and records the dialogue. The problem is that, due to human error, be it the fault of mic or camera operator, the boom-mic is the most common piece of unintentionally visible equipment in film. Movies can only do their job if the viewer accepts them and their story as "real"—the willing suspension of disbelief. It's not simply something that allows viewers to watch Bruce Willis survive a jump off a jet fighter...it's something that allows the audience to believe that John McClain, the fictional character, survived the jump. It allows immersion in a story. Whenever the viewer sees a boom-mic drift into a shot, they are reminded that they are, in fact, watching a movie. It ruins the experience of watching a movie—at least most of the time. The first visible boom-mic in GBG appears in an interior scene. It's up in the corner and more or less blends into the dark-colored ceiling. In

this case, the viewer doesn't mind being taken out of the experience, because they are (or at least I was) rewarded with a sense of accomplishment. "Oh! Look what I found! You can try and hide your recording equipment, Mr. Affleck, but you can't sneak it by me! Ho ho!" This is what I like to call the "Where's Waldo" boom-mic, aka "Where's Boomo?" This, unfortunately, was not the only species of visible boom-mic in the film. Far more insidious is the "flying squirrel," so-called because of the boom-mic's grey, furry covering. This type is a destroyer of drama. It happened at least twice in GBG, with the second time occurring during a rather intense and well-acted scene between Casey Affleck and Ed Harris. My roommate and editor, Adam Teer, is quick to defend the production team, saying how easy it is for a boom-mic to slip by during review, only to be caught when nothing can be done about it. Be that as it may, when that furry bastard dipped into view, neither of us could help but laugh. That's right, friends, the "flying squirrel" ripped me out of the moment so fast that I broke the sound barrier. It's sad that such a blight as visible boom-mics—generally considered the mark of inferior filmmakers—should mar so fine a directorial debut by Ben Affleck.

Dan in Real Life actually really funny

By Adam Teer
A&E Editor

The fall movie season is usually one big downer with dramatic releases such as *In the Valley of Ella*, *Gone Baby Gone*, *Rendition*, etc. A good comedy is hard to come by until the holiday season. *Dan in Real Life* jumps the gun by a month with its October release, because the movie is set amidst the holidays, but it still managed to draw in audiences over the weekend. And it deserved to.

Dan in Real Life is the story of widower Dan Burns, a columnist who writes about family values and issues. While he is a know-it-all on paper, Dan's relationship with his three daughters doesn't quite reflect what he writes in his columns. Each daughter has her own bone to pick with Dan as they all head out to the grandparents' house for a family reunion during the holidays. He meets a lovely woman at a bookstore and begins to fall for her. Little does he know that she is his brother's new girlfriend. Chaos ensues as Dan braves awkward situation after awkward situation. The story really does come to fruition at the end, and there are some good things to take away from the film. Also, did I mention that it was pretty hilarious throughout?

Steve Carell takes a break from *The Office* and slapstick-ish roles to play Dan. Carell does bring his trademark awkwardness to Dan, but it is not as—silly as in his other characters. He makes Dan someone we can both laugh at and care about. Carell keeps up the laughs but brings depth to the character in certain scenes which induced sniffles from some of the ladies in the theatre.

Taking a supporting role, which is definitely breaking his typecast, is Dane Cook, who tones down his wacky, inane humor to play a more grounded character, much like Carell does. Cook does a good job of playing a little more of a serious role, but he is still really funny in the film. Cook creates the funniest scene in the movie when he and his other brother sing a song about Dan's date, who is a pig-faced girl they knew in highschool. The three daughters are all very well-cast and do a spectacular job.

It may be coming across that *Dan in Real Life* is a serious movie, but it really isn't. It may technically be termed a family comedy (I saw a lot of different age groups in the theatre), but it never really seems like one. It is a good comedy that was released at the right time. There is a good mix of humor in it, which utilizes Carell's physical comedy skills with some excellent comic dialogue to some generally funny situational humor. But the movie also discusses the act(s) of overcoming loss and moving on, and revolves around the idea that love and family are important in your life. *Dan in Real Life* is an excellent overall film that is the perfect date movie. There is a little something for everyone, and it is definitely worth spending 8 dollars to see in the theatre when your other options include *Saw IV*, *The Game Plan*, and *The Comebacks*.

Ohhhh!! spooky smashed pumpkins



The Rhodes Physics Society's annual cornucopia of smashing frozen produce and pumpkins was a success this year. Things were destroyed and lasers were shown. But, as seen in pictures to the left and bottom, there were some vegetable casualties.

William Bruce/The Sou'wester



Field hockey falls against Lindenwood

By Rebekah Keller
Steff Writer

This Sunday, the Rhodes field hockey team played its final home game of the season in a hard-fought match against Lindenwood. A key difference between the two schools is that Lindenwood University, an NAIA school from St. Charles, MO, is able to recruit players using scholarships. Generally, this would imply that an NAIA school would be athletically superior, but in the case of Rhodes versus Lindenwood, this was not so. The Lynx led the game in both penalty corners (17-8) and shots-on-goal (10-7), though they ultimately dropped the game to the Lions, with a final score of 2-0.



photos courtesy of Jane Wells

Senior Sara Haney shows some stickwork and drives down the field.

It was a fast-paced game, as both teams were able to get out of the midfield and make attempts on their goals, racing up and down the field from end to end for most of the game. Rhodes clearly dominated the first half, keeping the ball on the opponent's side of the field, though unable to execute in front of the goal. About midway into the first half, Lindenwood scored the game-winner on a questionable high ball into the cage. In the second half, during a scramble in front of the Rhodes goal, the ball rolled in, and the players were left wondering whether Lindenwood had actually scored or whether the ball had unintentionally been nudged in off a defender's foot. Though the outcome of a game should not be attributed to poor officiating, in any case, after both goals, the referees had to call a time-out in order to convene with each other to discuss whether they were, in fact, legal goals. Regardless of their questionable nature, the goals stood as originally called, bumping Lindenwood's lead up 2-0, a lead the Lady Lynx were not able to overcome for the rest of the game.

In spite of all this, Rhodes never gave up and played their hearts out until the final whistle blew. The defenders did their part to keep the score down, with senior O'Brien Wolfe and junior Maria Cowley displaying great stick handling to clear the ball out of their circle. Freshmen forwards Erin Atmar and Lindsey Gurkovich also used their speed to quickly



photo courtesy of Jane Wells

O'Brien Wolfe beasts the opposition to lead the Lynx effort.

shift the ball out of Lindenwood's hands and into scoring position, though their shots couldn't seem to find the goal during those final attempts. Only lacking in final execution, the Lady Lynx were certainly not bested in either skill or speed.

"It was a disappointing loss," said senior Katie Slimp. "If we had won, we would have been able to give Rhodes field hockey one of the best seasons it's ever had."

The Rhodes field hockey team finishes their regular season in first place in the SCAC and with an overall record of 11-5. They will leave this coming weekend for the SCAC championships at Sewanee, heading in as the #1 seed, beating out Centre, a close second, in overall goals scored. The Lynx are the defending SCAC champions from last year, and look to repeat their championship performance.

Swimming men win

By Tyler Ponder
Staff Writer

The men's swimming team opened their season this past weekend with a 118-98 win against Hendrix College at UALR. Coach Jon Duncan described the weekend as, "a very outstanding performance by the freshmen. This year, as the team is growing, something special is happening." Individual efforts included: a first place finish in the 200-yard medley relay at a time of 1:44.26 by senior Eddie Han, sophomore Pieter Smith, freshman Jarrett Tate, and senior Michael Lallemand; a first place finish in the 1000-yard freestyle at a time of 10:22.32 by freshman Drew Wagstaff; first and second place finishes in the 200-yard freestyle at times of 1:58.49 and 1:59.59 by freshman Joel Berger and senior Michael Lallemand, respectively; first and fourth place finishes in the 50-yard freestyle at times of 21.49 and 24.35 by freshman Jarrett Tate and senior Eric Schumacher, respectively; first and second place finishes in the 200-yard individual medley at times of 2:06.35 and 2:08.68 by senior Eddie Han and sophomore Pieter Smith, respectively; first and second place finishes in the 100-yard butterfly at times of 57.14 and 57.20 by freshman Houston Scarborough and sophomore Pieter Smith, respectively; first and third place finishes in the 100-yard freestyle at times of 50.70 and 53.40 by freshman Jarrett Tate and senior Michael Lallemand, respectively; first and second place finishes in the 100-yard backstroke at times of 56.10 and 59.55 by senior Eddie Han and freshman Jason Weise, respectively; second and fourth place finishes in the 500-yard freestyle at times of 5:36.25 and 5:51.95 by freshman Joel Berger and junior Alex Lonnecker, respectively; a second place finish in the 100-yard breaststroke at a time of 1:11.67 by senior Eric Schumacher; and finally, a first place finish in the 200-yard freestyle relay at a time of 1:38.33 by freshmen Tyler Schultz, Houston Scarborough, Jason Weise, and Drew Wagstaff.

When asked for predictions for the season, Coach Duncan replied, "A lot of other teams will notice us. We have a good chance of moving up in the conference. Our biggest goal is how to get faster." The famous "bubble" will be back in coming days, and with it, more practice. The bubble, despite its attractiveness, does present problems to the team, however. "We have to cancel practice for too much wind or thunderstorms. We probably have one of the worst facilities in the NCAA. But students come here for academics. Swimming comes second," says Duncan. "It's a decent facility, and it gets the job done." The men will continue their season on November 2nd, when they travel to Conway, AR for the Hendrix Relays.

Super Bowl 41.5: Patriots vs. the Colts

By Andy Skrzat
Sports Editor

With November dawning, football enters into the final nine weeks of the season. Two of the biggest surprises thus far have been the two undefeated teams—the New England Patriots and Indianapolis Colts. Both teams boast an impressive 8-0 record, and both teams square off this Sunday in Indy. Obviously, one team will walk away with a blemish on an otherwise perfect record. In my opinion, it will be the Indianapolis Colts who suffer their first loss this weekend. The passing offense and stellar defense of the Patriots is just too dominating for the Colts—or any defense—to conquer.

Let's start with the reasons the Colts might have a chance. First and foremost is Peyton Manning. Yes, I will admit he is one of the best in the game. He is intelligent at both reading and making plays, and has a fantastic arm. Peyton Manning has thrown for over eighteen hundred yards this season, but don't think for a minute that's all he's

got. The offensive line for the Colts is also remarkable at giving Mr. Manning plenty of time in the pocket to pick apart any zone defense. If the Patriots drop to zone coverage against Peyton, he will undoubtedly throw to either Marvin Harrison or leading receiver, Reggie Wayne.

The running game favors Indy, thanks largely in part to stellar half back Joseph Addai. Addai has been outstanding this year, averaging 4.8 yards a touch. This season Addai has the seventh most rushing yards, and is the main reason the Colts are fifth overall in the run game.

Now as to why I believe the Patriots are going to walk away victors. Two reasons: Tom Brady and Randy Moss. Because of these two stand-out players, the New England Patriots are ranked number one in all but one offensive category. They are first overall in points per game (41.4), total yards (439.5), and passing yards (303.8). Brady is out of control this year, throwing 30 touchdown passes and not even playing whole games out of the eight

thus far. Moss, Brady's favorite target, has 779 receiving yards and 11 touchdowns this year. Both are on pace to break NFL records.

If these two men are not enough to convince you, I have two X-factors. First, we can all recall the scandal at the beginning of the year concerning New England using video cameras to record the New York Jets' practices. Ever since, Bill Belichick wants blood. Last week, his Pats put up fifty-seven points against a good defense in the Washington Redskins. They haven't scored less than thirty-four all season. Finally, there's all-around stud Mike Vrabel, who has ten catches for ten touchdowns—not to mention three sacks and forced fumbles last week.

Bottom line: no one, after this week, will be able to touch the Patriots. They are too balanced and stacked. They have the best chance of any team to remain undefeated, a feat last done, ironically, by the Miami Dolphins. So if you are going to throw down money this weekend on one of these teams, be smart: pick the Pats.