

Sou'wester corrects rumors about large class of 2015...

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September 14, 2011

The Biweekly Student Newspaper of Rhodes College

Director DeCosta here to stay



courtesy of Anne Rawlinson

New Director of Student Involvement Anthony DeCosta with his colleagues Graduate Assistant Lametric Bishop and Student Leader Coordinator Nicole Choe.

Julia Fawal
Staff Writer

As Jasmine Gilstrap '13 phrased it, the job of Director of Student Activities is like the Defense Against the Dark Arts position of Rhodes. It has belonged to someone new each year for the past few years. However, stepping up to the challenge now is Anthony DeCosta, and he is not planning on going anywhere— after talking to him for merely fifteen minutes, it is clear that, once the rest of the student body gets to know him, he will not be able to leave even if he wants to. From working on projects with artists such as Usher at a record label to trying marketing at *Rolling Stone*, he has now found his place working with students. His entire countenance lights up when he talks about Rhodes and his ideas for the school, and that passion combined with his chill, friendly personality makes it clear that Rhodes has finally found the right fit, too.

Does it make you nervous to think that this job seems to be jinxed?

At first I was a little nervous, but then I thought about it and decided I wasn't going to think about it in that way. I want to maintain the mindset that I'm coming onto campus with fresh, new ideas and focus on what I can do and want to do here at Rhodes.

What drew you to Rhodes?

I love that small liberal arts feel, and I love what liberal arts colleges are doing and the direction they're going. My co-worker actually came across the position while he was looking for jobs for himself, and he said it was something I should consider. I looked into it, did some research, and I thought, "This is the place where I need to be."

Had you ever been to Memphis before?

No, my first time in Memphis was for my interview.

Where are you from originally?

I'm originally from New York. I lived in a small town called Spring Valley, which is about 20 miles outside New York City. So I'm not really a city boy, but I spent a lot of my summers inside the city since it was so close.

And for college?

I went to Hofstra University in Hempstead, New York and graduated in 2003 where I graduated with my degree in Marketing. Then I attended Clark Atlanta University in Atlanta, Georgia for my Master's degree in Counselor Education.

Did you always want to work on a college campus?

Well, when I was in college, my parents were paying for school so they said to me, "Make sure you pick a major that's going to get you a great job where you can make a lot of money so you can pay us back." So I figured I'd try marketing. I am very creative, and I always loved commercials and things like that. Then, when I graduated, I took my Marketing major and Music minor, combined the two passions, and went to the music industry. I got an internship at a record label, Jive Records. That internship turned into a full-time job, and I became the Marketing Assistant. I worked on a lot of cool projects. Ciara's project, Usher's, Outkast's —

Seriously?

Yeah, a lot of great projects and a lot of collaboration, but then I felt like the music industry wasn't really for me. It was very cut-throat, no one got along with each other, and a lot of people didn't like me because I was young and wanted to do a lot of big things. People thought I was just coming in and showing off, but I couldn't help it! I was just creative and wanted to work, and they didn't.

So then what did you do?

I left and went into advertising in the publishing world

The weekly sassy lesbian column

Now online during non-printing weeks

"This year: 50% sassier and 50% lesbian... er"

Rin Abernathy
Staff Writer

Welcome back, person who picked up a newspaper. Let's have a round of introductions. You are an intelligent Rhodes College student, obviously capable of reading. I also hope you are capable of processing half-baked witticisms and sarcasm, as you have now begun to read the Sassy Lesbian column. This is like entering the Twilight Zone, except instead of unexpected plot twists in an unusual world, there's just a lot of rainbow.

I was worried that, this early in the semester, I wouldn't have any good topics to write about. After all, everyone has essentially the same story at the moment: getting used to classes, fitting clubs and other activities into your schedule, functioning on four hours of sleep a night. Another common experience: the poster sale.

Oh, poster sale, with your crowds of students picking out the same posters that every college student puts in their room. Same old, same old, right? To your credit, poster sale, you switched it up this year, earning a spot in my column. I'd like to honor the poster sale's large selection of lesbian posters.

What says class like a pile of naked women on top of each other? Or the poster of a woman censoring another woman's breasts using her own frontal assets? Naked, single women aren't enough. I'm sure the poster sale was offering these items ironically. The astute vendors were surely making a commentary on the ways in which lesbian sexuality is undermined by the majority of female-female sexual images being created for a heterosexual male market. Perhaps the imagery was supposed to express pro-women sexual assertion.

We all know that the only message here is that boobs are awesome.

I'd like to end by adding that my column this semester, whenever it is in print, will be short and sweet. If you think brevity is the soul of wit, you might only want to read the paper. If you for some ungodly reason are thinking, "Biweekly Sapphic sarcasm won't be enough," check out my longer rants—I mean, professional-quality articles—on the new site.

Have a question or a topic you'd like addressed? Want advice or opinions full of semi-witty and sarcastic answers? Email abere@rhodes.edu.

Or even better: Post a comment on my online articles!

Solution for Rhodes' growing pains



Construction photo courtesy of Swati Pandita

Patrick Harris (with apologies to Jonathan Swift)
Staff Writer

If you have recently tried to park a car or wait in line for a meal at Rhodes, you will have noticed that elbow room is becoming an increasingly precious commodity. With the college's largest freshman class to date and total enrollment climbing toward 2,000 students, the teeming masses of collegiate humanity on campus have never been more, well, teeming.

To all appearances, the Rhodes administration was caught with its pantaloons *en bas* at the sheer size of the newly arrived class of 2015. One wonders, at any rate, why on a typical day the campus parking lots are stuffed to the gills with the latest crop of Volkswagens and Volkswagens, while the Harris Lodge lot stands perpetually half-empty as a result of the policy of bribing individual juniors and seniors with parking spots for moving off campus. Student housing arguably takes priority over parking (witness the replacement of the former Glassell lot with a new dormitory). Nonetheless, the daily frustration that comes from wandering the four corners of Rhodes like an Israelite in the wilderness, seeking the Beulah land of a single empty space, or of enduring food lines always seem to bring the word *glasnost* to mind, must surely force a thoughtful liberal arts student to ask whether there is a better way.

To the administration's credit, the culinary offerings at the Rat seem to represent a concerted attempt to cull the herd. This policy nonetheless seems inefficient; anecdotal evidence suggests that the overwhelming majority of the student body either avoids the Rat or is sufficiently acclimated to survive it, and hence its usefulness as a means of population control is limited. Those of you who have read your Malthus or Erlich will know the severity of the problem we face, and it is therefore that I offer a humble proposition to conserve our valuable resources and the quality of campus life we have come to expect at Rhodes.

I have recently been informed by a Papuan study-abroad acquaintance that a first-year student of either sex, in the range of 18 to 19 years old, offers a thoroughly tasty and balanced meal: whether steamed, broiled, fried, flambéed, fricasseed, or (in deference to our Mid-South heritage) slow-cooked and seasoned with dry rub, the nutritious properties of this dish are impressive indeed. Aside from a sizeable complement of protein and fiber, a well-prepared freshman platter or stew carries a wide range of vitamins. What's more, the high alcohol content typically found in the stock population gives a dose of the antioxidants essential for coronary health.

With a single stroke then, Rhodes can banish two intractable problems: overcrowding and the dubious quality of on-campus dining. A carefully controlled harvest of ten to fifteen head per month

would keep overall population levels well in hand while supplying Rhodes with a versatile and healthy supplement to the student diet. An institution interested in the health and well-being of its (remaining) student body could hardly refuse such an opportunity. Imagine, if you will, the fattening, carb-heavy pork ribs one sometimes finds in our dining halls replaced with the succulent but lighter alternative of a baby-back half-slab of this marvel-meat (I am given to understand that Texans are particularly zesty).

Amid our ongoing efforts to create a Green Rhodes, the prospect of a local, organic, sustainable meal option can only gladden the heart of any true friend of Mother Earth. It certainly doesn't get any more local than this. For those who insist on transparency about where their food is coming from, what better point of origin can be imagined than the back row of Introductory Biology? Furthermore, how often is a dining option put forward that would actually lower the carbon footprint of Rhodes in absolute terms? Every scholar at Rhodes can bite into their daily (freshman-enriched) bread with the calm assurance that they are striking a blow for the planet.

This is no free lunch, to be sure. Some will be skeptical of associated costs and complications (particularly of a legal nature) that would render such a project impracticable. However, I would counter such objections by pointing out the costs that will be offset by this measure. Expenses such as the free-iPads and subsidized housing offered to students who agreed to move off campus come prominently to mind. While the lost revenue in future tuition and fees from the must be added to the negative side of the equation, the reduced demand on such vital and limited resources as faculty advisors and condoms should more than compensate.

In the last analysis, we have little choice; this proposal is the only rational approach to managing Rhodes' growth that I have yet seen. With construction projects many months away from completion (and meanwhile only making things worse), the disconnect between the bulging student body and the available accommodations for them threatens to overwhelm the delicate balance of the campus environment. To save Rhodes as we know it, it is clear that the administration needs our help; to escape from the hole we are in, we must eat our way out.

By way of a final note, allow your humble author to discuss logistics. While the details of implementing this bold new policy will require extensive deliberation, I am happy to set the ball rolling by suggesting a site for the processing of the fresh-stock into quality food products: the current Kappa Alpha fraternity house, which by all accounts may soon be vacant. While this is not doubt distressing to Rhodes' KA brothers, they can take comfort in the knowledge that their facility helps give Rhodes a future that is progressive, spacious, and scrumptious.

THE SOU'WESTER

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ASSOCIATED
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Correcting the myths about large freshman body

Erica Morozin
Layout Editor

In writing this article, I set off on a mission that few even attempt: to address the rumor mill. One of the hottest topics on campus is the larger freshman class. While the class of 2014 started with 499 students, the class of 2015 started with 554 students.

This is a difference that is impossible to ignore and that is aggravated by the construction of the Rat and West Village. However, all of the rumors that I have heard surrounding the large freshman class are entirely inaccurate.

I would like to briefly debunk some outrageous rumors that I have heard or seen on the ever-so-legitimate Facebook (just kidding) before I go into the full details of what actually happened (It will be sort of like me bestowing the Cliff's Notes of the class size increase upon you).

They may be the Cliff's Notes type version, but read them all and read them carefully to avoid being worse than the people who created the rumors in the first place.

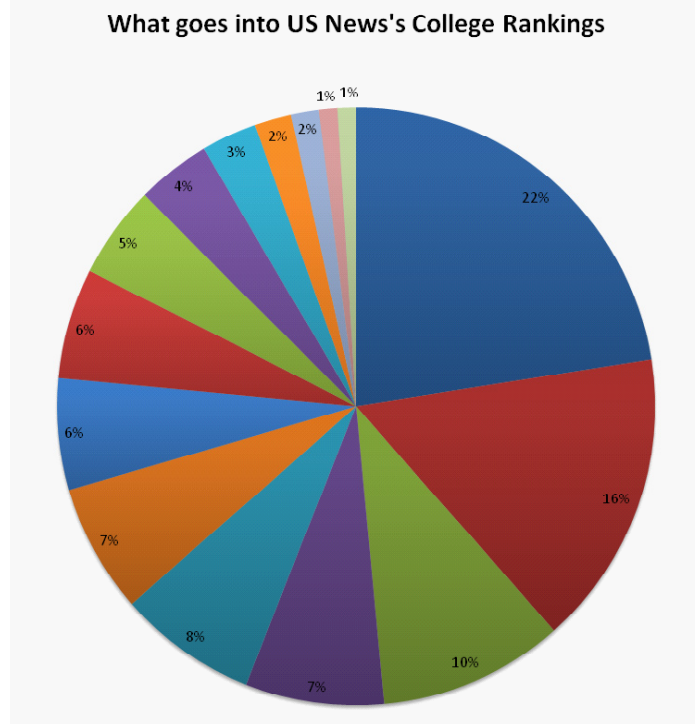
I met with two experts on the situation to nip these rumors in the bud. They are Jeff Norris (the Director of Admission and Data Services) and Jay Eckles (the Director of Information Services). Together we worked through the crazy questions I had due to rumors I had read and found the truth.

Myth 1: Rhodes College's rankings (on some random list that the gossipier failed to mention) went down because it accepted too many students.

Truth: A drop of a ranking or two means nothing to a college and doesn't affect how graduate schools view a school. In fact, graduate schools do not generally accept students based on their college's official ranking since the rankings say virtually nothing about the type of education a student received.

If you stopped there, you might make an incredibly inaccurate assumption. The last two sentences relied on the false assumption that acceptance percentages are the main factor that goes into the rankings. In fact, acceptance percentages account for very little of what goes into such arbitrary rankings; rankings like US Weekly's mainly examine how much a school spends per student and how much alumni donate and they somehow try to translate that information into a ranking system.

But none of that matters since our acceptance percentages were virtually unchanged this year (obviously, guys: keep reading).



Myth 2: We have more freshmen this year because Rhodes simply accepted way too many students this year (way more than in previous years surely, says the gossipier).

Truth: The acceptance rate only increased by around 3.5%. And, there are many complex reasons for this increase. Applications were down this past year which affects the acceptance rate. Admissions also accepted 49 more students in an attempt to be sure to enroll the number of students needed in the class of 2015.

You might ask: Since Rhodes really did not accept many more students than it usually does, then why do we have more freshmen?

The yield increased by roughly 1.5% which means that more students who were accepted this year ultimately chose to attend Rhodes than in the year prior. This is a good thing because most schools are either staying at the same yield or are decreasing. Basically more students who were accepted chose Rhodes this year than in the past.

Myth 3: So what if that is all true. I heard a rumor that the student teacher ratio must be increasing since the amount of students is increasing. Goodbye quality education.

Truth: Rhodes hired more staff in order to accommodate the increase in students, so the ratio is still a very favorable average of 10 students for every one teacher (10:1).

You might ask: What's the goal for enrollment?

According to my admissions experts, 500 first-year students is the expected goal for the upcoming year. Calculating the estimated yield is a very tricky process but as long as Rhodes receives the same number of applicants or more than last year, then the acceptance rate is expected to decrease next year.

You might ask: Any more good news?

The retention rates for last year's class (2014) are projected to increase by about 1% from the previous year. It is projected that Rhodes retained 443 of the 499 first-year students. This cannot be confirmed since the official census date is this Thursday once the Add/Drop period is over, but it would mean that Rhodes now has an 89% retention rate (a very impressive percentage). Unless 5 or more students drop before Thursday, this data is accurate.

Further information about the process of calculating yield and about college rankings will be provided at the Sou'Wester website.

September 11th remembered abroad

Jerica Sandifer

For most of us on the European Studies program this year, Sunday was the first anniversary of September 11th that we have spent on foreign soil. Especially in light of the heightened awareness of the tenth anniversary, we were acutely aware of the strangeness of the situation.

There were, of course, no American flags flying; no memorial bells tolling; but there were moments of silence. Although it seemed like any other day in Oxford, England, Sunday saw conversations among the American students about September 11th as well as quiet reflection.

The Oxford students will not commence their term until October, so we Americans have Lincoln College to ourselves for the most part.

We were not afforded the opportunity to speak with British and International students about their connections to the greatest American tragedy of our generation. However, British newspapers devoted themselves to the anniversary and several of us could be seen throughout the day in the Junior Common Room pouring over them.

One particularly striking article came from Libby Purves of *The Times*. In her article, she recalls how Europeans as well as Americans can remember vividly where they were when the towers were hit and calls America a "generous and optimistic" country. She also recalls the headline of France's *Le Monde* on September 12th, 2001 which read, "We are all Americans now."

We, students, were all rather young in 2001— only 9-11 years old— and it has only been with age that we have understood the full significance of those events. Likewise, only by being abroad on this tenth anniversary were we fully informed of the global significance of that day and the sentiments to which it is attached.

Professor of Eastern Philosophy, Dr. Sam* told me, "The events in America have just as much

if not more impact than the events that take place in the UK. More than ever since 9/11, the election of your president is even more important than who our prime minister is." When speaking of September 11th we focus on the effects it has had on our country—and rightly so. However, it is easy to forget the subsequent global effects, the involvement of the United Kingdom in the so-called "War on Terror," and the deaths of people from 115 other countries on that day.

Two weeks ago, several of us took a weekend trip to York, England, where two women sat at a booth asking passers-by to sign a petition to remove British troops from a war that "is not [theirs.]" I do not believe that September 11th is a time for placing blame or arguing politics, but it is a time of realization. If nothing else, September 11th forced us decide who we are as a country. What we have done with that opportunity is characterized by disagreement and partisanship, but something that we should never lose sight of is the bipartisanship and humanity that day afforded us. On Sunday, I grasped for the first time the extent of our influence and, thus, our responsibility.

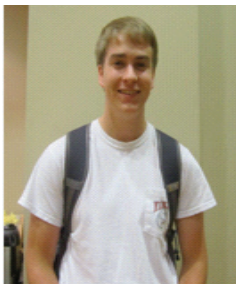
Spending September 11th away from the United States did not keep us from remembering the lives lost on that tragic day ten years ago. In fact, by very virtue of our ability to connect and remember despite the distance, we came to realize the strength of our unity. Our lives and the history of the United States can truly be divided into pre-9/11 and post-9/11 worlds.

In a smaller way, for those of us abroad this 9/11, I think our understandings have shifted to a post-10th anniversary worldview as well. According to our Deans, we are experiencing much more pro-American sentiment abroad than in years past. It is my hope that this will continue and that the unity felt on every September 11th can become more and more characteristic on other days of the year.

*He is now teaching in France, and I do not want to publish his name without permission.

Student Voice

Where are you taking your parents for Parent's Weekend?



"I'm gong to take my parents to Central barbeque and definitely NOT Elvis' house, because that place sucks."

-Will Whipple '14

"Huey's, because I always giggle when my mom tries to shoot toothpicks into the ceiling and misses."

-Veronica Alix '12



"Saddle Creek so they can take me shopping—Parents' Weekend is the only time I can do really great shopping in the Memphis area."

-Taylor Jackson '14



"Central Barbecue, because everyone likes to eat at Central. You can get authentic Memphis Barbecue. Not Rendezvous. Rendezvous is poo."

-Will Lenahan '15



"My mom comes to Parents' Weekend just for All-Sing, and afterward we like to go to Memphis Pizza Café."

-Jane Barrilleaux '12



The Pack wants you to join!



Esha Sharma

During the SACK fair at the beginning of the school year, one of the main attractions was the free giveaway of bright red t-shirts. Every Rhodes student knows that a free shirt is always worth the wait so students lined up to pick up the newest addition to their collection. When the beginning of the line was in sight, Regina Simmons, Salar Rafieetary, and other students were there to hand out The Pack's first incentive of the semester

Upperclassmen may remember The Lynx Pack that senior Sarika Mirchandani created last year in order to help increase school spirit. This year, instead of having multiple groups focused on school spirit, they have all consolidated to one form: The Pack. Regina Simmons, Director of New Student Programs, be-

came involved after talking to Carol Casey, Dean of Students, about her idea of "utilizing an incentive based approach to entice students to attend campus events." After pulling together students who had previously expressed interest in focusing on upping school spirit, they spent the summer working on plans for what they hope will be "a successful school spirit campaign."

This year, along with faculty and staff, the student leaders taking on a large role are Rafieetary, Mirchandani, and their fellow senior Sharwil Bell. Leaders decided on the name "The Pack" because it is identifiable.

Simmons stated that "coaches, alumni, and staff wanted to find ways to get better support of College events." The primary focus of The Pack is to change the way the campus thinks about athletic

events. The Pack is also working on creating student sections at all the games.

"The focus has always been on football and basketball. We're supporting all varsity events, which will hopefully enlarge the understanding and appreciation of soccer, volleyball, field hockey, tennis and the like at Rhodes," said Simmons.

One thing the leaders of The Pack know for sure is that student involvement is essential to the livelihood of The Pack. Therefore, The Pack will be organizing give-aways for various events for each sport throughout the year. In order to qualify to win, students must be in their Pack t-shirts and register to win. The t-shirts are always free. If you missed getting one at the SACK fair, don't fear: The Pack will be distributing them throughout the year.

DeCosta, continued from Page 1

and worked at Pearson Education, which is a textbook company. It wasn't my thing, so I left that and went to *Us Weekly* and *Rolling Stone*. I worked there [and] did a lot of their marketing, events, and advertising coordinator-type stuff, but then I just got fed up. I didn't want to be there either. I just said, "This is not what I want to do. I want to help others, and now it's my time to do what I want to do." I left, and everyone was surprised I was leaving this oh-so fabulous life and good money. But I just picked up and left New York and went to Georgia.

Where did you work before coming to Rhodes?

I became the Residence Director for one of the freshman halls of Morehouse College, and I loved it. It was just the place to be for me. I worked there for three and a half years before coming here. I worked on their homecoming, I was the coordinator for Greek Life, I was the Marketing Communication Specialist for my department, and I helped a bit with financial aid. I did everything, and I loved it.

Why did you leave?

It was time for me to grow, and my director said there was nowhere for me to go at Morehouse College. Then, like I said, my co-worker told me about the job here at Rhodes, and that's how it started! Now I'm here,

and I love it already. I love the students. I love the atmosphere. I love the campus. I'm just having a great time, and I don't think I'm going to lose that spark, and I don't think I'm going to be like the directors in the past who were just here for a year and supposedly weren't the "greatest" people to get along with.

I'm cool! I can get along with anyone. My door's always open; I want students to come in and have a conversation. I want to be engaged with them. I plan on sitting in the Lair and the Rat to be around students to work with them and give them what they want. I'm not here to work for the students; I'm here to work with you. So let's work together. That's my goal, my mission, my vision—and I'm excited!

What's your plan now as Director of Student Activities?

I'm here to collaborate. Let's work together. I've talked to Regina Simmons, and I want to work with Big Diehl, the Pack, RAB, and RSG, of course. I want them to collaborate, too, with Greek life, the Kinney Program, and other organizations. Instead of doing 20 million small events, let's do some intentional programming and make it big. The school is more than just Greek life. There are a thousand other students here who want other things to do aside from just going to frat houses to party. I'm ready, and I'm excited, and I think it's needed. And I'm going to try my best to deliver!

Letter from the Editor-in-Chief

On behalf of the entire *Sou'wester* staff, I'd like to introduce all Rhodes students, faculty, staff, and members of the community to the new *Sou'wester*. Over the summer and the beginning of this academic year, the *SW* staff has worked hard to ensure that we remain connected to the campus and uphold the tradition of the *Sou'wester* as "a forum for the expression of opinions and open discussion of world issues and college news." With the addition of seven new staff members and numerous staff writers, the *SW* staff is now equipped to provide you with more up to date, in depth stories that affect you all as members of the Rhodes and Memphis communities. The experience of these new members is unprecedented and will allow the *Sou'wester* to continue towards restoring the glory of that debut paper in 1919. The *SW* staff is honored to share this first issue with you and hopes you will join us in our journalistic expression online and continue supporting the 92 year old Rhodes student publishing tradition.

~Jasmine Gilstrap

Sudoku

3	8				7	1	
	2	9	6		7		
	6	4					
			3	4		8	6
8		2	7		6	1	9
	3	7		8	1		
						6	5
			5		8	4	7
	8	6				3	2

Rhodes Reflects: Remembering the September 11th attacks



by Amy Stout

This weekend marked a bleak anniversary for our nation, a full decade after the event that shook our country to its core. All over America, people remembered 9/11 in their own ways, by quietly reflecting or giving back to their communities. Here at Rhodes, the 9/11 event was comprised of both of those aspects of remembrance.

Set up in part by the Rhodes College Kinney Program, this Sunday's event started off solemnly at 9 a.m., as the Halliburton bells on campus tolled for four minutes to mark the anniversary of the attacks. From about 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., service-minded students helped with the Artistic Board Up on Kney Street. The event was part of Mayor Wharton's mission for clean-up as volunteers boarded up empty homes, cleaned

up abandoned lots, and painted scenes on the unoccupied homes to improve the appearance of the neighborhood. This effort was also part of the kick-off for the White House Inter-Faith Service Challenge, an initiative that uses community service to bring together people from different religious backgrounds.

At 4 p.m. a Prayer and Memorial Service took place at Idlewild Presbyterian Church. This nondenominational service featured the Rhodes Singers under the direction of Dr. William Skoog, Rhodes Music Chair, and featured American composer Samuel Barber's *Adagio for Strings* and a modern piece, *Memorial*, by Rene Clausen. Clausen wrote the piece to commemorate those who perished on 9/11, and the work included a series of prayers for healing and reconciliation.

The memorial event concluded at 8 p.m. Sunday night with a candlelight commemoration for the events of 9/11. The labyrinth of light offered a space for peaceful reflection on how the tragedy has changed the nation and our outlook on life. The view on-campus was truly moving, and was an incredible way to end the emotional day.

Paige Dotsy, a senior from Dallas, was the main coordinator of this event. She has been involved with the Kinney Program since her sophomore year, when she volunteered at Bing Hampton elementary school, helping out with the after-school programs. She then got involved with

Kinney faith-based, becoming first a project coordinator and then an event coordinator. Dotsy hoped that this event would bring together students from different spiritual backgrounds to give back to the community on the anniversary of a day that changed how the U.S. looked at religion.

"[Our students are] so complex and dynamic...we should use our differences to build a stronger community," said Dotsy.

One of the main goals of the 9/11 event was to help students get past their differences to embrace their many similarities and come together as a whole. If you want to get involved with Kinney faith-based or any other on-campus community service programs, contact the area coordinator of the service you are interested in or "like" the Kinney Facebook page to receive updates.

Bridges comes to Rhodes

Olivia Hopkins

Bridges Corps Center is coming to Rhodes. During the summer, sophomore Nellie Moualeu was contacted by Bridges to create a Rhodes organization in connection with Bridges. Moualeu and sophomore Claire Riley jumped at the opportunity and got to work with other involved Rhodes students to create Rhodes College Corps.

"BRIDGES builds a community of leaders to advance racial, economic, educational and environmental justice," says the Bridges website.

Though not sure of the organizations exact direction, Riley says it will probably have weekly meetings in which all members are given equal opportunity to speak out about changes he/she wishes to see on campus. The organizations top priorities include addressing ways to solve diversity issues and ways to make the campus more eco-friendly. The first meeting will be held around the end of September.

Besides being an outlet for change, creators of the club hope to see members interested in joining College Corps (under the Bridges Corps). Each student helping create the club is part of College Corps, and each one has had amazing experiences with the non-profit group.

Riley served as a mentor at a Bridge's two-day camp called Peace Jam. The camp for high school students includes volunteering events, speeches from Noble Peace Prize laureates, and the presentation of a project each high school student worked on during the year. As a mentor, Riley helped students finalize these projects.

The projects propose solutions for community, and even world issues. Along with this project, students and mentors volunteer helped clean neighborhoods and improve the lives of underprivileged children. "[Peace Jam] changed how I looked at everything," says Riley.

Freshman Iris Mercado had a similar experience. Hearing about Bridges through Peace Jam, she joined her freshman year in high school. Since then she has worked and been a part of many bridges events until this past summer they gave her the "best present" she could imagine: A summer internship. "It was one of the most rewarding experiences I can recall," says Mercado.

Bridges seeks to build a "community of leaders to advance racial, economic, educational and environmental justice." Based in the Memphis and Shelby County region, it allows "youth and adults to find their voice, experience their power, and build positive relationships in order to create strong lives and extraordinary communities." (bridgesusa.org)

"What Bridges Corps does for the world, we want to do for Rhodes," says Riley. To sign up, go to www.bridgesusa.org/collegecorps. "In short, Bridges is awesome," says Mercado.

Will Eddie Murphy's identity crisis ruin the Oscars?

Alex Yu
News Editor

Eddie Murphy will host the Oscars in February. As someone who is a huge fan of the award show, I'm even slightly doubtful about how it will turn out. I'm the embarrassing sort of fan who prints out the nomination list and sometimes finds himself clapping along with everyone else in an Oscar-tastic stupor. Regardless, will I find it as fantastic if Eddie Murphy introduces the "Best Picture" category as Professor Klump, followed by that toothy smile and a fart? While I admit that it would be slightly entertaining, I feel like maturity and seriousness is appropriate for such an honorable award.

The issue that many are concerned with is "which" Eddie Murphy will show up? He has played the Donkey from *Shrek* to Dr. Dolittle, a veterinarian who talks to animals, not to mention his plethora of invented characters from *SNL*, back when it was funny.

Some, however, are convinced that his performance will



Courtesy of Wikipedia.com

Murphy was nominated for the Best Supporting Actor Award in 2007 for his work in *Dreamgirls*.

be absolutely hilarious. But is this what one expects from the Oscars? Hilarity? Don't get me wrong, I love comedy as much as the next viewer, but how much is *too* much?

For example, Neal Patrick Harris hosted the Tony's. Because the Tony's are for Broadway plays/musicals, a sort of over the top version of movies, his over the top comedy was appropri-

ate. But over the top hilarity for an award show that all actors and actresses dream to attend in hopes of taking home that little golden man? Hm....

Eddie Murphy has not even received much acclamation for any of his films, minus his Best Supporting Actor nomination for *Dream Girls*. At the Oscars, however, he apparently managed to embarrass himself when he lost to an opponent (Alan Arkin in *Little Miss Sunshine*) and left the ceremony in a quiet bout of jealousy. Did he thus not even have enough respect for the process to watch his co-star Jennifer Hudson win her Oscar for Best Supporting Actress?

Regardless of the various opinions about Murphy hosting the Oscars, he is the pick for this year. At this point, audiences can do little about it, unless of course come February, I will have my nomination list printed; all of my work completed; all other shows scheduled to be recorded; and I will nestle into my seat in yet another Oscar-tastic stupor, most likely clapping along with the opening credits.

Theater Review: *Wild Legacy*

by Reid Clark

In the mid-20th century, when groups of Americans battled for their human rights, five activists who stood for the rights of Nature ventured on an expedition to one of the last untouched forests. Olaus and Mardy Murie, George Schaller, Briana Kessel and Bob Krear, visionary conservationists, took a trip to the Murie Sheenjek forest in northeast Alaska. Sharing their description of the innocent, untainted forests in magazines and scientific reports spurred the establishment of the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge on December 6, 1960.

As a part of the Refuge's 50th Anniversary Celebration, Voices of the South created "Wild Legacy," the story of the scientists' trip as written by Mardy Murie, which focuses on the love between her and her husband as well as their shared love of nature. Voices of the South performed the play here at the McCoy Theater last Friday, and the story, boosted by excellent performances, played out like a compelling documentary.

The action occurred on a blank stage with very few props, encouraging the audience to utilize their imagination and become a part of the pristine wilderness. The intangible set pieces were dramatically interpreted by the movement of the actors, whose teamwork as an ensemble directly represented the awe-inspiring unification of natural, living things when they can exist without human interference. This production appealed to all the senses, incorporating the strumming of an

acoustic guitar, and the sounds of the natural world, like bird calls and the crackling of fires, which were generated from the actors throughout the production. This brought the audience even closer to the action. One felt as if he or she was a part of the original five scientists as the actors made camp, rested on mountain tops, and stood in awe inches away from grizzly bears and arctic wolves without being threatened.

The actors' performances were absolutely absorbing. They accepted the challenge of keeping the integrity of a story not originally meant for stage and succeeded, all the while engaging the audience through their use of facial expressions. The performance as a whole emphasized the words of Murie, making sitting in the audience and watching someone experience what those scientists did almost as poignant as experiencing it first-hand.

Despite Alaska and the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge's controversy on whether or not America should defile the pureness of the landscape in the name of capitalism by drilling through the earth for oil, *Wild Legacy* was by no means a political play. Instead, it educated as well as appealed to the emotions of the audience. Before the piece began, I overheard a voice from a seat behind me proclaim: "You can live in Antarctica, Santa does it." After such a touching performance, the audience came away with more than just a geography lesson—they had a true appreciation for what these five individuals experienced.

Day For Night, night for day, Jiha Moon does it her way

by Annika Wuerfel
Staff Writer

Come to the Clough-Hanson Gallery for an eye-opening Asian pop-culture art extravaganza, Jiha Moon's "Day for Night" art exhibit. Her delightfully colorful, intricate paintings will leave a favorable long lasting impression on everyone who visits.

Moon was born and raised in South Korea. She came to the United States in order to study art and received her masters of fine arts from the University of Iowa. Her unique work has not only received national recognition, but also international accolades. She has displayed her pieces in the Hirshhorn Museum in Washington, D.C., the Virginia Museum of Fine Arts in Richmond, the Mint Museum of Art in Charlotte, North Carolina, the Moti Hasson gallery in New York, the Saltworks gallery in Atlanta, and many other places.

The Atlanta-based artist's work is like a dream. Moon's fantasy-like Asian landscapes are so colorful they would be beautiful on their own, but her creative use of unexpected pop culture figures throughout her work

makes her art entertaining and exciting.

From swirling oceans of colors, to flowers and dragons, the Twitter icon bird flying in the sky and even a stamp of Hello Kitty, these works of art present something new and unexpected to the eye every time one looks at them.

The materials used in the thirteen pieces located in Rhodes' gallery consist of pen, ink, acrylic, smiley-faced sparkly stickers, iron-on butterfly patches, and pieces of bandanas. The painting titled *Hideout* even uses fortune cookie fortunes to express Moon's positive attitude concerning being oneself and being unique. Though one may think that some of these items may be a little random when incorporated into a painting, everything works together beautifully.

Moon's work will be displayed on campus from September 9th until October 14th. The gallery is open Tuesday through Saturday 11am-5pm. Please take some time between classes or on the weekend to enjoy the work of this creative, whimsical artist. Her eclectic yet traditional Asian landscapes will make anyone an instant fan. You may just end up taking advice from *Hideout* and "Just tell them you are from the Moon."



This 2011 Moon creation, titled *Yong!Yong!Yong!*, is comprised of ink, acrylic, fabric, and stickers on Hanji mounted on a canvas.

What's Hot This Fall: September TV Premieres

by Shelby Lund
A&E Editor

As the cold weather draws closer, the TV starts heating up! That's right: it's time for the new Fall season, and September kicks things off with both new seasons of old favorites and series premieres of brand-new shows about everything from time travel to witchcraft to new versions of classic series. For your viewing pleasure, here's a look at five hot new shows premiering in September and five returning favorites:

What's New:

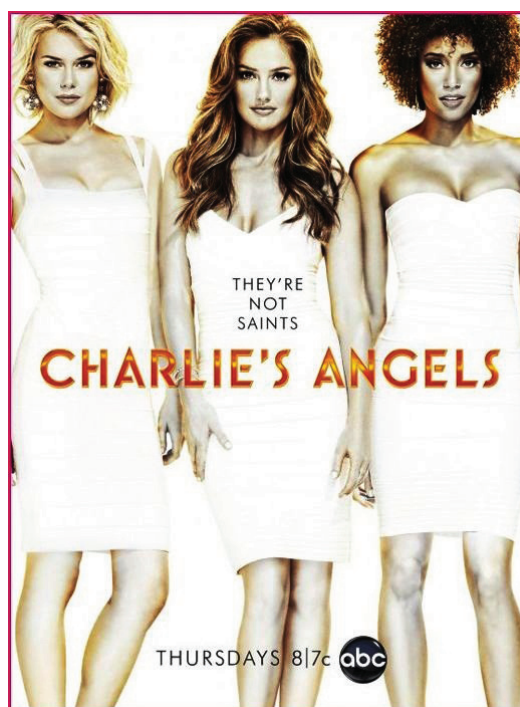
- *Ringer*: This series on the CW stars actress Sarah Michelle Gellar (*Buffy The Vampire Slayer*) as a woman who takes on the identity of her wealthy identical twin and quickly discovers that her sister's supposedly perfect life is every bit as dangerous as the one she left behind. The show has positive early reviews, not to mention considerable buzz due to this being Gellar's first television show since *Buffy*. *Ringer* premieres at 9 pm on Tuesday, September 13 on the CW.

- *Terra Nova*: The highly-anticipated sci-fi series from executive producer Stephen Spielberg, *Terra Nova* follows a group of human colonists who travel back in time to literally redo human history after Earth becomes nearly uninhabitable. Sophomore Stephanie Berendt says that she is excited for the series because she "really likes Jurassic Park and time-travel stories, and this show combines both." *Terra Nova* has its special 2 hr-premiere at 8 pm on Monday, September 26 on FOX.

- *The Secret Circle*: From the creators of *The Vampire Diaries* comes a new supernatural teen drama also based off a series of books by *Diaries* author L.J. Smith. The series follows teenager Cassie Blake (Britt Robertson) as she goes to live with her grandmother after her mother's tragic death only to discover that she's descended from a long line of powerful witches—and that her mother's death wasn't an accident. The show has good to mixed reviews, with the general consensus being that if you like *The Vampire Diaries*, you'll love the show. *The Secret Circle* premieres at 9 pm on Thursday, September 15 on the CW.

- *Charlie's Angels*: A reimagining of the classic TV series, this new version of *Charlie's Angels* follows three bad girls—cat burglar Abby (Rachael Taylor), ex-cop Kate (Annie Ilonczeh), and street racer Eve (Minka Kelly)—as they work as detectives under the titular Charlie. Buzz has been high, but reviews have been mixed, so only time will tell if this show will have the same impact as its big sister. *Charlie's Angels* premieres at 8pm on Thursday, September 22 on ABC.

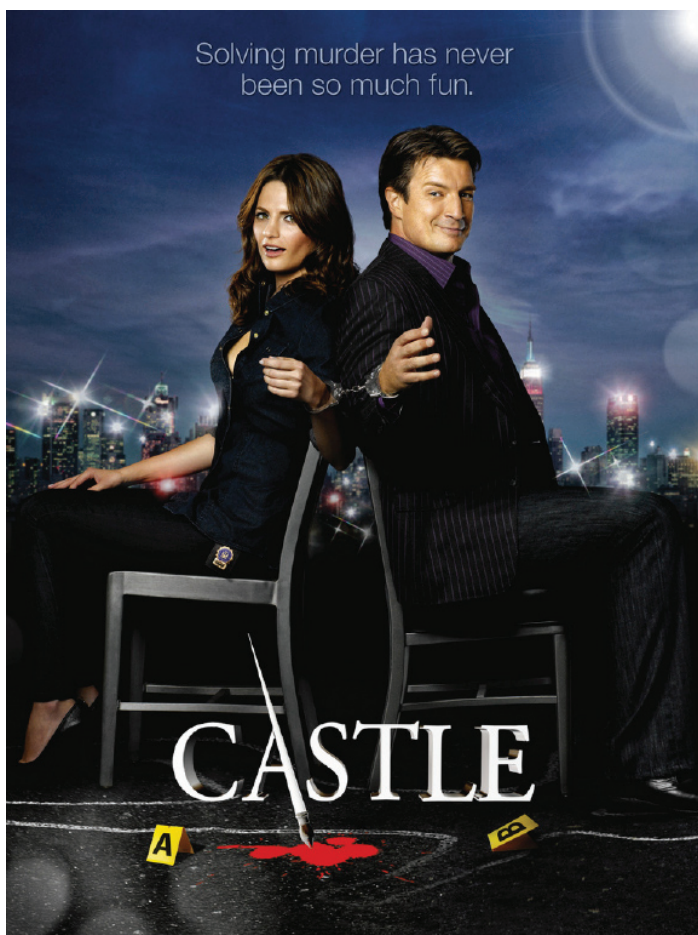
- *Up All Night*: A new comedy chronicling the ups and downs of being new parents, the show stars Christina Applegate as a successful career woman who



Photos courtesy of Wikipedia.com

recently became a mother. Now, she and her stay-at-home husband (played by Will Arnett) must figure out a way to balance their lives with the difficulties that come with a new baby. Reviews for the pilot have been overwhelmingly favorable, so if you're looking for a good laugh, check this one out. *Up All Night* premieres at 10 pm on Wednesday, September 14 on NBC.

What's Coming Back:



- *Glee*: The smash-hit musical dramedy returns for its third season this September amidst reports of graduating main characters, a failed theatrical concert, and a reality spin-off with low ratings. From the looks of it, this season's going to be make-it-or-break-it for the show. Nevertheless, sophomore Amy Poehler is "excited for the premiere because the actors have promised a bigger focus on character development." *Glee* returns at 8 pm on Tuesday, September 20 on FOX.

- *The Vampire Diaries*: The CW's other supernatural teen soap opera returns for its third season, promising new complications to the twists and turns of the previous season's plot, as well as the continuing love triangle between main character Elena (Nina Dobrev) and vampire brothers Stefan (Paul Wesley) and Damon (Ian Somerhalder). *The Vampire Diaries* returns at 8 pm on Thursday, September 15 on the CW.

- *Castle*: The sizzling mystery series starring Nathan Fillion as author Richard Castle and Stana Katic as Detective Kate Beckett picks up where last season's dramatic cliff-hanger left off, promising new mysteries to be solved and possibly a new dimension to the ongoing will-they-or-won't-they between the two leads. *Castle* returns at 10 pm on Monday, September 19 on ABC.

- *Big Bang Theory*: The quirky comedy about a group of extremely intelligent but socially awkward buddies returns with more off-the-wall geek comedy and relationship complications. *The Big Bang Theory* returns at 8 pm on Thursday, September 22 on CBS.

- *Two and A Half Men*: The sensational sitcom formerly starring Charlie Sheen begins its ninth season with the death of Charlie Harper and the introduction of new character Walden Schmidt, played by Ashton Kutcher. Junior Rigelle Tran comments that, as a fan of the show, she is "curious to see what will happen" now that Sheen is no longer a part of the cast, thanks to his increasing insanity, or, as Sheen would call it, "winning." *Two and A Half Men* returns at 9 pm on Monday, September 19 on CBS.

THIS WEEK IN ENTERTAINMENT

New Movie Releases:

9/16/11

I Don't Know How She Does It

Drive

Straw Dogs

The Lion King 3D

Television Highlights (9/14-9/20)

Bones, Wednesday, 7 pm, TNT.

Brennan and the team realize the Gormogon serial killer has struck again.

America's Got Talent, Wednesday, 8 pm, NBC. Nick Cannon reveals the winner; Jackie Evancho; Tony Bennett; Queen Latifah; Cirque du Soleil.

The Big Bang Theory, Thursday, 8 pm, CBS. Howard's mom winds up in the hospital after hearing news of her son's engagement to Bernadette.

Criminal Minds, Friday, 7 pm, A&E. The unit is called into action when a serial bomber terrorizes Seattle.

The Shawshank Redemption, Saturday, 8pm, TNT. Movie. Two life sentences for a 1947 double murder land an innocent man in a corrupt Maine penitentiary.

The 63rd Annual Primetime Emmy Awards, Sunday, 8 pm, FOX. Ceremonies at the Nokia Theatre in Los Angeles honor excellence in TV programming; Jane Lynch hosts.

Dancing with the Stars, Monday, 8 pm, ABC. Season premiere. The couples perform for the first time.

How I Met Your Mother, Monday, 8 pm, CBS. Barney and Ted reminisce about Punchy's wedding; Robin considers confessing her feelings.

NCIS: Los Angeles, Tuesday, 9 pm, CBS. The team searches for Hetty in Romania; Callen uncovers information about his past.

Ringer, Tuesday, 9 pm, CW. Bridget's past starts to catch up with her as she tries to learn more about Siobhan's life.

Reinventing the Lynx: New coach hopes Rhodes football will surprise in '11

**Tyler Springs
Sports Editor**

When you're new somewhere, it can be hard to adjust to your surroundings. Maybe the food tastes weird, the work you're doing is unfamiliar, or you just don't know what to expect. It's no different when you're trying to build a football team.

Dan Gritti, Lynx Football's newest coach, can sympathize—he knows a bit about doing things that don't feel 100 percent comfortable. He spent a few years in New York City battling around a law degree that did not ultimately prepare him for the the preparation-frustrating settle-before-sue mentality of corporate litigation.

"Law school taught me a lot about critical thinking, and I'm still an intellectually passionate guy," he says. "But real law is not about that. It's painting by numbers."

When he decided to stop settling, Gritti knew football was something he still wanted to pursue. He started as an assistant with at Indiana under the coach who coached while he was a student manager and player while studying at Vanderbilt.

"Medical residency for football coaches," Gritti said when asked what his first few years were as an assistant coach resembled. "D-1 football is the Ivy League of football coaching education – inevitably, you spend a lot of nights sleeping in the office."

Now, Gritti has his own office, already cluttered with brightly colored flyers, stacks of stat printouts and bundles of pocket schedules with red letters that boldly advertise "DAWN OF A NEW ERA." The dawn can't come soon enough for the Lynx—though they finished 3-3 in their conference last year, the defense gave up over 400 yards per game, something which cannot continue if they hope to accomplish Gritti's stated goal of a winning season. Only 37, the new coach brings a fresh perspective to the defense this fall, one that values detail-savvy planning most of all.

"One of the challenges of entering an academically strong program is that you have to change how you coach," he explained. "We do a lot of classroom-style learning, because that's what our guys know well and understand. I treat it as a professor would handle any normal course."

And there are grades, too. Football is just beginning to feel the aftershock of the statistical re-evaluation of baseball strategy that has gone on in the past decade, as chronicled by Michael Lewis' best-selling book, *Moneyball: The Art of Winning an Unfair Game*. Gritti, like Detroit Lions head coach Jim Schwartz, is a big proponent of *Moneyball*-type quantitative analysis and non-traditional statistics. Total tackles, for example, can be a misleading number – it's one thing for a player to be a prolific tackler, but if doing so means that the player is constantly out of position or disregarding his assignment on a given play, he is hedging the value of his efforts by leaving the team in a vulnerable position. Gritti and his staff spend as much time as they can breaking down their players' performance into numeric data – each relevant statistic is assigned a score, so every time a player performs, his overall value can be more accurately gauged. Like many things, football strategy is a revolving door of schemes that periodically jump into and slip out of fashion. Gritti just happens to be engaging with a trend still in its infancy.

"If you watch the [New England] Patriots this year, I think you'll see them switch back to playing a 4-3 [four-man] defensive front, because everyone else is using a 3-4 [three-man] front and it's becoming hard to find the personnel suited for those spots.

They were the first to go with the 3-4 back in the early 2000s, too. It's cyclical."

History is also something that Gritti comprehends well. In taking the helm of a program with 16 seniors who have yet to experience a winning season, he has set himself no small task in trying to make a winning first impression (no pun intended). So far, he seems to have started off on the right foot.

"He's very passionate," senior wide receiver Jake Jackson said. "He puts everything he has into game-planning to put us in the best position possible. The last few years have been a disappointing road, but he's made us believe that we can turn things around."

Indeed, it is renewed optimism, along with a good pass rush and an experienced group of offensive starters, that the coach lists among his team's biggest assets.

"The guys have a sense that things are different, and they get the chance to prove that to you," Gritti said. "Our philosophy this season is an about-face from what they did in the past. If things aren't working, they know they can find the answers by looking in the mirror."

The mirror was probably not an easy thing to face this past Saturday. Though they gained 359 yards of total offense – including 332 through the air – the Lynx were overwhelmed by a quick-striking Washington University team that jumped out to a 21-7 lead in the first 16 minutes and converted 11-of-18 third-down plays en route to a 48-21 final in St. Louis. That being said, football is nothing if not a study in incremental no-pain-no-gain progress, and it would be wrong to think that one game is enough to put a team down for the count.

"This is the most confidence I've ever seen from a Rhodes football team, especially in the opening week," said junior receiver Jack Lartigue, who tallied an impressive 12 catches for 162 yards and a touchdown in the loss to Wash. U. "I have a good feeling about the offense; it's explosive. If we're able to cut down on our turnovers from last year, we can be very good."

If the offense can be expected to have that kind of potential, the sky is the present limit for the Rhodes special teams unit: as a former special teams coordinator at two schools, Gritti has had the kind of success that jobless coaches wish they could list on their resume each January. In 2005 and 2006, Gritti mentored Middlebury College kicker Steve Hauschka, whom he helped transform from a bunched punter who could

not catch a snap to an all-conference kicker with All-American caliber numbers; you may recognize Hauschka's name from the Seattle Seahawks' current roster. Gritti, however, is the first to admit that success in the kicking game requires an aggressive mentality and good players on the field, both of which he believes he has. Junior kicker Lukas Stockhausen's longest field goal last season was 37 yards long, but Gritti's tutelage may be able improve his power without sacrificing accuracy.

Like a golf swing, kicking is "about having sound mechanics, refining technique," Gritti explains. "If we work hard, any attempt within 45 yards should be makeable."

The Trinity (TX) team that Rhodes faces this Saturday has scored 67 points in its first two games, so the Lynx will need all the help they can get from the special teams unit to try and keep pace. On the bright side, Trinity has already fumbled 7 times this year (losing 4 of them), but they will undoubtedly be tough to stop if the defense has to stay on the field for long periods of time. It may feel like first-and-10 for Coach Gritti, but really it's more like first-and-long, and Saturday will provide a good assessment of just how much it will take to keep his team in the hunt.



courtesy of Tyler Springs

New head football coach Dan Gritti puts a premium on preparation. The Lynx play their home opener against Trinity (TX) on Sept 17th



courtesy of Stephanie Berendt

Olivia Wells (airborne) rears back for the spike against Principia College.

Volleyball Team finds Success at Rhodes Invitational

Bailey Kimmitt

The Rhodes Women's Volleyball team won two of three games this past weekend at the Rhodes Invitational, easily defeating Principia College and Augustana College.

The Lynx opened up the Rhodes Invitational with a victory over Principia College by the scores of 25-20, 25-20, and 25-22.

The following day, they followed up their victory with a win over Augustana in three straight sets, winning 26-24, 28-26, 25-16. Senior outside hitter and team captain Claire Warren combined for 23 kills in the two Lynx victories.

The final game of the Rhodes Invitational featured a strong start by the Lynx, dominating Belhaven by a score of 25-6 in the first set. A revitalized Belhaven team, however, charged back, taking the next three sets by the scores of 22-25, 25-27, and 25-13.

Right side attackers Olivia Wells and Lexie Krall paced the team's offense with 11 kills apiece during this hard-fought loss. Belhaven was led by Taylor Williams with 20 kills, while Christina Atwood rounded in 10 kills and had 4 blocks assists.

For her solid play on the weekend, setter Michelle Quina was named to the Rhodes Invitational all-tournament team. She and Nicole McAlvany combined for 94 assists over the course of the three games.

Even after the loss, the players seemed upbeat and enthusiastic about the future. "This weekend really showed just how much potential we have as a team this year. We made a number of improvements just between our first tournament and this one. We have seen some really great things so far and, though we have many more things to work on, this weekend left us feeling confident and excited about the rest of our season," said Warren.

Defensive Specialist Jaris Turner felt the same way. "We're just looking forward to the next game and improving as the season goes along. That's what every great team does."