

The Peer Advocate Center: No Longer Just a Resource for Women

Elizabeth Hollingsworth
Staff Writer



(photo courtesy of E. Morozin)

Sitting in almost any bathroom stall on campus, you may have noticed the faces of several Rhodes students on the back of the door, but may not be familiar with what they do. The faces you have seen are those of the Peer Advocates. The Peer Advocate Center, PAC, is a 24-hour hotline of first responders run entirely by Rhodes Students. Upper classmen may know PAC previously as the Women's Center. PAC Director Eden Johnson informed me of the significance of the name changing, stating that, "The change in name signified our change in exclusivity-- basically the only change was that we welcome calls and walk-ins from men now. We have thorough training in LGBT issues, as well as several other issues that are relevant to both men and women on campus." The responders answer concerns of students ranging from problems dealing with "stress, room-mate issues, LGBT issues, depression, sexual assault, incidents of stalking, rape, and suicide" (PAC website). Remaining anonymous is also an option when making a call to the center.

The responders provide help to students by listening to their concerns and providing them with other resource options suited to the needs of the issue at hand. PAC works closely with the campus counseling center, which helps train the responders and is one of the resources a caller may be directed to. Not only does PAC provide a 24-hour hotline, but each of the responders also holds individual office hours in the PAC office, located in the basement of

the Briggs Student Center.

Attending a challenging school like Rhodes can come with a unique set of problems. Not only is Rhodes an academically challenging setting, but the social environment functions differently from that of other schools. With the majority of students living on campus in a student body of approximately eighteen hundred, the issues that students are likely to come into contact with are often specific to the setting of Rhodes College. All of PAC's responders are Rhodes students, and understand the issues facing Rhodes students in ways that other people may not. This is a part of what makes PAC such an important organization. PAC creates a safer campus environment through the aid it provides, and makes a positive difference in the lives of students.

Additionally, on November 13th PAC is hosting the guest speaker Hudson Taylor. Taylor is a wrestling coach at Columbia University, and an outspoken advocate for LGBT rights in sports. He is the founder of the non-profit organization Athlete Ally, which works to encourage acceptance of all sexual orientations and combat homophobia in athletics. Taylor will be speaking on November 13th at 8:15 PM in the Orgill Room. Attending this event will be a great way to show support for PAC and learn about issues relevant to the purpose of PAC.

To call the PAC hotline, dial 901-230-6504.

Downtown Dining Week: Experience Memphis' Best Restaurants for Cheap

Julia Fawal
Co-News Editor



For average college students, restaurant choices are typically dictated by the size of their wallets. This leads to frequent trips to the usual (though still good) places: Central for a half order of BBQ nachos, Pei Wei or Taco Bell during desperate times. Downtown Memphis is home to countless fine dining restaurants featured on shows from *Diners, Drive-Ins, and Dives* to *The Best Thing I Ever Ate* to even *Man vs. Food*; however, it is the daunting prices of some of these great local eateries that discourage students from trying something new.

The third annual Memphis Downtown Dining Week is a solution to the issue. From Nov. 5-11, participating restaurants in downtown Memphis are offering major menu deals. For a fixed price of \$20.12, most restaurants are giving customers either one three course dinner or two dinners. In some cases, the deals vary depending on the location. For the same set price, customers can get an appetizer and an 18-inch pizza at Aldo's or an appetizer, any two entrees, and two banana puddings at Blind Bear Speakeasy.

For comparison, the average three-course meal at The Majestic Grille, one of the participating establishments, is around \$40, but that price can easily become much higher depending on the menu items picked. Other restaurants participating are Eighty3, Bluefin, Trolley Stop, B.B. King's, and Chez Philippe—the high-scale French restaurant nestled inside the Peabody Hotel. DowntownDiningWeek.com has the complete list of restaurants, including the menus offered during the event.

Reservations are not required, but they are highly suggested for those wanting to check out the pricier restaurants. Each restaurant has a specific and limited menu for the week. Anyone interested should check to make sure they like the available options.

There are only a few days left of the event, and it is a great opportunity to experience some of Memphis' finest chefs and restaurants. Instead of waiting until the next time your parents come in town and take you out to dinner, take advantage of Downtown Dining Week and make a reservation while spots are still available!

Choose-Your-Own Editorial: A Sou'wester Election Special

The Sou'wester goes to the press on the eve of the presidential election, and consequently is unable to offer any reaction to the final results of the race. But since we wanted to provide some editorial comment on the election, we have introduced the greatest advance in journalistic technology since the half-page lingerie ad: the Choose-Your-Own-Editorial. Simply take your existing knowledge of the winner (unless we're facing a Florida recount scenario, in which case, God help us all), and choose the corresponding opinion column to gain a fresh (and prophetic) perspective on the next four years of American political life.

A note of caution: if the Other Guy won, of course, your first priority should be to secure your private bunker with enough emergency rations, ammunition, and generators to survive the next four years of misrule by the Other Guy, who will undoubtedly take away your guns/contraception/precious bodily fluids and give them to illegal immigrants/James Dobson/malevolent intelligent dolphins while hunting down you and your family with death panels/black-tied missionaries on bicycles/malevolent intelligent dolphins.

In the extraordinarily unlikely event of a Libertarian victory, the Sou'wester will suspend operations for the immediate future, as the staff will be far too busy getting high.

Barack Obama

Let's be clear: he doesn't deserve it. If Barack Obama takes the oath of office for the second time in January, it will not be because the American electorate has much confidence in his administration's policies or leadership. The president has had the good fortune to face one of the most ineffective politicians ever seen on the national stage in the form of Mitt Romney. He has also been buoyed by a simply-competent response to Hurricane Sandy and by halting improvements in the economy, a development that owes more to the usual business cycle than to his economic stewardship. The question is what the president will do with his reprieve, because the country can't afford a mere repeat of the last four years.

Perhaps the biggest challenge with which the president will have to contend over his second term will be the budget. The country is broke and getting brokered by the day. Though Obama bears less responsibility for this predicament than GOP talking points would claim, neither has he offered a real plan to resolve our fiscal woes. The president has not presented Con-

gress with a credible budget in four years. His chief legislative victory, Obamacare, will increase the deficit unless its cost-cutting provisions prove downright magical in their efficacy. Obama's main argument during the campaign has been for greater taxes on the wealthy. This is not serious. Some taxes may indeed have to rise to put the nation's financial house in order, but there is no level of taxation of the "1%" that will come close to filling the gaping hole in the federal budget. Obama will have to challenge some of the interest groups within his own party if he is to make a reasonable attempt at stabilizing the country's fiscal health. If he ultimately fails to do so, he will be guilty of a gross dereliction of duty.

The president's leadership in foreign affairs has been more competent, but serious blunders have occurred and one hopes that he will learn from them in his next term. The Libya intervention has seriously destabilized the region and left the administration looking feckless after the recent death of the American ambassador in Benghazi. The administration's overreliance on drone attacks (and its disgraceful leaks of national security secrets to the press

for political purposes) have created troubling precedents for assassinations in American foreign policy. Contrary to typical Republican criticisms, the chief problem with Obama's foreign policy is not that he has spent too much time "apologizing for America" but that foreign policy has been so often subordinated to domestic political ends. Without the pressure of reelection, Obama may perform better, but it's an open question.

The recent requirement as part of Obamacare that employers provide free contraception coverage for their workers bears the hallmarks of the worst of this administration. It simultaneously demonstrates a knee-jerk deference to liberal interest groups, an indifference to religious liberty, a cynical attempt to buy off voters, and the latest instance of the administration's propensity for making law by executive fiat. If this sort of policy-making is a sign of what is to come over the next four years, the country will be in a very sorry shape indeed come 2016. If not, Obama still has time to build a legacy as a worthy pilot of the ship of state during one of the republic's most challenging epochs.

Mitt Romney

President-elect Romney, while ordering the installation of a new car elevator at the White House

Let's be clear: he doesn't deserve it. If Willard Mitt Romney takes the oath of office in January, it's in spite and not because of the campaign he ran and the choice he presented to the electorate. In a deeply troubled economy with an increasingly ineffectual incumbent, the Republicans have offered the weakest standard-bearer with the most inane platform since any student at Rhodes has been alive. Indeed, the strongest grounds for hope over the next four years lie precisely in Romney's glaring flaws as a candidate, particularly his super-elastic approach to political principle. If Romney privately believes that virtually everything he's said for the past two years is nonsense, then the country may fare all right.

To hear Romney talk about foreign policy in the last weeks of the election campaign, the major problem with the Obama administration's approach to the world is that it has failed to antagonize other nations enough. The President has indeed made serious errors as Commander-in-Chief, such as a rash intervention in Libya and a feckless handling of the aftermath. Romney, however, has offered no credible alternative, remaining committed to a party-line orthodoxy on foreign affairs that urges ever-greater military adventurism. Most of his foreign policy advisors

are the sort of people who learned absolutely nothing from the Iraq War, and would look kindly on an attack on Iran. Romney's election is far from a ringing endorsement of this warmed-over neoconservative belligerence; it simply proves that the voters had more pressing concerns about the economy. The question for the new administration will be whether to focus on the domestic priorities of the American people or continue to sink blood and treasure into ill-conceived nation-building projects.

When it comes to those domestic concerns, Romney has placed a great deal of emphasis on his expertise as a businessman, but that will not be enough to place the country on a sound economic and fiscal footing. A Romney administration may be in a better position to make necessary reforms to taxes, spending, and entitlements than a reelected Obama would have been, but only if it is willing to make meaningful compromises and pursue true fiscal responsibility rather than a mere repeat of Bush era spend-and-don't-tax policies. Paul Ryan's much-maligned budget plan is a serious and useful starting point, but places far too much faith in the power of further tax cuts to rejuvenate the economy. The country needs an economic agenda that speaks to the interests of the population as a whole, not merely the financial elite. The signals from the Romney camp on this point have not been encouraging. But Romney does have a longstanding pragmatic streak. At the risk of wishful thinking, given

sufficient political pressure Romney might even be able to achieve a "Nixon-to-China" moment and pursue meaningful reform of the "too big to fail" financial institutions. We shall see. In health care, the question will be whether Romney will leave major provision of Obamacare in place; if not, it will be imperative to provide a workable alternative rather than simply reverting to the unsustainable status quo.

We can reasonably expect something of a cooling-down period regarding hot-button cultural controversies such as abortion and gay marriage. While Romney will undoubtedly offer a few political spoils and policy accommodations to social conservatives, he lacks both the desire and the temperament to act as a culture warrior. The question for conservatives will be whether Romney will walk the line when it comes to Supreme Court appointments; liberals may have some reason to hope he will not. In any case, the country would probably be well-served by a de-emphasis on the intractable social issues, which are often better addressed at the state level. Nonetheless, Romney will still have some role to play in social policy. A reversal of some of the more noxious items of the current administration's agenda, such as the contraception mandate, would be welcomed by most of his party.

Romney will undoubtedly face a daunting set of challenges beginning next year. He may yet surprise and prove a better president than he is a candidate. One can only hope.

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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.

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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 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.

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ASSOCIATED
COLLEGIATE
PRESS

Another Useless Factory Closed Thanks to Romney Administrations

The following report is brought to you by *The Rhodes Satire Magazine*. Look for our column in the *Sou'wester*, and our own publication at the end of the year!



“Just get rid of it!” offered Romney during a South Carolina rally to a cheering crowd. In response to the mounting tension between the left and the right, Romney proposed a compromise that he hoped would push him forward in the polls. After meeting with campaign advisors who had prepared an informative PowerPoint about the female anatomy, Romney was (like many men throughout history) both horrified and inspired, as he had previously thought that the “fajita” was just “something you can order at a Mexican restaurant.” He knew he had to take a stand.

be considered a “threat to national security.” Mark Costello, a pilot, agrees with the measure, saying “we don’t understand it, so it’s just better if it’s not there.” The procedure has been commonplace for female stewardesses since the advent of commercial flight. Richard Branson, CEO of Virgin Airlines, refused to comment on their specific stewardess requirements.

Romney, always mindful of bipartisanship, attempts to cater to the left’s needs with the following provision: illegal immigrants can gain full citizenship by simply carrying the surrogate children of American women whose vaginas have already been removed.

“This constitutional amendment would extend to all levels of government, including Transportation Security Administration. Provisional body scans would no longer be sufficient, with female passengers of all ages ordered to a full strip-search, as vaginas would be considered a ‘threat to national security’”

At the SC rally, Romney proposed the nationwide removal of all female genitalia. “Ann has told me it’s virtually painless!” he said emphatically. (Editor’s Note: Mrs. Romney’s genitalia was removed prior to their marriage.)

Washington, DC has noticed a growing trend in vaginal removal procedures, becoming more popular in 1989 when Hillary Clinton had hers removed in a celebration following the fall of the Berlin Wall. Even Sarah Palin, in a Tea Party demonstration following the 2008 campaign, elected to have the procedure herself.

This constitutional amendment would extend to all levels of government, including Transportation Security Administration. Provisional body scans would no longer be sufficient, with female passengers of all ages ordered to a full strip-search, as vaginas would

California seems to be ahead of the curve with this proposed social policy: studies reveal that the frequency of child surrogacy in Hollywood has dramatically increased within the past decade. Originally thought to have been performed in an attempt to maintain the famous mother’s physique, investigators report that most celebrities who decide to use a surrogate had undergone the genitalia removal surgery during their rise to stardom. “Without vaginas, us women will be taken more seriously here in Hollywood,” touts an undiscovered talent while waiting to audition for a detergent commercial. She is hoping to have the procedure within the next few weeks.

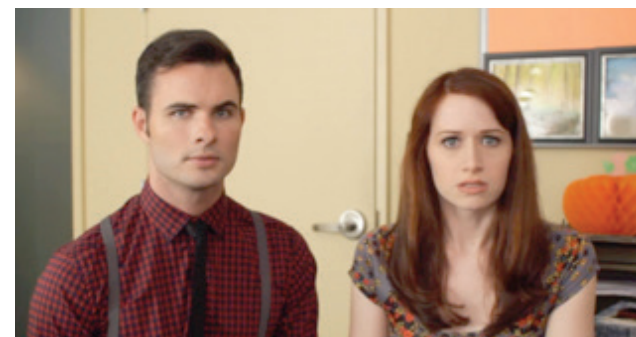
The responses to Romney’s radical suggestion are widely varied, but back in Washington, Obama remains characteristically tight-lipped about the situation.

Disclaimer: 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 opinion columns and letters-to-the-editor do not necessarily reflect the opinions of *The Sou'wester* Editorial Board. Letters to the Editor can be sent to thesouwester@gmail.com

The weekly sassy bisexual column

Confession: I am a Fangirl

Xany Moore



As many of you know, I can be obsessive about fictional characters. It’s a magnificent hobby of mine. Tumblr is my time-wasting website of choice where there are many others who also enjoy being obsessive over fictional characters. Lately, I have sunk my claws into *The Lizzie Bennet Diaries*, a (still in progress) modern video log adaptation of Jane Austen’s *Pride and Prejudice*. The show is one of the best adaptations of anything that I’ve ever seen.

The *Lizzie Bennet Diaries* series started by the iron will of executive producers and co-creators Hank Green and Bernie Su. For those of you who are fellow Nerdfighters, you understand that a Hank Stamp of Awesomeness already pushes this series into gold material. While I was not familiar with Su’s work previously, he also exudes Coolness of an Unearthly Level.

Basically, Lizzie Bennet is a grad school student with multiple loans, a crazy mom, wonderful sisters, and way too much romantic drama. Each character is wonderfully crafted, complete with Twitters and Tumblrs so viewers can chat with Lizzie or Lydia and ask them questions.

I also give major high fives to the production team for varying the races amongst the characters. While Austen’s characters lived in a predominantly white world, that’s not so much of a reality these days. Charlotte Lu, Bing Lee, and Bing’s sister Caroline are all of Asian descent while Fitz (Colonel Fitzwilliam from the original) is African American. While I would have love to seen a POC Lizzie, I understand the complications of attempting such a production. Maybe a POC Emma will be next. We can only hope.

All this ranting goes to show that I am completely smitten with this series. I can’t wait until noon on Mondays and Thursdays. It’s an addiction, especially now that we have met Darcy. The modernization is very believable. Charlotte and Ricky Collins are business partners. Bing Lee is a medical student. George Wickham is a professional swimmer (no militia here). The production team has been incredibly intelligent with the forming of this adaptation.

So, with all the upgrades, why are there no gay characters?

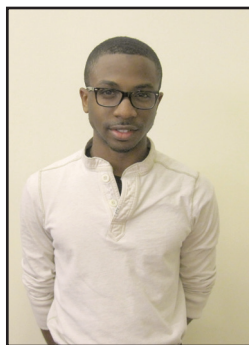
We know Hank Green is well educated on matters of orientation, gender identity, and sexual actions. He made a very thoughtful VlogBrothers video about it three weeks ago (*Human Sexuality is Complicated*). We know the casting process went to extra lengths to make this not a white-washed project. We know that the clothes, lines, and relationships of all characters are fitting for a 2012 vlog series. How is making Charlotte a lesbian so much of an extra step?

Because—lezbheonest—a gay Charlotte would rock this series. Charlotte is already a loyal, understanding, brilliant character, especially in this adaptation. She stands up for herself. She understands how to deal with people (something with which Lizzie has trouble). She is our only hope. My personal fantasy from here on out is going to be that Charlotte Lu is a lesbian.

Videos can be found by searching *Lizzie Bennet Diaries* on YouTube. There are currently 61 videos, which carry the plot through Darcy handing Lizzie the letter. (THE LETTER. WE NEED TO KNOW WHAT LIZZIE IS GOING TO SAY. WHAT. WHEN IS THURSDAY.)

Student Voice

What aren't you thankful for?



"For the lack of sleep I've had since school started.

– Chris Perkins '13

"How the tests for all our classes always end up in the same week."

– Garrett Minor '16



This back and forth weather we've got going on. Like is it hot or cold? Can we just pick a temperature so I know what to wear!

– Alex LaBat '13

"My course schedule for next semester."

– Cristine Osteen '14



"People who are always complaining and negative. They are not grateful for the things they already have."

– Darren Thomas '13

Euro Crisis Fosters Catalan Nationalism

Ines Tamaddon

Ines Tamaddon is a senior Spanish major and International Studies minor. Her areas of interests are the Islamic influence in Spain, and politics of the Middle East. Through her travels across Spain during her semester abroad in Seville, she experienced the strong cultural nationalism associated with each region.

Separatism has been at the forefront of domestic politics in Spain for the larger part of the 20th and 21st centuries. The diverse provinces, each with distinct nationalistic and cultural identities, add to Spain's vitality but also pose as the largest threat to their sovereignty. David Gardner explains in his *Financial Times* article "Euro crisis fuels Spanish separatism," how after the fall of Franco's regime, the new government attempted to appease these "historic nationalities... by disguising [them] with grants of self-rule to regions that had never sought autonomy." However, it appears that time has run out for the central government in Madrid. In the midst of the worst recession the EU and Spain has ever experienced, the northern region of Catalonia has seized these difficult economic times to pursue their aspirations to secede from the country.

The President of Catalonia, Artur Mas has used the region's unshakable nationalism to support a broader goal of increased fiscal autonomy. Gardner notes that "a combination of

economic, historic and cultural reasons [that] the industrial revolution first took root among Basques and Catalans," has allowed Catalonia's economy to prosper, and in turn kept their sense of national identity alive. Linguistically and culturally diverse, Catalans do not identify with the rest of Spain. With unemployment rates at 37 percent for 15 to 24 year olds due to the ongoing Euro Crisis, Prime Minister Rajoy has been trying to push through unpopular economic reforms (CIA Factbook).

Matthew Boesler, a reporter for *Business Insider*, describes how "Catalonia, Spain's largest region by output, [accounts] for 18.7 percent of Spain's total GDP, [but] is also the most indebted." Owing a total of 42 billion euros, "Catalonia has already had to request a bailout from the central government." In addition, Mas has requested for more leverage in tax collections, which Rajoy flatly rejected. In retaliation to this, "Mas is using the growing independence sentiment as a threat over Madrid to secure more fiscal autonomy."

Rajoy's argument against the Catalanian President is that financial trust belongs to the central government. However, as Spain's most prosperous region, Catalans assert that "Madrid takes too much of local income to redistribute elsewhere," illustrates Gardner. They argue that they are culturally and historically diverse, therefore should have political and economic independence. Raphael Minder's article, "Catalan Leader Boldly Grasps a Separatist Lever" for *The New York Times*, argues that there is a clear disconnect between Catalonia and the central government; "in Catalonia's

view, Madrid has drained its finances, while Madrid accuses Catalonia, like nearly all of Spain's regions, of mismanaging its books." Yet neither has created viable alternatives to solve the conflict. Instead, in a recent meeting Mr. Mas "contended that it was Mr. Rajoy who had forced Catalonia down the separatist path, after rejecting its demands unconditionally." These deep divides, feeling of betrayal and growing discontent is what fostered Mas' decision to hold a referendum this November—two years ahead of schedule.

Boesler clarifies that the last time a referendum was held was in 2009, and "almost 95% of those who voted wanted Catalonia to leave Spain." Although this had no physical outcome, these numbers are impossible to ignore. In addition, the Catalan nationalist party, *Convergència i Unió* (CiU) is close to reaching a historic

majority in the regional parliament. In 2010, they won 62 out of 135 seats. But today, they need only six more to reach a majority of 68 representatives.

This past September, fears were solidified

"These deep divides, feeling of betrayal and growing discontent is what fostered Mas' decision to hold a referendum this November—two years ahead of schedule."

that this could become a reality as "hundreds of thousands of Catalans demanded to form a new European state." With November fast approaching, it is possible that the elections will "turn into an unofficial referendum on independence" and pave the way to Catalan secession. Through these resolute actions, Mas has demonstrated that "he is serious about his threat to let the people of Spain's most economically powerful region decide for themselves in a referendum whether they should remain a part of Spain." The CiU's advancement in parliament and the determination of an unwavering leader has made it clear that sentiments of separatism will not fade regardless of what comes this November.

As a Catalan vote on independence would violate Spain's Constitution, Rajoy's "deputy prime minister warned Mr. Mas last week that Madrid would use every legal instrument viable" to abolish these threats. However, no 'legal instrument' will put an end to this conflict since the issue is far deeper than economic disparities. The real question is how to create a bridge between the people of Catalonia, and the rest of Spain. However, since Spain's economy directly impacts the EU and the global market, Rajoy and Mas must temporarily put internal discrepancies on hold, and refocus the world's attention on solving this economic emergency that could soon reach a point beyond repair.

For more international coverage from the Sou'Wester, read our international affairs blog at www.thesouwester.org

CAMPUS SAFETY

October 22, 2012 - October 28, 2012

10-22-2012

Medical call in Glassell Hall. Officers responded, ambulance called. Student transported to local hospital.

10-23-2012

Theft report filed. Wallet stolen from Blount. Investigation started.

10-24-2012

Vandalism report filed for damage caused to a motorcycle parked near Fisher Garden.

Medical call in Lair. Officers responded, ambulance called for an Employee, no transport.

10-25-2012

Medical call in EVA. Officers responded, ambulance called for a Student, no transport.

Report filed for theft from the KA house. Flag and pole and antique Sword missing. Investigation started.

10-26-2012

Report of a disturbance in Williford. Officers responded and report filed.

Medical call in Glassell Hall. Officers responded, ambulance called for a Student, no transport.

10-27-2012

Report of intoxicated student in EVA, Officers responded and AV report filed.

Report of intoxicated student in Glassell Hall. Officers responded and AV report filed, student transported to local hospital.

Report of "Gong" missing from Hassell Hall. Report filed, investigation started.

Medical call from BCLC. Report filed, student transported to local hospital by car.

10-28-2012

Fire alarm in EVA. Burnt food in microwave. No damage.

Lost property reported. iPad left on roof of car. Report filed.

Lynxstock 2012: Margot & the Nuclear So and So's and Russell Dickinson

Maggie Butcher

Looking for something to do this Saturday night? Rhodes Activities Board is sponsoring their annual fall concert event, Lynxstock, on Nov. 10. From 8-11, students can come to the Lair for performances by Margot & the Nuclear So and So's and Russell Dickinson.

Lynxstock is a clever play on the 1969 famed music festival Woodstock. To achieve a similar musical vibe, Lynxstock is on the chiller side compared to the high-energy party music featured at RAB's Rites of Spring concert weekend. However, that does not make Lynxstock any less entertaining. "In the past it has featured a variety of genres that might appeal to the concert-goer who prefers a more low-key experience, such as country, indie, and folk music," said RAB concert chair, Rikeen Patel '12. This entertaining event offers a balance for our diverse student body to enjoy quality music free of charge.

Margot & the Nuclear So and So's are a folk, indie rock band from Indianapolis, Indiana. In their eight years of existence, they have produced four albums, their latest released this year. With eight band members, the band incorporates controlled male and female vocals and multiple guitars and drums to produce a sound leaning slightly more towards the rock side of the genre spectrum.

They have garnered a large, devoted following— so much so that approximately 25% of student requests submitted for Lynxstock were for this band.

25-year-old Russell Dickinson is a country-rock artist from Nashville, Tennessee. The singer, songwriter and guitar player likes to take control of the stage and elicits an emotional response from the audience, as inspired by Garth Brooks. At 6' 4" with a soft smile, girls will especially enjoy his performance, but his blend of rock and country styles makes his shows an entertaining experience for everyone—even for students who dislike country music.

The event will be held indoors this year, as opposed to outside in Fisher Gardens or the BCLC lawn to escape from the late-November cold. Seating will be plentiful and the show will be personal, creating a warm, inviting atmosphere. And for those Rhodes students who are old enough to consume alcohol, there will be drink specials in the Lair bar.

T-shirts will be sold the preceding week in both the Rat and the Middle Ground. So come on out, grab some pizza, a hot coffee from the Middle Ground or a cold beer from the bar, and enjoy a personal concert with some great musical talent.

Men's Chorus Debuts, Skoog Seeks to Double Size

Chip Slawson
Staff Writer

During the Rhodes music department's annual fall concert in mid-October, audience members were treated to four songs performed by the first-ever Rhodes College Men's Chorus. Directed by music department chairman Dr. William Skoog, who also directs Rhodes Singers, the Men's Chorus performed a variety of pieces, including a traditional Creek Indian song, a Mendelssohn Romance piece, and a Negro spiritual, which was received with ardent applause.

Practically grinning from ear to ear as he sits down with me two weeks after the concert, Skoog is barely able to contain his excitement about the new ensemble and its success thus far.

"My whole life I have been involved with men's music; I grew up in the arms of a Barbershop quartet; my father was an avid barbershopper. That has been a lifelong passion of mine," he says, beaming with pride as he points to a picture of the Bowling Green State University's 125-men chorus featured prominently on his office wall.

His passion did not just date back to his previous job at Bowling Green, a large

university near Toledo, Ohio. The son of a church music director and barbershop chorus director, Skoog grew up with extensive choral experience in high school, and was directing men's choruses as soon as he began working on his masters degree in Colorado, a position he relished and continued into his time at Bowling Green.

When he received a job offer from Rhodes over four years ago, he pounced. Skoog loved the opportunities Rhodes has for both its students and professors, and saw potential to add to it with his background in men's singing.

"When I came here, I thought, 'that remains a passion of mine. I'll give it a little time,' but underneath all that is a little murmuring, that one piece I would like to continue. There's something about the energy and vitality created when men get together and sing. The vocal color and sound is just different."

Concluding his third year at Rhodes last spring, Skoog felt the timing was right to try starting a Men's Chorus.

"Guys will be drawn to it; it's magnetic; it's contagious. It's a special place to plug in

in the collegiate atmosphere. I floated it out there, and we had 25 guys sign up. I believe in life that if you put your vision and your dream behind things, they will happen."

They happened, indeed. Even before 25 guys enrolled, faculty members had approached Skoog, asking to help be a part of this new venture. When the chorus started, Skoog had a fairly even mix of tenors, baritones, and basses, and did so with minimal disruption to the men-women balance in Rhodes Singers.

Energized by its strong start, Skoog wants to add men to it, and fast. "My goal is to have 40 men next semester, and I'd love to get 50," Skoog said.

When asked whether that was a realistic goal, Skoog didn't hesitate to say that he wasn't sure, but still wasn't fazed by the prospect. "I have no idea. But I do know that there's energy and good will in there."

For those who may be interested in joining the expanding Men's Chorus, it meets from 4:00-5:30 on Thursdays and gives 1 credit hour, which counts toward the F5 requirement.



Photo courtesy of Rhodes College

Bill Skoog, director of the Rhodes Men's Chorus. The Men's Chorus will perform next during the annual Christmas Concert at St Mary's on Sunday, December 2.

“Oh, James”: Celebrating 50 Years of 007

Shelby Lund
A&E Editor



“Bond. James Bond.” With those three little words, spoken by the then-32-year-old Sean Connery, the world was introduced to the most iconic spy on the silver screen. This past October, James Bond, Agent 007, turned a glorious 50 years old, and, if anything, the superspy has proven that he ages like fine wine—he just gets better as time goes by, as critics are already lauding the 23rd Bond film, *Skyfall*, as possible the best film in the series’ history.

While Bond himself has been around since the early 1950s, in the form of Ian Fleming’s original novels, his first foray into film occurred in 1962, with the release of *Dr. No*. The film established a great many of the series’ iconic elements: the above introduction, Bond’s fondness for vodka martinis “shaken, not stirred,” the opening gun barrel sequence, and, of course, classic Bond characters such as his superior M, then played by Bernard Lee, his gadgeteer genius Q, then played by Peter Burton prior to the introduction of Desmond Llewelyn, and M’s long-suffering secretary Miss Money Penny, then played by Lois Maxwell.

The film also introduced the series’ two greatest archetypes: the always beautiful Bond girl, created by Ursula Andress’ Honey Ryder, and the always despicable Bond villain, created by Joseph Wiseman’s titular doctor. Finally, the film established a core set of characteristics for Bond himself: he’s intelligent, brave, dedicated to his country, sophisticated, and impossibly charming (particularly in the eyes of women), but he’s a ruthless killer who can and will shoot a man (and, as later films showed, woman) in cold blood without batting an eyelash. The best part is that these elements have stood the test of time, reoccurring in one form or another in nearly every single Bond film.

That’s not to say that the films haven’t changed since

the early ‘60s. Bond has been played by five different actors since Connery’s departure, with each man offering a slightly different take on the character: for example, Sir Roger Moore’s Bond is more prone to quips, while Pierce Brosnan’s displayed more emotional depth. The most recent Bond, Daniel Craig, is overall a much more complex version of the character, being simultaneously more ruthless and more human than the majority of his predecessors.

The role of M, originated by a male actor, is currently played by Dame Judi Dench, who if anything has become the franchise’s definitive portrayal of the character. The Bond girl archetype has also undergone a great transformation thanks to the feminist revolution, overall developing far more character complexity and narrative agency as time goes by. Yet the core of these characters—the essence of the franchise itself—was not lost in the evolutionary process, ensuring that these changes have improved the series and helped it thrive. Thanks to its ability to adapt to the times, the series has survived the end of the Cold War and the advent of new spy films like the *Bourne* trilogy to remain one of the longest continually running franchises in film history, despite criticism of the recent Craig films as more *Bourne* than Bond.

However, with *Skyfall* the series appears to be making a return to a more classic Bond style, including bringing back Q, now played by Ben Whishaw, while proving the series’ continued relevance in the modern world by having a plot focused on cyberterrorism. The film has already premiered overseas to great acclaim, and has recently smashed box office records in the UK. From this glowing reception, it’s clear that the series still has plenty of fight left. Happy Birthday, Mr. Bond—may your charms never fade.



Student Musician of the Week: Kaleb Yaniger

Molly Whitehorn
A&E Photo Editor

Senior Kaleb Yaniger is a violin-playing, heavy metal-listening, Religious Studies-majoring future monk. Now the principle violinist in the Rhodes Orchestra, he has been playing the instrument since he was in middle school. “I got this newsletter in the mail and was like ‘Mom, I wanna play violin’ and she was like ‘Alright, that sounds cool.’”

Raised in Little Rock, Arkansas, Yaniger borrowed much of his love for music from his mom. “Growing up I always heard this music all around me and I thought, ‘I wanna do some of it.’” And so he did. His mom even picked up the cello a few years after Yaniger started with the violin; now they play shows together in Little Rock and other areas as half of a quartet.

Alongside his mom, Yaniger grew to play many types of music. “The music that we started with was classical and eventually it got to alternative and rock and, like, metal and really cool stuff that’s not really done on stringed instruments as much.” Since Yaniger is so soft-spoken and kind, his personal taste in music is also surprising. “I’ve been really getting into really heavy metal. I thought I couldn’t stand it, but now I enjoy it. Just like brutal stuff. Like, *brutal*.”

But Yaniger’s interests expand beyond music. He spent a semester in India studying “Buddhist philosophy, Buddhist meditation and Tibetan language.” He even hopes to get ordained as a monk. Wait, what? “It’s a hard decision but I’m at the point to where if I didn’t do it, I’d be disappointed.” To Yaniger, even the idea of playing music professionally is extremely unappealing. “There was a point where I wanted to be a concert violinist, but then I was like *psb*, there’s so much competition and I’d have to go to Juilliard and practice constantly and be miserable.”

Yaniger still plans on playing the violin when he becomes a monk. “I made the serious decision to bring my violin next time. Whenever I get stressed out or don’t want to do any homework, I can just play violin and keep going. I’d probably be at a real loss if I didn’t bring it.”

The only reason it is a “serious decision” at all is that lugging a violin around while traveling can become very inconvenient. “It’s just such a hassle. I’m glad I don’t play cello or something like that; [the violin is] a little bit more manageable.”

Come see Yaniger play his wieldy violin in the BCLC Ballroom next Monday, November 12, at 7:30 pm.

“Be Careful What You Wish For”: Into the Woods at McCoy Theater

Amber Lee

What happens after happily ever after? This weekend the McCoy Theatre sought to answer that question by opening their 2012-13 season with Stephen Sondheim's masterpiece, *Into the Woods*, and the answer was music to the audience's ears.

The 1987 musical, with music and lyrics by Sondheim and book by James Lapine, intertwines the stories of Cinderella, Little Red Riding Hood, Rapunzel, and Jack (of beanstalk fame) with an original story of a Baker and his wife trying to reverse a curse on their family in order to have a child.

The journey begins in Act 1 as the Baker, played by Zach Pless (Class of '13), and his wife, played by Katie Marburger (Class of '14), adventure into the forest to search for the items they need to reverse the curse, running into the fairy tale characters along the way. The act ends with everyone living happily ever after, but Act 2 puts a more menacing spin on the classic stories

by revealing what happens when happily ever after meets reality.

This musical happens to be one of my favorites, especially because I was an orchestra member in my high school's production last spring. Many hours of practice went into the performance, which has increased both my fondness for the show and the standards by which I judge it. That is a major factor in why I believe that Rhodes College has done a wonderful job with this performance; it's clear that Director Kermit Medsker and the wonderful cast and crew have put a considerable amount of work into making this performance magical.

Set Designer Kathy Haaga uses bamboo and an assortment of leaves to transform the McCoy Theatre stage into the dense forest where all the characters cross paths on their respective journeys. For added measure, the trees come to life to aid in all parts of the storytelling process.

The back of the stage is illuminated by a projection displaying song titles and significant lines, making it seem like it was being read out of a book.

Each cast member brings something special to the production, doing their best to make the performance an enjoyable experience. Kilby Hodges (Class of '13) embodies the role of the Witch, delivering her melodic lines extravagantly. In addition, Emily Tarr (Class of '15) does a wonderful job at transforming Cinderella from a housemaid into a knowledgeable woman, particularly with her fantastic performance of “No One is Alone.” Corbin Williams (Class of '14) gives a dazzling performance as both the Wolf and Cinderella's Prince. The talented acting was aided by the costumes, designed by David Jilg, and the band, directed by Kermit Medsker and Andrew Drannon.

Into the Woods runs November 8-11. All shows start at 7:30 pm with the Sunday, November 11 show starting at 2:00 pm.

The Best of Bond Music

Jasmine Gilstrap
Editor-In-Chief

While watching all the James Bond films in order seems like a good weekend challenge and a great way to honor the 007 franchise turning 50, I chose to listen to the fantastic theme songs from the Bond films instead. Although all of the 23 films' soundtracks have their fair share of iconic, chart-topping songs, I've selected my favorite themes for the various James Bond movies. This playlist may not save any damsels in distress or drive some pretty sick cars, but it will make everything one embarks on while listening seem much more epic.

“On Her Majesty's Secret Service” – Louie Armstrong from *On Her Majesty's Secret Service*: Kicking things off is the theme for the sixth James Bond film and the first to feature actor George Lazenby. The pulsating nature of the tambourine combined with the fast-pace bass guitar and mallet instruments make the listener feel as though they are sitting shot gun in a car chase with Mr. Bond himself. Of course, no Louie Armstrong song is complete without some great brass sounds. The trombone and

trumpet sections put in the most work with their features in the beginning of the verses. The end of the piece transitions beautifully into Bond pulling up to the consulate, a perfect end to the car-chase feeling of the song.

“Live and Let Die” – Paul McCartney & Wings from *Live and Let Die*: No better way to celebrate the first time Sir Roger Moore took on Bond role than with a theme song by Sir Paul McCartney. The song begins as a piano-driven ballad, similar to many rock songs coming from the early 70's. However, the timpani strikes after the first verse make way for the more animated, orchestral part of the song before returning to the piano ballad with slight reggae-sounding beat. You're not quite in a car chase with this piece, but you're definitely running with Bond to save the day.

“GoldenEye” – Tina Turner from *GoldenEye*: The first song featured in a James Bond film whose theater release I was alive for comes from the great Nutbush, TN native, Ms. Tina Turner. Beginning with a remixed version of the iconic Bond theme, the trumpet and string reminiscent of past Bond themes transitions into a true 90's song, complete with a snare tick similar to the one that differentiates Vanilla Ice's “Ice, Ice Baby” from Queen and David Bowie's “Under Pressure.” Despite the departure from Tina's more R&B sounding songs, this track still displays the power of her voice and creates an ominous feeling with the strings, a perfect set up for Mr. Bond's journey to stop the GoldenEye satellite from becoming active.

“Die Another Day” – Madonna from *Die Another Day*: Released in the beginning of the auto tune craze, this song from the first Bond movie of the 21st century features a heavy dose of T-Pain's magic. Madge does what she does best in creating a dance-club-worthy track complete with bass and synthesizer sounds. As Pierce Brosnan's last James Bond film, the song and Mr. Brosnan go out with an attention-grabbing bang.

“You Know My Name” – Chris Conell from *Casino Royale*: David Arnold knew what he was getting when he selected Audioslave front man Chris Conell to sing this Bond theme, as it sounds pretty much like an old Audioslave song. The addition of strings makes the track more epic-sounding, very fitting for the debut of Daniel Craig as Bond. The formula of the mellow verses then a rocking hook and finally an even more rocked-out chorus satisfied my inner Audioslave fan and provided a nice introduction to seeing Mr. Craig breathe new life into 007.

“Skyfall” – Adele from *Skyfall*: As an Adele fangirl, I don't think I need to explain why this is on my list...but I will. Everything about this song, from the piano intro to the ominousness of the orchestra in the chorus to the choir, makes it THE Bond theme for future performers to beat. All these elements come together with the soulful, bluesy Adele voice that we all know and love to create a track that transcends the James Bond franchise. Listening to the track sans an opening sequence makes me wonder what sort of action this beautiful piece of music introduces.

THIS WEEK IN ENTERTAINMENT

New Movie Releases:
10/5/12

Skyfall
Lincoln
A Royal Affair
Starlet

Television Highlights
(11/7-11/13)

Arrow, Wednesday, 7 pm, CW. When Oliver is arrested for murder, he wants no one but Laurel to be his lawyer.

Supernatural, Wednesday, 8 pm, CW. As Dean and Sam investigate a murder, they find Garth is already on the case.

Glee, Thursday, 8 pm, FOX. Marley, Jake, Kitty and Ryder compete for roles in “Grease”; Mercedes and Mike help cast the play.

Elementary, Thursday, 9 pm, CBS. Sherlock tries to prove that a plane-crash victim was already dead before the plane went down.

Grimm, Friday, 8 pm, NBC. Hank remembers an arrest he made; Monroe gets involved in an unexpected situation.

Rocky, Saturday, 8 pm, PBS. Movie. Heavyweight champ Apollo Creed gives Philadelphia club fighter Rocky Balboa a title shot.

Once Upon A Time, Sunday, 7 pm, ABC. Ruby becomes the prime suspect for a vicious murder; Leroy finds treasure in a Storybrooke mine.

Bones, Monday, 7 pm, FOX. The interns uncover the identity of a man who died in the 9/11 terrorist attacks.

Happy Endings, Tuesday, 8 pm, ABC. When Brad and Max work together at a bar mitzvah, Max is jealous of Brad's performance.

Field Hockey Takes 4 in a Row: Win against Centre leads to Lynx first SAA Championship

Brendan Goyette
Sports Editor



photo courtesy of S. Pandita

Freshman midfielder Mary Rose Hazel prepares to pass the ball to a teammate.

The Rhodes College Field Hockey team capped another impressive season on Sunday, completing a sweep of the SAA and taking home their fourth consecutive league title (3 in the SCAC, 1 in the newly formed SAA).

Following a 1-2 start, the Lynx fell only twice in their final 15 contests which included a six-game win streak to finish the season en route to the school's first SAA Championship.

The Lynx entered this past weekend's SAA Tournament as the top seed and host, earning a bye in the opening round. In Saturday's semifinal game, the Lynx were able to dominate 4th-seeded Sewanee, outshooting the tigers 32-3. Senior Katie Faucher began her final conference tournament with the Lynx with style, scoring both Lynx goals and setting the stage for final showdown Sunday afternoon with rival Centre.

Entering the game, Rhodes had managed a 2-0 regular season record against Centre, but there was no doubt that the Colonels could compete; both regular season contests being decided by one goal. That one goal would prove to be the difference once again as the Lynx were able to pull out a victory in a tightly contested match by a score of 1-0. The game remained deadlocked in a shutout before sophomore Kate Taylor was able to deflect home a Regan McLaughlin shot 48 minutes in. The lone goal left the Lynx with their first ever SAA Championship and a perfect 10-0 conference record.

It is worth noting that the team's four seniors, Marie Mason, Katie Faucher, Sarah Ferguson, and Jordan Robinson finished their careers with four conference titles and an overall record of 55-17. Ferguson and Faucher have been selected to participate in the NCAA Division 3

Senior All-Star game as a result of their efforts, and goalie Jordan Robinson, ended the year with three consecutive shutouts, most impressively holding opponents virtually scoreless throughout the SAA tournament.



photo courtesy of S. Pandita

Junior defensive player Sam Anscher warms up against the Centre Colonels. Anscher serves as the team's Junior Captain.

Lynx Women's Soccer Takes Second

Brendan Goyette
Sports Editor

Sunday marked the end of another strong season for the Rhodes Women's Soccer Team as the Lynx fell 3-0 in the first ever SAA Tournament Championship by a score of 3-0 to a nationally ranked Centre College. Rhodes entered the tournament as the #3 seed following an 8-1 regular season conference record. The weekend began for the Lynx with a contest against 6th seeded Berry College. Rhodes single-handedly took the match by a score of 3-0. The game began and ended in similar fashion as senior Betsy Peterson was able to notch her first goal of the day in the first two minutes of the game, followed by her second in the 89th minute.

On Saturday, the Lynx were given the chance to avenge their sole loss in conference play as they would meet 2nd seeded Birmingham Southern in the semi-final. The Panthers struck quickly, finding the back of the net less than thirty seconds into the contest. The lead, however, would not hold. Junior Heidi Press finished the first-half offense, knotting the score at one in the 18th

minute, leaving the SAA semi-final game to be decided in the final 45 minutes. Facing elimination, the Lynx wasted little time, taking a 2-1 lead thanks to the foot of freshman Elizabeth Wayda. Wayda would add her name to the score sheets again only 6 minutes later, feeding fellow freshman Lauren Albright for a volley header to give Rhodes a 2 goal lead. While Birmingham Southern converted a late penalty kick to bring the difference to one, the Lynx defense would hold, cementing their place in the SAA final on Sunday.

The Lynx would square off with top-seeded Centre Colonels had suffered their sole loss of the season at the hands of the Lynx on senior day here in Memphis, but the strength of #9 (National Ranking) proved to be too much. The word of the weekend continued to be "avenge" as Centre defeated the Lynx by a score of 3-0. Preceding the loss, the Lynx had racked up a 10 game win streak en route to a final record of 15-4-1.

Upcoming Memphis Sports Events

Friday, November 8, 7 pm
Memphis Grizzlies vs. Houston Rockets

Saturday, November 10, 1 pm
Football vs. Centre College

Monday, November 12, 6:30 pm
University of Memphis Men's Basketball vs. North Florida

Friday, November 16, 7 pm
Mississippi RiverKings vs. Mississippi Surge