

The Sou'wester

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RHODES AT MEMPHIS - APRIL 22, 2015

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EXPANDING THE SCIENCES



Dr. Robertson Jr. '65 prepares to break ground on the new science building named in his parent's honor

BY DOUG FETTERMAN '16
STAFF WRITER

The sciences are all about pushing boundaries and creating new ways to do old things. Nowhere was this more evident than on April 17, when trustee members, faculty and special guests gathered to witness the groundbreaking ceremony for Robertson Hall. A gift of physics graduate and current Board of Trustees member Dr. Charles Robertson Jr. '65, the \$30 million building will house new classrooms and laboratories for biology and neuroscience. It is named for his parents, Charles William Robertson '29 and Lola Ellis Robertson '33, who were both outstanding scientists in the field of biology.

Dr. Robertson was having fun from the start, wearing a suit and sandals to show off his toenails, which were painted resplendently black and red. He did not settle for an antiquated shovel to begin the ceremonial removal of dirt at the site of the future building. Instead, he withdrew a large red "detonator" and flipped a switch. Seconds later, a section of earth flipped over as a black weather balloon burst out of the ground. A quick manip-

ulation of the detonator resulted in the removal of another piece of dirt, as this time a red balloon inflated underground. At the same time, the Society for Physics Students began exploding the decorative balloons located near the gathering, resulting in explosions of different-colored flames. After a longer-than-expected delay and growing to nearly four feet across, the red balloon popped in a loud crescendo to the morning's ceremony.

President Troutt made some opening remarks, giving historical background on the Robertson family as well as saying Robertson Hall will be a "game-changer" for the sciences at Rhodes. Both he and RSG President Shelley Choudhury '15 discussed the community-building potential for the new building. It completes a quad enclosing the Barret Lawn, bounded by Briggs, Hassell, and the library on the other three sides. This will facilitate the mingling of students from all of the different disciplines; as Choudhury remarked, "No longer will people be able to say the sciences keep to themselves." That said, truly dedicated anti-socialites will be able to use the underground tunnel set to connect the new facility with Rhodes Tower and Frazier Jelke.

TRIAL TEAM TOP TEN

BY JOSH GROSS '18
STAFF WRITER

For the first time ever, the American Mock Trial Association introduced an entirely new case exclusively for its National Championship Tournament, which took place in Cincinnati last weekend. After seven months of litigation over the death of Sydney Park in *Park v. Duran*, qualifying mockers had less than one month to prepare both plaintiff and defense cases for *Ginger v. Heisman*, a civil trial involving allegations that Max Heisman, mayor of the fictional city of Truman, committed fraud to ensure his reelection. For the third year in a row, Rhodes College sent two teams to the National Championship Tournament, and this year it was one of only five institutions out of 43 competing qualified to do so.

The teams were randomly divided into two divisions for the four preliminary rounds of the tournament. Each round was presided over by three judges who assigned scores to speeches, examinations and witness testimony. The team from each division with the best record, based on individual judges' ballots, went on to compete in the final round.

Rhodes' 'A' team, called 872 by program members, competed in the Katherine E. Pridemore Division. This group of seasoned upperclassmen, led by coaches Marcus Pohlmann and Anna Smith and captains Lauren Tesler and Henry Morris, met an even match in the first round. Representing the plaintiff against Northwoods University of Midland, Mich. 872 won one judge's ballot, lost another's and tied a third. The team gained momentum from there, and after strong appearances against the University of Cincinnati and the University of Tennessee, Knoxville, entered the final round with a record of 6-2-1. Representing the defense against the theretofore undefeated Yale University, 872 fought a hard contest, but was not able to gain enough advantage on any of the ballots. They finished at eighth place in the Pridemore Division with a record of 6-5-1. For her work as a witness for the plaintiff, Taylor Jackson was named an All-American, the highest individual honor in collegiate mock trial.

"I think it is a testament to our students' talent and the legacy that Mark Pohlmann created that our competitors are never satisfied with anything less than first place with a perfect record," said Anna Smith, "but the reality is that Henry and Lauren led a talented team through a grueling postseason challenge (the new case) and were in the hunt to win a National Championship all the way to the very end."

Rhodes' B team (873) was a more diverse group, with seniors, juniors, sophomores and first years alike rostered and active. They competed in the William Howard Taft Division, mocking against students from Bellarmine University, Duke University, Hamilton College and Macalester College.

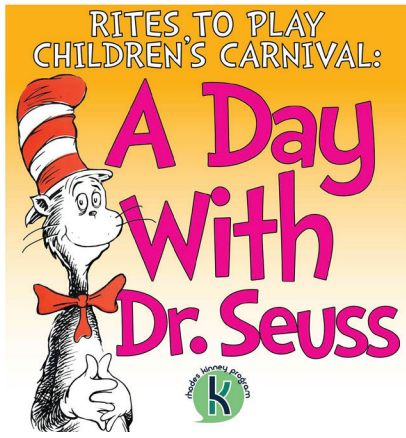
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Members of the Rhodes Mock Trial 'B' Team celebrate after qualifying for nationals

NEWS

rites to rhyme



On April 18, quite a wonderful day,
Children and parents came to Rhodes; say, "Hey!"
They came with their siblings, they came one and
all,
They came to have fun at our free carnival.
Everyone was invited, we turned no one away,
A Day with Dr. Seuss at the Rites to Play!

Students came, too, and set up the fun,
Their organizations had booths to run.
There was popcorn and ice cream and tornados
of fire,
Anything that any kid could desire.
For sport you could throw a pie at a Pi,
Or make some oobleck (keep it out of your eye!)

But that was just outside, there was fun inside
too!
Egg races and books – temporary tattoos!
Many wanted to show learning isn't a bore,
It doesn't have to be some terrible chore.
From Twizzler DNA to foreigner's chocolate,
It was a consensus: Rhodes College, you rocked
it!

With so many booths and so much great help,
It's clear we deserve five stars on Yelp.
Helping others is great; it's what we do best,
(Sometimes even better than passing our tests!)
So thank you to everyone who came out,
You are all terrific – there isn't any doubt.

-By DR. DOUG FETTERMAN

THE HUNT FOR SUCCESS



Front: Cierra Martin '15 (3rd place for Marisol Vertical Farm), Evan Deere '16, Will Cobb '18, Joel Cox '16 (2nd place for Sciony), and Michael Edel '15 (1st place for Guidehunter.com) Back: Guest judges Steven Bares, Ph.D. (Pres./Exec. Director, Memphis Bioworks Foundation), Don Fisher, Ph.D. (Exec. Director, MSQPC), and Bill Hulsey '77 (Principal, HULSEY HUNT P.C.)

By MARK LAINOFF '15
STAFF WRITER

Last Friday, the Entrepreneurship Club hosted its 2nd Annual Business Plan Competition. Seven teams competed for a stake in a \$10,000 award, upping the ante from last year's award of \$2,500. With a first place prize of \$7,500, only 5 minutes to present and 3 minutes for questions, competitors were at the mercy of time and money—think Rhodes College meets Shark Tank.

"I view this as the next step in fulfilling our mission in the liberal arts and sciences," said guest judge Bill Hulsey '77, "entrepreneurship is a combination of both. Rhodes needs to keep holding more events like this that encourage students to stand on their own, breathe on their own and think on their own. Those types of people are the most entrepreneurial-minded leaders, and Rhodes must continue to foster that development."

Mr. Hulsey couldn't have better described the creativity of competition winner Michael Edel '15. A

Commerce and Business major from Spring, Texas as well as an avid hunter and angler, Edel saw opportunity to tackle a gap in the online world of outdoor sports by creating the one-stop-shop for hunting and fishing guides: Guidehunter.com.

"Rhodes increased my awareness of what is needed to start a business through presentations and case studies, while also helping me develop my business plan," said Edel, "and I plan to dedicate all of my time [after graduation] to my idea."

In planning this event since August, E. Club President Shivam Patel '15 and Vice President Sam Reid '16 sought to "connect students' interdisciplinary work and help them turn on their light bulbs." With business plans varying from an app for competitive selfies to a tactical gun range, the range of liberal arts students' interests certainly shined bright.

The Sou'wester would like to thank all of the competitors, judges, and the E. club for the event. Congratulations to the winners and keep chasin' that paper!

MOCK TRIAL (CONT.)

After a series of close calls, 873 finished with a record of 4-8. The Taft Division title went to Harvard University with a record of 11-1. They proceeded to win decisively over Yale in the final round, taking their first National Championship title.

"I believe that being on 873 was a huge benefit to me this year. I was able to compete regularly at

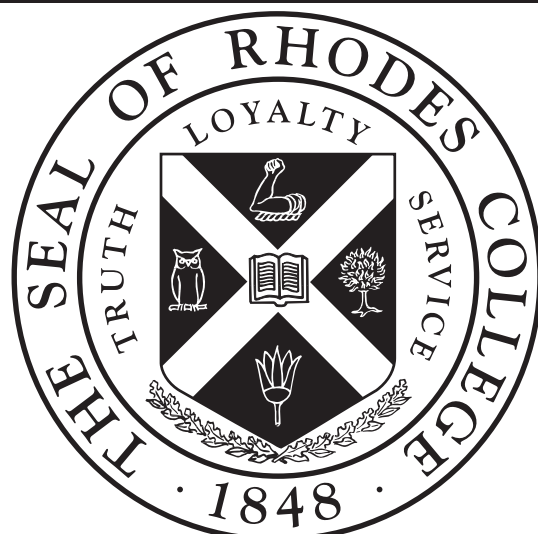
one of the highest levels, and most importantly I was able to have fun doing it," said sophomore witness Jacob Hill, who played the part of Mayor Heisman. "I am a little disappointed in how our scores came out, but that's just the fickle nature of mock trial. I believe that our team performed our best with what we were given, and I can't ask for more than that."

Ginger v. Heisman was the final collegiate mock trial case for graduating seniors Taylor Jackson, Corey Lipschutz, Henry Morris, Elena Mosby,

Elizabeth Ross, Lauren Tesler and Amelia Yeomelakis. Four of this group have been honored as All-Americans; all of them have been dedicated mockers and made outstanding contributions to the program. Their legacy will be felt when Rhodes mockers approach next year's challenge: a criminal case involving the alleged bribery of a state gambling commissioner. Perhaps it will be carried forward to win Rhodes a fifth National Championship title at the 2016 National Championship Tournament in Greenville, SC.

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Interested in joining *The Sou'Wester*? Have any stories you think need a voice? Comments/concerns?

Contact us at Rhodesnews@gmail.com

WHAT'S YOUR R NUMBER?

STUDENT SPOTLIGHT: RICHARD "ROC" SHERRELL

BY SWANEET MAND
STAFF WRITER

What was it like performing at Rites of Spring?

It was... it was amazing, honestly. I've never done anything like that before as far as performing, especially not on a stage that big with that many people there.

What is it like being a rapper at Rhodes?

Well, I'm just now figuring out what it's like because people didn't really know that I am a "rapper" until Battle of the Bands. That was the competition that you had to do in order to do Rites of Spring; you had to win Battle of the Bands. And I wasn't even going to do Battle of the Bands. It was my roommate; he signed me up and texted me, "Hey you're performing Thursday at Battle of the Bands!"

Can you describe what it was like when you first went on stage for Battle of the Bands?

For Battle of the Bands, stepping out in front of that Rhodes crowd was a bit conflicting; I was excited to perform because I had certain spots where I had friends, but then there were also people looking out whom I knew had never heard me rap before. And their faces just said, "What is happening? This is going to be a disaster." At Battle of the Bands, it's all bands, and I was the only non-band. Someone even told me when I first got up there that they were scared for me, but once I started to perform, I looked out at them again, and I saw that their faces had changed. That was pretty cool. But on the Rites stage, there was no conflict; I was just very excited. For Rites, I got to be with my group, which wasn't allowed for Battle of the Bands since they aren't from Rhodes. But we got up there on the stage, and there was no worrying about a disaster. We just knew it was going to be good.



In the Fall, Roc carries the football and plows over a Berry defender

From where do you draw your inspiration?

For instance, you told me earlier that you are from Atlanta. Was it to be difficult building yourself up in Atlanta where there are many people who also rap?

I think I get most of my inspiration from my group. We all have the same way of thinking. Yes, we all know that everyone there seems to be a rapper, and we'll all sometimes hit that wall where we start thinking, "What is the point of this?" But when that happens, we push each other to keep going, to keep at it. Rap now, more than talent, it's all about patience. And

that's all it takes is one person to remind you that. In my group, the one that inspires me the most is Logan, or LowBro on stage. He was the only white rapper with us, and to me it seems like he's got the biggest chip on his shoulder. I think that helps him because I think when it comes to working, he's got the most grind. It seems like he's always rapping, and when I'm feeling like I need to stop, he pushes me forward and says, "I cannot let you stop rapping," and that's always an inspiration for me.

It has always been said that rap, and music in general, is a great way for artists to express themselves when they feel marginalized or unheard, especially in the black community. Thinking about your friend who is a white rapper, what do you make of those who dislike white rappers such as Iggy Azalea or Eminem?

Well, I think it depends on what rapper you're talking about. I think I could make the argument that Eminem is one of the best rappers ever. But more to the point, if anyone says that Eminem is a bad rapper just because he's white, then that's not a critique; that's just hate. If a certain individual lacks talent, then you can make the argument that he or she isn't a good rapper. But if the person is talented, and people say that they only get into the spotlight because they're white, then that's just hate, and that's not what rap is about. There's all this controversy over Macklemore getting the Grammy and that it's just because he's white: that's just ridiculous to me. Personally, I liked Kendrick Lamar's album more. But do I think that Macklemore's album was good enough to deserve a Grammy? Absolutely. To me, talent has no color.



Roc and friends meet with B.O.B. Friday night when they both performed at Rites of Spring

WITHIN THE GATES

FROM THE COMMISSIONER

Do you have a united group of people who are passionate about something and ready to make it happen? Prior to requesting funds from the Allocations Board, your original student organization must be registered through the Rhodes Student Government Student Organizations Committee.

First, you will need to contact the Student Organizations Chair within RSG, who is John Alar; his Committee is tasked with guiding student organizations through this process.

Aside from establishing the basic infrastructure of your organization – president, vice president, treasurer, etc. – in order to be considered an official student organization, you must have a minimum of 11 regular members whose R numbers must be entered on the organization's electronic registration

form, for which you will be provided a link when you express interest to the Committee regarding registering your organization.

You will also need to put into writing the purpose and voting procedures to which the organization will adhere in the form of a constitution.

Finally, an advisor must be named, and they will need to sign the advisor consent form.

The advisor form as well as the constitution will both be uploaded to the electronic registration portal to be catalogued with RSG.

Once you have finished this online form, RSG will vote on your organization's constitution, and it must pass with a two-thirds majority.

Immediately after your organization has been registered, you are free to contact me, the Allocations

Board Commissioner, in order to receive a representative on the Allocations Board.

Your representative will conduct a brief orientation workshop to familiarize you with the details of the process after which you are ready to approach the Board with funding requests.

This process is extremely painless and should not stand between anyone and making Rhodes their own!

Sincerely,
Ally Limmer
Allocations Board Commissioner
and
John Alar
Student Organizations Chair

RHODES AT THE BEACH

MARY PHAN '18
STAFF WRITER

Thursday, April 16, the brothers of Pi Kappa Alpha hosted their annual Beach Party on campus. Pike brother Baiza Cherinet '18 stated, "We broke our backs, shoveling 24 tons of sand to have the whole campus come out and have a good time!"

Indeed, as one entered the affair — tiki torches, a knight in coconut armor and party-goers in beach wear painted a picture of a truly tropic celebration.

The annual event was partially funded by the shorts company Chubbies. Jack Anastasi '18, the Rhodes College Chubassador, represents the brand at the College

and procured both merchandise and funding for Beach Party.

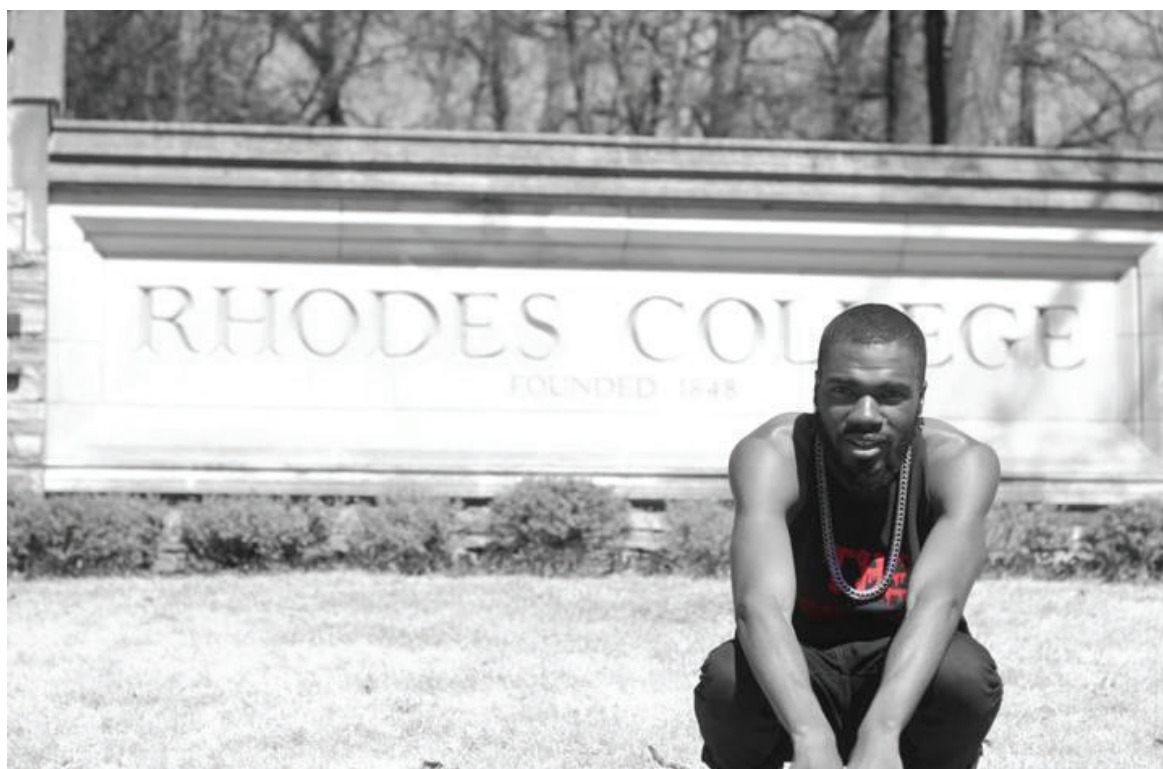
Local artists China Gate and The Sidewayz also performed at Beach Party.

Guitarist for China Gate Walt Phelan - who goes by the stage name Ricky Lewis - commented, "We had a great time playing, sad we didn't get to play longer since the sand was

messing up our equipment, but it was a great crowd and a great time."

The Sidewayz appeared around 11 p.m. and facilitated plenty of "ass-shaking," as stated by frontman Salazar Diego.

Pike Beach Party kicked off a long weekend of social events here on Rhodes campus.



11 STUDENTS HONORED FOR HAVING STDs

HAYLEY ROSENFELD '16
SATIRE WRITER

Memphis, TN – A near-empty Blount Auditorium burned with tension last Thursday as 11 students were inducted into Sigma Tau Delta, an honor society for students carrying sexually transmitted diseases.

"It's an exciting moment for us all," adviser to Sigma Tau Delta and assistant professor of English Caki Wilkison reported. "Not only for the students who are at long last seeing their hard work pay off, but also for the professors who have supported them from the very genesis of their college careers. It's a real thrill."

Despite the thrill, only four individuals outside

of Sigma Tau Delta attended the ceremony, leaving members speculating that their peers had boycotted them. "I don't feel mad, or slighted," stated one new inductee, "I just wish our peers appreciated all the hard work it took to get here."

Many find Sigma Tau Delta problematic and question whether honoring individuals with sexually transmitted diseases is a solution to either the stigma or the epidemic – its opposition argues that the minimum 3.4 grade point average and three physician-confirmed STDs required for membership actually encourage the latter.

"STD actively urges students to engage in unsafe sex," one student claimed. "Yes, I find that deeply troubling. I am also very confused about why the English department sponsors this."

A representative from Sigma Tau Delta denied these allegations, stating that they promote academic excellence and personal achievement above all else. "Members can use their honor society affiliation as a tangible sign of academic success to help advance their professional career," boasted a press release posted to the society's website. "And we 'promote life long passions,' if you know what I'm saying."

All adversity aside, Sigma Tau Delta shows no sign of slowing down. Since its founding in 1924 at Dakota Wesleyan University, 870 chapters have been established across the U.S. and abroad. "That's right, naysayers," they proclaimed. "870 and growing."

WITHIN THE GATES

SPORTS HIGHLIGHTS



WOMEN'S LACROSSE

By LIAM COYLE '17
STAFF WRITER

The second year program is currently in the midst of the SAA tournament after making easy work of Hendrix College in the first round last weekend. As the number two seed in the tournament, the lady Lynx will take on Centre College Saturday in hopes to advance to the conference championship on Sunday. If victorious Saturday, they will most likely find themselves squaring off against Sewanee; the only team to best this Rhodes team all season. In their regular season meeting, Rhodes was narrowly defeated 12-11 despite getting more shots and ground balls than Sewanee. Captained by Emily Clark '15, Sarah Daniels '15, Morgan Fuller '16, and Tori Van Heyst '15 this driven squad characterized by their stout defense and patient offense will expect to exact revenge this weekend and claim their first NCAA tournament bid in program history.

WOMEN'S GOLF

By LIAM COYLE '17
STAFF WRITER

Arguably the best athletic program at Rhodes College, the Rhodes women's golf team heads to Murfreesboro, TN this weekend to play in their conference tournament. As the ninth ranked team in the nation, Rhodes seeks to return to the NCAA tournament where they won the national championship last spring season. That championship team possessed three players who averaged scores in the seventies while this year's team has four. Rhode's immensely talented roster possesses two golfers who are among the top twenty female division III female golfers in the country; Nikki Isaacson '17 and Mackenzie Cohen '17. Captained by Meg Healy '16 and Jessica Ritter '15, this Rhodes team is primed to make another run at the national championship and have the talent and chemistry to do so.

MEN'S GOLF

By SCOTT HAMEL '16
STAFF WRITER

The Men's Golf team is currently ranked #15 in the nation as they hope to keep up the strong play and make their way back to the NCAA Championship in Greensboro, NC this May. They have had a successful season so far, capturing two team victories (Milsaps Invitation and the Taylormade Adidas Intercollegiate) and finishing in the Top 4 in 4 of their 8 tournaments. Along with solid team play, Freshman Chris Harris '18 tied for 1st the Rhodes Collegiate Classic in the Fall and the Rhodes Mirimichi Classic in the Spring. Joey Mayo '17 has led the team all year ranked #24 individually in Division 3. The men head to Murfreesboro this week to compete in the SAA Conference Championship where they seek a conference win over rival Ogelthorpe (#2 in the nation) to earn an automatic bid into the NCAA Championship event

PRESIDENT TROUTT DECLARES WAR ON NON-LIBERAL ARTS INFIDELS

By BEN LAVIANA '18
SATIRE WRITER

In a press conference held this Friday, Rhodes College President William Troutt declared war on all "lesser forms of higher education" that are not of the liberal arts. Wielding an iron long-sword and shield with the Rhodes emblem engraved, the armor-clad Troutt spent most of the conference criticizing those who did accede to what he called "the liberal arts ideals."
"For too long have we tried to persuade them

to our side, to show them the true glory of the liberal arts. Neither our mandatory guest speakers nor magazines have convinced them. If we cannot convince these infidels through peaceful means, that leaves us only with war," said the president, pausing momentarily to don his great helm.

Troutt was not alone in this decision. Supporting him through presence alone were 11 unidentified fellow crusaders. They stood behind Troutt while he delivered his proclamation. Each had emblazoned on their chest-piece a symbol representative of one of the

twelve "Foundational Requirements" on which Rhodes prides itself.

Admitting he could continue to "denounce the heathens" for hours on end, Troutt concluded his speech after noticing the sundial had reached noon.

Mounting his stallion adorned with black and red barding, Troutt adjourned the press conference by unsheathing his sword, pointing it skyward, and shouting, "The time for action is now! Let our Crusade begin!" as he and his fellow knights rode toward The University of Memphis for their first siege.

BEYOND THE GATES

As the school year barrels forward to a close, make sure to take the time to enjoy Memphis in spring – the week before finals is packed with city-wide events.

SOUTHERN CIRCUIT FILM: A KIND OF ORDER

April 22, 7 p.m. @ Hattiloo Theatre w/ filmmaker Noah Schwerin

Presented by the Indie Memphis Film Festival and sponsored by the University of Memphis's Department of Communication, this circuit tour showcases various documentary films throughout the year—and the filmmaker is always in attendance for a conversation post-screening. The best part? It's free for students.



EX-CULT W/ OBN III'S AND OBNOX

April 23 @ Murphy's

Ex-Cult, a Memphis band that revolutionized the current status of punk music with 2012's self-titled debut album, will play a hometown show this Thursday. Their songs are brutal and noisy, unapologetic and thrilling. Opening for Ex-Cult: Austin, Texas shredders OBN III's and Cleveland, Ohio punk rockers OBNOX. Head to Murphy's on Madison for a show that will change your life and wreck your dancing shoes – trust me.

HOPPED BEER PARTY

April 25, 12 p.m. – 9 p.m. @ Memphis Made

Did you know that it's Beer Week here in the Bluff City? If Natty Ice isn't your style, join the noble citizens of Memphis as brew-tasting festivities rage throughout the week. The highlight is sure to be the "Hopped" spring beer party at a local brewery; it features limited-release beers, live music from the Mighty Souls Brass Band and Aldo's Pizza Pies. The first 100 customers get a free pint glass, so get there fast!



PEOPLE'S CONCERT ON RACIAL PROFILING

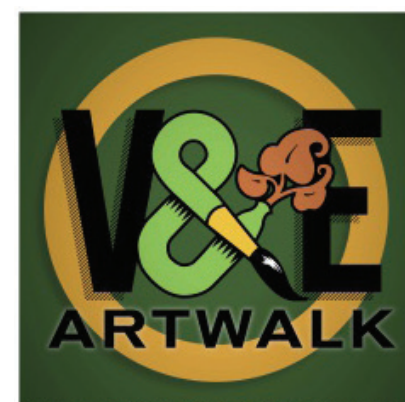
April 25, 9 p.m. @ The Buccaneer Lounge

Hosted by Memphis United at one of the city's best and grungiest dive-bars, this \$5 cover event hopes to be "a night of righteous music and an opportunity to learn about [the] ongoing campaign for greater police accountability, transparency, and community oversight." Don't get too drunk at Hopped during the day, because this will open up a crucial dialogue in the wake of recent acts of racial profiling. Featuring badass tunes from Gimp Teeth, Solomon, Red Planet and Shatterhand.

V&E ARTWALK

April 25, 11 a.m. – 6 p.m. @ V&E Greenline

The Vollentine and Evergreen Artwalk creates a fantastic opportunity to unite Midtown neighbors in preserving the Greenline, a 1.7 mile railroad-turned-urban-greenspace. Truly one of Memphis's greatest assets, you'll get the chance to learn more about the Greenline while meeting local artists in over 70 booths and listening to live music. There will be art activities and bounce houses and tons of food vendors – you've got a lot to choose from this coming Saturday.



LEARN TO CURL

April 25, 5:30 p.m. – 7:30 p.m. @ Mid-South Ice House



On-campus parties and off-campus formals not doing it for you this weekend? Instead of spending money on an over-priced dinner and a date you'll never see again, go curling with someone you love or think you could learn to love. This event costs \$15 and promises two solid hours of curling instructions and games. See? There is more to Memphis than terrific blues and barbecue. Note: Leather-soled shoes will not be allowed on ice as it is too dangerous (highlighted on official website).

BY PHEOBE DRISCOLL '15, STAFF REPORTER