

Deferred Rush: What Happened?



"A New Rush": Down which road will the new rules about Fraternity and Sorority rush take us?

BY PAUL BURDETTE '16
STAFF WRITER

Hoping to create a more inclusive first-year experience for incoming freshmen, the Rhodes administration announced last week that a new First Year Experience will be in the works for the rest of the semester in preparation for fall 2016. Last Tuesday, President Troutt sent an email to all students informing them of the administration's strides towards a more inclusive, universal first-year experience. They hope to accomplish several goals: to create a shared learning experience for all freshmen; to emphasize the importance of a liberal arts education; to establish a legion of mentors made up of faculty and students; and to encourage "more meaningful academic and social interactions with all of their peers." According to Carol Casey, Dean of Students, the new First Year Experience wants incoming freshmen to know that "they belong, they matter and they are cared for. If those things happen, they are likely to stay and to find success." If these ideas are not met, the administration worries that students will begin to question whether or not "they fit."

Therefore, in order to achieve these goals, the administration has established a "design team" comprised of several faculty members and students that will be meeting for the first time this week. This team will be meeting at least once a week to develop a program for next semester. While the logistics of this First Year Experience may still be in development, a large-scale decision has been made, sparking campus-wide debate: the deferral of fall recruitment. The reason for deferring rush to the

spring semester, according to the Rhodes administration, is that rush in the fall is "an element that keeps all students from glomming together because it sets up first and foremost a primary social connection group without all students fully interacting with each other and the academic realm first." They also assert that the first question that many freshmen ask themselves involves rushing but that "there are many other questions that should be asked first." Instead of focusing on which fraternity or sorority one would like to join, the administration would rather have students recognize themselves as a part of their class first. Chloe Moore, senior RA and long-standing member of Chi Omega sorority, agrees that deferred recruitment can be beneficial in the long-run, since it will allow students the opportunity to bond with one another as a class before gaining exclusive memberships to Greek organizations. Yet, she brought up a good point. Any organization that requires membership is inherently exclusive, and for her, Greek life's sheer size is not the problem; its complete social dominance on campus is what is divisive. This situation needs to be handled delicately, and the lack of information provided by the administration has left many a bit confused.

Needless to say, this sudden and dramatic shift in social regulation met with an equally immediate and fierce opposition by some within the Greek community. Ever since last week, signs that read: "Block Party Cancelled; Keep Fall Rush!" have lined fraternity row in protest against the administration's recent decision. It has incited an uproar among student leaders from both the Interfraternity Council (IFC) and

Pan-Hellenic, many of whom are outraged at the suddenness of the administration's decision. Some leaders from IFC and PH are of the opinion that deferring rush will, in contradiction to the administration's intentions, create a more exclusive community by forcing Greek organizations to increase their monthly dues to compensate for lost recruits and by pushing more fraternity parties off-campus. For Tyler Tisdale, current president of Pi Kappa Alpha fraternity, liability will become an even more critical issue, as the liability fraternities and sororities face during those first two infamous weeks known as "Welcome Week" will now be extended across the entire semester.

Although the administration is adamant about deferred rush having been an ongoing conversation for "the past 10 years" and state that it has been "agonized over for quite a long time," many Greek leaders have denounced the administration for being duplicitous. Current presidents from fraternities and sororities are insistent on the "lack of communication and transparency" on behalf of the administration and believe that nearly everything was conducted behind closed doors. Carol Casey conceded that "the students were not consulted as the decision was rolled out on Tuesday" but was firm in saying that there have been conversations happening on campus in recent years, mentioning student petitions as well as the commission's work this past year involving public listening sessions. Yet, according to newly established Greek presidents, deferred rush was not mentioned at the "Presidents' Retreat," which took place the weekend before that fateful Tuesday. The pur-

pose of the retreat: not only to establish better relationships within the Greek community, but to promote steadier communication between Greek life and the administration as well. While "discussions" may have been held here and there in recent years, parties from both sides of the issue would agree that at least some form of miscommunication has occurred.

Despite the hard blow Greek life will receive from this decision, the administration acknowledges the integral role Greek life has at Rhodes and stresses that they do not by any means wish to see it go away. In fact, they hope to see the newly developing First Year Experience working together in unison with Greek Life in order to create an "enhanced first-year experience." Organizations like "Open Rhodes" as well as student-run organizations such as "the Pack" that create social events by students for students are expected to function in tandem with Greek life.

As of now all there is left to do is prepare for a fall semester the likes of which Rhodes has not seen for quite some time. In the short term, the absence of fall rush will drastically affect the social atmosphere for the first semester. Nevertheless, fraternities and sororities do not intend to simply acquiesce in the face of the administration. Yet, if their pushback proves to be unsuccessful, no longer will there be a "Welcome Week" in the fall, but perhaps a "Welcome Back Week" in the spring. In the end, it all comes down to the individual student's experience. The question of whether or not this new First Year Experience will truly benefit that "individual student" can only be answered in the semester to come.

Photo by Paul Burdette

NEWS

Letter from the Editors

"If I fa-a-all, can ya let me down easy?" Billy Currington [sorry, New Year, Same Us]

SACK Fair has come and gone, and your inbox is now overflowing. No, it's not Facebook notifications or hot deals from Vera Bradley; it's all those orgs for which you signed up in the hopes of leaving your room for more than just

that lecture on the Epic of Gilgamesh and delicious meals at Le Rat.

We know that the Milk-Chugging Club sounded riveting at the time, and they were giving out cookies so duh, but those people work hard! They research milk for hours to plan lactative events for YOU! They even send thoughtful emails with well-placed emojis and bolded text. But when they

arrive in your inbox, unbenounced to them, they must compete with the unrelenting emails from your professor saying that you are six assignments behind and there is no way in hell that you will ever catch up. These emails go straight to the trash; they do not pass go and do not collect \$200.

In these instances, it is prudent to request removal from this organiza-

tion's email list, though we do not recommend using the "reply all" option. Awkward. They will be less offended by your leaving the organization than expecting your presence and being disappointed when only six people show up!

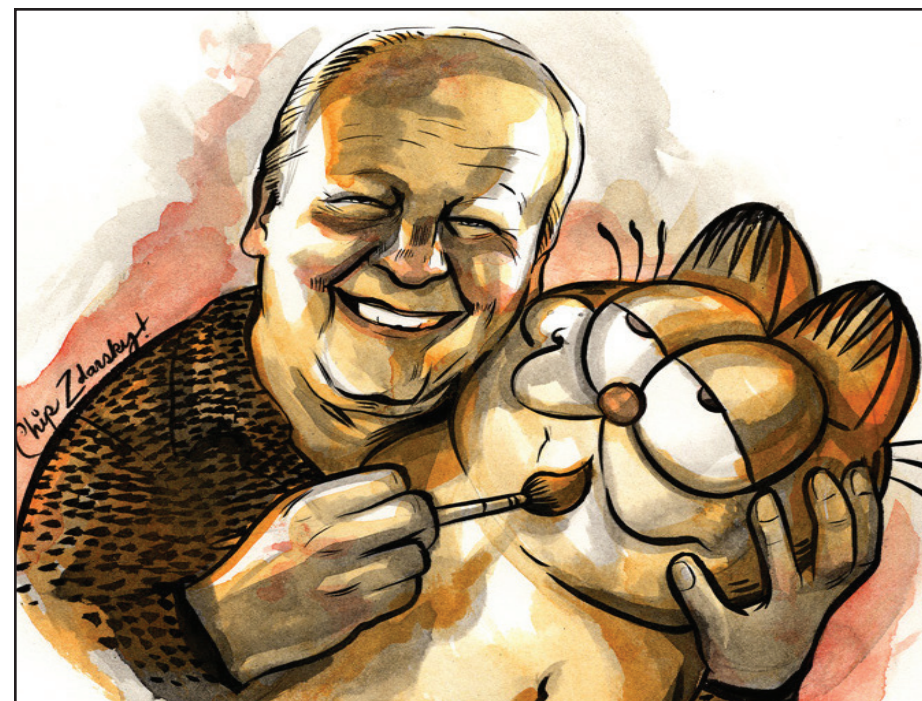
From the brains of two milk enthusiasts, Ally and Zoe, and one hater, Doug.

Requiem for a Shit Artist

BY BEN LAVIANA '18
COMMUNICATIONS EDITOR

The Lasagna Cat lays upon his bed of thrones, right paw slightly aloft in a fit of extension, crisp orange against the green void he inhabits, eyes lightly pried open, vestibules to the surrounding physical reality before him. Dreamily delirious after a delicious slumber, the Lasagna Cat contemplates what his still-awakening soul hungers for most: Boy, I Wish I Had a Fifty Pound Pan of Lasagna, ponders the Lasagna Cat. Alas, with a tragic Krong!!! Lasagna Cat's yearning has been fulfilled, as from the cosmic Heavens materializes, or more aptly, descends, with transcendental velocity unheard of in this mortal realm, what our dear protagonist coveted: the unnatural Fifty Pound Pan of Lasagna.

The Lasagna Cat, his sleeping chambers, and his dignity, have been fully eclipsed by this fatal desire. O, what an unruly fate for one merely purr-suing what his little feline heart beckoned him to! But what is this? A bubble of text rises from the bottom of the pan,



Drawing by Chip Zdorsky

the depths of which could only be inhabited by one... Could it be? Yes! Our fair Lasagna Cat is alive! What does he have to recite to his endless audience? Prepare yourself, now: Now Wouldn't You Think I'd Know Better Than to Make a Wish Like That on a Mond—

It's hard to transcribe past this line: the paper is wet and the pencil etchings don't fare well... The artist sits in his single-lamped, carless garage, looming above his work, that which was forged with pencils and protractors, his eventual artifact of remembrance now real-

ized on the drafting desk, and sitting here he accounts for what his passion has amounted to, and thinks of all the now-meaningful doubt that his loved ones, now passed, had in him and in his ability to make anything meaningful with a BA in art from Ball State, let alone make a living off of this (this latter he accomplished), and drifting his head down, he, for the first time, truly sees his name, the one that was mindlessly scrawled in the bottom right-most corner of the third panel, ritually done before any other content took any shape on the then-blank, dry page, and just knows that this is the only signature he'll eventually be recognized by... if at all, that is:

JPL DAVES

The artist sits in solemn silence: the paper is wet and the pencil etchings don't fare well in tears.

Staff of *The Sou'wester*

Editors in Chief, Zoe Laulederkind '18, Ally Limmer '16, and Doug Fetterman '16

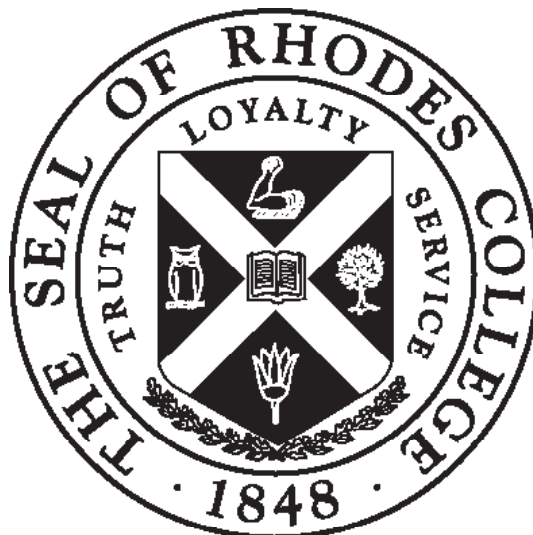
Design Editor, Sam Clark '17

Satire Editor, Hayley Rosenfield '16

Communications Editor, Ben Laviana '18

Staff Photographer, Jean Xiong '17

Staff Writers, Paul Burdette '16, Erica Smythe '17, Christian Wiggs '18, Doria Jackson '18, Katie Garbrick '18, Warner Raulston '19, Savannah Patton '19, Meaghan Pickles '19, Dan Lanza '17



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

Contact rhodescnews@gmail.com for more information

Find us on Instagram @souwesternews and Facebook at

<https://www.facebook.com/souwesternewspaper>

WITHIN THE GATES

Heather Benning's Dollhouse

BY ERICA SMYTHE '17
STAFF WRITER

Heather Benning's lecture in Blount Auditorium on Thursday began with an overview of her earlier works, followed by a lecture and a brief question and answer session. Benning addresses the struggles of prairie life in many of her works, which, she explained, is derivative of her upbringing on a farm in Saskatchewan, Canada. "We hold inside us a gathering of places we've inhabited," claimed Benning Thursday evening, referring to homes and the inability to physically go back to a specific time and place. The Dollhouse calls into question the accuracy of memories and visually evokes the bitterness we feel when faced with the impossibility of revisiting the past.

Beginning on Friday, January 22, the Clough-Hanson Gallery will hold an exhibition, de / constructing home, showcasing one of Heather Benning's most recent projects of installation art through film and photography. For 18 months, the artist restored an abandoned prairie house in Canada, refurbishing it in a 1960s style. Benning installed large Plexiglas panels that acted as a transparent wall on the northern side of the house, allowing observers an intimate view of the eerie insides of the house. Benning describes The Dollhouse as "tomb-like," appearing to perfectly preserve the past. Officially, The Dollhouse opened to the public in 2007 and stood until Benning burned the house to complete the project in 2013.

The exhibition features three other artists, of which two are locals, and an additional project in the resource room organized by the Mellon Student Fellows. The resource room explores the interplay between the house, the home and personal experience, encouraging visitors to interact with the books and write their thoughts of "home" down on paper. "[We want to] foster a conversation about place-making," junior Kirkwood Vangeli explained Friday evening, "the more interaction the better." The Student Fellows presented this installation in anticipation of the upcoming conference, Memphis: Art in Place that will



"Up in Flames": Check out the new exhibit in the Clough-Hanson Gallery take place mid-February.

Photo by Erica Smythe

The Clough-Hanson Gallery will be showing de / constructing home beginning January 22. The gallery will feature pictures of the installation process of The Dollhouse along with a 75-minute film by Brent Green entitled Gravity Was Everywhere Back Then and selected pieces by local artists Cat Peña and Guy Church. Interested in other exhibitions? Visit CBU and check out the exhibition titled "Interwoven" featuring textile art by Jennifer Sargent through February 25.

WARNING: The Brent Green film contains scenes of suicide and other emotionally disturbing subject matter.

Career Fair!

Not sure what you want to do after graduation? Interested in networking with potential employers and companies? Come to the annual Rhodes Career Fair on Wednesday, February 10 from 2:30-5 p.m. in the BCLC. The best part? It is free to attend and highly encouraged. You won't want to miss this!

From the Commissioner...

Weekly Update: While the rest of campus was an interesting mixture of freaking out after having seen their syllabi and relaxed, for the same reason, the Allocations Board was working hard to get this semester started off on the right foot. As of our final meeting last semester and our meeting the first day of class, the Board allocated \$13,358.25. This makes our grand total on the academic year \$100,969.02! This is right on track with our budget

which, after funds were removed for Earmarked Organizations, totaled about \$208,000.00.

Are you interested in joining one of the four governing bodies on campus?? While SRC, Honor Council and RSG are also accepting applications for various positions, the Allocations Board is in need of one representative from any class! Applications are due the day this paper prints, Friday, January 29, at 5 p.m. to my inbox (limal-16@

rhodes.edu).

The Board is a family in which every member has a well-defined and important role. Contrary to popular belief, a background in Economics is not necessary to understand the workings of Allocations, though many Economics majors do find themselves drawn to the Board's mission.

Having students with varying academic and extracurricular interests on the Allocations Board allows us

to make more informed decisions. So, if you are looking for a way to become more involved or to make a difference on our campus in a very practical way, I would encourage you to consider applying for our opening!

Sincerely,
Ally Limmer
Allocations Board Commissioner

WITHIN THE GATES

Faculty Spotlight: David McCarthy



BY CHRISTIAN WIGGS '18
STAFF WRITER

The extent of my interaction with Professor McCarthy mostly ends with pleasantries traded in cramped Clough hallways. As an English major working in the art history department, my parlance with the faculty there is mostly concerned with scanning books and hanging posters. Recently, though, Professor McCarthy and I talked briefly about the artwork of Joy Division's *Unknown Pleasures* album.

My well-worn t-shirt with the distinctive wave pattern cheaply screen-printed on must've caught his eye, prompting the well-dressed professor to relay its interesting history. On its face, this interaction doesn't seem to mean much. Think about it, though, and you'll find that it's really a molecular sort-of example of what the art history department, and Professor McCarthy in particular, does so well. Considering the world that surrounds us through the aesthetic gives a unique and powerful understanding which would otherwise be lost.

With a concentration in 20th-century American art, Professor McCarthy's work is an insightful light in which to view a complex history. His most recent book, *American Artists Against War, 1935—2010* (University of California Press), focuses on art's ability to be used as a tool of dissent.

The book's been hailed as an "important contribution to the history of twentieth-century American political art" that "should be of broad interest to both scholars and general readers" by UC Irvine's Cécile Whiting. Being both insightful and interesting is no easy task, and clearly Professor McCarthy has a knack for it.

On January 28, Professor McCarthy discussed the book on campus. Soon, on February 10, he's off to the New York Public Library to speak along with artists Joyce Kozloff and Martha Rosler. You can find *American Artists Against War, 1935-2010*, along with his other publications, in the library.

"Artists Against War": Prof. David McCarthy

Photo by Rhodes College

MLK Day of Service 2016

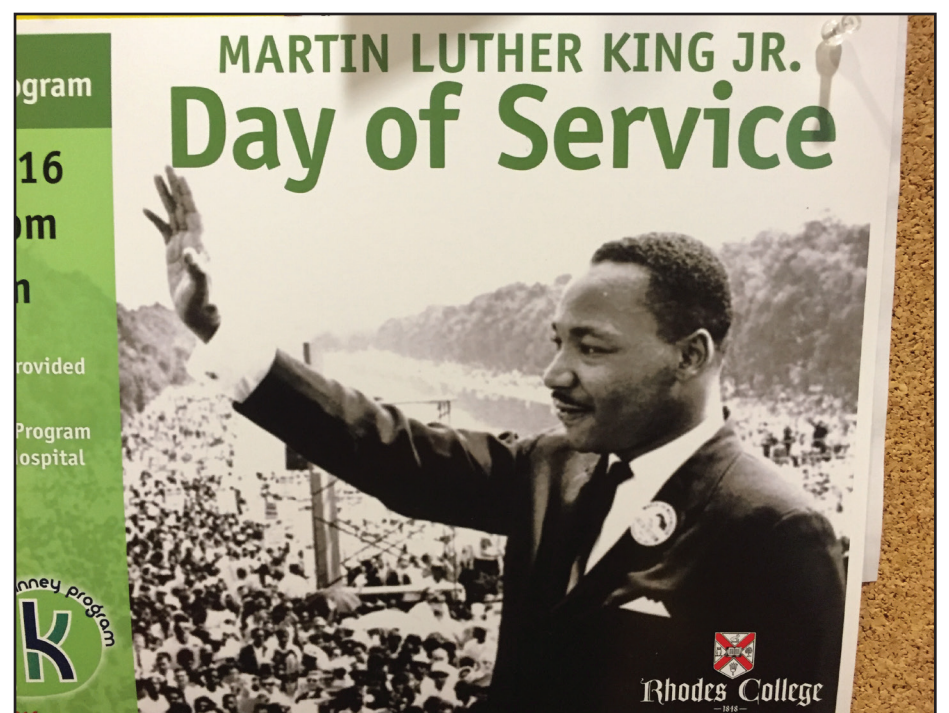
BY DORIA JACKSON '18
STAFF WRITER

Saturday, January 16, the weekend of Martin Luther King, Jr. Day, I woke up at 7 a.m. on the dot, hit the Rat for a semi-edible and questionably nutritious meal, then made my way to the BCLC to participate in the MLK Day of Service. However, at the end of the day I was thoroughly disappointed with Rhodes College and my peers. I walked out of the BCLC feeling cheated, and immediately I called BS on the whole situation. My "Day of Service" should have more appropriately been titled "Hour of Doing Nothing and Receiving Awards: Privilege Strikes Again." That's right, the day of service was really just a day of privilege masked under the guise of service for Rhodes students.

My site was the Refugee Empowerment Program. There, I sat and watched as little children of different backgrounds and homelands read books and interacted with Rhodes students. My uneasiness grew as the kids got up to hand each of us presents as a thank you for

all we'd done, which was watch them do work they were going to be doing anyway, for the hour we were there. It was sickening.

I was confronted again by the uneasy feeling when we all returned to campus and had group discussions. My group walked in with our gifts and I heard someone say, "I should have signed up for that group, they got gifts!" The weight of my bag began to feel even heavier. Once group discussions began, I couldn't help but notice the dichotomous language that was used to discuss service. Everything being said was from an us-versus-them perspective. The discussion warped into a narcissistic, happy-go-lucky, all we need is love and peace conversation that was a debasement of the real problems that face Memphis communities and undermine Dr. King's name. We were talking about serving the community as if we had done some grand deed today, as if watching kids read for 45 minutes reduced our privilege. In the end, I walked away wondering how do we serve the community we are supposedly



"Service Day": Many students participated in this year's Day of Service

a part of? How are we named America's #1 service-minded school but don't know how to talk about service?

Rather than service and charity work, it should be seen as necessary work and commitment to the community in which we are positioned. Instead what

I saw that day was a lot of people adding another feel-good moment to their list of good deeds. Maybe my expectations were too high, or maybe Rhodes is too comfortable with its title as service leader and has forgotten what service is really about.

Photo by Zoe

WITHIN THE GATES

Ozment Releases *Roundabout*. EP

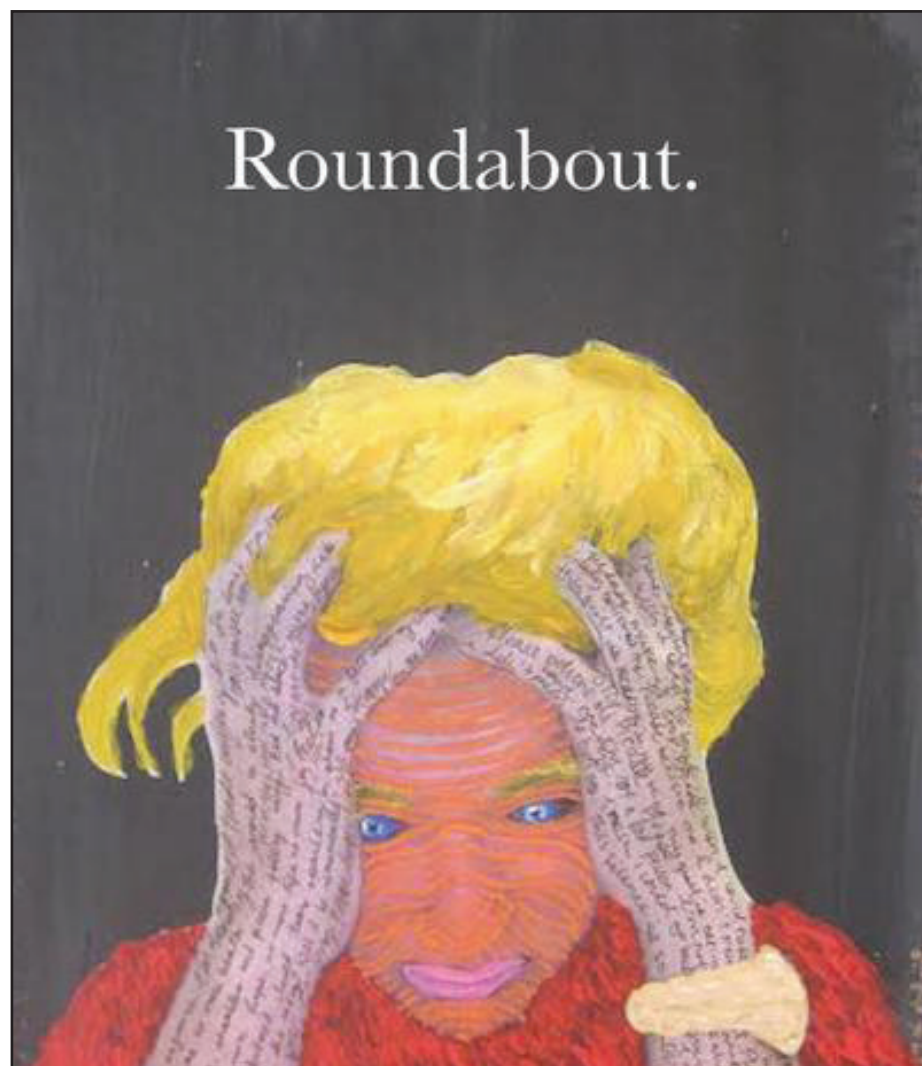
BY KATIE GABRICK '18
STAFF WRITER

Over winter break, junior Joseph Ozment released his first EP, *Roundabout*. Ozment is a music minor at Rhodes. He has taken voice lessons through the department for many years and is a member of Rhodes Singers. Ozment grew up playing music, starting with guitar when he was 10. His family supported his desire to be a musician, and although he was the only member of his family to play an instrument, music was still an important shared experience within the family. "A lot of the music was my grandparents' influence because they owned a record store back in the '60s. They had pretty impeccable taste in music, and I grew up around that," he stated. Before college, Ozment had aspired to attend music school. While content with his decision to focus on other areas of study, Ozment found that he longed to play music. This inspired the release of his album, which has been five years in the making. "Over the past year, I have realized how much I was missing music and how it has not been a big part of my life since I have been in college," he shared. For Ozment, finish-

ing the album "was about [his] finally deciding that [he] would take all of the miscellaneous, random recordings that [he had] and put them into one thing, package it... [and] give it a name."

The album has original content, some of which Ozment wrote five years ago and some that he wrote over winter break. It also contains several covers of songs. Much of the album was recorded on his iPhone. "I don't think that people realize that there is a lot of power in these things," Ozment shared. Ozment often finds that a word, a melody, or a phrase will come to him and inspire a song. By using his iPhone, Ozment is able to record whenever and wherever he feels inspired. Thus far, the response to the album has been positive. Ozment shared that he has been approached by many people, in particular students at Rhodes, who have thanked him for releasing the album. Many have also purchased the album.

In the future, Ozment would like to continue to make music, hopefully "as soon as life gets out of the way." Ozment's music is available on Bandcamp, on Patreon, and on SoundCloud as well as on his social media pages.



"Roundabout": Album cover for Ozment's new EP drawn by Claire Rickard Photo Courtesy of Bandcamp.com

Students Thank Martin Luther King, Jr. for Additional Night of Binge Drinking

BY MEAGHAN PICKLES '19
SATIRE WRITER

The Monday vacation day celebrating the life of civil rights leader Martin Luther King, Jr. proved to be a victory for students who enjoy drinking copious amounts of liquor to feel comfortable unrhythmically gyrating with one another and who would especially like to do so on the Lord's Day.

Taking time to thank the black rights hero for aiding them on their quest to spend an extra night squat-peeing over bacterially-hazardous toilet seats and loudly butchering Fetty Wap lyrics, Rhodes College students noted that "the best way to celebrate Martin Lu-

ther King, Jr. in the city of Memphis is by throwing up in a sink."

"MLK Day is an example of what I like to call a 'hangover cushion,'" said junior Chass Adams, who will soon realize that his entire persona is an empty shell and he lives a life devoid of genuine meaning.

"The chief purpose of MLK Day is to soften the blow of my wildly irresponsible alcohol intake. Without Dr. King, I would either have a night without R. Kelly's 'Ignition' on my hands or would be showing up to Organic Chemistry in a pair of tinted sunglasses and emitting a constant, low groan."

When pressed, the majority of students on campus were unable to de-

termine why Martin Luther King, Jr. was an important figure in American history, why he had a day dedicated to him other than "just for kicks," and whether or not he was a member of The Jackson 5.

At least 60% of students were unable to pick the famed civil rights leader out of a lineup which included Denzel Washington and Jaleel White, the actor who played Steve Urkel in the '90s sitcom "Family Matters."

"Martin Luther King, Jr. has achieved a lot of monumental things," said the student to the left of the Asian student in the Rhodes College brochure. "He got me to take six shots in the span of two minutes, earning me nicknames

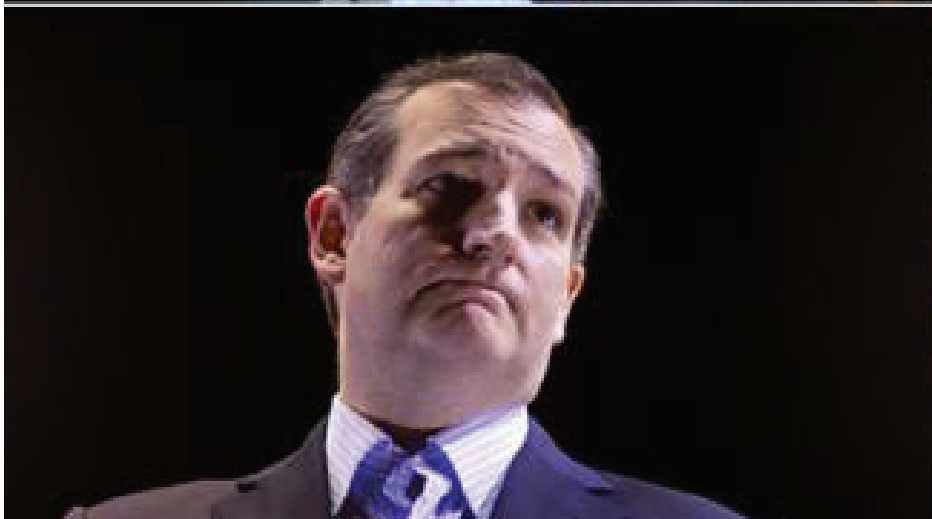
such as 'Champ' and 'The Big Kahuna.'

He got me so drunk that I wore a mop bucket on my head for the comedic value, receiving some side-splitting laughs." The student then received a standing ovation and a round of high-fives.

"I was worried for a scorching hot minute that I would only get two nights of wild debauchery followed by a day to nurse my headache and loaf around like the absolute bottom-dwelling cretin I am," said freshman Ryder Bresler. "MLK may have freed the slaves, but he also freed me from 100 minutes of class discussion and sobriety."

BEYOND THE GATES

Iowa Caucus Countdown



BY WARNER RAULSTON '19
STAFF WRITER

In the dead of winter, the race for Iowa is heating up. Candidates from both sides are increasing the rhetoric and creating sharper contrasts between themselves and their opponents in hopes of raising their chances of victory. The friendship between Ted Cruz and Donald Trump has faded and the Clinton campaign and associated Super PAC are attacking Bernie Sanders. On the Republican side, Donald Trump holds a slim lead over Ted Cruz, 31.6% to 24.9%, with Marco Rubio a distant

third at 13.0%. Although there is still time for a dramatic upset—in 2012 with only nine days remaining, Rick Santorum stood at only 13.8% in the polls but managed to win the state. The four “establishment” candidates of the Party: Jeb Bush, Chris Christie, John Kasich and Marco Rubio, have a combined support of 22.2%, not enough to overcome the ultraconservatives who have hijacked the primary process due to the immense support of the evangelical base of the Republican Party of Iowa.

The story for the Democrats however is something of a repeat of 2008.

During the Democratic Primary eight years ago, Hillary Clinton held a sizeable lead over Barack Obama in Iowa until just one month before the primary when the “unelectable” outsider began to overtake her in polls. Obama’s victory in Iowa immediately preceded a 10-point surge in his national support, eventually allowing him to win in South Carolina and pull ahead of Clinton nationally. Many pundits are speculating that we are seeing a similar situation today with Bernie Sanders. He already holds a sizeable lead in New Hampshire and is within the margin of error in Iowa according to the Huffing-

ton Post’s aggregate polling statistics. He stands at 45.5% when compared to Clinton’s 46.1%. A victory in Iowa for Sanders would all but cement his victory in New Hampshire and potentially lead to a collapse of support for Clinton nationally, just as in 2008. Regardless, political analysts still predict a victory for Clinton in Iowa, but with a narrow margin.

What is certain: the Iowa Caucus will be held on Monday, February 1, with the New Hampshire primary following eight days later on the 9. What is uncertain: who will win the national caucus and what hell may follow.

Report: Thing Dangling from Lotion Bottle Confirmed Gross

BY HAYLEY ROSENFELD '16
SATIRE EDITOR

Atlanta, GA – Centers for Disease Control issued a report this week confirming that not only is the goo hanging from the pump of your lo-

tion bottle certifiably disgusting, but making any form of physical contact with it will certainly and swiftly take your life. “The evidence can no longer be ignored,” stated CDC spokesperson Brad Larson at a press conference yesterday. “The stuff on your lotion bottle

is deadly, and it is icky.” The CDC is urging residents of affected households to evacuate until authorities can contain the situation, cautioning that even being within 30 feet of a contaminated bottle could be enough to incite a serious case of the heebie-jeebies. “This is

a human health risk, and we ask that it be treated as such,” stated Larson. At press time, Americans were rushing to the bathroom to take matters into their own hands by karate chopping, flicking or grabbing the disgusting gunk with a Kleenex.

SPORTS AND TRAVEL

Stumbles and Corrections

BY HAYLEY ROSENFELD '16
SATIRE EDITOR (CONTR. SPORTS WRITER)

Two 14-hour-long bus rides and seven of the most hellacious workouts of the season behind them, and still the Rhodes swimmers are all laughs as they tell me about their winter break training trip to Cocoa Beach, Fla.

"It's just the best worst time you could ever have," says Bakari Williams, a junior on the team. While they don't say it outright, his teammates seem to be in agreement, as they alternate between tales of torturous workout sets and two-foot-long burrito-eating contests quicker than they can make a flip-turn.

This positivity is, as captain Allie Zeidan '16 tells me, "the key to getting through the week." Training trip means yards upon yards upon hours upon days of some of the most intense swimming sets of the season, all beginning at 6:30 a.m. each day. All of this is designed, as many of the swimmers state, "to break you down and build you back up again." "It's sets where you look back like 'are you kidding me, I swam that much?'" Zeidan tells me.

Swimming isn't their only opportunity for a challenge, though. Beach dry-land practices break up the day, wherein the team, split into smaller sub-teams, gets the chance to compete against one another in everything from paddleboard tournaments (a team favorite) to rap battles. (You may have even witnessed this on your Facebook timeline, as they duked it out for likes on their team



"Sunshine and Swimming": Raisins in the sun.

Photo by Melanie Eichhorn

photos.) One particularly memorable challenge was a wall-sit competition, wherein two teammates held a back-to-back squat for as long as they could. The winners, part of team LAMDAM, held the wall sit for 22 minutes, by which point the entire team had shed allegiances to rally around the remaining two teams, blocking the sun from their faces and pouring water on them to keep them cool. Team Creed, named for their coach's favorite movie, came out the victors of the week.

Luckily, all friendships survived, the team coming out of the trip closer than ever before. Head coach Charlie Boehme asserts that "it's really, really tough physically, but it has to be chal-

lenging so the team feels like they accomplished something together." Prior to the training trip, it's rare to have a single practice where the entire team is present—this is their first chance to gather as a whole, without the distractions of stress and school assignments and, as Boehme tells me, strictly "focus on building the team and getting better."

In talking with the swimmers, it is clear that both of these have occurred. As I talk with Zeidan in the Lair, a freshman swimmer approaches her with concerns about attending that night's practice; second semester homework is already hitting her hard. "It's no big deal, just go talk to Charlie," Zeidan

tells her. "He's in his office—wait, he's actually at the Apple store."

"We're all one big family," Zeidan remarks. "Our coaches are like our cool uncles. After training trip I'd say we're complete family."

In terms of the tangibles, the team is undeniably improved. The day after returning from Cocoa Beach (at midnight), the swim team had a meet against Sewanee. The boys beat them for the first time in school history; the girls also won. The Sewanee team had returned from their training trip in Puerto Rico three days prior.

The team looks excitedly to conference, and, before that, the Hendrix meet, which they believe will be their best dual meet of the season. The girl's team is looking to defend their conference title, and the boys predict they'll place their highest in conference ever in school history. The boy's team is also looking to taking an 800-freestyle relay to nationals for the first time ever. "First time ever... that's kind of the theme for the season," says junior Spencer Regelson.

"This was by far the strongest week of training I've seen the team have. A lot of that's due to the freshman. They've brought so much energy and positivity to the team; it has really caused the upperclassmen to step up," says captain Ann Griffin '16. If you see the swimmers and notice they look tan, it could be from hours spent on the beach. Then again, it might be from the team's bright future.

Summer 2016 Off-Campus Study Programs

BY SAVANNAH PATTON '19
STAFF WRITER

Has it suddenly dawned on you, amidst all the chatter about upcoming internships, volunteer work and travel plans, that you have absolutely nothing lined up for this summer and are surely doomed to three months at home alone with your parents and that one pesky neighbor that monologues better than all your professors combined? Pull yourself together – as Ellie from Pixar's "UP" assures us: "Adventure is out there!"

There are eleven – count 'em – eleven Rhodes 2016 Off-Campus Study

Programs awaiting your passionate and borderline-desperate application to earn your F11 and several other credits this May-June. Until February 15 (space allowing), you can dig deep and draw forth that proactive, adventuresome spirit dwindling impatiently somewhere in the midst of your dirty sock pile and ever-growing collection of Rat bananas. Whether you want to employ your dusty passport to study abroad (options include England, Scotland, Germany, Czech Republic, Poland, France, Spain, Cuba, Russia, Sweden or Ecuador) or remain state-side in the trusty U.S. of A. (options include Florida and Wyoming), one of

the many remaining offerings is sure to sound appealing.

There is the chance to study the sociology of Martin Luther King, Jr. and the St. Augustine Civil Rights movement in Florida, while further west in Wyoming, you can spend nearly a month in Jackson Hole on the Rocky Mountain Ecology Field Research trip. For us language folks, there's French Language and Culture in Rennes, France, Cuban-Russian Connection in Havana and St. Petersburg, as well as Spanish Language Immersion in Cuenca, Ecuador. Other opportunities include "Healthy Cities: The Political Economy of Urban Policymaking," a Holocaust

Travel Seminar, Search Abroad, Medieval and Renaissance Theater, Student-Athletes in Europe, and Business, Physics and/or Political Science courses offered in London.

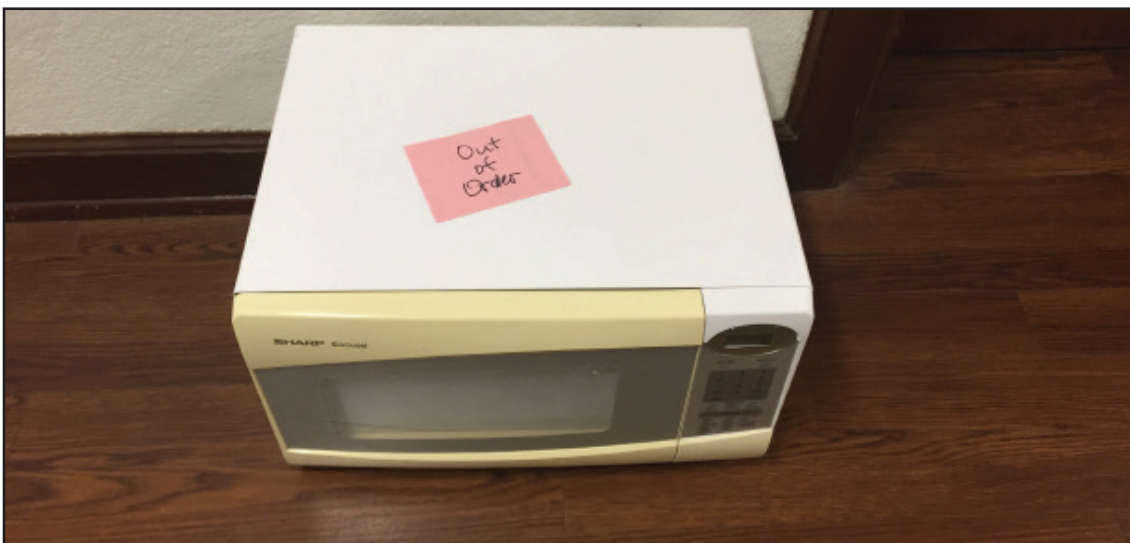
All you have to do to apply is visit Rhodes Express, scroll over "Curricular Programs," choose "Study Abroad," click "Rhodes Summer Programs" to the left, and then choose the program in which you're interested for more information and the application. You'll also see tabs for applications for both a Buckman fellowship and a need-based scholarship. Make this summer Wordpress-travel-blog worthy!

AROUND CAMPUS (AND CA\$H MONEY)



"Moon Pies in the Condom Box": Let's be honest here, this isn't even a problem. Sex and snacks go together like lube and peanut butter: it's a natural combination. Now that smoking isn't the "cool" thing to do post-coitus, might as well reach for a delicious snack cake. I propose to include Moon Pies in ALL the condom boxes. RAs: Get on it.

"Nesquik on a Rat Tray": Alright, see this would be completely fine and normal behavior IF there was anything to actually put the Nesquik on... but there is nada. No milk, no ice cream, no mashed potatoes (don't knock it till you try it). Maybe, just MAYBE, they could sprinkle some on the fries. But even then, the pure amount and volume of the container is overkill.



"Microwave in Palmer": Alright, alright, alright, alright, alright (Okay now ladies! Yea!.... sorry), I understand that a microwave in a dorm would be no big deal, but this is in Palmer Hall. Outside of some door. Either some lazy professor left it, OR some super motivated and strange student transported it to the building. Also, I'm sure "out of order" means exactly zilch. Think about it: It's all English and Modern Languages in there. Denizens of FJ: Find this thing and figure out what's actually wrong with it. It probably just wasn't plugged in.

"Microwave (and Lawn Chair) Outside of Briggs": Damn right. Now THIS is how you leave a broken microwave. Shout out to the real MoFos of Briggs for taking care of business. Thing is completely trashed. But hey, that lawn chair actually looks to still be in pretty decent shape. So pick it up if it's yours. Science Nerds: If the Palmer microwave is actually broken, maybe use this shell for spare parts.

How To Make Money at Rhodes

BY DAN LANZA '17
STAFF WRITER

I just watched this badass Nicolas Cage movie called *The Lord of War*. He plays a gun-runner / arms dealer who sells massive amounts of weapons to an assortment of warlords and terrorist groups. His actions drive his family away, and he contributes to the deaths of countless of lives, while raking in all kinds of money. There is this one part where he booked a supermodel / childhood crush for a fake photo shoot at this beautiful hotel in the French Caribbean and he rented out the hotel for

the entire weekend, so it was just the two of them at this amazing beachside resort. Nick Cage, in all his glory, acting super cool, dropping serious stacks to win the girl of his dream. I'm just sitting there thinking I gotta get some of that money.

So how does one make money at Rhodes? There are essentially two ways to go about earning some extra spending dough. First way, get a job, obviously. There are over 100 species of trees here at the Rhodes Arboretum but tragically none of them yield any fiat money. There are often jobs available through the Rhodes Student Associate Program

(commonly referred to as RSAP) where one can earn a paycheck by working for an academic or administrative department while gaining real-world experience. Peer tutor positions are also available for those who have excelled in a particular course of study. These are great options for boosting your bank account and your resume, but they are likely time-consuming.

Understandably you might not have the time to dedicate to a job or maybe you are more of a maverick, so you go into business for yourself. You go to Rhodes College; I'm sure you are creative enough to figure out a profitable

good or service to provide. It is not finals week, so selling your prescription Adderall probably won't be that lucrative. We are, however, in the prime of Spring Rush for fraternities so arranging to be a designated driver for your friends could earn you a few bucks. Whatever your talent or skill, there is always a way to capitalize on it.

It's shocking how quickly cheap alcohol and Beaker's chicken can break the bank, but with a little dedication, it is not impossible to offset your compulsive spending.