

## HOMECOMING ISSUE: WELCOME ALUMNI!



"Years of Fun" : Here's a look back at Homecoming's past. Have fun reliving the good 'ole days of (left to right) 1990, 1952 and 2014.

Photos from Dlynx

## Rhodes College, A Hunting Ground?

BY MARGARET TRONSOR '17  
STAFF WRITER

If you attended the viewing of *The Hunting Ground* on October 7, you are probably mad about how poorly schools across the country are handling sexual misconduct and assault. If you stayed after the film for the panel, you are probably furious about how Rhodes is handling these issues. The panel included representatives from IFC and PAN as well as Peer Advocates, members of the Culture of Consent and administration.

An administrator set the tone early on by reading Rhodes statistics on numbers of reported sexual misconduct and expulsions. The numbers were embarrassing as well as disgusting. This semester alone there have been nine reported assaults and zero expulsions. Interesting, since the number of honor code-related expulsions are high across the board. When asked why rape doesn't automatically lead to expulsion, two administrators were quick to say how each case is really different and it all depends on the details. Isn't it fascinating that just outside the gates, rape means prison, but inside the gates there is amnesty for this felony.

A question that came up a lot during the panel was why students who are found guilty and are allowed to return

to campus are not listed in a database. Other students could take precautions to avoid violent predators if this policy was in place. In a less than eloquent response, an administrator pointed out that "we don't release the names of students who return to campus after an honor code violation." The last time I checked, someone else cheating on a paper never put me at any physical or emotional risk.

You have probably spoken to or had a class with someone who was found responsible for sexual assault and was then let back on campus. Wouldn't you like to know who? Word of mouth is often called "unreliable" by friends of assailants who want to defend their peers. If the school came out with a definitive list of names, there could be no denying their actions. Maybe you are thinking, "If the person was let back on campus, they must have gone through education or training of some sort before being readmitted to school." You would be wrong. The administration on the panel said that education and training could be a possible part of suspension but was not guaranteed. They also seemed to say that no education or training had ever been used in cases of suspension in the past.

When asked in what occasions sexual assault is an honor code violation and not a crime, an administrator said, "At

Rhodes, sexual assault is not a crime, it is a policy violation." A collective gasp resounded from the audience. This basically reinforced the movie's title and set a sinister tone for the rest of the panel. He basically told the audience that if you sexually assault someone, you will be treated like an upstanding Rhodes student who happened to violate policy instead of a criminal who has committed a felony. Talk about a hunting ground for sexual predators.

If you are still able to read this because you haven't crumpled or ripped your paper in anger at the school, stay tuned; your opportunity is coming! At the close of the panel, someone asked, "What do you have to say to people who have been sexually assaulted?" Only one member of the panel showed compassion and actually said "I'm sorry this happened to you." The rest more or less just said, "Report it," in a cold, clinical tone.

So as the semester progresses on to the high-risk weekends of Homecoming and Halloween, the school sits back on its heels, waiting for reports to roll in so they can "deal with" the cases. As we have seen happen continuously, the school will question the victim with blaming questions like "what were you wearing?" and "how much did you drink?" Eventually, when all is said and done, a lot of these crimes will be listed

on the crime log as "forcible fondling," which is considered sexual assault, but sounds much nicer on the Rhodes website.

When will students realize that enough is enough? Women and men are affected by these crimes-or "policy violations" according to Rhodes-and both need to unite to support each other and demand better standards from the school. Current students: Wouldn't you like to return to Rhodes in the future for Homecoming and know that you did something to stop sexual assault on campus? Alumni: Are you not disgusted with your alma mater's systematic minimization of the seriousness of sexual assault? Let's do something about this.

If you or anyone you know needs help after a sexual assault, please refer to the Rhodes Title ix handbook on the website at [handbook.rhodes.edu/title-ix](http://handbook.rhodes.edu/title-ix). Mandatory reporters include faculty, staff, RAs, and Peer Advocates. Non-mandatory reporters include the college chaplain and staff at the counseling center. If you need to file a Title ix complaint against Rhodes College, please visit [knowyourix.org](http://knowyourix.org). If you need other support through the reporting process or have questions in general, consider reaching out to the Culture of Consent club at their email, [cultureofconsent@gmail.com](mailto:cultureofconsent@gmail.com).



## NEWS

## Letter from the Editors

"I'm so, I'm so, I'm so proud of you." – Drake

Wait, there's a football game this Homecoming? That means tailgates. That means maybe wandering over to the field to see if your friends are in the stands, which they probably won't be. There are parents and other assorted family members, and at the top there are pockets of pledges in coat-and-tie. Some of the dedicated significant others may have dragged a friend there to cheer on their boyfriends. And, of course, the gung-ho members of The Pack will be there.

But, doesn't this sentiment apply to all sports? Some might excuse their sports apathy by claiming

our teams "aren't even good," despite their regularly winning conference and making it to the NCAA tournament. Attending sporting events should not be the sole domain of family, dedicated significant others and overdressed pledges. We can rarely even create a proper Sports section in this newspaper due to the lack of enthused writers regarding our largely successful athletic teams at Rhodes.

At the end of the day, supporting our sports teams means supporting our classmates. The likelihood of going through your career at Rhodes and not having a class with an athlete is miniscule. How many people at other schools can say that? And moreover,

how many people out of college can say that? This is a unique college experience, one of which Rhodes students are not taking advantage.

Athletes sacrifice so much of their time (and party privileges) to be rewarded by the deafening silence of empty bleachers. Whether they are taking the field or the court on the weekends, chances are you know one of these student-athletes. You expect their support when you ace an exam; why wouldn't you support them when they ace that serve?

Roll, Lynx, Roll!

Ally & Dougie & Zoe

## Homecoming Week Events

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 21

**Residence Life Banner Competition:**

All Week in Your *Residence Hall!*

**Brooks Brothers Professional Dress:**

4-5 p.m. in *Barret 051*

**Alumni Career Panel:**

6-7 p.m. in *Blount Lecture Hall*

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 22 (*Wear Red*)

**Living and Working in NYC Alumni Career Panel:**

3-4 p.m. in *Blount Lecture Hall*

**Living and Working in DC Alumni Career Panel:**

4-5 p.m. in *Blount Lecture Hall*

**Alumni-Student Career Advisor Meet and Greet:**

5:30-6:30 p.m. in *the Lair*

**Alumni Board Dinner:**

6:30-8:30 p.m. in *Crain Reception Hall*

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 23 (*Wear Your Homecoming T-Shirt*)

**Health Professions Networking Social:**

4:30-5:30 p.m. in *Barret 051*

**Legal Professions Social:**

5-6 p.m. in *Palmer Cloister, Palmer Hall*

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 24

**Greek Receptions:**

11 a.m.-6 p.m. *Greek Lodges*

**Field Hockey Game vs. Sewanee:**

11 a.m. on *Mason Field*

**Women's Soccer Game vs. Millsaps**

1 p.m. on the *Soccer Fields*

**Parade:**

1:15-2 p.m. on *Thomas Lane*

**Football Game vs. BSC:**

2 p.m. until We-Win on *Crain Field*

**Concert:**

8-10 p.m. in *Fisher Gardens* [rain location: *Mallory Gymnasium*]



Photos from Dlynx (top) and Corey Nolen

"From Millsaps to Centre": It seems we always win by a substantial margin at Homecoming

**Staff of *The Sou'Wester***

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

*Make Things Pretty Editor*, Sam Clark '17

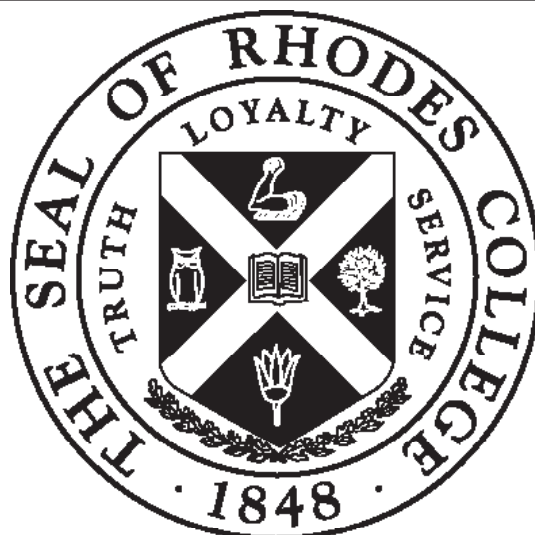
*Satire Editor*, Hayley Rosenfield '16

*Staff Photographer*, Jean Xiong '17

*Staff Writers*, Margaret Tronsor '17, Savannah Patton '19, Doria Jackson '18, Meaghan Pickles

'19, Rachel Nelson '16, Ben Laviana '18, Warner Raulston '19, Dan Lanza '17, Christian Wiggs '18,

Katie Gabrick '18



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

Contact either [rhodescnews@gmail.com](mailto:rhodescnews@gmail.com) for more information

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# WITHIN THE GATES

## Student Organizations Show True Colors



"Student Groups Galore": The entire Rhodes community came together to paint the new white fences. They turned an eyesore into advertisements for all the great organizations on campus. Photos by Savannah Patton

By SAVANNAH PATTON '19  
STAFF WRITER

Between 3 p.m. and 6 p.m. on October 1 and 2, student leaders tackled Rhodes's very own Lot 48 (AKA Sullivan Street Pit) Leslie-Knope style – minus the tumbling backwards into the pit while wearing business suits. By illustrating the construction walls with images a little more presentable than marijuana plants and stolen Native American artifacts, students have transformed the middle-of-campus eyesore into an impressive gallery of student involvement and opportunity. Boasting murals advertising ROO, Black Lives Matter, Culture of Consent, the intentional living communities, Greek life, religious groups and more, the outdoor gallery has surely made the Diplomats' lives easier. See? The Art club wasn't lying when they painted on their panel that art should "do more than sit in a museum." One thing I can say for certain is that Ron Swanson would definitely like our artwork more than local government but still less than meat. That, folks, is what I call a success.

## From the Commissioner...

*Weekly update:* the Allocations Board has now allocated \$62,409.87 to events planned by your fellow students! We encourage all students to take the time to read the flyers posted around campus or to visit your favorite organization's Facebook page...your own tuition may be funding their next event!

In continuation from last week's column, I will also be discussing fundraising. Our by-laws say this regarding fundraising:

### Fundraising

Organizations may request money to help with a fundraiser but must reimburse the Student Activities Fund in full before any acquired profits may be used. Any products purchased or money raised using Student Activities Fund money must be reported to the Allocations Board and remain the property of the college.

Thus, ANY organization on campus can fundraise! If you are a regular stu-

dent org that comes through Allocations any time funds are needed, then your org simply requests the funds for a certain event, throws said event, returns the requested amount, and is free to spend all remaining profits on whatever items your organization desires (the by-laws no longer matter). If you are an Earmarked organization, the same process holds; however, it is up to your organization to make sure that the funds are returned to your Earmark's account prior to spending any profits.

In this way, fundraising allows organizations freedom where they may feel that the by-laws are restricting or if they want to throw large events that the Board does not vote to fund. Stay tuned because in our next issue, I will be touching on one of the Board's most recent and exciting new rules: transportation!

Sincerely,  
Ally Limmer  
Allocations Board Commissioner



## WITHIN THE GATES

# Rhodes College says again, "Good Fences Make Good Neighbours"

BY DORIA JACKSON '18  
STAFF WRITER

The summer of 1990 came with the construction of the controversial fence around the expanding Rhodes community; similarly, this past summer the newly acquired Evergreen property had the privilege of being gated in as well. Physical Plant replaced the original chain link on the west and north property lines at Evergreen to "enhance security" at the rear parking area, according to the Physical Plant director Brian Foshee. The gates surround the Parkway Hall residence, extend around the backside of Evergreen Church and enclose the intramural fields as well. Additionally, due to the increased through-traffic from construction and renovations, two emergency phones and several cameras were installed at the vehicle and pedestrian gates.

However, Parkway Hall has never been a dangerous residence hall. Campus Safety director Ike Sloas affirms "there has been very little crime since Rhodes College bought the property." In fact he relayed to me that "there have only been a couple of bicycles taken from the property and they were parked out

front not behind the fence." No doubt the fence will enhance the safety of the Parkway residence and cars parked behind Evergreen, but this was already a safe area. Why fix what wasn't broken?

Just as the initial fence raised discontent within and outside the Rhodes community, the new additions to the fence this summer have some Rhodes students wondering what this means for Rhodes and our relationship with the surrounding community. For sophomore student Malik Thompson '18 the situation seems ironic: "we are the number one service-oriented college, and yet we gate ourselves off from the community we are apart of and supposed to be serving." There is a sense of déjà vu among faculty who were here when the main fence went up in 1990. The same debate of separation or safety continues to be a topic among faculty, staff, students and the Memphis community. Nevertheless, whether you're pro-fence or completely against it, our job as members of the Rhodes community is to not let the fence keep us out of the community, no matter how difficult the imposing wrought iron may make it.

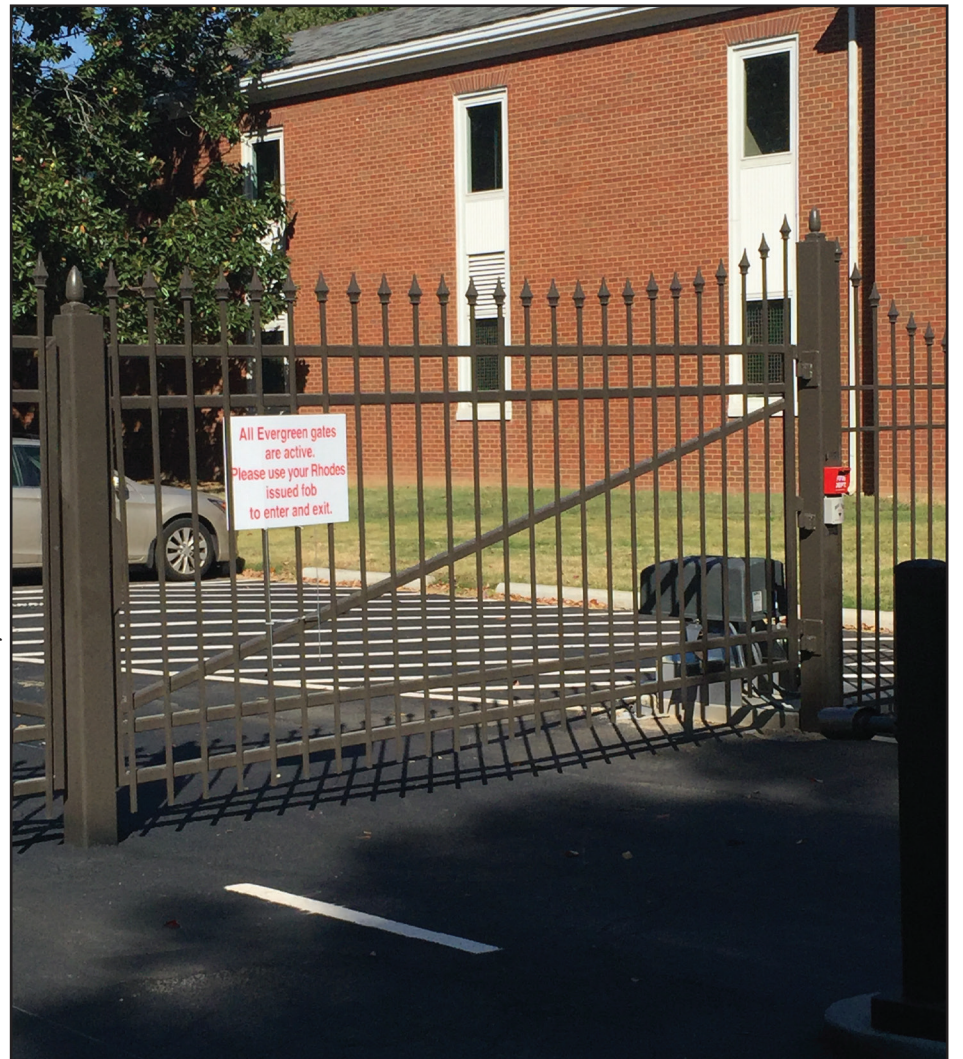


Photo by Sam Clark

"RHODES Fob": Are we physically shutting ourselves off from Memphis?

## Study: Statistically Improbable that Your Big is the Best Big Ever

BY MEAGHAN PICKLES '19  
SATIRE WRITER

After crunching the numbers, analysts have arrived at the painstaking conclusion that it just isn't feasible to assume that your Big, while probably still a very good Big, is "the best Big of all time." Despite weighing factors such as the lavish amount of gifts, crafts, scrumptious treats, and borderline erotic love notes you have received, analysts have been clear that there have been many other freshman sorority sisters with a larger amount of baked goods and love notes wrought with even more palpable sensual tension. Although scientists have allowed

that "the best Big" would be a difficult concept to quantify concretely, they know that your Big is probably not even in the top tier, let alone would take the top spot, for Christ's sake.

"It simply would not make rational sense for your Big to be the best, considering that there are thousands of girls who deem their Big the best, and only one Big can rule them all," the ragtag team of scientists reported from the laboratory last night. "We've known this since the dawn of time, we just needed some stats to back it up." Citing data from what has been called "a wildly unnecessary and inconsequential study," researchers have noted that over 84% of girls who caption

their Instagram posts "couldn't be happier!" really could potentially be equally happy or happier with a different Big, such as one who had a cool, artsy nose piercing or more attractive male friends. At least 24% of Littles who proclaim to have the "best Big" would privately brand their relationship with their Big to be "lukewarm." They also found that approximately 95% of girls who did not receive their first choice Big would never tell anyone, including any element of the Holy Trinity or their dead dog Banksy, and would live a lie until the end of their sorry days.

In an offshoot of the study, a concentrated group of esteemed analysts delved deep into exposing the utter

bullshit of using the phrase "So much love for my Big!" mere minutes after meeting. Dr. Merrill Parker, looking frenzied and in great moral and psychological peril, noted, "Where is the evidence to support such a claim? Your relationship to this person has not even progressed to the level of pleasant acquaintance, let alone a burgeoning friendship that will stand the test of time."

Upon hearing results of the study, a majority of sorority sisters proclaimed in solidarity with their Bigs that they consider them "blasphemous" and ascribe "to a power higher than science."



# WITHIN THE GATES

## NEDA Needs Iris Mosah



Photo from NEDA

"DEEMED TWEETABLE BY NEDA": "It's not a white girl problem. It's not even a girl problem!" -Iris at NEDA

BY DORIA JACKSON '18  
SATIRE WRITER

Earlier this month Rhodes' very own senior Iris Mosah '16 traveled to San Diego to speak at the National Eating Disorder Association (NEDA) Conference. NEDA was formed in 2001 when two of the largest eating disorder advocacy organizations in the world merged. In the U.S. alone, 20 million women and

10 million men suffer from a "clinically significant eating disorder," and NEDA works to meet the needs of these men and women by campaigning for prevention, access to quality treatment and increased research funding. Iris attended last year's conference where she met mental health advocate and author of *Life Without Ed* and *Almost Anorexic* Jenni Schaefer. Iris, who has suffered from an eating disorder herself, was ex-

remely inspired and excited to interact with the author and activist.

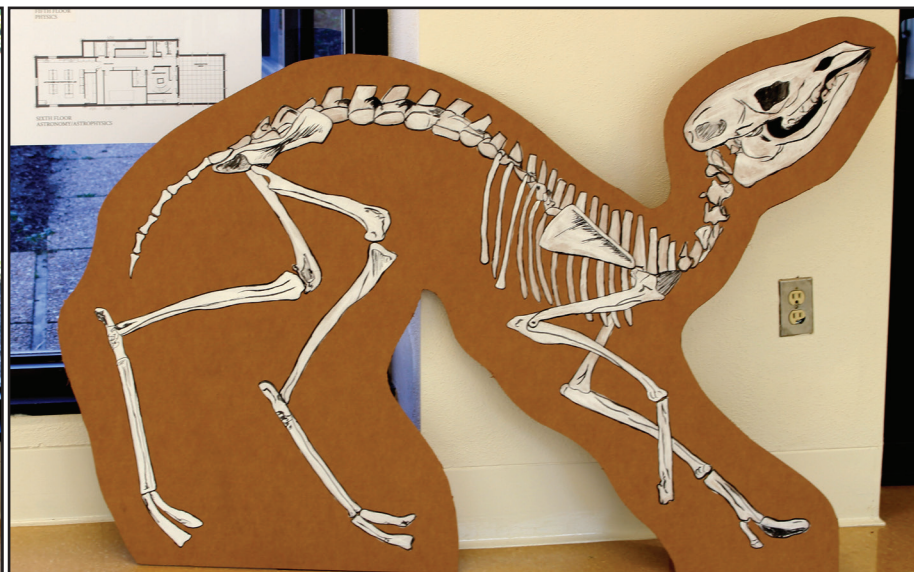
During their conversation, Iris mentioned that she was the Fundraising Chair for Active Minds at Rhodes and would love to have Jenni speak at on campus for National Eating Disorder Awareness Week in February. Long story short, Jenni came to Rhodes in February, had meaningful conversations with Rhodes students, and Iris established a personal relationship with the author, so much so that when NEDA was looking for speakers for this year's conference, Jenni recommended Iris to NEDA headquarters in New York. After sending them a written account of her story and involvement in mental health awareness, Iris was accepted onto the panel for "Stories of Recovery and Activism."

Iris had a history before working with NEDA of advocating for those living with eating disorders and mental illness. Along with being a part of Active Minds, she also worked at the Memphis Crisis Center for two years and focused on mental health awareness in her programs when she was an R.A. Speaking at the NEDA conference was freeing, as if all her "struggles had culminated in that moment." As a member of the

black community but also the international community, being that she and her family are from Cameroon, Iris admitted to "feeling a lot of shame for suffering" due to the lack of visibility and representation in the media for minorities. There is a sequence of pain as a result of under representation in which "invisibility leads to shame, and shame then leads to silence." NEDA has opened doors for Iris to fill this space where there are little minority voices.

The experience Iris had should prompt our community to continue the conversation. According to the National Surveys of Drug Use and Health, one in five Americans suffers from mental illness each year, and because of this statistic, "mental health needs to be an ongoing dialogue; prevention should be just as prominent a concern as intervention." "If you are dealing with an eating disorder or mental illness, know there are resources here at Rhodes such as the Counseling Center. The Counseling Center is free and confidential and is full of great people such as Iris Mosah, who will make sure you don't go through your struggle alone."

## Creative Cardboard Crawlers



"Cardboard Creatures": These Frankenstein-esque combinations of art and science are displayed in FJ

Photo from DLynx

BY RACHEL NELSON '16  
STAFF WRITER

Unless you're a science major or the unlucky business major who just can't possibly put off that damn F7 any longer, chances are you haven't ventured into FJ lately. As a place that is well-known for taking hostages that seem-

ingly never emerge to be the same people again, it's not exactly the go-to place for an afternoon stroll. But thanks to Professor Erin Harmon's "Paper Practicum" class, there is finally something down there that's not so scary! In early September, several "collaborative cardboard" art pieces were installed in the FJ Lobby. These paintings show some-

thing from every discipline of science. From an anatomically correct glycoprotein-coated human immunodeficiency virus to an obscenely large 2000 mL Erlenmeyer flask, these art pieces have something for the science nerd in all of us. Regardless of whether or not you love science and art, some appreciation has to be shown for the interdepart-

mental collaboration you can find at a small liberal arts school like Rhodes. So take some time to waft (we never smell) the roses, and go check out the awesome paintings from Professor Harmon's class.



## BEYOND THE GATES

## Fall Break Forever: Things to Do

BY HALEY ROSENFELD '16  
SATIE EDITOR

Stuck at school for Fall Break? Worried that completing the Rhodes pentathlon 11 whole times might not be enough to keep you entertained? Fear not – here are some events sure to satiate your every harvest season desire.

**Haunted Web of Horrors** – You can spend Friday, Saturday and even Sunday night of Fall Break getting the bejesus scared out of you at the 8-year-strong title-holder of Memphis's Best Haunted Attraction. Haunted Web of Horrors is located in Germantown and features three attractions: Dark Matter, Tormented and Twisted. It costs \$26 to go through all three, and proceeds go to Youth Villages.

**Wicked Ways Haunted House** – If you're looking to get your frights closer to campus, the Wicked Ways Haunted House by the Wiseacre Brewery is your best bet. Tickets go for \$15 a pop, with a portion of the proceeds going to St. Jude Children's Research Hospital. This attraction runs Fridays and Saturdays 7 p.m.-midnight, and Sundays 7-10 p.m.

**Memphis Escape Rooms, Carnival Asylum Edition** – Memphis Escape Rooms announced a limited-time Carnival Asylum-themed challenge, which places participants in a carnival that has been overrun by crazed ex-employee

Jester the Clown. Participants will race through a series of games in order to find missing keys and free themselves and fellow carnival-goers from Jester's clutches. This room will run from October 16-October 31.

**Corn Maze Shaped like Marc Gasol's Cheering Face** – Satisfy your insatiable desire to run around in a corn maze shaped like Grizzlies superstar Marc Gasol's face for the low, low price of \$7. The Agricenter of Memphis's maze even turns haunted on Friday and Saturday nights, 7-10 p.m.

**Marc Gasol's Actual Cheering Face (No Guarantees)** – The Grizzlies play two home games during our Fall Break: Friday the 16 against the Oklahoma City Thunder and Sunday the 18 against the Minnesota Timberwolves.

**Cooper-Young Beer Fest** – Drink in the name of community this Saturday, October 17! This sixth annual beer fest will feature more than 30 brewers located within a day's drive of Memphis. The festival runs from 1-5 p.m., and while tickets run at a steep \$45, you can drink easy knowing that all of the funds raised will benefit the Cooper-Young Community Association. And if you're the designated driver, you get in free.

**Station 3: The Memphis Firehaus Revival** – An abandoned lot for the past 15 years, this building was once home to Fire Station No. 3 in the ear-

ly 1900s. This October and November, the FedEx-Forum neighbor will become home to food trucks, live music and beer every Thursday through Sunday. Admission is free!

**Trivia Nights** – Local Sports 56 Radio personality Kevin Cerrito hosts a trivia night every Monday through Thursday evening from 8-10 p.m. at lo-

cations around Memphis. This Monday the 21 will be 30 Rock-themed and will take place at Schweinehaus in Overton Square. Tuesday the 22 will be Back to the Future-themed at the Rec Room. Events are free, but reservations are required and can be made on Cerrito's website, [www.cerritolive.com](http://www.cerritolive.com).



Photo from the Mid-South Agricenter  
"Marc Maze": Can you navigate this maze like the Grizzlies navigate the NBA?

## Coverage of Shelby Farms' "Spooky Nights": Haunted Maze

BY BEN LAVIANA '18  
STAFF WRITER

...and when the boy in the vinyl fish mask directs you down the wrong route, the route that leads directly towards a dead-end with another jump-scare, prearranged by the fish and his bloody clown buddy, the like 10th bloody clown you've encountered so far, hiding in the corn ready to pounce, and when he does the group that has just been following yours screams and jumps and poops their pumpkin pants, and you feel another body cling to your right arm, as one of the other group's member mistakes you for another and seeks comfort in who, at this moment, seems to be the one that is closest both physically and emotionally, and has arms draping and tangling with your right arm and you can sense a head be-

ginning to lean on your shoulder before you turn yours to your right to see who this is, and both yours and the stranger's eyes meet and there is nothing but silence before the other musters a loose apology before detaching and goes back to the giggling group behind you with a fake, careless aren't I such a dope? smile but really, inside, a head filled with shame, and you realize the scariest part of this entire maze is that that moment, that brief exchange of body heat, is the closest you've had to actual, genuine human contact in years... ever since she left, left and won't ever be returning, at least not to you, and that despite your savior-complex, in the end, you couldn't help her, her with all her troubled thoughts that you couldn't prevent, no matter what you tried, and just how noble you felt, helping this poor girl, when really she was the one

helping you, and you damn well knew this at the time, but you weren't ready to accept it, and when she was gone you realized just how much you needed her, not vice-versa, because who initiated it all?, all those years back...and, returning to the now, that this brief exchange with a stranger in a maze illuminated what is truly scary in this life, and it's not shirtless skinny men in plastic masks, wielding fake, plastic chainsaws shouting ooga booga booga at the passing high-pitched high-school girls who you swear must be inhaling some helium or something because those noises just aren't natural; that what isn't scary is the startling jump-scares accompanying loud noises, the ones that disappear once you leave the maze with all your friends, who are patting themselves on the back for being so brave for venturing into the fake, prearranged maze

that offers no real danger; that what isn't scary is the fake gore that looks like dried ketchup on the chests of skinny boys and plump girls, the general misfits drawn to these events, but what is scary is the existential loneliness experienced by all: the fact that nobody will truly understand you, you and all your self-perceived inner worth, as they are all too self-absorbed in their own self-pity, and their own unseen self-perceived inner worth, to truly invest into the life of another, and that, really, you are just the same, and you attempt to rationalize it as really your fault for lacking a life worth investing in, and that bums you out, and here comes the self-pity, and the cycle begins.

Overall, I give Shelby Farms' Haunted Maze a 4/10—"spook-tacular" is really a stretch.



## SPORTS, SATIRE &amp; SOME POLITICS

## Sports Schedule and Recap

BY DAN LANZA '17  
STAFF WRITER

**Upcoming Sport Events****Men's Cross Country**

vs. Oberlin Inter-Regional Rumble;  
Saturday 17; *Away*

**Women's Cross Country**

vs. Oberlin Inter-Regional Rumble;  
Saturday 17; *Away*

**Football**

vs. University of Chicago; Saturday  
17; *Home at 1 p.m.*

**Volleyball**

vs. Berry College; Saturday 17; *Home at 3 p.m.*

vs. Oglethorpe University; Sunday 18;  
*Home at 11 a.m.*

vs. Austin College; Sunday 18; *Home at 1 p.m.*

**Field Hockey**

vs. Montclair State University; Saturday  
17; *Away*

vs. Gwynedd Mercy University; Monday  
19; *Away*

**Women's Soccer**

vs. Berry College; Sunday 18; *Home at 12 p.m.*

**Men's Soccer**

vs. Berry College; Sunday 18; *Home at 2 p.m.*

**Women's Golf**

at Alamo Classic; Monday 19; *Away*

at Alamo Classic; Tuesday 20; *Away*

**Recent Scores****Football**

at Wash U., Oct 10; *Loss: 7-37*

**Men's Soccer**

at Sewanee, Oct 9; *Loss: 0-1*

**Field Hockey**

vs. Lynchburg College, Oct 9; *Win: 3-2*

vs. Sewanee, Oct 10; *Win: 1-0*

**Women's Soccer**

at Sewanee, Oct 9; *Loss: 1-2*

**Volleyball**

at Millsaps College, Oct 10; *Loss: 0-3*

## Rhodes Young Alumni Return to Make Sweet Love with Current Students

BY ZOE LAULEDERKIND '18  
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF (SATIRE)

The hotels are booked to capacity, roommates have been sexciled in advance and Walgreens (as well as the RAs) are sold out of Trojans. That's right folks; it's homecoming weekend. Sure, there's a football game and a parade or something, but let's be honest: the alums flood campus to rekindle

old undergraduate fires and perhaps a professor flame or two. In preparation for this two-day love fest, both past and present students find themselves fervently exhausting Facebook, the Rhodes Directory and old cell phones for the contact information of their potential, temporary flings.

Luckily, if the search yields no satisfactory returns, the College has planned ample "networking" events to

facilitate "professional relationships." However, an obstacle remains, could revisiting former romantic affairs be awkward? Liberal Arts, in dedication to a whole-person education, proclaims, "Awkwardness no more!" with the provision of alcohol at several of the planned events. Fear not alum, get back into the game just one last time (the football game of course).



## Blue and Red, Left or Right: Campaign Finance Reports

BY WARNER RAULSTON '19  
STAFF WRITER

Under United States law, all officially declared presidential candidates are required to submit their campaign finance records every fiscal quarter to the Federal Election Commission where they are then released to the public. What is unsurprising about this process are the massive sums of money raised by the highly recognized Clinton and Bush who have cumulatively raised over

\$50 million each since their announcements. What has been surprising are the political outsiders in the race: Senator Bernie Sanders and Neurosurgeon Ben Carson.

Both are up against some of the biggest political dynasties, and biggest coffers, in US politics, and yet they continue to hold, and gain, ground in this race financially. Ben Carson has raised \$30 million since his announcement, \$20 million in the last three months alone. And Sanders fared even better, clocking

an astonishing \$42 million, \$26 million in just the last three months. Sanders has also impressed commentators by receiving over one million individual contributions faster than any other presidential candidate in history, breaking the record set by Barack Obama in both 2008 and 2012.

What both Carson and Sanders have in common in their fundraising so far is their ability to raise money not from high-wealth donors, as have Clinton, Bush or the self-funded Trump, but

from a large number of individual donors through the Internet, a testament to their popular appeal. What is worth remembering from this, however, is that money doesn't win elections, voters do. The Carson and Sanders campaigns may soon find their donations dry up, but if they continue to raise big money at this rate, there is no telling how far they may go.

## NEWS

## Censorship, Safety and the Bona Lisa

BY KATIE GABRICK '18  
STAFF WRITER

At the beginning of the year, Joel Cox drew a rendition of the Mona Lisa with the phrase “Rush Pike” across her breasts. Drawn as joke, he certainly did not expect that he would become embroiled in an SRC investigation for the majority of the semester. According to Cox, the chalk drawing, which was done in his off-campus house, was intended “to be humorous and [to] highlight the misogyny in Greek culture.” He shared that he has “a history of injecting humor into [his] art to make a political statements” and that he considers it to be “a part of [his] identity.” Specifically, he wanted to parody “rush boobs”, which have been popular with fraternities the past few years. Pictures of “rush boobs” feature nearly-nude ceds with writing on their breasts that advertise a certain fraternity. These pictures are frequently shown to pledges and posted on the internet.

Cox is an accomplished illustrator and cartoonist, and has published a children’s book featuring a peanut-butter-making bee. Proud of his drawing, he wanted to share it on social media, just as he has shown his art through other mediums. Initially, Cox shared the picture on Instagram and with Total Frat Move (TFM). After he was notified that his drawing was posted on TFM, Cox shared the TFM post on Facebook. It was after Cox posted the picture on these social media sites that the original intent of Cox’s drawing became unclear to some, although Cox did describe his piece as satire on his Facebook. A Rhodes student organization felt the chalk drawing portrayed the very type of misogyny that Cox was attempting to satirize. The organization stated that Cox violated the Student Conduct Pol-



Photo by Doug

“Uncovered”: Joel Cox and his controversial work

icy with his rendition of the Mona Lisa, and it felt that the drawing was degrading towards women, constituted sexual harassment and was in fact an act of violence. After the matter was handed over by the Title IX coordinator, Social Regulations Council began an investigation on the grounds that Cox failed to act in a manner consistent with the regulations expressed in the Standards of the Rhodes Community and the Commitment to Diversity. By drawing his rendition of the Mona Lisa, Cox acted in a manner that was “disrespectful to others and the property of others” and that prohibited “an environment of respect for all persons regardless of race, gender, age, or religious orientation.” He was formally charged and told he would receive an SRC hearing.

Cox then contacted an organization called FIRE, which protects students’ right to free speech. FIRE sent a letter advocating for Cox’s right to freedom

of expression to the acting President of SRC along with several members of administration. After a month-long complicated disciplinary process, the administration along with SRC decided to drop the charges against him. Soon after the charges were dropped, however, he was told he would then be investigated for a Title IX offense instead. As of printing, there is no investigation and Cox has been cleared of all charges.

Joel never expected to be accused of portraying the type of misogyny that he was attempting to mock. Social media offers a larger audience for artwork. As the audience grows larger, however, so too does the possibility that someone will misinterpret the intention behind the work. In Cox’s case, it appears that context of the social media site TFM, on which Cox posted his work, skewed his drawing’s message for some Rhodes students. Total Frat Move is not by any means a website devoted to skewering

fraternity culture. Although it takes some digging, one can find numerous photos of real women with “rush boobs” on the site. Cox’s post did not have any description once on the website; it only had the title given to it by the website of “The Bona Lisa,” a title Joel did not like. Joel does not frequent the site, and said that he “shared it on Total Frat Move, because he thought it was an audience that would find it humorous, but that it is also an audience that it needed to reach.”

In light of the policy changes that have been made at Rhodes within the last year – especially the sexual misconduct policy – it is clear that the administration, professors, and students alike value our campus culture at Rhodes. All students should feel that Rhodes is a safe learning environment. Yet, when students enter the gates of the college, they are also promised by the same Commitment to Diversity that they will be provided with “an open learning environment” in which “freedom of thought” and “a civil exchange of ideas” are allowed. Cox drew his Mona Lisa and posted pictures of her on various social media sites with the intent of sharing his art and his beliefs in a manner consistent with the regulations at Rhodes. It came down to the difference between intent and interpretation; what the artist puts into a piece and what the viewer perceives can be very different.

Joel had one final thing to say: “I’m somewhat worried that my case could contribute to a culture that increasingly greets sexually violated women with suspicion. If someone were to find this particular case absurd, I would only ask that they recognize the vast majority of sexual misconduct allegations are very serious and all of them should be listened to.”

## Tinder’s ‘Super Like’: Millennial Courtship

BY CHRISTIAN WIGGS '18  
STAFF WRITER

Listen, I know you’re on Tinder. You sneak in a few swipes between Search and French, brushing your teeth and tucking into bed, waking up and showering. You dream about finding true love by way of mutual right-swiperage. Your search is a noble and ancient one, though newly compressed into an app

you hide away deep in your iPhone’s folder system.

A few months ago, your right swipe might have been confused as a not-so-subtle indication that you simply wanted to screw. That’s not you though. You’re looking for life-long companionship. Luckily, over the past few weeks the developers at Tinder HQ have dreamt of just the feature you’re looking for: the ‘Super Like.’ This glimmering

new button allows for the person you’ve ‘Super Liked’ to know you’re interested in growing old with them before they make a decision on you.

The catch is this: you get one ‘Super Like’ every twenty-four hours. So, if someone ‘Super Likes’ you, he or she either really want to screw or has decided if given only one match that day, he or she wants it to be you.

With the sanctity of long-term rela-

tionships in question, maybe Tinder’s new feature can save our society from its full-throttle decline into hook-up culture debauchery. Perhaps it’ll optimize the centuries-old practice of courtship. Might we soon see an integration with PayPal to safely transfer dowries to the families of those liked? The ‘Super Like’ might just spell a return for goodwill towards marriage for millennials. Probably not, though.