

A Chat with MisterWives

INTERVIEW BY ZOE LAULEDERKIND '18
AND ALLY LIMMER '16
EDITORS-IN-CHIEF

Last week, while in Tulsa, Okla. playing at another college show, Will Hehir of MisterWives took a few minutes to talk to *The Sou'wester* about their band and his excitement to return to Memphis to perform for us. Check the Q&A with Will below to educate yourselves about a really cool group that will be within arm's length of screaming girls and boys alike tonight!

1. Having been to Memphis at least once before to perform at Minglewood (2014) with twenty one pilots, what about the city of Memphis most excites you?

Definitely very excited! That is probably the only show we played in Memphis, and it was an absolute blast. It's always fun to play at the "southern" schools because the students come out and are very excited about live music [...] Memphis is no outsider in that department. It's fun to play at these college shows because the kids are really into it and getting to interact with them allows us to expand to a different audience. A lot of these students are just out for the event more so than the band, which allows us to reach an audience that we might not have reached otherwise

Insider knowledge: A memorable story about Memphis for Will is, unfortunately, a story about his being ill and missing out on a cool bar experience! I actually had to crawl up the stairs to the green room; I was just so sick. It was devastating because I had to play a show and wanted to give it my 110%. Long story short, Will was not able to go out to the bars with his bandmates: Our trumpet player actually ended up getting onstage with John C. Reilly singing with a bluegrass group! The one night I don't go out, they end up hanging out with one of my favorite actors. (That does seem to be always how it goes!)



Photo from Austin City Limits

"Our Own House": Misterwives hopes to rock Rhodes College this Friday at Rites of Spring.

2. What is your favorite song to perform (we want to sing along with you!)?

It actually changes here and there, and we're working on adjusting the setlist based on how much time we have or if it's a college we're playing at or a bunch of different circumstances. I will say that we have been working on some new material and have incorporated one new song into the set. That's fun because it's fresh, and we get to gauge the reaction of the audience when they hear a song they haven't heard before. Audiences have been widely receptive to our music even if they don't necessarily know every word (although sometimes you do get that one person). Every song is a little different... we play "Hurricane" and it's a bit more aggressive than we initially intended to be, and there are other ones that are a bit more upbeat. There are different reasons for loving every song that we play!

3. How does the dynamic of one girl in the band [Mandy] affect interactions I does she ever feel left-out to your knowledge?

I definitely would not define us as "bros"; we're an eclectic group of people. We get along incredibly well but have such differ-

ent personalities and to varying degrees. But we see each other as people; it's not like Mandy wants to do something, and we think it's "too girly." I do all sorts of weird shit with Mandy - one time we were out in San Francisco, and I went to get a manicure with her! I think of it as playing with my sister. It's much more of a family here, so it's like playing with my sisters and brothers.

4. And how do you explain to your families that you are "MisterWives"?

Oh, that's interesting! Well we all come from largely accepting families... you kind of have to be if you're going to show up at your house one day and say you're going to quit your job and do music for the rest of your life! If they don't freak out about that, then I think everything else is up for grabs. Our message is about breaking down societal norms that have held us back - not looking at one another as man or woman, black or white, but instead as people with equal respect and love for one another, making sure you're doing what's in the best interest for everyone else. We all come from fairly open-minded perspectives. We didn't sit down and determine what our doctrine or thesis was going to be, but we saw a shared view about

MisterWives' autographs go here

what is wrong with the way a vast majority of things are set up. The music always comes first, so it was a natural aesthetic thing; we don't want to be overly preachy. We just want to open up dialogue with mutual respect and an open mind.

5. How do y'all feel about sticking around after the show to party with some Rhodes students?

(Laughs) I honestly have to check the schedule! But it's so fun, and it reminds me of my youth since I went to the University of Richmond. If we don't have to drive anywhere, we'll definitely be out-and-about. And more than just partying with students, we love any opportunity to meet them and thank them for their support. We know a lot of planning goes into these events, and we don't want them to think that anyone takes it for granted. I was once on the other side, so we are very appreciative. And if that means sharing a beer with y'all, then we're there!

If y'all want to learn more about Mandy Lee, William Hehir, Etienne Bowler, Marc Campbell, Jesse Blum and Mike Murphy, what better way than to check them out live?

TURN TO THE BACK PAGE FOR EXCLUSIVE INTERVIEWS WITH
THE STUDENT BANDS *THE FLYING V'S* AND *CIGS INSIDE*
AS WELL AS COVERAGE OF THE EMERGENCY TOWN HALL

NEWS

Letter from the Editors

*"We built our own house, own house
With our hands over our hearts
And we swore on that day
That it will never fall apart" -
"Our Own House" by MisterWives*

We often talk about the Rhodes community but rarely stop to consider what that means. To make a community isn't to homogenize a group of people, but rather to allow a fusion of many individuals' ideas. Shared spaces, both physical and digital, catalyze this fusion. For

the last few weeks, the Rhodes community has been undergoing the opposite chemical reaction: fission. Fission is an explosive, violent reaction used for destruction. Fusion is self-sustaining and used for providing energy. Fusion is a power plant, fission is the atom bomb. Fusion is a cooperative process, and thus inhibiting a fellow community member by either suppressing their ideas or refusing to listen not only hurts them but damages your own education.

Despite the recent fission, Rhodes

has experienced fusion and still has the ability to facilitate fusion. Rites of Spring, URCAS and walking across the seal are upcoming events that allow large numbers of the community to come together. These are occasions unique to Rhodes that provide us with the opportunity to truly be in communion. Our small classrooms, hallways and common spaces are equally capable of sustaining the intimate exchange of thoughts, ideas and feelings that are integral to our liberal arts experience.

Although the Rhodes community has been experiencing some turmoil, belonging to the Rhodes community remains a privilege and a constant responsibility to maintain fusion and avoid fission.

Make our community strong again; go see MisterWives.

Peace and love (heavy on the peace... well and the love),

Zoe, Ally, Doug, Christian

Plans for Next Year from the NEW EIC's

BY ZOE LAULEDERKIND '18
AND CHRISTIAN WIGGS '18
EDITORS-IN-CHIEF

The Sou'wester will shortly be experiencing a peaceful exchange of power. You guessed it, we have been bought by The New York Times for our exceptional journalistic capabilities and out-of-this-world circulation statistics.

PSYCHE! We're still without a label (like Drake before YMCMB), but the times will be new as we, Zoe Laulederkind '18 and Christian Taylor Wiggs '18, assume the title of Editors-in-Chief. As we are together an old dog and a new dog, *The Sou'wester* will perform all its old tricks as well as plenty of new ones. Old tricks include

printing on Friday, meetings on Monday, obscenities on occasion, insider information on Rhodes College and of course a good bit of satire. New tricks involve YOU dear readers, especially the student organization leaders among you, bringing us your events, feeding us your sweet, sweet news so that YOU and we may thrive as we collectively inform Rhodes College, leaving in our path no event poorly attended and no story unpublished. Dichotomies aside, we do intend to show off some old tricks with new twists.

Although *The Sou'wester* does exist electronically, it remains unanimated. How are we supposed to compete for your attention without animation i.e. cat videos!? And so we plan to

maintain the electronic publication while adding some videos (taken with our new Go Pro) to bring more life to the news of life at Rhodes.

The previous editors-in-chief built for *The Sou'wester* a true place in the Rhodes community. More than anything, we as the new editors-in-chief seek to solidify that place by printing articles from an even broader range of writers. These include, more students as well as faculty and staff (maybe even President Troutt!). We inherit the outgoing editor-in-chief's legacy and vision that the paper is and should continue to be an outlet for honesty and wit on our campus.

Staks Food Review: A Haiku for You

BY WILL MORROW '19
AND DAVID MORAR '19
STAFF WRITERS

Pancakes and bacon

But Barksdale's does it better

We made a mistake

-Frobert Rost

(see page 6 for the accompanying Staks review)

Staff of *The Sou'wester*

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

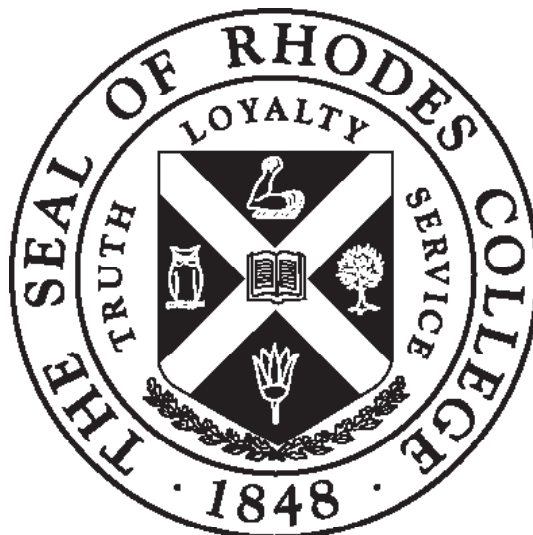
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Interested in joining *The Sou'wester*?
Have any stories you think need a voice?
Comments/concerns?

Contact rhodescnews@gmail.com for
more information

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and Facebook at
<https://www.facebook.com/souwesternewspaper>

WITHIN THE GATES

How to Survive Rites of Spring (Or, more specifically, the hangover afterwards)



Photo from RAB

"Rites 2015": This is what we're up against. Look at all that sweat. Seriously... hydrate. Natty doesn't count.

BY THE ENTIRE STAFF
THE SOU'WESTER

Ways to cure hangovers:

1. Climb onto the Lynx statue in Native American garb, screaming, "Cheney made money off the Iraq War!"
2. Listen to Nickelback's newest album in its entirety wearing nothing but woolen socks.
3. Smoke Doral Splendidly Blended Menthol Lights and drink the piss of Palmer Cat.
4. Either don't drink ever or drink so

much that you end up hospitalized with a broken nose and an IV. The IV really fixes hangovers, but no hospital can heal shame.

5. Hydrate, hydrate, hydrate. Change your sheets. Hydrate.

6. Head over to your brunch establishment of choice, and have a mimosa or two. Might as well not accept that the drinking is over.

Note: The Sou'wester does not explicitly recommend any of these activities, sober or otherwise. Except number 5. That one is real, so do that. Please don't sue us.

From the Commissioner...

In the last two weeks, the Allocations Board funded over \$20k-worth of events, bringing our grand total to an impressive \$164,200.83. We hope that y'all continue to take advantage of end-of-the-year programming – your student leaders are still working hard to put on inventive and entertaining events, from outdoor rock climbing (ROO) to the End of the Year Multicultural Show (SAMOSA). Keep your eyes peeled for other fun programming before finals!

ATTENTION: The last meeting of the Allocations Board will be Wednesday, April 20. In other words, we only have one meeting left, and there will be no exceptions! The last date for which funds can be requested is Friday, April 29 (the Friday of URCAS). The Board cannot fund events after the last day of class; students should spend that time studying for exams rather than planning and executing events.

As a final thought, I would personally like to thank each and every member of

the Rhodes community for having an open mind regarding the changes that the Board has made over the past two years. There is no doubt in our minds, and in the minds of those who interacted with the Board through the previous process, that these changes have been for the best. With that being said, though more students know what the Allocations Board is, still not many know how we work and what we can and cannot approve. I have been and Davis Field '18 (the incoming Com-

missioner) will be willing and capable resources to educate students about the Board. I encourage y'all to ask questions but to also give your peers on the Board the benefit of the doubt; we debate these budgets long and hard and genuinely want the best for our campus and its organizations.

Sincerely,
Ally Limmer
Allocations Board Commissioner

CALLING ALL SENIORS!

Are you a **senior**? Are you **graduating**? (Sorry if this is a touchy subject.) Do you have opinions or reflections that you would like expressed in the GRADUATION EDITION of *The Sou'wester*?

The GRADUATION EDITION will be distributed at graduation and is a place for **only** senior contributions, allowing graduating students an opportunity to leave Rhodes College with one final thought! Please email rhodescnews@gmail.com to submit your piece or for more information.

(The deadline for submission is Wednesday, May 4 at Midnight.)

Career Services Recycles!

Want to sell/buy clothes or handmade items before the school year is over? Career Services will be hosting a student exchange for buying and selling gently used clothing or any small-shop items you may want to sell. The event will open to all Rhodes students and will be held on **Friday, April 22 from 12-4 p.m.** What better way to celebrate Earth Day than by recycling clothing? If you're interested in having a table to sell items, email Alex Dileo '16 at dilac-16@rhodes.edu. Even if you don't plan on selling, we hope to see you there supporting your friends and classmates!

WITHIN THE GATES

Feminism: Another Platform for the Discussion of Sexual Assault

BY MEAGHAN PICKLES '19
SATIRE EDITOR

This article discusses sexual assault on our campus.

With new safety measures including the assault text/email alert system, the recent "Pardon Our Rapists" signs on campus and a general lack of trust in administrative efforts to punish rape, Rhodes is no stranger to heated discourse on sexual assault. In the Thursday panel "A Feminist Response to Sexual Assault" in Blount Lecture Hall, six feminist Rhodes professors ranging across disciplines lent their particular specialties to a sensitive, in-depth analysis of rape and rape culture; discussion was thoughtful and tempered and caused faculty and students to look together for the deep, systemic roots of the problems we currently face as a campus community.

Zandria Robinson, assistant professor of Sociology and a prominent new voice at Rhodes, began the talk with an examination of how rape has been systematically and historically utilized to fuel racial violence, noting that "rape, in the slavery context, is a tool of economic power and terror." She indicated the ways in which "tropes of black women's hypersexuality" contributed to the victimization of black women and were an excuse for this widespread assault, reminding the audience that "dangerous tropes rooted in slavery have continued today" in a world in which one third of black girls report being sexually assaulted before age 18. Robinson made clear that rape does not only target a particular group (namely, young women), but rather a wide range of people: "wom-

en, genderqueer people, trans persons, GLB persons." This scrutiny of the ubiquitous nature of rape culture was a prevalent theme for the evening.

Each of the professors analyzed the pervasive influence of a historical rape culture based in troubling views of women and ethnic and sexual minorities, giving context to some of the issues with assault we deal with today. English professor Judith Haas utilized her study of Medieval literature to examine vexing tropes of chivalry and knighthood. Haas stated that many of these stories include sexual assault, and "often these stories start with an act of chivalry on the part of a knight." Her chief point was that many of the ideas concerning womanhood and sexual purity - for example, that "to be raped was to be damaged goods" - continue to agitate our modern culture. "If rape is a crime formulated against a woman's sexual purity," said Haas, "there are some women who are considered impure and thus not capable of being raped." Rebecca Tuvell, assistant professor of Philosophy, evaluated rape culture from a legal standpoint, investigating testimonial injustices against women and minorities when reporting a sexual assault, noting that "credibility is unfairly designated along gender lines... women have trouble being accepted as reliable," especially due to pervading stereotypes of female hysteria and irrationality. "Speaker testimony should be a presumptive reason to treat your claims as true," Tuvell argued.

One of the talk's key takeaways was that normative ideas about victims of sexual assault damage and patronize the overall fight against it. Evelyn Perry, as-

sistant professor of Sociology, contended that these stereotypical conclusions "weaken abilities to craft effective tools for assault prevention... [and] effective change." She asserted that different people have "different access to blamelessness" for their own sexual assault, namely young white women who are seen as less sexually available. English professor Leslie Petty gave a brief "history of resistance" on the part of women in first-wave and second-wave feminism, examining the grassroots efforts which produced the concept of "voluntary motherhood," date rape and laws against marital rape. "Before 1970 there were no rape crisis centers," said Petty, "by 1974, there were over 400."

Professor Graybill gave a stirring rant in which she critiqued "the discourse of consent" espoused in liberal environments such as Rhodes College, stating that people are not all equally able to give consent and how this idea ignores "the way discomfort can work as coercion." She also expressed that consent is "a really low bar" for sexual relationships that denies the concept of female sexual pleasure, breeding male entitlement and sexual violence. Her speech seemed to particularly resonate with the audience, her speech ending with rousing applause.

Energy was high among students during the audience question portion of the evening, as professors tacitly discussed the ways Rhodes College is failing at addressing issues of sexual assault and rape culture on campus.

"One of our failures as a campus is we have not addressed how our system is different from the justice system," Robinson said, responding to a question on

grappling with how protecting women can be reckoned with the the presumption of innocence. "I think that doing a step-by-step deconstruction of the policy... that work needs to happen."

Faculty generally appeared excited by the open discussion of Rhodes culture and administration yet careful and somewhat tepid in their answers; they were most comfortable when discussing specific policy issues which could be altered to create a more secure environment for students. On the issue of mandatory reporting and how this can derogatorily affect rape victims, Professor Haas stated that "there are models on other campuses that have safe spaces, and I feel that that's a realizable goal." Professors Tuvell, Graybill and Robinson especially expressed discontent with the current 'It's On Us' campaign, which they argued creates a bystander culpability and ignores the culpability of the rapist. "The worry with 'It's On Us,' said Tuvell, "is that so many of these assaults occur in private."

True to form, Robinson was the most forthright and comfortable in her critical answers of the Rhodes culture, telling students to "get out of the safe spaces you've created and share with each other and those outside of the gates." Although dealing with sensitive, dark subject matter that dwelt upon perceived failures of the administration, there was an uplifting rallying cry for action, as Professor Haas wrapped up the talk stating that "the reason why there are changes now is because they have come from students and student activism."

Thou Shalt Not Pass Without a Parking Sticker

BY WILL MORROW '19
AND WARREN SOCHER '19
SATIRE WRITERS

In a recent low-speed chase that ensued on campus, a red Honda Civic peeled out of the frat lot for a quick run to Tip-Top on a Friday afternoon to pick up handles of Russian piss distilled for 25 minutes in a Kentucky factory: Taaka. Just imagine receiving a golden shower from a Vlad Lenin impersonator who's screaming "FOR THE MOTHERLAND!!" Unluckily for him, a determined Campus Safety patrol golf cart stomped on the oversized gas pedal and pursued

the perpetrator at a max speed of 12 mph, bouncing out of control over the speed bumps like Herbie: Fully Loaded, in an attempt to catch the reckless youth who was coincidentally parked in a handicapped zone. However, the patrol cart soon gave up the chase, as the sedan had already reached the guard gate and the honorable officers deemed it unsafe to match the speed of the suspect.

It's a common notion amongst the Rhodes student body that there is nothing more daunting than seeing the bright LED headlights of a silver Ford Escape glaring you down as you enter campus. It's even scarier now that the

infamous Campus Safety Team have started cracking down, now forcing the stickerless youth to stop and give their names to the officers instead of peacefully passing through, illustrating one's belonging and security with a half-hearted wave and a smile. In order to be hired as a security officer by Rhodes, the only two skills the administration deemed necessary were to be able to carelessly wave one's hand at passersby and drive from their impenetrable headquarters across the street to the freshman parking lot. In the past, getting past Campus Safety without a sticker was no problem, as most of the time they were sitting on their phones

in the guardhouse, sending striking similarities to the cashier at the Lair, who doesn't ever deem it necessary to make eye-contact, fumbling for your Lynx ID whilst seamlessly navigating Instagram and swiping your card.... twice. They failed even the simplest test when we attempted to assess the penetrability of Campus Safety by simply speeding past them, completely ignoring their "authority," and the only reaction we received was a dumbfounded glare and reluctant wave from the officer whose name could have made millions in the porn industry: Johnny Austin.

WITHIN THE GATES

Deferring Professional School: Last Week's Persuasive Gap Year Panel

BY SAVANNAH PATTON '19
CHIEF COPY EDITOR

It's a universally known fact that medical school (and really any professional school) is freaking terrifying. It's enough to give your average newspaper journalist night terrors and is probably the reason binge drinking is such a common thing on college campuses. But what about those that have always known medical school is the right track for them, and wouldn't consider choosing any other path? Why would someone so sure of his or her next step put it off for a whole year? At the gap year panel held in FJ-B on Sunday, April 10, Rhodes students were given the opportunity to learn just that.

The panel consisted of two Rhodes seniors who have already made the decision to take a gap year before pursuing medical school, along with two Rhodes alumnae currently taking gap years. One alumna works at LeBonheur as a scribe, while the other works at Methodist University Hospital. The current seniors, who will begin their gap years after graduation, explained how they felt that applying to medical school after both completing all four years at Rhodes and a gap year would bolster their applications, making them more competitive applicants. One student

relayed what she regarded as the best med school advice she had received: "Apply when your application is best." For her, this will be after having all four years of college under her belt.

The other graduating senior, a Biology-Chemistry major, spoke of how he had wanted to take a gap year before college but hadn't been able to convince his parents to allow him to do so. "I want to do stuff I won't have time to do when I commit to a year in medicine," he expressed, mentioning his desire to scribe part time, spend a few months working as an organic farmer on a vineyard in France with WWOOF (World Wide Opportunities on Organic Farms), learn to play guitar and learn to bake. He wants to take his gap year as an opportunity to reenergize: "Rhodes has been wonderful – and stressful." That is certainly something to which we can all relate.

One of the alumna confirmed this desire, saying that she is now "geared up and ready" for medical school after having the opportunity to "relax for a little bit and get [her] thoughts together." Though each alumna works several nine or 12-hour shifts each week, each reminded the current students that "you come home and have no homework and can do what you want, so it's still relaxing. I actually have time to

binge-watch Netflix."

The two alumnae strongly encouraged the current students to scribe during their gap year. They spoke of how the flexibility of scribing has allowed them to take up to two weeks off for travel, so it is ideal if you have other plans apart from working during your gap year. The alumna who is currently scribing at Le Bonheur Children's Hospital spoke of how scribing has allowed her to work closely with a different physician each shift. In documenting everything as she accompanies each physician to see each patient, she has learned how different doctors take the physical, why they ask what they ask and why they make the various choices that they do in any given situation. "You learn a lot by listening and absorbing. The most valuable thing is the environment where everyone is very invested in educating everyone else there." The two described scribing as "more active and engaged than shadowing," allowing them to gain "the most clinical experience possible in one year."

Clearly, there is a multitude of reasons to take a gap year before pursuing medical school, but I think we can all agree that the ample time to Netflix binge is sufficiently convincing in and of itself.

What We Can All Learn From "Prom For All"

BY ERICA SMYTHE '17
STAFF WRITER

This past Saturday, GSA held a spectacular Prom For All bash at the Amurica building complete with dancing, music and, of course, the famous Amurica photo booth. Amurica's eclectic venue space, complete with gold-painted free-standing mannequins and a wall-mounted fabric flower tapestry, proved to be the perfect setting for a night dedicated to celebrating individuality. "The Amurica Photo venue was so welcoming and created a fun environment for everyone," gushed Sophie Hoffman '17, GSA president. "GSA is honored to have hosted such a fun and successful event, and we cannot wait to see everyone at prom next year!" As is indicative of the title, Prom for All aims to create a fun and safe event for students of different sexualities, religions, ethnicities and cultural backgrounds. Each year, GSA puts on Prom for All, but this year, they were able to move from the BCLC to an off-campus location. Moving to the Amurica building established an

intimate environment and a sense of mystery (as the location was not disclosed for the safety of the partygoers), which drew in a bigger crowd than usual. "I was most excited to see the large turnout at Prom For All," explained Sophie.

As a part of a group of student organizations, such as Muslim Student Association and Black Student Association, dedicated to inclusivity and acceptance, Prom For All hopes to attract not only active members of their club, but also students of all backgrounds. While milling around, it was hard not to marvel at the diverse range of people who came together to celebrate their differences and quirks.

So often, discrepancies in lifestyle and personal beliefs are seen as a dividing factor as opposed to something that can expand our worldview and realm of understanding and acceptance. Although this event only lasted one night, we could all stand to carry over these morals of acceptance and love into our everyday lives, especially in the midst of the social crises on campus.

Incredible: Cool Girl On Campus Not Like Other Girls

BY MEAGHAN PICKLES '19
SATIRE EDITOR

Get ready to be blown away because recent reports have confirmed the existence of a very chill, fun girl on campus who just isn't the normal kind of girl you usually see around here. According to a small group of male students chowing down on caprese paninis in the Lair, this Cool Girl allegedly loves "kicking back and watching the Big Game," making crude phallic jokes and talking sports with the boys. Nice.

"She doesn't hang out a lot with girls because she hates drama and just gets along better with dudes," said sophomore Daniel Parker, salivating onto his French fries and refusing to salvage any

remaining shred of dignity with a paper napkin. "She has that kind of carefree attitude that other girls are too uptight to understand. You know those Carl's Jr. commercials where the hot model is eating the hamburger? That's this Cool Girl in a nutshell. Maybe less hot, though."

The one lone Cool Girl can be seen throwing down some brews with her favorite bros, and unlike other girls who are busy doing dumb girl things, she is just "a laid back gal to chill with. She doesn't get upset when we make some harmless jokes about the ladies. She doesn't even really consider herself a feminist. Sweet."

Dudes on campus have developed a special fascination and titillation with

this girl who, unlike all other girls, just wants to hang out, slouch around and have a good-ass time. "Some girls don't eat - would it surprise and amaze you that this chick actually loves to eat? She even refers to herself as 'such a slob' while she's eating a slice of pizza," said junior Max Lang regarding the aforementioned Cool Girl, who alternates between a size zero and a size two. "Also, she doesn't really get why girls like to spend money on manicures. In fact, she would rather be digging into a plate of nachos. I really relate to her when she says things like this."

Said classic frat star Mark Johnson '19: "Hey, we're dudes being dudes. We like to just lay back on a ratty couch and

complain about the outcome of the latest sporting event, instead of challenging our innately flawed conceptualizations of women."

This Cool Girl has been described as "Amy Schumer, if Amy Schumer were skinny, loved Madden and didn't annoy anyone by talking about the patriarchy." She even throws around curse words on the reg and can also be heard uttering terms such as "dude," "man" and "sick" unironically.

Boys enjoy telling this Cool Girl that she is not like other girls, before adding that they have each actually gotten to know somewhere between one and three girls in their lifetime.

BEYOND THE GATES

Reconstruction at the Levitt Shell

By KIM MACHARIA '18
STAFF WRITER

For the past 80 years, the Levitt Shell has been recognized as one of the premier destinations in Memphis to catch a fun outdoor concert. However, due to several months of construction as part of the Shell's Preservation Campaign, things will look quite different this summer than last.

Back in December, the Levitt Shell threw a party to announce the \$4 million renovation plans and inform the public about how to get involved in this grand undertaking. One of these ways is to purchase bricks in honor of loved ones or special events in your life.

The incoming funds from these sponsorships have contributed to the Shell's ability to make significant changes and improvements to its aesthetic.

There will be a new community area to provide better space for food, beer and merchandise sales. In addition, new LED video screens that function in daylight have been purchased. A new dance floor has also been added for patrons' enjoyment. For sponsor and group outings, the new multi-functional Hospitality Hilltop Deck has been added to replace the temporary flooring that existed there previously. For the musicians, there is a new load-in area to make the unloading and reloading process easier and more efficient.

The Shell hopes that such renovations will prevent issues like faulty lighting and sound that sometimes occurred with their older system that needed an update. In addition to the physical changes being made, the Levitt Shell has also added new programs like the Next Generation Apprenticeship, which allows high school students to spend a summer learning about various aspects of event production from local professionals. Another non-structural addition to the Shell is the free bike valet.

All of these changes were motivated by the Levitt Shell's mission to make sure the venue is preserved for future generations. Throughout its 80 year history

in Overton Park, the Levitt Shell has nearly been torn down multiple times but stands stronger than ever today. It is the hope that the renovations made this year will allow the Shell to remain economically sustainable and continue to provide free concerts for the next 100 years.



Drawing by Terry Dewitt

Send Silence Packing: Finding Strength in Fear and Compassion

By ERICA SMYTHE '17
STAFF WRITER

It is easy to become desensitized to the statistics. One-in-four college students suffer from mental health issues. 1,100 young adults die each year from suicide. It's so easy to skim over the numbers, feel sympathy, but distance ourselves in order to protect our mental and emotional well-being. We guard ourselves from these statistics in order to choke back that suffocating fear that goes along with thinking about the fragility of our own mortality and the mortality of those that we love. We have all succumbed to these dark and hopeless thoughts, so, when they're verbalized, why do we treat them as something unfamiliar and forbidden? Isn't it our obligation, as humans, to use our words to engage in a dialogue of inclusivity and understanding? Send Silence Packing poignantly addresses the issue of "non-dialogue" surrounding mental health, forcing students to physically confront the issue of suicide and urging them to tease out the implications of keeping silent about mental health.

The Send Silence Packing exhibit transformed the Barret Library wind tunnel into a solemn and meaningful memorial Monday afternoon as it displayed 1,100 backpacks representing the number of students who die each year by suicide. Due to poor weather conditions, Active Minds was forced

to move the exhibit from the central quad to a sheltered area. However, the walkway, cramped by overlapping backpacks scattered on the tables and floor bordering the space, evoked a sense of urgency that may have been lost if the project were displayed in another area. Miriam Maloney '17, publicity chair of Active Minds, explains, "I can talk about mental health statistics until I'm blue in the face, but some things need to be seen or quantified. 1,100 is an enormous number, but when you see a backpack for every student lost to suicide in a year, the number becomes real. When you realize that 1,100 is over half of the student body at Rhodes, it becomes all too relevant."

Placed intermittently throughout the exhibition were laminated pieces of paper that recounted the stories of cousins, parents and children lost to suicide. Many of the stories were told by surviving family members or friends who remember the days leading up to the loss of their loved one and the following grief. "The 300 stories are from loved ones, friends, family members and faculty about an individual they lost to suicide," explains Mark Farley '16, president of Active Minds, "Some of the stories are two pages long, while others are one line. Each tugs at the strings of our heart." More often than not, these stories had some variation of, "If only they had told me" or "If only they had

said something, we could have worked through it." "Despite the fact that suicide is the second-leading cause of death among our demographic, there's this stigma around talking about it," explains Miriam, "[...] we are failing to foster a society in which those experiencing suicidal ideation feel empowered to seek support from their friends, families and communities."

It is essential to keep hope, positivity and openness at the core of our discussion surrounding mental health on campus. We must not be silenced or hindered by our discomfort on this journey toward redefining the stigma towards mental health. Instead of instinctively pushing away our anxiety we must embrace the power of fear and hold it close, for embracing our own fear and expressing it creates a larger community intent toward empowering others. "It is scary to be confronted with this reality, because we realize that suicide is relevant to our lives," explains Miriam, "there is such power in this vulnerability; only through first-hand testimony can we help the community better understand and empathize with those experiencing mental illness. Only through recognizing our shared humanity can we be effectively compassionate. Only when we are open and honest about our problems can we come together as a community and work toward a brighter future."

AZ Eat Memphis: Staks

By ALLY LIMMER '16
AND ZOE LAULEDERKIND '18
EDITORS-IN-CHIEF

In an attempt to provide an alternative hangover haven to iHOP, which is arguably better, we drove our booties out to Staks: Pancake Kitchen, which you can find snuggled into the Poplar shopping center with Einstein Bros. Bagels and the ever-popular shop Pink Door. Much like our counterparts, we are going to keep this short and sweet (as they did with their pancakes).

Among the three of us (Twiggs affirmatively consented to join us pt. 2), we ordered most of the menu: regular buttermilk pancakes, cinnamon roll pancakes, Oreo-praline pancakes, scrambled eggs, bacon, hashbrowns, morning roast coffee, cold brew coffee on-tap and toasted s'more latte (untoasted...torch had a breakdown). The regular buttermilk pancakes passed with moderately flying colors, and the cinnamon roll and Oreo-praline stacks turned out to be sugar reservoirs rather than pancakes. Sides of eggs and bacon were highlights of the meal, reflecting their initiative to support "local and regional" produce. As for the hash browns, it's really pretty difficult to screw up hash browns. We also thought it was hard to screw up coffee; we were wrong! We three coffee addicts left all three coffee drinks unfinished.

In review, pancakes - alright. Coffee - definitely subpar. Sides - only thing worth ordering. Cost of goods - way too expensive despite (possibly due to?) their no tipping policy.

Guess we will still be going to iHOP.

SPORTS AND BEYOND

Lynx on the Links: Men's Golf Finishes Third at Mirimichi Spring Classic

BY SHEHLA YOUSUF '19
STAFF WRITER

The Rhodes Men's Golf team finished third at the Mirimichi Spring Classic in Millington, Tenn, on April 5. The team finished just behind Centre College, who shot 610(+34) and Millsaps, who shot 613(+37). Rhodes shot a two-round score of 619 after shooting 303 on day two. Junior Joey Mayo shot 72 for both rounds, earning him All-Tournament Team honors as well as second place overall, finishing behind Ryan Martin from Millsaps, who finished shooting 142(-2).

Avid followers of Rhodes golf will remember that Mayo also claimed the individual title at the Jekyll Island Collegiate Invitational on March 20 after shooting a three-round score of 205(-11), securing his award as the Southern Athletic Association Golfer of the week. The team placed second at that tournament.

At Millsaps, Mayo and sophomore Alec Davis both shot on par for the first round, snagging two and three birdies in the round, respectively. Mayo stayed consistent into the second round with four birdies, leading him to shoot 144 even par for the tournament.

Besides Mayo, sophomore Carter Connelly placed 11th, shooting 156(+12), and Alec Davis tied for 12th. After shooting a strong first round, Davis finished closely behind Connelly after shooting a two-round 157(+13) for the Lynx. Freshman Corrie Kuehn tied with Davis.

Lynx senior Easton Brice scored the only eagle of the tournament. The Lynx also had the second most birdies behind Millsaps for the weekend, tallying in at 17. The Lynx will travel to Atlanta on April 10 for the Emory Spring Invitational.

Redbirds Rager

BY WILL MORROW '19
STAFF WRITER

Arriving at AutoZone Park on a beautiful Thursday evening with my friend Sahill, who had never attended a baseball game before, I was ready to experience the professional baseball scene that Memphis had to offer. Since it was college night (and "coincidentally" \$2 beer night), the stadium consisted primarily of positively charged, youthful spectators, eager to watch America's great pastime whilst drinking some highly saturated alcohol. Being a Cardinals affiliate, I found the the Redbirds roster to contain a decent amount of younger talent, seeing as the Cardinals MLB organization is rather impressive - the 2013 World Series appearance doesn't hurt. For me, the experience was rather bittersweet, as I am redshirting this baseball season due to an unfortunate shoulder injury. However, the experience was very enjoyable nonetheless. The park is both beautiful and well designed, offering friendly staff and plenty of dining options, too. I am sad to say that the Redbirds ended up losing by one run after a Colorado Springs Sky Sox comeback, but the game was still highly entertaining, and the energy surrounding me was both positive and fun. If you ever find yourself looking to lazily infiltrate the city of Memphis on a budget, then a Redbirds game might just be right for you.

"Triggering" Emoji Causes Ruckus, Halfhearted Critique of Society

BY HARRISON MARTIN '16
CONTRIBUTING SATIRE WRITER

Tension has surfaced among the Rhodes community following Apple's newest software update containing a white emoji that bares striking similarities to the Ku Klux Klan's infamous uniform. Students have reported instances of being "triggered" and "personally threatened" by the utter existence of said emoji. The inability to revert to an older version of Apple's operating system has lead some Rhodes students to take matters into their own hands. Many have found success by repeatedly screaming "It's 2016, people!"

at an iPhone and programming Siri to apologize for systemic racism upon feeling the distinct chill that a triggering event is about to occur.

An emergency Town Hall meeting was hosted to provide a "safe space" for discussing the emoji's racial implications. Out of the 70% of Rhodes' population represented by white students, roughly fourteen showed up. They were found scattered among the last two rows of chairs nodding fervently to passionate cries that "they will never understand what it feels like to be a student of color" at Rhodes. President Troutt was not in attendance due to a conflicting meeting regarding initial

deposits from prospective students but later went on record stating, "Racism is bad, and this situation is not good." Plans to demolish Rhodes Tower in an effort to disrupt the phallogocentric order have immediately been halted.

A personal statement from Apple's Chief Design Officer regarding the new emoji has been released, in which he states, "It's a ghost, you dolts." Despite this clarification, Rhodes students have made an unspoken vow to remain enraged about the emoji until they forget about it one-and-a-half weeks later.

Blue and Red: When Will It End?

BY WARNER RAULSTON '19
STAFF WRITER

The state of the presidential primaries on both sides continues to decay as neither democrats nor republicans can decisively coalesce behind a nominee. On the republican side, primary voters and party elites are left with only two potential nominees, neither of them widely considered viable in a general election. Donald Trump has an unheard of 70% negative favorability rating from the American public. What is even more surprising is that this trend holds true across all demographics: white, black, Latino, male, female, liberal, moderate and even conservative. His general election polls are equally abysmal, losing to Hillary Clinton by 10.6 points and to

Bernie Sanders by 16.5 points (Source: realclearpolitics.com/epolls/2016/president/2016_presidential_race.html).

Cruz is performing only marginally better. Despite being more predictable and having an actual history in appointed and elected government office, Cruz is reviled by nearly all members of the Senate, both democrats and republicans, for his "virulently disagreeable" personality and "offensive" rhetoric. Regardless, high-profile republicans are slowly starting to endorse Cruz, fearing that a Trump nomination would undoubtedly cause further damage to the already poor favorability of the republican party as a whole amongst the American public. Even some of the most prominent members of the party have openly acknowledged the bleakness of

their situation, admitting that they will probably be unable to win the White House this November.

Under normal circumstances, a democratic race this unpleasant would be difficult to behold, but when compared to the shocking state of the republican party, it is actually rather pleasant. Hot off a nine state winning streak that has put Bernie Sanders within one point of Hillary nationally, the Clinton campaign and its allies are growing more nervous than ever. Paul Krugman, the liberal economist once cited as a potential cabinet member in a Sanders administration, has accused Bernie Sanders of becoming a "Bernie Bro," the name ascribed to a group of openly sexist individuals who are dead-set against a Clinton presidency on the

grounds of the claim that she is unfit to be president based solely on the fact that she is a woman. Hillary Clinton herself has boldly implied that Bernie is personally responsible for the tragedy at Sandy Hook Elementary for his defense of gun manufactures in mass shootings. And although Sanders himself has largely refrained from engaging in personal attacks, some of his supporters have seemingly abandoned logic as the campaign has progressed and the odds of a Sanders nomination have slipped. The newly formed #BernieOrBust movement has determined to vote Bernie as a write-in candidate if he is denied the nomination, an undeniable anchor around a national Clinton ticket.

THE BACK PAGE

V's Inside? The Flying Cigs? An Interview with The Rites of Spring College Bands



"Perennial Performers": The Flying V's return to the Rites of Spring stage after playing there last year.

Photo from The Flying V's Facebook

BY WARREN SOCHER '19
STAFF WRITER

This weekend, the most anticipated weekend of the academic year, is obviously Rites of Spring, an on-campus music festival with headliners T-Pain and MisterWives. However, two prominent bands active in the Rhodes community, The Flying V's and Cigs Inside, will be showcasing their talents as well. That being said, I asked members from both bands a few questions regarding their composition, style and what the audience should expect at Rites.

The Flying V's are comprised of: Buckley Willis, Brad McCullough, Cullen

Williams, Ladd Caballero and Jay Clinton.

Cigs Inside's members are: Benton Parker, Jake Hartline, Micah Crawford, Bristol Bell, Jad Qaddourah and Thomas Threlkeld.

What styles and genres of music do you guys encompass?

Flying V's: "Rock music with hip hop and jazz influence - heavily based on improvisation."

Jad Qaddourah from Cigs Inside: "Ours is rooted in blues, rock, funk, soul and pop as well."

What is the band's set list looking like for Rites?

Flying V's: "We actually just wrote

about half of our set list within the past week or so. We have a little something for everybody - from sultry blues and chill jazz to alternative rock. We're also putting our own spin on two covers ("Baby Blue" and "One Last Time"). A couple of our friends are going to join us on stage, but most importantly, we'll be collaborating with Slick. His rapping really adds a whole new dimension of sound to the band. In fact, together we make up a new band: 'V-Slick.'"

Jad (Cigs Inside): "It's subject to change. We have a couple funk jams, a few originals and some well-known pop jams."

As a group, what are the band's goals

and plans for the future?

Flying V's: "The future is uncertain. If we're all still in the area after Jay and Ladd graduate, we will be reaching out to different bars and venues in Memphis and gigging around, developing our sound and keeping the good times rolling."

Jad (Cigs Inside): "We're mostly just having fun jamming. It a good last chance for the senior guys to be able to get to play in some of the bigger events around campus like Battle of the Bands and Rites of Spring."

You heard it here first! Head out to Rites of Spring to see these two bands doing what they do best: entertaining.

When a Stuffed Animal Becomes a Symbol of Hate

BY ALLY LIMMER '16
AND ZOE LAULEDERKIND '18
EDITORS-IN-CHIEF

Last Friday, a sock monkey hung by the neck from a library-facing window of West Village. Reactions among the student body varied as did the theories surrounding the stuffed animal's origin and purpose. Some believed the hanging to be a prank played on an unsuspecting friend or roommate, others thought it may have been a rejection of a past lover's gift. However, quite a few students felt personally attacked by the imagery and immediately posted on Facebook their discontent with its racially prejudiced connotations.

In accordance with such reactions, an emergency town hall was called for Saturday, April 9 at 2 p.m. in Hardie Auditorium. At this forum, it was conveyed that the connotations in question relate back to a history of referring to African American people as monkeys in addition to a history of lynching in the southern, post-slavery United States. The town hall also gave the owner of the sock monkey and the party responsible for hanging the sock monkey an opportunity to explain the events leading up to this display: on April 1, some female friends of these male students played an April Fools' prank on them, messing up their West Village room and hanging the sock monkey. This prank elicited a

shocked reaction from the sock monkey owner that led his roommate to recreate and exaggerate the scene.

Needless to say, the existing connotations of the toy paired with its positioning generated plenty of discussion that Saturday afternoon. Multiple students stood before the crowd expressing their displeasure with the distasteful prank, some going so far as to state that the responsible parties should be expelled, as there is no place for racism, regardless of ignorance, on our campus. After an hour of conversation, attendees left feeling disappointed in the lack of participation by the student body at large and in the lack of feasible and satisfying solutions to the discomfort some stu-

dents feel at Rhodes.

To the students affected by this act, we hope you know that acts of hate, as some perceived the sock monkey to be, demonstrate the opinions of an increasing minority not only on our campus but in our country. Rising above is such a simple anecdote but such a hard outlook to pursue. Your peers need to be educated but also to be loved. Not only has fighting hate with hate never accomplished anything significant (@ [insert deity here]), but it also perpetuates the issues in question, creating an environment in which neither side can possibly be in the right.