

Rhodes Interns Bring Coursicle Startup to Campus

By JOE PUCCIO
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Last fall, education startup Coursicle launched support for Rhodes to help students prepare for registration. Part of the summer 2016 cohort at the Memphis accelerator Start Co., Coursicle was inspired to launch at Rhodes by three student interns: Lindsay Gess '17,

Alec Marshman '18 and Grant Hechinger '17.

At coursicle.com/rhodes, students can browse potential courses, save them to a weekly calendar view and easily toggle between their multiple schedule options.

This semester, Coursicle also released an app (coursicle.com/app) that allows students to track classes which are al-

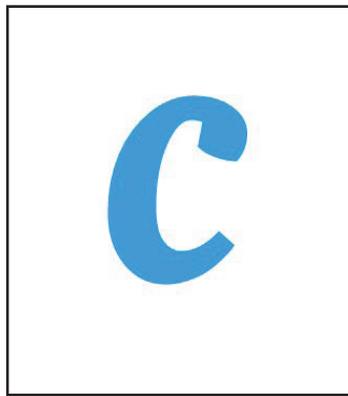


Photo Courtesy of Coursicle

ready filled. The app sends a notification as soon as someone has dropped, making the user aware of the available seat. Students can track one class for free or purchase a premium option to track unlimited classes for a given semester.

So far, more than 150 Rhodes students have used Coursicle. At its college of origin, over 70% of UNC students rely on

Coursicle's services. With add/drop approaching, be sure to check out this handy-dandy app and get yourself into an empty seat the instant it becomes available.

Redmond Reanimates Paul Robeson

By JACK PATTON '18
STAFF WRITER

Last week, Shana L. Redmond, UCLA associate professor of musicology and African-American studies, came to Rhodes to deliver her lecture "Holograms and Microwaves: The Science of Black Music." In 2013, Redmond published *Anthem: Social Movements and the Sound of Solidarity in the African Diaspora* to much acclaim.

Last Tuesday, in lyrical prose, Redmond presented research

for one of two books she is currently working on. Her presentation considered the legacy of Paul Leroy Robeson—a black singer and activist who was an important voice in the Civil Rights Movement. Redmond discussed Robeson's place in history, his erasure from it and his subsequent reanimation in two forms: vibration and hologram.

Redmond spoke on how Robeson's performance of black spirituals resonated with economically and racially oppressed people around the

world. Like a vibrating cell phone, Robeson's distinctive and deep voice alerted the people of something to be done. Robeson's vibrations united black people and workers from around the world—inspiring them to "imagine and fight for new futures."

Redmond showed footage of Robeson from 1936 singing to the construction workers who were building the Sydney Opera House. The workers become together lost in Robeson's song "Old Man River" as he sang:

"We sweat and strain / Body all aching / And wracked with pain ... / I'm tired of living / Feared of dying / But ol' man river! He's rolling along."

Redmond used SNL's "Dead Bopz" sketch—featuring Robeson singing Fetty Wap's "Trap Queen" to demonstrate Robeson's reanimation through hologram.

In 1950, the U.S. stripped Robeson of his right to travel because of his criticism on the conditions of black folks

at home and abroad. However, Robeson's voice—"a living, breathing approximation of his body," or his hologram, still moved the world. For example, in 1957 Robeson performed via phone for South Wales miners. Redmond's presentation illustrated the profound impact of Robeson's low and powerful voice—bringing people together in their fight for social justice then and now.

Modern Family Writer with Keys to Success

By INDIA NIKOTICH '19
STAFF WRITER

On March 22, Danny Zuker, executive producer and head writer of ABC's *Modern Family*, spoke to a group of Rhodes students in McCallum Ballroom. Five Emmy awards and eight seasons later, his work with the mockumentary-style sitcom has garnered unprecedented success.

Zuker is no stranger to stand up: the Syracuse University alum mentioned his recent return to small-stage comedy and sang praises for John Mulaney (of Netflix's "The Comeback Kid," who Zuker said recently DM'd him about collaborating). Zuker is excited about comedy — he knows it, and does it, well.

If you've seen the show, Zuker's visit was a treat, studied with spoilers, name-drops, and fascinating anecdotes about the creation and development of *Modern Family*. In response to a question from senior Alexandra Greenway, Zuker talked about the importance of diverse voices in the writers' room and told a story about Sofia Vergara (Gloria in the show) strolling out of a luxe restaurant with their coffee cup casually in hand. For him, that's what *Modern Family* is all about: telling stories, and being honest about life. "Everyone has that story they love to tell their friends," he said. "A comedian can make anything funny. It's about observing and being open to people."

Modern Family, Zuker said,

is special because its storylines are drawn from real life. When he dropped his newborn daughter, he wrote it into a first-season episode, and Eric Stonestreet's "Fizbo the clown" bit for his character, Cameron, developed after Stonestreet mentioned his funny hobby over lunch with Zuker. His twin girls and son are the same age as the child actors in the show's ensemble cast — "I watched the kids who make me money grow up alongside the kids who cost me money," he joked. It was compelling, too, to see the way he accepted and wrestled with criticisms of the show. He owned up to the stereotypes many have said *Modern Family* perpetuates, but insisted that "it's about not punching others down, and

not letting passion make you humorless."

But even if you're not familiar with *Modern Family*, Zuker's visit was worth attending. He called his three-year-long feud with Donald Trump "like dunking on a toddler," and when asked about how the show would respond to the nation's divided political climate, Zuker teased the audience about future episodes: "We can't avoid it anymore and we're not afraid of it. We want to be intentional about social awareness in the show."

His passion for politics carries over into the rest of his life, too. After years of disappointment and unrealized opportunities Zuker confessed to the crowd, "The first thing you do in your career is going to be

terrible, but you have to give yourself permission to be terrible for awhile." Zuker's success indicates he finally seems settled in his creative element. His best advice for aspiring comedians and writers? Don't be a jerk. "I'd rather work with a B- guy who shows up every day, works hard, and is actually fun to be around than an A+ asshole."

After the Q&A concluded, Zuker came down the stairs to take pictures and sign autographs. Half-joking, I asked for help on writing this piece. He responded as you might expect the head writer of one of America's most popular comedies: "You want me to do your job for you?...Wait. Title it: 'Portrait of a Genius.'"

Taste of Memphis: A Delicious Success



Photo Courtesy of Google Images

By KATIE BREWSTER '18
STAFF WRITER

The Rhodes Activities Board put on their annual Taste of Memphis event last Thursday afternoon. Food from restaurants across Memphis was set up along the Barret Cloister. Huey's, Mulan, Four Way, El Mezcal, Trolley Stop and Memphis Pizza Cafe all donated food to the event. Additional items were purchased from India Palace, Central, Ching's Wings, Casablanca, Babalu

and Fino's.

As any veteran Rhodes student knows, arriving to the event at 4 P.M. (the official start time) is a terrible mistake you only make once. By the time food started being placed on the tables, over 50 students had already lined up. Luckily, RAB was prepared. In previous years, much to the disappointment of students stuck in class, food had run out within the first thirty minutes. This year, hundreds of students were able to be served massive plates of

food. It seemed a common mistake to load up on Babalu guacamole towards the front of the line, only to realize you were out of room for Casablanca hummus when you reached the end. I witnessed inventive balancing acts as students made room for one more slice of pizza while avoiding cross contamination from their Central barbecue sandwiches' sauce.

RAB printed out sheets so students could vote for their favorite of the group. Unfor-

tunately, when most people reached the end of the line, their hands were too full and their stomachs too hungry to complete it. Safe to say, there were some obvious front-runners and flops. Although Four Way's macaroni and cheese received rave reviews, their spinach did not make it onto many plates.

Jill Stark '18, current RAB vice president and president-elect, said, "This was the biggest Taste of Memphis we've had yet! We normally run out of

food in about 20 minutes but the event lasted almost over an hour with no signs of slowing down. There were definitely a few hundred people there and RAB is so glad there was such an incredible turnout!"

In the end, everyone was excited to be reminded of the perks that come along with living in Memphis.

Rhodes Continues Bridging the Gap

By MEG JERIT '20
STAFF WRITER

The *Bridge* is a student run newspaper containing both student and vendor written articles. The vendors are members of the Memphis homeless population. With at least two thousand people without homes in Memphis, the oppor-

tunity the *Bridge* offers is nonpareil in that it is both a source of income and self expression; moreover, there is the fact that it gives the homeless population who choose to vend papers a way out.

The success stories that have occurred with this newspaper fuel the group forward; some vendors who have sold the

newspaper have been able to pay rent or even purchase a car. The *Bridge* here at Rhodes is similar to other newspapers sold in other cities by the homeless; however, the *Bridge* is singular in being the only student-run paper.

This organization is pumping with energy as Bridge Week is upon us! In the week of

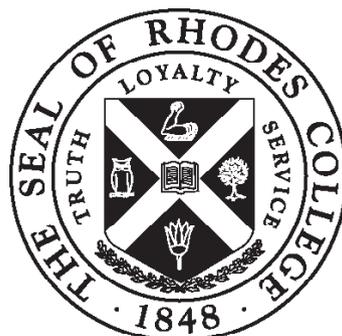
March 20 to March 24 there was a variety of ways to raise money for the organization, spread awareness of its cause and support the newspaper!! On Monday, in the Middle Ground, there was a bake sale. Tuesday, a puppy-thon took place. Wednesday held Chipotle Night at the Wolfchase Galleria. Events like these were

easy to join. Furthermore, the foundational issue at the core of this group is so soul-striking that participation is a gift going both ways. If you attend a *Bridge* event then make sure to use the hashtag #BridgeThe-Gap on social media!

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Lecture on “The Trump Presidency So Far”

BY MEAGHAN PICKLES '19
STAFF EDITOR

How did Donald Trump, the epitome of a Washington outsider, pave his way to the presidency? Dr. James W. Ceaser, a distinguished professor at the University of Virginia, sought to answer this question in a thoughtful lecture titled, “The Trump Presidency So Far,” last Thursday.

Ceaser’s lecture, sponsored by the Project for the Study of Liberal Democracy and Pi Sig-

ma Alpha (the Political Science honor society), addressed how the 2016 presidential election harkened back to 1992. That year, Ross Perot gained significant popularity. Ceaser posited that Trump was able to garner more support than Mitt Romney in rural areas because he appealed directly to poor white communities struggling with a changing technological and economic landscape.

Ceaser alluded to Trump as a “demagogue” several times throughout the lecture, stat-

ing he “became” a Republican during the presidential campaign and was able to absorb and “capture a political party” rather than integrate himself into it.

An interesting comparison was made between Trump and Democratic candidate Senator Bernie Sanders. They were the “two candidates who captured their party without really being of their party,” Ceaser said. Ceaser claimed by the end of the election season, Sanders actually had garnered more sup-

port than Hillary Clinton.

Ceaser ended by addressing the reality of a Trump presidency but qualified it by noting “a lot of what he stands for is still not clear.”

He was particularly interested in how Trump would interact with other nations and his approach to an array of foreign policy concerns. Ceaser was not sure, for example, whether Trump would stand in favor of “Russian hegemony” or if he would push against it.

Ceaser reminded the audi-

ence many people speculated Trump would immediately become “more presidential” upon his election. Instead, Trump’s Twitter is still active with early-morning accusations at government leaders, bureaus and former President Barack Obama.

“I don’t know if there is a method to his madness,” Ceaser said, “but there is certainly a madness.”

Rhodes Crew Overcomes Obstacles

BY ELLIE JOHNSON '20
STAFF WRITER

The crew team competed both the first and second weekends of this past spring break at their latest regattas. The first regatta took place in Austin where the team competed in a 1000 meter sprint. The second regatta took place in New Orleans and consisted of a two kilometer race. The team made the best out of the experience although they went in as the underdogs their second weekend.

Captain Olivia Thomas '18 said, “For the second regatta, we went in knowing that we wouldn’t have the best shot because all of the other teams had real coaches and funding. But, we still had fun and we got to spend time in a great city with great people.”

From the fall season, the team has made vast improvements. According to Maddie Holton '20, many new first-years joined the team last fall. “First semester was awkward because there were a lot of new freshmen on the team and we

were just getting to know each other, but now we have gotten so used to each other which has helped to improve our performance,” Holton said.

Besides the team gaining an influx of rowers in the past few years, the team has gained a new level of commitment from their team members.

“The biggest jump has been student investment. There are so many students willing to put in their time, resources, money and their brains to make this team work,” Thomas said.

As for the future of the team,

Holton hopes their hard work can ensure club sports will be taken more seriously within the Rhodes community.

“I’d like for us to work to do even better at regattas-- that way we can make a name for ourselves. We’d like to show the school how serious of a sport we are. Even though we’re a club sport, we take it very seriously and practice really hard,” Holton said.

Moving forward, Thomas holds similar sentiments. Gaining more recognition for club sports as a whole as well as

better funding from the school for the team is high on her list of priorities. Since the team works mainly with the money they receive from Allocations, they run under a tight budget. Despite their setbacks, the crew team has reached for the stars and achieved far more than anyone could have predicted. It will be exciting to see what the future holds for the Rhodes crew team.

Golden India’s Chicken Tikka Masala Strikes Gold

BY WARREN SOCHER '19
CIRCULATION EDITOR

Located in the heart of Overton Square, Golden India is a small and cozy establishment with fine Indian cuisine sold at a reasonable price. Walking through the doors, which, to our disappointment were not made of gold, we instantly felt like we had just ventured into

someone’s home. The space, although small, can accommodate a sizable amount of patrons without feeling claustrophobic. Along with the pleasing spatial arrangement, the lighting was comfortably dim— not too dark--instantly putting us at ease. The restaurant’s aesthetic made the experience even more pleasing when the food was brought

out; it was an elegant presentation in a humble space.

I ordered the Chicken Tikka Masala—a classic dish at Indian restaurants. The creamy tomato purée over the rice and chicken was a spectacular mélange. This was my first time at Golden India; my usual spot for Indian cuisine is India Palace. I went to Golden India to try to compare it to India

Palace but it was hard for me to distinguish a superior Chicken Tikka Masala between the two restaurants as they were both equally tasty. However, the Tikka Masala at Golden India is \$14.95, while the same dish at India Palace is \$12.95.

Overall, this was a very pleasant experience. The food was delicious albeit expensive, while service was rapid and the

environment was relaxing. This would be a good place to go off-campus and unwind for an hour with some friends—especially as finals are approaching. I highly recommend this restaurant to those who have never indulged in Indian cuisine and to those who are regulars at the India Palace on Poplar.

Get Pumped for Rites of Spring

BY SABRINA GANDY '20
STAFF WRITER

This year, the Rites of Spring lineup was announced at RAB Fest and Battle of the Bands. Battle of the Bands featured Rhodes students’ acts. Subsequently, the winner was given an opportunity to open for a

headliner at Rites. After the Bands played, the much anticipated lineup was announced!

On Friday, March 31, Cherub will perform and on Saturday, April 1, Waka Flocka Flame will perform (this is not an April Fool’s joke, it is real!). With the help of many students who voted on the Rites

lineup, the Rhodes Activities Board successfully chose two artists pleasing a majority of the student body.

On Friday, I Contact will be opening for Shangela from RuPaul’s Drag Race, who will open for Cherub. Furthermore, on Saturday, V Slick will open Marco Pave, who will open

for Waka Flocka Flame. Waka Flocka has had many tops hits like “Hard in Da Paint,” “15th and the 1st (feat. YG Hootie),” “Grove St. Party (feat. Kebo Gotti)” and “No Hands (feat. Roscoe Dash and Wale).” Cherub has also had some popular hits like “Doses & Mimosas” and “XOXO.” Ad-

ditionally, the group released a new album last October called “Bleed Gold, Piss Excellence.” It sounds excellent judging by the name!

Ultimately, the Rhodes Activities Board was extremely stoked to announce the lineup this year and students were very excited about it too.

For Colored Girls

for colored girls who have considered suicide/when the rainbow is enuf

Ntozake Shange

Leslie Reddick, Director

Brittney Threatt, Assistant Director



This event is free and open to the public

Show times: March 17 & 18 at 7:30 pm and March 19 at 3 pm. Each show will be followed by a talk-back with featured guests.

Friday, March 17: Opening Night Black Out Reception • 6:30 pm • McCoy Theatre Lobby

Saturday, March 18: Brunch & Breakout with Dr. Rosanna Reyes, Student Outreach Symposium • 10 am–1 pm • McCallum Ballroom, BCLC



Rhodes College
—1818—

Photo Courtesy of Brittney Threatt

BY JACK PATTON '18
STAFF WRITER

Two weekends ago, Rhodes students and community members put on Ntozake Shange's play *For Colored Girls Who Have Considered Suicide/When the Rainbow is Enuf* in the McCoy theatre. Leslie Reddick—a Rhodes alumna—enjoyed directing for the first time at her alma mater. Brittney Threatt '17 assisted Reddick in directing the play as part of her directed inquiry.

Shange's *For Colored Girls*—performed on Broadway in the mid 70s—is a “choreo-poem” sharing the stories of black women. The choreo-poem—a series of poems portrayed through dance, music and acting—explores the ups and downs of black women's experiences. *For Colored Girls* delves into black women's relationships with one another, music and men—among other things. The play conveys black women's experiences of love but also violence, abortion and

heartbreak.

For Colored Girls features seven unnamed black women each dressed in a different color. The actresses—though none of them are theatre majors—managed to wonderfully capture the joys and sorrows of black womanhood. The women took turns embracing the spotlight, while those seated shouted words of encouragement.

In a powerful scene at the end, Samantha Lynn Miller (Lady in Brown) acted out a poem about a black wom-

an's abusive relationship. The woman's boyfriend was unsupportive and she left him when he physically attacked her. But, he came back demanding she marry him and held their kids out the window of their fifth story apartment. The woman gave in but the man dropped the kids anyways. At this Miller screamed and crumpled to the floor, bringing tears to the audience members. Each actress had memorable moments and together they expressed the raw emotion of black women living

in America.

During the discussion afterwards, the directors and actresses emphasized what an honor it was to put on such an important play that focuses on the often untold experiences of black women and encouraged audience members to share that with others.

Don't Worry, Be Holi

BY FARAH IBRAHIM '20
STAFF WRITER

The sounds of laughter and joy can be heard everywhere. A multitude of colors fill the air. Friends, family members and strangers brought together through the sheer joy of being a kid again. They are pelting each other with colored powder and perfumed water as they herald the coming of spring.

To those unfamiliar with

this famous Hindu holiday, this spring festival is known as Holi, also known as the Festival of Color and Love. Lasting for a night and a day, this lively and vibrant festival is as ancient as it is colorful, with some of its earliest mentions in poetry and literature coming from more than a millennia ago. The first evening is known as the Holika Dahan, where great bonfires are lit signifying the victory of good over evil.

The next day is the far more famous event, called Holi, where people come out into public and douse themselves in many bright hues of powder, frolicking in light and color.

Due to the innocent and exhilarating nature of the holiday, it has attained popularity across South Asia and even among non-Hindus across the world. The spread of Holi as a celebration of love and light for all came with the large Indian

diaspora in Europe and the Americas.

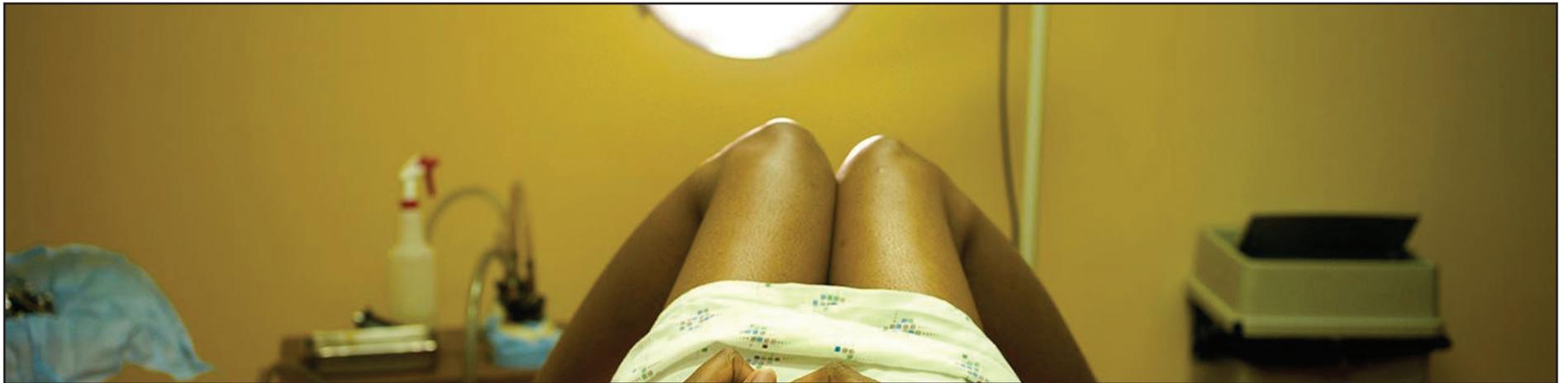
Here, on our own campus, the cultural organization SAMOSA hosted its very own Holi festival right here at the BCLC. Many came by to take part in the ancient festival and to add their smiles to that of everyone else.

Nada Lelovic '20, describing her experience at the Holi festival with her friends, said, “It was very fun,” further add-

ing, “Although we did not stay for long we really enjoyed the powdered paint and the music.” She especially emphasized the tastiness of the samosas that were provided.

The festival celebrates love, light and beauty—one could really feel that exuding from everyone who participated.

GSS Hosts Screening of *Jackson*



BY ANU IYER '20
STAFF WRITER

For the first day of the season that is associated with regrowth and birth, the Gender and Sexuality Studies' choice to screen the controversial documentary, *Jackson*, more than sobered the high from the day's sunshine. Hosted by Dr. Graybill, the program director of the Gender and Sexuality Studies Department, as well as students Ozakh Ahmed '17 and Michelle Ngo '18, the night began with a brief introduction and was followed by the 90 minute screening and a small panel Q&A. The turnout numbered near 80; Blount auditorium brimmed with Rhodes students and faculty as well as off-campus visitors.

Directed by Maisie Crow,

the documentary closely followed the everyday lives of three women swept up in the complexities of abortion access in Mississippi. The state that once boasted 14 clinics can now barely support one. Essentially running on fumes under the pressures of anti-abortion, pro-choice lobbyists and their easily-coerced lawmakers, the clinic and its staff members somehow managed to resist succumbing and surrendering. They tirelessly worked to end the stigma and shame behind the procedure, providing poor black women (among other demographics) from around the entire state the chance to restart their pursuit of education, a career and a wholesome and sustainable life.

Looming just beyond the Pink House (Women's Health

Organization) Clinic's gates, however, awaited relentless protesters, claiming to come as peacemakers, who shouted damning remarks at both staff members and patients.

The film spends a surprising amount of time chronicling the daily operations of a nearby Center for Pregnancy Choices, run by Barbara Beavers of the leading anti-abortion movement in the state. The Center not only convinced women abortions are a heinous and sinful crime but the pregnancy is the righteous consequence of not possessing the self-control for abstinence. Additionally, the strong relationship between Beavers' lobbyists and state lawmakers is absolutely appalling, and under the guise of women's protection, that relationship easily passes TRAP

laws that work to shut down the sole clinic.

Shannon Brewer is the director of the Pink House, and being able to peer into the work required to keep open the doors of the sole abortion provider in the state really put the dehumanizing campaigns of anti-abortionists to rest. While the documentary is clearly pro-choice, it does a spectacular job of bringing a viscerally human and personal touch to both sides of the argument. The most moving thread that we get to follow is that of April Jackson, a mother of five at the age of 25. The filmmakers capture Jackson's fifth pregnancy and childbirth, made possible by Beavers and the Center, through which she is bogged down by her own health issues, welfare struggles

and rocky family dynamics with her mother. By the end of the film, Jackson appears in the last scene with Beavers at a fundraising event for the Center, expressing hopes of joining the Center to help the cause. She seems to have forgotten or disregards the impossibility of raising another child in her current living conditions. Five months later, she finds out she is pregnant with two sons then the film ends.

Gender and Sexuality Studies seems to have outdone themselves by producing an opportunity for increased diversity of perspectives as well as hosting an event sparking the interest of dozens of students.

Islam in the New World

BY WARREN SOCHER '19
CIRCULATION EDITOR

Rhodes Muslim Student Association hosted a lecture for Rhodes' Islamic Heritage Week called "Islam in the New World," with speaker Dr. Nabil A. Bayakly last Thursday in Blount Auditorium. Dr. Bayakly is a co-founder of MuslimsInMemphis.org as well as the founder of the Arabic Studies program at the University of Memphis. The basis of his lecture was to discuss the role of Islam in the founding of the colonies in North America and Latin America. He began with an anecdote from the personal travelogue of Christopher Columbus, who, in his de-

scription of passing by Cuba, allegedly saw a mosque on a hilltop.

Interactions with Native Americans were also recorded by Muslim travelers in the pre-Columbian era. In the year 1310, 300 ships were launched from the West African country Mali, ordered by Abu Bakr II, the mansa of the Mali empire. Some of the ships had landed in North America and had allegedly interacted with the Algonquin people.

Also, certain names in Native American dialects have Arabic derivatives. The Makah tribe who reside around the Neah Bay in Washington state are an example of this. Makah derives from an Arabic term meaning

people who are generous in giving food to others. Neah derives from another Arabic term used to express sincerity. This might indicate Arabic/Muslim influences in the Pacific Northwest, not just on the East Coast.

Sequoyah, who invented the Cherokee alphabet, has a name that loosely means "water provider" in Arabic, in reference to those in Mecca who would donate food and water to those making the Hajj to Islamic holy sites.

In the year 1421, Admiral Zheng He of the Ming Dynasty in China—famous for his explorations throughout the world—was also a Muslim when he traveled to North Ameri-

ca. Evidence of his journey to North America lies seven hours east of Memphis in Asheville, NC. A man digging at a former Native American settlement found a brass medallion that had the seal of the Ming Dynasty, which may prove the emperor's navy's presence in the area.

Other Muslims who were active during the formative years of colonial America include the captains of Columbus' ships—the Nina and the Pinta. Columbus' translator who accompanied him on his transatlantic journey, Luis de Torres, was also a Muslim. Many West Africans who were brought to North America as slaves were Muslims as well. Omar Said,

who was enslaved in South Carolina, wrote his personal memoir in Arabic.

In more recent history, Charles Bilal was elected mayor in Kountze, Texas in 1991, who was the first Muslim mayor elected to office in the United States. It is incredible to see the Islamic world's influence in the shaping of North American societies, which is something that is not widely acknowledged.

Crosstown Arts Opens Down the Street

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

Walking into Crosstown Arts last Thursday was like walking into a scene in a movie in the most ironic way possible. Entering, we were greeted with bright white, barren looking walls decorated with paintings and pictures alike with spectators ranging from men in denim to women in... denim. Yeah, a lot of denim. The atmosphere itself, which reeked of people that gave off the vibe

of “Yeah, I’ve seen a Wes Anderson film once,” was almost too perfect—something about observing people observe something that they liked to pretend they knew a lot more about than they really did whilst casually sipping boxed wine was probably just as enjoyable as examining the works themselves. All jokes aside, though, the crowd was very welcoming and seemed exceptionally friendly, and almost everyone was eager to discuss and interpret, promoting a very open environment for ev-

eryone involved.

This particular art show featured many cubist works that would be at home in the Guggenheim museum in Bilbao. The artistic use of emotion through cubism is a fantastic thing, perplexing yet minimalistic at the same time. I was super glad to see such works adopted for the context of “normal” lives, since this quaint contextualization really lent meaning to a sometimes hard-to-understand artistic style. Besides the cubism, there was also photography and

some 3d work on show, including a slightly disconcerting piece using blood and a giant spider to convey the emotional ramifications of a bad breakup. It was something, for sure. I’d assume, after careful deliberation on some of the pieces, that this exhibit was largely about loss and the effects of loneliness and absence on the body and mind. While some of the works were sad, others seem hopeful for the future and enthusiastic about a “new start” for themselves and their emotions.

These were the artists celebrated: Michael D. McCown, Courtney Whitlow, Leanna Hicks, Taylor Loftin, Alexander Swilley, Franklin Wallace and Adele Winn

I think it is safe to say that we were both more than content with what we saw, and would both certainly describe the short trip to Crosstown worth it. We look forward to seeing what Crosstown offers in the future.

The Secret History of Chinese Memphis

BY FARAH IBRAHIM '20
STAFF WRITER

When students think about Chinese immigrants to the United States, they would probably know only what they may have learned in some high school U.S. history class. They may have learned that San Francisco was the focal point of immigration from East Asia, where many thousands of Chinese immigrants settled in. Maybe they even remember the fact that many Chinese immigrants started heading east and made up, along with Irish immigrants, the bulk of the work force that made the First Transcontinental Railroad connecting the East and West Coast like never before. But it

is unlikely they know a thriving community of Chinese immigrants formed right here in the Greater Memphis area.

Dr. Shaolu Yu, an urban geographer, and Andrew W. Mellon, Postdoctoral Fellow in Urban Studies, shared her ongoing research on Chinese immigrant and Chinese-American communities in the Mid South, both old and new.

Her presentation started out by giving a brief history on Chinese immigration to America. The first wave of immigrants came after the the Gold Rush in the 1840s, bringing numerous Chinese to California in search of a better living. Many took part in the aforementioned construction of the Transcontinental railroad,

a vital part of U.S. history often forgotten. However, due to rising anti-Chinese sentiment, the United States banned the immigration of Chinese people to the country for nearly 60 years until the 1882 Chinese Exclusion Act was repealed by Congress in 1943.

Dr. Shaolu Yu then went into detailing the history and contributions Chinese-Americans made in the Greater Memphis area. She talked about how the Chinese community felt isolated at times due to the racial conflicts and the identifications of “white” and “black” but persevered anyway in the Deep South. Many of the descendants of these immigrants converted to Christianity and established Chinese Church-

es that have lasted to this day, like the First Chinese Baptist Church in Cordova. These churches served as focal points of the Chinese communities, where they could better assimilate into the American way of life and still listen to sermons and perform their prayers in Chinese.

These communities gave a lot to the southern communities they lived in. While many of their former homes, stores and business are long gone, a new generation has emerged to carry on in their place. Alongside the American descendants of the immigrants who came long before, a new group of Chinese immigrants, made up of wealthy and highly skilled professionals, including Dr.

Yu, have come to call Memphis home and have brought modern Chinese culture with them. Dr. Yu and her research teaches a very important lesson, a lesson embedded in history and culture. It is vital to strive to understand that American culture is the culmination of many cultures, wildly varying and complex. You may one day find your own hometown has strong connections with a land on the other side of the world.

Review: Bhan Thai

BY WILL MORROW '19,
WARREN SOCHER '19 &
DAVID MORAR '19
FOOD WRITERS

Approaching Bhan Thai from the parking lot felt like walking up to a sophisticated dinner party—with an outdoor deck accompanied by both vibrant music and people combined with the home-style aesthetic the restaurant possesses (it literally looks like a house), I felt very comfortable when finding my seat. After being greeted

by an incredibly enthusiastic waiter who was full of suggestions and advice, we all knew we came to the right place to satisfy our Thai needs.

As far as the atmosphere goes, it was lovely. Lavish on the inside and fun on the outside—the restaurant certainly has a lot going on. It is the type of place that can serve as a nice date spot or (in our case) a casual night out with friends. With an expansive menu that looks like an encyclopedia from 1890, we were greeted

with an extraordinary amount of different Thai dishes that all looked both authentic and delicious.

I (Will) ordered the Chang Mai Noodles with tofu and it was absolutely excellent. It was a dish of epic proportions served in a huge bowl. It possessed both quality and quantity, so it was safe to say I left more than satisfied.

I (Warren), was not hungry enough to order a reasonably priced entree, so I perused the more reasonably priced appe-

tizer section. Among selections of Thai toast and fried tofu, I chose the Crab Rangoon, with a tag of \$4.75. It was a delicious deep-fried dumpling filled with a smooth crab purée that melded perfectly with the crunchy exoskeleton. It was served with a side of sweet duck sauce that enhanced the flavor of the dumpling shell that posed a more dynamic combination with the purée.

I (David) also ordered the Crab Rangoon, since I also was not hungry enough to in-

dulge fully. The texture, taste and plating of the rangoon was spectacular. In fact, this was most definitely the best rangoon I have ever experienced. The suavity of the crab filling was surprising and enveloped the mouth in a sort of dreamy texture reminiscent of the golden sand that clothes those remote Pacific island beaches—welcoming the water to land in the most gentle manner imaginable. Try it, please.

Rhodes Equestrian Team Restores Former Glory



Photo Courtesy of Rhodes Equestrian Team

BY ELLIE JOHNSON '20
STAFF WRITER

Currently, the Rhodes equestrian team has finished their competitions for this semester. Their last competition took place two weeks ago at Murray state and the team firmly believes it was one of their best competitions to date.

Darah Fuller '20 said, "It's really cool because we compete against schools like Rhodes but we also compete against D1

schools. It's a very diverse mix at our competitions."

The team consists of 14 members in total but is divided into different levels of membership. Seven members compete in the showing team that travels to competitions and the rest of the riders are a part of the home team that competes in more local shows. With a small number of riders, the team has been able to grow close with one another and build a tight community.

"I competed in high school pretty intensively and it's been really cool to go back and compete now. It's a really good team environment, so just the community aspect and that fact that it's something I enjoy doing under the umbrella of Rhodes College is really cool," Fuller said.

The team has come a long way in re-establishing itself compared to where the club sport was ten years ago.

Mary Phan '18 said, "There

was a very prominent Rhodes equestrian team from the 90s that slowly fizzled out. The revival of the equestrian team was around my freshman year. It was really tough to get things organized and to figure out level of competitions that we wanted to compete in. I feel like by this year we have finally sorted all of that out."

This past year alone, has been an incredibly formative time for the team as a whole-- "As a freshman, the difference be-

tween coming on the first and second semester has been really incredible to see. In terms of our competitions and just team dynamic it's been a really good year," Fuller expressed.

As for future goals for the team, both Phan and Fuller had only one in mind—similar to most other club sports at Rhodes—to eventually fall under the athletic department umbrella so they can eventually become a varsity sport.

Baseball Wrap-Up

BY ELLIE JOHNSON '20
STAFF WRITER

This past Saturday the 25th, Lynx baseball dominated in their game against Berry, ending with a final score of 11-1. Sophomore Chris Winter stepped up early in the game with strong hits that helped the team secure their lead, while sophomore Trey Sledge helped

lead the pitching staff with a solid performance. Overall, many of the players believe the win was due to collective team efforts. "We really clicked today, both offensively and defensively. We hardly made any errors all weekend, which helps tremendously," senior captain Ryan Olive recalled.

With less than half of the season left to go, the team strives

to become more cooperative on the field and to learn from their previous mistakes. "I would like to see us come together and realize all the potential we have as a team," sophomore Jack Dayton stated. Olive believes that the team's tight bond will help them to perform to their fullest potential. "Our team chemistry is certainly our biggest strength.

Chemistry isn't measurable in the box score, but it helps win ball games in the long run," Olive commented.

Both Dayton and Olive hold the same goal for the team for the end of the season: to win their conference championship and to hopefully advance to the World Series in Appleton. Despite any outcome of the end of the season, both agree that

the best part of the team is the chance to play with a unique and dedicated group. "The best part for me is consistently being around a group of individuals who want to win and enjoy the game," Ryan said.

Another Win for Lady Lynx Lacrosse

BY ELLIE JOHNSON '20
STAFF WRITER

Last Friday the 25th, the women's lacrosse team defeated Oglethorpe with a strong 26-0 finish. Ultimately, the team believes its ability to play intensely and work together on the field led to another victory. "I think the game was a good example of what we can do when we play our best. Every-

one on the team contributed something to the win on Saturday. Everyone gave it their all and that effort led us to our first shutout win in program history," senior captain Emily Teague recalled.

With a season full of many wins, the team is confident in their hard work and playing ability on the field. "I think the hustle and hard work of our team are some of our biggest

strengths. Also, our defensive transition is one of the best aspects of our game. I think the team has done a much better job working together and really sharing the ball as of lately," first year Aubrey Gray stated.

Although the team is pleased with their capability on the field, there is still improvement to be made. Teague believes that if the team can continue to improve, they will be able to

finish the season strongly: "As we get closer to the end of the season I think we can continue to grow and get better. Right now we are playing really well and have improved every game. If that continues we should be able to go far this season."

With such a strong season under the team's belt, many of the upperclassmen players reflect on how far the team has come in just the past couple

of years. "It has also been really special to see how far we've come as a program. My freshman year was our first year as a varsity team and we've grown and achieved so much in such a short time. I'm so grateful I got to be a part of it since the beginning and help build it into what it is today," Teague commented.

Baldwin Now

BY SEAN MATTHEISEN '18
STAFF WRITER

Wednesday, March 29, Rhodes College hosted the keynote lecture for the Baldwin Now Symposium, a reflection on the life and legacy of James Baldwin. The stage was set just in front of the southern windows of the McCallum Ballroom with a podium beside a long table with seating for panelists. Professor Jonathan Judaken laid out the night's program. He talked about how in South Africa, where he grew up, people use the phrase "Now now" as a more urgent way of saying "Now." He said that the lecture should have been called "Baldwin Now Now," meaning that the life and legacy of James Baldwin are as relevant as ever, given both the influence he has had on Ta-Nehisi Coates, Jesmyn Ward and the Black Lives Matter movement, as well as the heightened racial anxieties that have accompanied the election of Donald Trump. He then introduced Professor Ernest Gibson to introduce the panelists.

Professor Gibson asked the audience "How are you?" twice. The first response was too quiet. He said that the second response was in a spirit that Baldwin would appreciate. He introduced the panel of leading Baldwin scholars: Soyica Colbert, Associate Professor of African American Studies and Theater and Performance Studies at Georgetown University; Quentin Miller, Chair of the Department of English at Suffolk University; Magdalena Zabrowska, Professor of African American and American literary and cultural studies at University of Michigan, Ann Arbor; and Dwight McBride, Associate Provost for Graduate Education & Dean of The Graduate School at Northwestern. Professor McBride gave the keynote lecture, which was followed by a panel discussion with Professor Colbert, Professor Miller and Professor Zabrowska.

Professor McBride's lecture

focused on looking at James Baldwin through the lens of respectability, with specific attention to critiques of the ideology of black respectability that are rooted in black feminism, diaspora and queer studies. He cited Evelyn Brooks Higginbotham, who argued that black respectability arose from African Americans who wanted to distance themselves from racist stereotypes. The critique of black respectability maintains that it is a defensive strategy and, as such, necessarily concedes to the dominant culture, leading to ideology with roots in white supremacy, a focus on masculinity and a lack of intersectionality. Baldwin was both one of the first openly gay African American writers and a figure in the Civil Rights Movement. Professor McBride framed Baldwin as a transitional figure in African American studies that necessitated grappling with these issues.

Professor McBride also examined the ways in which black respectability affected James Baldwin's life and work. He said that Baldwin was estranged from the LGBT movement and limited his activism to racial politics, viewing his own sexuality as a private matter. Professor McBride said that this privacy made Baldwin a good fit for the role of the first openly gay African American writer. He referenced a famous interview of James Baldwin on the Dick Cavett Show, where Baldwin said, "I don't know what most white people in this country feel, but I can only conclude what they feel from the state of their institutions... Now this is the evidence. You want me to make an act of faith—risking myself, my wife, my woman, my sister, my children—on some idealization which you assure me exists in America, which I have never seen." Professor McBride highlighted the rhetorical strategy with which Baldwin represented himself. Baldwin referenced a hypothetical wife and family, because in order to be a race

man, he had to rhetorically switch to a heterosexual identity. Professor McBride also discussed how the protagonist of *Giovanni's Room*, a novel in which Baldwin wished to depict "American Loneliness," was white. Professor McBride said *Giovanni's Room* was a novel of the social forces which problematize homosexuality, and one intensely focused on the relations of nationality and sexuality, exploring themes of heteronormativity as the American birthright. He argued

that, due to the politics of respectability, David, the novel's protagonist, had to be a good white protestant, because black characters could only represent the black experience. In addition to the examination of his rhetoric and the exploration of *Giovanni's Room*, Professor McBride ended his lecture discussing how Baldwin's sexuality is only mentioned in passing in Raoul Peck's acclaimed documentary *I Am Not Your Negro*.

The lecture was followed by a panel discussion of, among

other topics: domesticity in Baldwin's later works; the influence of black feminists on Baldwin's work; metaphorical blackness in *Giovanni's Room*; his complex view of courage; and his complicated relationship to identity politics. Professor Colbert noted that how African Americans are perceived is often the opposite of what they may attempt to portray, and that this is important to consider when evaluating Baldwin.

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