

## Welcome Folks, to the Hass Administration



BY NOAH MESA '21  
STAFF WRITER

Dr. Marjorie Hass has officially been inaugurated as the twentieth President of Rhodes College on Jan. 13, 2018. President Hass holds the title of being the first female and the first Jewish president of Rhodes College.

On Friday afternoon, local Memphis restaurants catered lunch while Rhodes musicians provided accompanying music. Rhodes College highlighted research from students and professors during the Open Windows on Academic Life, though due to the inclement weather some speakers were unable to present.

The first sessions were “Big Ideas” of professors explaining their research and “Artistic Expression” which featured student performances. The second round of sessions were “Learning in the Community” and “Mentored Student Scholarship” which displayed how students partnered with professors and the greater Memphis community. All of those who presented were given a medal to commemorate the event.

Many students who attended the

following wine and cheese reception in Paul Barret Jr. Library wore stickers to show support for building a student center. Flyers declaring the 1,174 plus signatures supporting a student center were placed by the entrance and other key locations.

President Hass moderated the “Windows on the City” panel discussion covering the opportunities and challenges of liberal arts colleges in primarily urban environments. The panelists were President Elizabeth Kiss of Agnes Scott College, President Michael Sorrell of Paul Quinn College and President John Smarrelli of Christian Brothers University. President Joanne Berger-Sweeney of Trinity College was unable to attend and thus was replaced by President Smarrelli.

The Presidents discussed their respective colleges and how their initiatives have shaped college demographics and the relationship the college has with its city. The audience then asked various questions about unique challenges of marketing a liberal arts education, the impact liberal arts education had on the political landscape and preparing for technological innovations – which

incidentally President Hass discussed in her inauguration speech.

On the day of the inauguration, students handed out programs to the event while faculty waited outside in their robes and guests milled around in the lobby. Few students attended—likely due to the snow—though the event was livestreamed. For those students who did attend, President Hass shook each of their hands as she walked down the aisle.

After the invocation and welcoming remarks, representatives from students, alumni, faculty and community partners praised President Hass’ student-centered approach and passion for the institution. Rabbi Jeremy Simons lead a blessing based upon the weekly Torah portion.

President Hass began her speech by welcoming and thanking everyone from community partners to representatives of other colleges and universities. In a time of technological advancement and cultural change, Hass looked to the future.

“That is my deepest hope for Rhodes’ future: that it offers a liberal arts education fit for world-changers, grounded

in face-to-face relationships, supports the spirit and is vitally relevant and accessible to the talented students of tomorrow,” President Hass said.

She also unveiled several new projects such as a master’s degree in urban education and the creation of the Lynne and Henry Turley Memphis Center which will specialize in community transformation. Following the benediction and recessional, hors d’oeuvres and exciting conversation were had at Crain Reception Hall and McCallum Ballroom.

Dr. Cary Fowler ’71, Chairman of the Board of Trustees, called the inauguration process between the former President William Trout and President Hass “the smoothest transition one could dream for.”

Fowler emphasized Rhodes ought to be the epitome of the liberal arts college.

“Marjorie will lead us through a process by becoming better than we are. Why shouldn’t we be the liberal arts college?” Fowler said.

# RHODES STUDENT GOVERNMENT



Hi Friends,

I wanted to provide a brief update on some of the work that RSG will be doing this semester. We will continue our work towards a student center and our conversations regarding a fixed-tuition plan. In addition to these efforts, we will also work towards the implementation of resolutions passed last semester, including one that asks the college to provide pads and tampons in restrooms, to serve as emergency supply for when students are in class or otherwise not in their dorms. This semester, we will also turn our attention towards the strategic planning process and work to ensure that your ideas and vision for the future of Rhodes are well-represented at every step of this process.

Our biggest priority this semester will be listening to all of you. Admittedly, we sometimes get caught up in the big picture work of the college, and forget to pause and work on the smaller picture things too. As part of this work, this semester, RSG will be more accessible than ever before in-person and on social media.

I invite you to like us on Facebook or Instagram, just search “Rhodes student government,” and to email us your thoughts and concerns at [rsg@rhodes.edu](mailto:rsg@rhodes.edu). Additionally, come to one of our meetings, *especially* if you think you might want to run for a position in RSG later this semester. Our next meeting will be Thursday, February 1<sup>st</sup> at 7:00pm in Robertson 110.

Roll Lynx,

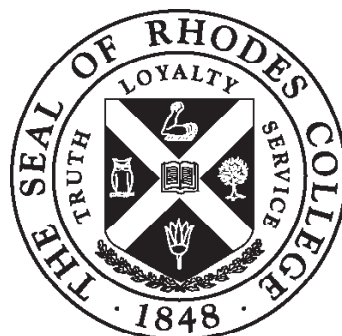
Thomas Mitchell

President of the Student Body

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## WITHIN THE GATES

# Rhodes Nominates Three Juniors for 2018 Truman Scholarship

BY AYALITA CROSTON '20  
CHIEF COPY EDITOR

Created in honor of the 33rd U.S. President Harry S. Truman, the Harry S. Truman Scholarship Foundation has chosen individuals each year to be awarded the title of Truman Scholar. The foundation picks candidates from colleges and universities across the United States to support in their graduate endeavors. Those candidates are recognized as “outstanding young people committed to public service leadership.”

In 2017, Rhodes College's own Thomas Mitchell '18 was awarded this scholarship along with 62 other college juniors. For 2018, Rhodes has nominated three juniors to compete nationally for the prestigious award.

Among the three is Anne Healy '19, an international studies major who plans to attain a law degree as well as a master's in public policy.

“I want to use my Rhodes education and my future graduate education to

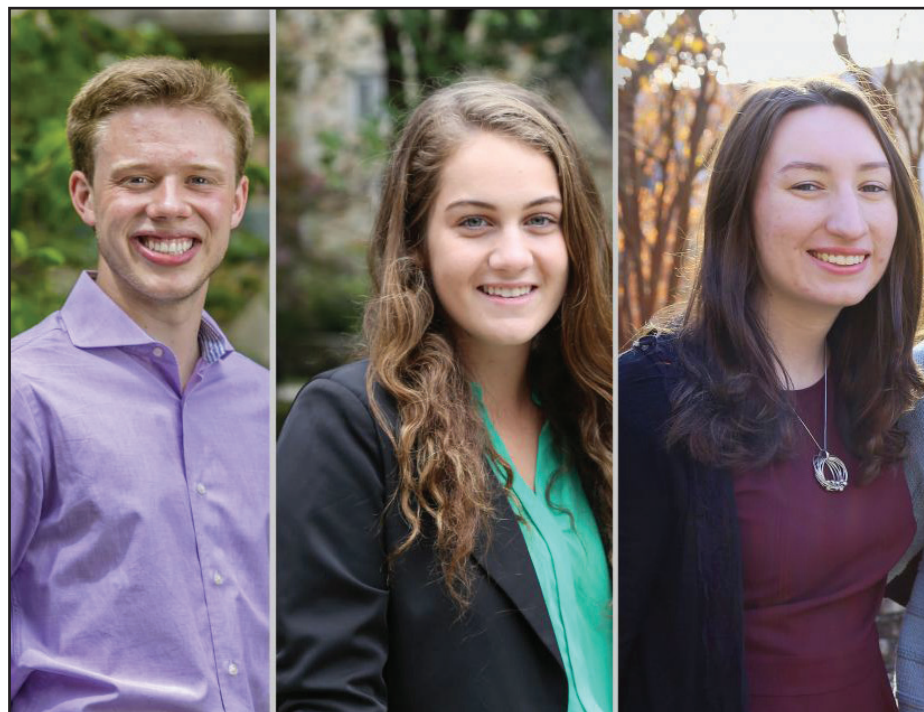
advance women's rights domestically and internationally,” Healy said.

“Eventually, I would like to work on Capitol Hill and, potentially, the White House as a staffer advising on women's issues especially as it relates to the United States' foreign policy.”

The second candidate to come from Rhodes is Spencer Beckman '19, an urban studies and religious studies double major. Beckman plans to focus more on community issues and aspires to acquire a master's degree in Public Health and Health Administration.

“My time at Rhodes spent learning from Dr. Kendra Hotz, other urban and community health professors and from experiences within the city of Memphis have all powerfully illustrated just how much more influence one's zip code has over his or her health, as opposed to the traditional understanding that one's genetic code most powerfully impacts his/her health,” Beckman said.

Also competing for the postgraduate scholarship is Dylan Craddock '19, an international studies and Spanish dou-



From left: Spencer Beckman, Dylan Craddock, Anne Healy

ble major. She plans to acquire a master's with a focus on Latin America and gender—specifically female empowerment.

“I believe by beginning my career in the nonprofit sector, I would have a

better perspective on the needs of communities I hope to research and write policy for in the future,” Craddock said.

The official list of scholarship winners will not be released until mid-April.

# Mastering Urban Education: Rhodes Unveils New Graduate Program

BY TY GEORGEADIS '20  
STAFF WRITER

President Hass's inauguration officially unveiled Rhodes' new master's degree in urban education which will start this summer. The program will be an intensive 14-month sequence consisting of two terms in the summer, followed by two semesters and two more summer terms before the student will be ready to be placed in an urban setting.

“Once the program is up and running we will be producing 100 teachers annually, each of them ready and able to make a difference in the lives of children in Memphis' city schools,” President Hass said.

Starting in 2014, Rhodes' Educational Studies program has allowed students to gain a teaching licensure in addition to a bachelor's degree from their chosen

department. For students who decided too late in their college career that they wanted to be teachers, the master's program will allow access to a unique curriculum which incorporates state of the art research and hands-on-learning. One such class in the proposed curriculum will be an urban studies course, Social Contexts of Urban Schools. Professor Casey of the educational studies department spoke about the importance of the new program.

“The course is about everything except school in urban environments,” Casey said.

“It will emphasize community engagement and also a lot about action research, isolating and identifying problem areas in order to make a change in the community.”

Another course will be an educational statistics class. This will show students

how teachers are evaluated, especially in urban schools.

“The master's program is a way of bringing high quality candidates who didn't go to Rhodes College and aren't in Memphis, to Memphis,” Casey said.

For this purpose, the program will be welcoming Arlinda Fair as a graduate recruiter. Fair will be arriving from Marymount University where she was a graduate enrollment coordinator. Schools new to teacher education are rare.

“The idea of a school that just started doing this in the 2010's is rare,” Casey said.

“Simultaneously, it's going to be attractive to graduates due to the fact that we're a liberal arts college and we're not in the middle of nowhere. Everything that you get from a well resourced, private liberal arts experience in the heart

of a city where we can be doing field experiences, building skills, and creating experiences in local communities doesn't happen in too many places. We feel confident that this will be attractive to those who have decided they want to be teachers.”

The main requirements for the program will be a 3.0 minimum undergraduate GPA and successful completion of a PRAXIS I test. To teach a specific subject, however, the student will have to take the applicable content test.

## WITHIN THE GATES

# Humans of Rhodes College: Dorian Canales Aguilar '20



I was born in Tegucigalpa, Honduras. My mother paid a “coyote” — the guy who knows the route to get to the U.S. — to bring me to the United States when I was seven because of two reasons. One: to pursue a better life. The U.S. has better economic opportunities, education, health care, etc. Two: survival. Imagine your son living in a country that has consistently been ranked in the top 10 most violent countries in the world, has the world’s highest murder rates, where political instability and corruption are rampant, economic system and rule of law are weak, extremely high poverty rates, broken education system and where gangs run the streets.

So, what would you do?

One: Provide your a son an opportunity to live the “dream” in the U.S. Two: leave your son in a country where the odds say that he is either going to miraculously get out of the hood, end up in a gang, become a “criminal,” spend years in prison and end up getting killed.

This is the reality that many foreign people faced. We did not create illegal immigration. U.S. interventionism gave light to illegal immigration. We did not voluntarily partake in it. We were forced to take this option for— one: survival and two: the hopes of living a better life.

# Women of Rhodes: Sidonie Sansom '82

BY KATIE BREWSTER '18  
CHIEF COPY EDITOR

Throughout her life, Rhodes alumna Sidonie Sansom '82 has soared past the glass ceiling. Sansom served as an active duty Coast Guard officer for 20 years. During her tenure, she was the first to command an all-female flight crew as well as the first female Aviation Officer in charge of air crews sent to the vessel Polar Sea in the Antarctic. In addition to being a pilot in the Coast Guard, Sansom has served as the Director of Homeland Security at the Port of San Francisco and is currently the Transbay Joint Powers Authority (TJPA) Chief Security Officer. Sansom was presented the Rhodes College Distinguished Alumna award in 2012 for the impressive feats she has accomplished across her lifetime so far.

Sansom’s primary responsibilities with both the TJPA and the Port of San Francisco have been to provide a safe and secure environment by “protecting visitors, staff, tenants and the building itself from acts of terrorism and crime; to prepare the center and staff to respond to and recover from emergencies and disasters (such as a major earthquake); to conduct business continuity planning (also known as Continuity of Operations, in governmental organizations); to coordinate with law enforcement and emergency management partners to achieve the above objectives; and to support TJPA staff with providing an exceptional experience to those who visit,” Sansom wrote.

Sansom commonly encounters mis-

conceptions about her occupation.

People will often believe “security is off to the side and not that involved in operations, when in reality security can add the best value and be least intrusive when involved from the beginning on a project or program,” Sansom wrote.

She credited both her Coast Guard background and her Rhodes College experience as helping her in her leadership roles at both the Port of San Francisco and TJPA.

“The Coast Guard’s core values are Honor, Respect and Devotion to Duty. These values instill high standards of integrity in Coast Guard members. In addition, members are taught to respect everyone and treat them equally. Members are also expected to do the best job possible — lives depend on it. Rhodes College vision, and its honor system, are very closely aligned with the Coast Guard’s core values,” Sansom wrote.

In looking back at her expansive career, one search and rescue mission has always stood out in her mind: rescuing a Canadian family—two grandparents and their grandson—near Great Inagua Island in the Bahamas.

“After sailing through high waves, their sailboat sprang a leak and started sinking. After we arrived on-scene, we had the family climb into their small dinghy as the sailboat sank. That kept them out of the water, but every time the helicopter moved close to the dinghy, the rotorwash blew the dinghy away from the helicopter,” Sansom wrote.

Her team worked together to rescue the family with the flight mechanic di-

recting her as the co-pilot monitored the helicopter instrument panel and talked on the radios.

“After several attempts to get close to the dinghy, my flight mechanic finally snagged its engine with the rescue basket to keep the dinghy from being blown away again.”

The grandmother and grandson climbed into the basket. Once they were safe, Sansom’s flight mechanic snagged the engine so the grandfather could safely get into the rescue basket.

“At that point, the grandfather clumsily dove into the basket. The basket then rolled 360 degrees, wrapping the hoist cable around itself. The basket could not be hoisted out of the water until the hoist cable was freed,” Sansom wrote. “My flight mechanic had to roll the basket the opposite direction to free the cable, submerging the grandfather in the process. When the grandfather was brought up to the door of the helicopter, we found out that he’d hidden two small white dogs in his shirt, thinking that we would make him leave them behind.”

Luckily for the grandfather, the helicopter was full of dog lovers. While this story stood out in Sansom’s mind as one of the most memorable, her work has been impactful in a number of ways.

“I have 3 main areas of which I’m proud: the lifesaving work I was lucky enough to do in the Coast Guard; helping the people who worked for and with me for me throughout my career experience professional and personal growth; and developing programs to protect people and infrastructure from

disasters and emergent events,” Sansom wrote.

She credited her role models for inspiring her towards these achievements. In their own ways, both the Apollo and Shuttle astronauts “whose courage flying into the unknown inspired me to dream of flight” and her parents “who never told a small child that girls couldn’t be astronauts” helped launch her into her flight career.

A string of friends and mentors encouraged her journey from there. John Weld taught her about “business, leadership and faith.” The Port of San Francisco’s former Executive Director, Monique Moyer, “demonstrated leadership and integrity throughout her tenure.” General Mike Myatt, President and CEO of the Marines Memorial, inspired Sansom by transitioning into the nonprofit sector even after a highly successful career in the Corps. Myatt has made sustained efforts to revitalize “a venerable San Francisco institution and plans to keep giving back to the community and his beloved Marine Corps for the rest of his life.”

Taking a cue from these successful, resilient men and women, Sansom has never ceased to combat preconceptions and limitations placed upon her.

“I’ve long advocated for women and minorities to have equal access and opportunities. As I told people when I was in the Coast Guard, the pilot’s wings I wore on my uniform only come in one color—gold.”

## BEYOND THE GATES

# Temporal Narratives

BY PRAMIKA SRIRAM '21  
CITY EDITOR

Memphis-based photographers gathered to present their work on Jan. 19 at the Germantown Performing Arts Center (GPAC). The three photographers—Andrea Morales, Yasmine Omari and Ziggy Tucker—have traveled all over the world to capture their images. In their joint exhibit, titled “Temporal Narratives,” the photographers tested the notion that narratives could be intentionally and unintentionally constructed. Despite the distance they have traveled to take photographs, each artist cited the profound influence Memphis has had on their photography.

Andrea Morales’ photography focused specifically on the daily lives of people in the South and particularly those in Memphis. She cites the “intersections of class, race and culture” in Memphis inspired her to take many of the photographs that appear in the exhibit. Hav-

ing grown up in Miami, Morales is no stranger to diverse cities with vibrant cultures. However, she explained she immediately noted the unique dynamic of Memphis and acknowledged how the city resonated with her differently than other cities had.

Yasmine Omari’s photographs were taken around the world, most notably in Palestine, where Omari is from. When taking photographs, she said she has been “inspired by the moment when the timing is right.” Omari also acknowledged the power of photographs and, in particular, the power of “Temporal Narratives” which allows complete strangers to connect to her work in unique ways. Omari also discussed the influence of Memphis on her photography, stating the “pockets of beauty within the community” have allowed her to expand her perspective and see potential in even the most unexpected of locations.

Memphis-born artist Ziggy Tucker,

although he has also taken photographs around the world, has focused on capturing his hometown. Tucker’s accomplishments include photographing former President Obama and being named one of the “Memphis Flyer’s” most influential young Memphians. The impact of Memphis on Tucker’s photographs has been evident as many of his portraits have featured members of the local community. He has been one of the staff photographers at Ballet Memphis and he has also regularly interacted with the larger Memphis community while taking his photographs. Tucker named Memphis’ diversity as one of the reasons he has been so interested in photographing the city as he is passionate about “photographing different subcultures and groups.”

Although the photographers all hail from different backgrounds, their pieces were still able to be presented in the same exhibit with a common theme. GPAC Director of Development Parke

Kennedy explained that all of the photographers represent minorities and this characteristic allowed them to find common ground. She also pointed to the time the three photographers have spent in Memphis as another commonality between the perspectives of the photographs.

“It was interesting to hear about how the photographers—who were native and non-native to Memphis—saw the city and incorporated that perspective into their photographs” Verina Sawiers ’21 said.

Although Andrea Morales, Yasmine Omari and Ziggy Tucker have traveled the world, the influence Memphis had on their perspectives and photography has been clearly pronounced.

# ‘King Day’ at the National Civil Rights Museum

BY PRAMIKA SRIRAM '21  
CITY EDITOR

The National Civil Rights Museum hosted its annual ‘King Day’ on Jan. 15, the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Day, to honor the most prominent leader of the civil rights movement. Memphis was one of the most vital cities of the Civil Rights Movement and the sanitation strikes of 1968 garnered national attention. King traveled to Memphis to organize more strikes on the behalf of the city’s African-American sanitation workers. Those protests in Memphis would be his last, as he would be assassinated shortly afterwards.

The commemoration of ‘King Day’ included a variety of events and attracted thousands of people from across the country. The National Civil Rights Museum offered reduced admission and thousands flocked to the museum despite freezing temperatures. ‘King Day’ not only observed the history of the Civil Rights Movement and Dr.

King’s legacy but it also drew attention to ongoing issues within minority communities. As one participant in the day’s activities observed, “Dr. King’s dream has not been realized yet.” This sentiment was one shared by many attendees, who emphasized the necessity of ongoing service and commitment to alleviate issues affecting African-American communities. In accordance with these voiced concerns, the National Civil Rights Museum partnered with the Mid-South Food Bank and Lifeblood in order to encourage life-saving donations.

The museum was teeming with visitors but the most popular spot was the Community Pavilion, located in the museum’s parking lot. The Community Pavilion was filled with dozens of booths offering a variety of services. Local health organizations, such as the St. Jude Sickle Cell Program and CHOICES, offered free screenings and information about conditions that disproportionately affect African-American communities. Booths were also set up

by a number of legal and advocacy organizations, including Just City Memphis and the Memphis branch of the NAACP.

‘King Day’ was not exclusively focused on solving issues within minority communities. The vibrancy of African-American history and culture were celebrated throughout the day. A nearby stage was graced by numerous soul artists and local performers. Poets, spoken word artists and traditional African drummers also performed.

The annual Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday parade culminated at the museum. Hundreds of people participated in the event, many of them carrying signs with the words “I am a Man”—the same signs held during the Memphis sanitation strikes of 1968.

The connection that Rhodes College has to Memphis and national history is significant. Former Rhodes College student Gibson Stroupe participated in these sanitation strikes when he was a student at what was then Southwestern Presbyterian University.

“I jumped into the garbage strike, going on marches seeking to organize and educate others” Stroupe wrote in an article for the “Atlantic.”

April 4, 2018 marks the 50-year anniversary of King’s assassination at the Lorraine Motel in Memphis. The National Civil Rights Museum will be hosting a variety of special events to commemorate this date. According to the museum’s website, nationally renowned speakers and media will be onsite to honor Dr. King’s legacy and engage in dialogue about the future. The event will be free and open to the public.

# LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

## EDITOR'S NOTE:

The opinions and views expressed in the content below are those solely of the writer and do not reflect the opinions and views of the Sou'wester or its staff. Additionally, the writer takes full responsibility for the accuracy of their work and its adherence to college policy. Letters to the editor are not edited.

## Can We Make a Deal?



BY BRANDON JOHNSON '19  
RHODES COLLEGE DEMOCRATS  
PRESIDENT

The government shutdown has been the topic of all of the newspapers and cable news shows. Senate Minority Leader, Chuck Schumer sought to make a deal with Donald Trump. As a self-professed master of the “Art of the Deal”, the President appeared to be interested. But then, things broke down. What was the problem? What happened? The answer to these questions lies in understanding the perspectives of the two sides.

First let's talk about the Republicans. When looking at their position as a party, it becomes increasingly clear that they don't really have one. All of them, including the President, want border security. But none of them are exactly sure what that means. To someone like Lindsey Graham that means providing more resources and funding. The wall is not necessarily a staple of border security. To Senator Tom Cotton, a physical border wall is very important and an

immigration deal that does not include this border wall is totally unacceptable. Now the President, who doesn't commit to either camp falls right in the middle. While running for President, Donald Trump promised that he would be more than tough on immigration. He would build a wall (which Mexico would pay for), stop sanctuary cities, and he would deport illegal immigrants. But in a televised meeting with Democrats and Republicans, Trump claimed that he would sign whatever the two sides collectively brought to his desk. This should've been a cake walk. However, it was not. The breakdown occurred when, like most other irrational policy decisions that the President makes, he began to take advice from his far right wing advisors. Names like Stephen Miller, Senator Tom Cotton, and even Chief of Staff John Kelley represent those voices. It was confirmed by multiple sources, including Chuck Schumer himself, claim that Trump reneged on a prior deal or the prospect of bipartisan immigration only after he met with these three men. With a party

split into factions on Capitol Hill, Republicans are in an even worst position because their President does not have a position. He won't necessarily hold firm to the base and he won't compromise to make a “deal”. Until this disconnect within Republican circles is bridged, it will be difficult to for Democrats to do any negotiating.

Now for the Democrats. It is very important in any bipartisan deal to at least understand where the minority opposition party stands. The Democrats were already angry when the President repealed the temporary executive protections that President Obama announced during his term. In their view, when the White House justifies the repeal by claiming that Americans need a “permanent solution”, Republicans are not making much sense. This logic is akin to a motorist driving down the road toward a tire shop with a spare tire. He then pulls to the side of the road and takes off the spare tire and says “I don't need this tire, I am going to drive and get a more permanent solution”. This immediate disconnect would typical-

ly be a non-starter for most bipartisan negotiations. However the Democratic leadership kept a seemingly cool head and entered into negotiations. They were initially taken aback that the President invited them to the White House, and claimed that he was ready to sign any bipartisan deal. But then came the right wing. After having a day to organize the details, the bipartisan group was shocked when they came to the President with the prospect of legislation, he scoffed at it and rejected their deal. Where was the man two days ago who all but promised he would sign whatever deal came across his desk? What happened to the bipartisan spirit? This lack of stability with the President's position proves extremely difficult for Democrats to work with him. Will he be bipartisan? Is he or he is he not for a pathway to citizenship? If Democrats cannot answer these questions or if the answer changes by the hour, then immigration reforms seems to be yet again a lost cause.

Hello there!

For the rest of the academic year you will notice some political discourse in our Letters to the Editor section of the paper. Each month, Rhodes College Republicans and Rhodes College Democrats will select a topic to discuss for the entire month. They will take turns and write into the paper every other week—responding to what the other organization had written the week prior. We encourage you to respond to their discourse in a letter as well. Letters can be submitted to [rhodescnews@gmail.com](mailto:rhodescnews@gmail.com).

-The Editors

## SPORTS

## Spring Athletic Season Holds Promise



By TY GEORGEADIS '20  
STAFF WRITER

Winter break has ended and Rhodes' student athletes have been ready to shake off the winter blues. The basketball team started their season in November and currently have a 9-9 record. Their next opponent will be Sewanee on Jan. 26.

Rhodes beat Sewanee last season 111-101. The swim teams first meet of the semester took place last Satur-

day. Though the men's team lost to Sewanee, it was a definitive win for the women. The team will be looking to the future—hoping to beat their third place win at conference last year. Their next meet will be at Hendrix College on Feb. 3.

The tennis team finished third in their conference last season and had a record of 17-6. Last year, Ritwik Chatterjee '20 was awarded Southern Athletic Association (SAA) freshman tennis player of the year. Their goal this year

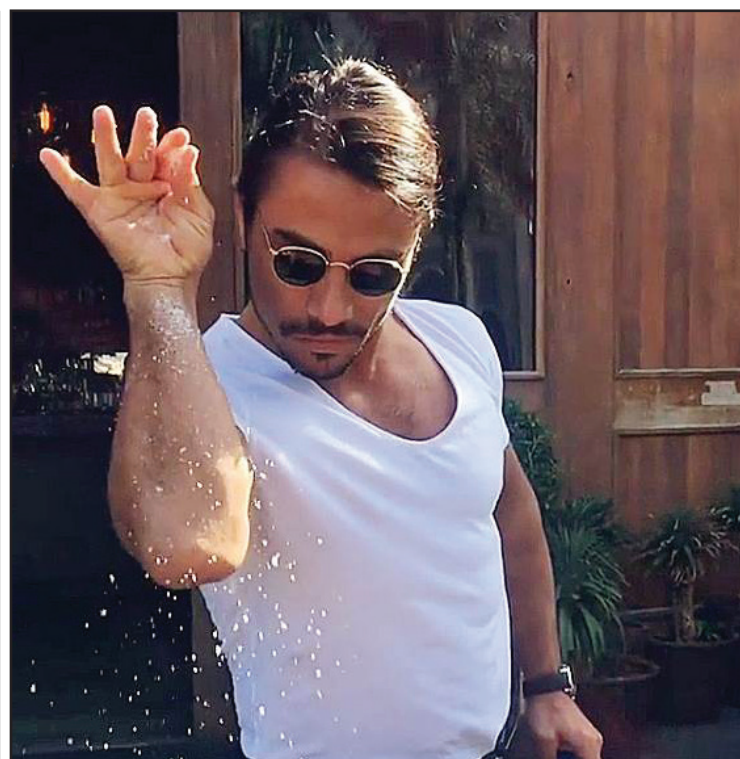
will be to win the SAA and compete in the NCAA tournament. The season for the team will begin Feb. 3 with a meet against Tennessee State University in Nashville.

Another spectacle to watch this year will be the men's lacrosse team. Last year, they lost 8-7 against Sewanee in the SAA conference championship game. Their goal has been clear, first in conference and a bid to the NCAA tournament. Their first game will be at DePauw University on Feb. 17. The

golf team finished eighth at the national championship last year and have all except one player returning to play again this year. They won the SAA conference and are currently ranked 16th in Division III. Rhodes' Renn Eason '18 will be personally excited for this season, having claimed the college's first ever track and field national title in high jump last season. The team has also been looking forward to the performance of Tej Suber '18 in the shot put and hammer throw competitions.

# 2017 IN MEMES

<p><b>JAN</b></p>	<p><b>Salt Bae</b>                  "Salt Bae" is a famous gif of a Turkish butcher named Nusret Gökçe who fancifully throws salt onto a steak he is marinating. This meme was most commonly used to signify a symbolic "throwing" of objects in a manner of both excess as well as panache.</p>
<p><b>FEB</b></p>	<p><b>Roll Safe</b>                  Though the meme to make the biggest splash was likely the "CASH ME OUSSIDE HOW BOW DAT" girl from Dr. Phil, she never reached the humor level of "Roll Safe." This meme shows a man tapping his forefinger to his temple to remind people to "roll safe" and think before making decisions.</p>
<p><b>MAR</b></p>	<p><b>Student Athlete Memes</b>                  March was marked by "Student Athlete" memes. These were primarily popular on Twitter.                  me: ima lose my virginity tonight                  student athlete: LOSE!?! Will NEVER Lose X My Virginity Because I NEVER Lose Thank GOD Psalm 8:3</p>
<p><b>APR</b></p>	<p><b>Welcome to Your Tape</b>                  Netflix's controversial hit show "13 Reason Why" spawned this equally debated meme. Main character Hannah Baker's suicide—and subsequent letters blaming those who wronged her—were viewed by some as a tad bit overdramatic. The resulting meme shows Baker running into mildly inconveniencing problems and responding with "Welcome to Your Tape."</p>



<p><b>MAY</b></p>	<p><b>Mocking Spongebob</b>                  May brought us one of the greatest memes of the year: "Mocking SpongeBob." With its random mix of capital and lowercase letters and its relatability in so many contexts, Mocking SpongeBob was simple yet hilarious—the paradigm of a dank meme.</p>
<p><b>JUN</b></p>	<p><b>The floor is _____</b>                  June's best meme worked in tandem with the re-emergence of the classic childhood game "The Floor Is Lava." In this challenge, someone would inform their friend that the floor is lava. Upon hearing these words, they must climb on top of something to remain safe. The meme transformed to saying the floor is something else the friend avoids like "healthy relationships."</p>
<p><b>JUL</b></p>	<p><b>Boneless Pizza</b>                  "Boneless pizza" served as an excellent representation of the meme "snowball effect." Often variations of a singular meme can become increasingly absurd and complicated in time. The Boneless Pizza meme begat other memes like boneless water and boneless watermelon.</p>
<p><b>AUG</b></p>	<p><b>Distracted</b>                  Starting out as a simple stock photo, the "Distracted Boyfriend" or "Man Looking at Other Woman" meme became commonly used to show our desire for certain things to the dismay of someone or something else.</p>

<p><b>SEP</b></p>	<p><b>Improvise, Adapt, Overcome</b>                  "Improvise, Adapt, Overcome" came from a photo of the famous survivalist and naturalist Bear Grylls. Grylls is famous for his ability to improvise, adapt and overcome his way out of difficult situations, most notably by once drinking his own urine. These were used to describe creative methods for surviving dangerous situations.</p>
<p><b>OCT</b></p>	<p><b>First of All Memes</b>                  "First of All" refers to a series of tweets in which the tweeter imagines a person saying something, to which the person responds "first of all..." with a witty rebuttal.                  -"You're almost 22, you should have learned about taxes in high school."                  -"First of all, the mitochondria is the powerhouse of the cell."</p>
<p><b>NOV</b></p>	<p><b>Monkey Getting a Haircut</b>                  Some high-quality memes never break through to cultural ubiquity. The image of a monkey receiving a haircut circulated through the dark corners of the meme sphere. These images are only recognizable by those with a highly refined meme palette.</p>
<p><b>DEC</b></p>	<p><b>The Return of Vine</b>                  Vine was a social media platform that hit its high point circa 2013. It shut down in 2016 before making its triumphant return last December when it revitalized itself thanks to YouTube compilations called "Vines that keep me from ending it all." These contain incredible comedic content such as "this bitch empty, yeet" and "you made me drop my croissant."</p>



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