

The Sou'wester

Vol. 80 No. 13

Rhodes College

Wednesday, September 16, 1992

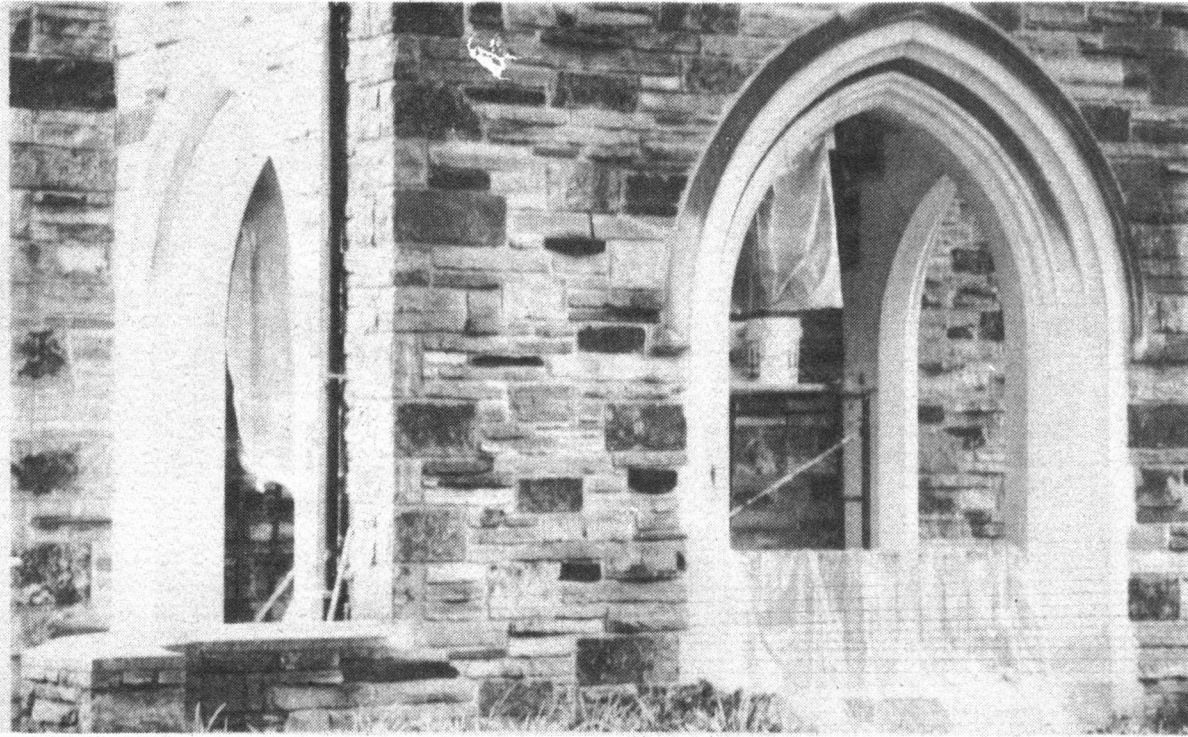


Photo by Elizabeth Timmons

Asbestos-Coated Pipe Closes First Floor Haliburton

by Brent Moberly
Campus Editor

The Admissions Desk has reopened on the first floor of the Haliburton tower. The desk was temporarily moved after an asbestos coating was found on a leaking water pipe above the first floor ceiling. Dean Boone of Administrative Services, described the situation as more inconvenient than dangerous.

According to Dean Boone, the pipes were sprayed with an asbestos coating when the tower was constructed in 1963. Earlier this year, workers discovered the coating when they attempted to repair a leak in one of the pipes. "It was inconvenient," said Dean Boone, "because when you disturb the asbestos, there are all kinds of federal regulations you have to observe."

During the day, the area was surrounded with huge plastic sheets. Signs on the plastic sheets warned, "asbestos area, keep out." At night, a special company came in to remove the asbestos and to clear the air of free floating asbestos particles. Federal regulations mandated all of these procedures.

Asbestos is a naturally occurring mineral fiber that saw widespread commercial use before 1970. There

are three properties that give asbestos a high commercial value: it is inflammable, it does not conduct heat or electricity, and it is not affected by most chemicals. Some of the commercial applications of asbestos include fireproof clothing and theater curtains, heat resistant lining for automobile brakes, and, in the case of Rhodes College, insulation for pipes, boilers, and electrical wires.

In the seventies, doctors linked asbestos with two major lung diseases: Asbestosis and Mesothelioma. Asbestosis leads to a clotting of the lungs which, in turn, causes high blood pressure and heart disease. Mesothelioma is a rare and fatal form of lung cancer. Asbestosis is caused by gradual exposure to small amounts of free floating asbestos particles. Mesothelioma, on the other hand, is caused by short term exposure to concentrated amounts of asbestos particles.

In 1973, the EP banned the use of asbestos in the construction of public schools. The EPA extended this ban in 1975 to include all public buildings. Dean Boone stated that the college has removed "the majority, if not all the asbestos from public areas." Dean Boone did admit that there is still some asbestos present in some boiler rooms,

but he added that these are not public areas.

Students expressed little or no concern about the asbestos. "Oh, it really was asbestos," said one student, "I saw the signs one day, but when I went by the next day, they were gone. I figured that some prankster put them up as a joke." Many were unaware of the problem. "I never go over there," one said, "so I didn't even know about it."

Those that did express concern worried about the remaining pockets of asbestos on campus. "Most of these buildings were built before 1970," observed one student, "and I wonder how many still have pipes and things with asbestos coatings."

Others expressed concern over the college's policy of removing the asbestos. "Why did they wait until the pipe broke," asked one, "instead of just replacing the pipes before something went wrong? I think it would be better to remove the asbestos before things go wrong instead of waiting until after."

"The thing to keep in mind," said one student, "is that we are still seeing the effects of asbestos use. If anything, it should teach us to be more careful in the future."

Cultural Literacy: Another Perspective

by Susan Ewart

The theory behind E. D. Hirsch's "Cultural Literacy" is rooted deep in the need for reform in the educational system. Hirsch explains this theory in his co-authored Dictionary of Cultural Literacy, "We help people in the underclass rise economically by teaching them how to communicate effectively beyond a narrow social sphere, and that can only be accomplished by teaching them shared, traditional literate culture." In "Rotten to the Core," an article in *Nation*, April 6, 1992, Herbert Kohl criticizes Hirsch's 63-page list of terms. Kohl argues, "The problem is that Hirsch elevates such superficial acquaintance with words to the status of knowledge." Kohl continues by pointing out that "Hirsch omits many words and phrases that relate to progressive thinking and non-Western cultures." Kohl goes on to say that Hirsch makes morally correct revisions by omitting words like "prick," "piss," and "pig" (police) which are also part of a literate America's vocabulary.

In the preface of Hirsch's *Dictionary*, he addresses these kinds of attacks: "Those who evade this inherent conservation of literacy in the name of multicultural anti-elitism are in effect

elitists of an extreme sort." Hirsch's scolds, "Self-appointed protectors of minority cultures have advised schools to pursue a course that has condemned minorities to illiteracy."

Hirsch offers some very controversial decisions in making the list, and he is rebuked by some critics as George Steiner for listing only white male cultural terms and ideas. Hirsch is the founder of the Cultural Literacy Foundation dedicated to improving education in America. How to teach these terms to children is an important issue to address. Will children read and appreciate Shakespeare or memorize the quotes? Hirsch offers what he feels is "the basic information needed to thrive in the modern world."

An example of an entry of the Dictionary:

"coolie An unskilled laborer or porter in eastern Asia. Coolie is a degrading term for any laborer."

Hirsch's works include, *Essays on Wordsworth and Schelling* (1960), *Validity in Interpretation* (1967), *The Philosophy of Composition* (1977), *The Aims of Interpretation* (1978), and *Cultural Literacy: What Every American Needs to Know*.

Student Assembly Notes: No Spring Fling This Year?

by Diane Melby
Staff Writer

The Rhodes Student Assembly held its second meeting of the year on September 9, at 5:30 in Frazier-Jelke C.

The members of the assembly voted to pay the cost of this year's leadership retreat for any of the newly elected first-year representatives who wish to go. Elections for Student Assembly representatives are being held this week.

Plans are under way for a voter responsibility campaign. The campaign will focus both on getting students registered and getting those who are registered to go out and vote. Information is on the way to Student Assembly from Vote America on various aspects of interest to college students such as how to register and how to use absentee ballots.

From the cultural and intellectual commission, came the news that Karen Conway would like to start having International Student Coffee Houses. These coffeehouses would provide Rhodes students not only with the chance to get to know the international students, but also with the chance to learn more about different countries and their cultures. In addition, FOCUS

groups are beginning soon.

Members of the assembly encouraged students to attend the Campus Concerns Corner which meets every Thursday. Attendance at the Gilliland Symposiums was also encouraged.

Perhaps the announcement of most interest to students, though, was that concerning Spring Fling. Spring Fling '92, the first school-wide cleanup day at Rhodes College and the product of an extra day in the calendar, was a huge success. In spite of this, it looks as if there will be no Spring Fling '93. Since the calendar for the 92-93 academic year was already made up before anyone knew how the first Spring Fling would turn out, plans were not made to hold one this year. Though the Student Assembly is at work on trying to have a day set aside for Spring Fling this year, the prospects are not promising. Instead, efforts are being concentrated on making plans for next year's Spring Fling which is expected to be even better than the first.

All future meetings of Student Assembly will be held on Wednesdays at 5:30 in Tuthill. Everyone is welcome to attend.

Spring 1992 Honor Council Report

Date	Charge	Plea	Verdict	Penalty	Terms
1/11/92	Lying	G	G	Probation	3
1/15/92	Plagiarism	G	G	Probation	5
2/20/92	Lying	G	G	Probation	3
3/12/92	Cheating	NG	NG		
3/14/92	Lying (3)	NG (3)	NG (3)		
4/26/92	Stealing	G	G	Probation	2
4/30/92	Cheating	G (NI)	G	Probation	2
5/5/92	Cheating	G	G	Suspension	2
5/7/92	Stealing	NG	G	Expulsion	

Inside . . .

Rush Perspectives	Page 3
E. D. Hirsch Interview	Page 5
Cross Country Results	Page 5
The Art of Lying	Page 7

JUST CUT IT.

DABBLES



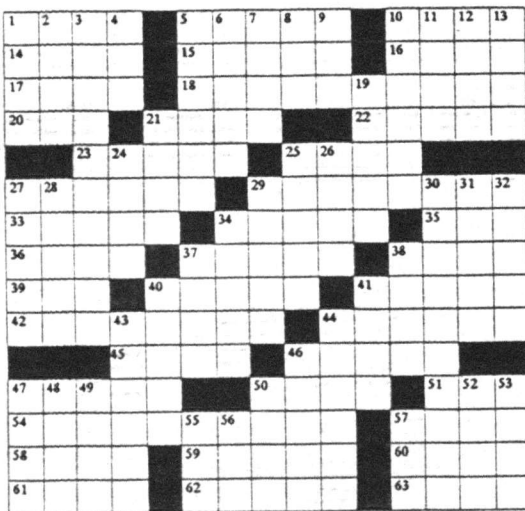
19 N. Cooper • Behind Overton
Sq.
725 - 0521

Weekly Crossword

"Doggone It!"

By Gerry Frey

- ACROSS**
- Dogs' resting spot
 - Prevent
 - Dogs' mortal enemies
 - Press
 - Ms. Verdugo
 - "God's Little _____"
 - Teacher's manual
 - DOGGONE IT!
 - NYC time zone
 - Ayn _____ "The Fountainhead" author
 - Urns
 - Right a wrong
 - Jet's Mr. Eubank
 - Gofers run
 - DOGGONE IT!
 - Jules _____
 - Fortune-telling card
 - Exist
 - French friend
 - Plate
 - Mr. Kazan
 - No in Glasgow
 - Bargain events
 - Equipped with weapons
 - DOGGONE IT!
 - Rips off
 - Obit words: Pl.
 - Perch
 - Speak pompously
 - Trig's cousin
 - Suffix meaning doctrine
 - DOGGONE IT!
 - Dorothy's dog
 - Divisible by 2
 - Beau _____
 - Seth's son
 - Dweeb?
 - Fragrant floral oil
 - Botanist Gray & others



- African antelope
- Care for
- Steno's abbrev.
- Cheerleader's word
- Sweet melon
- Play parts
- Dogs' friend?
- Sun. talks
- Chris _____
- Mr. Descartes
- Lion's pride & joy
- Merchandise
- Black
- Dale or Linda
- Change the atlas
- See ya!
- DOGGONE ITS!
- Bay window
- Studies history
- Yarns
- Messenger
- Poets words
- Smile scornfully
- Tiny bit
- Plan
- Oklahoma football player
- Lariat
- Word with French or Australian
- Wander
- Part of N.A.
- Sum & substance
- Greek portico
- Hart: US Playwright
- Turkish title of nobility
- Word with profit
- English social occasion

Hicks
**COMPOSITION
SERVICE**
• For Typesetting •
614 POPLAR
526-8012
FAX 523-8052

A Talk With E. D. Hirsch by Gayla Bassham, editor

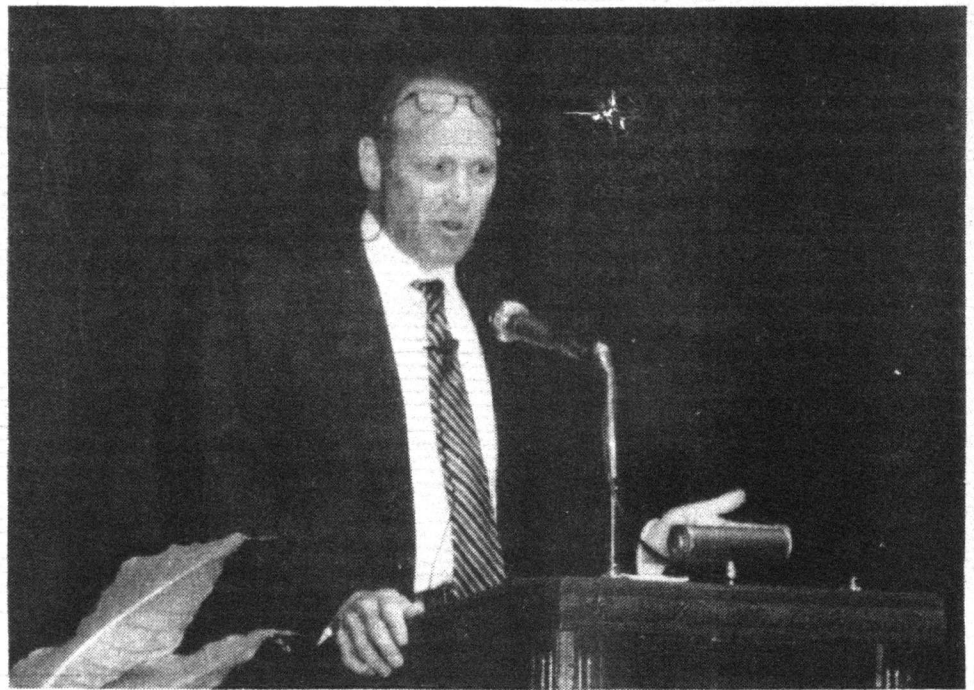


Photo by Elizabeth Timmons

E. D. Hirsch is not a man who likes to be criticized. "Who said so? Did I say so? Why do you say that?" he snaps in response to a question about stressing memorization over critical thinking skills. (In fact, in his book *Cultural Literacy: What Every American Needs to Know*, he compliments the Koreans, the Indonesians, and the Kung bushmen, among others, for their emphasis on rote learning.) And then he goes back to his major theme: "We have to decide what we're thinking about . . . We can do that better with a core curriculum."

It's hard to really blame Hirsch for his defensiveness. His theory of cultural literacy—that there are certain facts that every American needs to know to function in our society, and that these facts should become part of a mandatory, national core curriculum for elementary school students—has been relentlessly attacked in the five years since *Cultural Literacy* was published. Some call it elitist and accuse Hirsch of ignoring the importance of multiculturalism. Others say that stressing memorization drills over

critical thinking exercises will turn American children into robots—a criticism heightened by the fact that Hirsch so often refers to Japanese education in discussing the core curriculum.

Hirsch, however, insists that a line must be drawn between Japanese education and Japanese culture. "I've heard that they say 'The head that sticks up must be hammered down.' But that's a cultural phenomenon . . . Let's take Sweden. The Swedes have no such motto. They pride themselves on eccentricity and individuality just as we do." And yet, he points out, the Swedes (like almost all other countries) have a national core curriculum. Again he returns to his favorite subject: "The best elementary education is . . . core knowledge."

E. D. Hirsch bristles at suggestions that cultural literacy seems elitist. "What allows some people into the club—the economics club, the famous club, the respect club—is knowledge.

. . . I want to give everybody a chance to be at the table, as it were, he explains. "It's exactly the opposite

of what it's accused of being." Many disagree, pointing out that the traditional American culture that forms the basis for Hirsch's dictionaries of cultural literacy largely reflects a white male viewpoint. "The solution to the multicultural issue," Hirsch responds, "is to make the core knowledge multicultural."

Hirsch considers himself a political liberal. But if he is a liberal, his a liberal who has just taken a sharp right turn; perhaps, as Jack Kemp once described himself, he is a "bleeding-heart conservative."

Although he agrees that multiculturalism is beneficial (or at least acceptable), he also uses the word "acculturation"—a word reminiscent of paternalistic attempts to assimilate Native Americans in the nineteenth century—to describe what he hopes a core curriculum will do for elementary students.

Acculturation failed with the American Indians, but if Hirsch has anything to say about it, core knowledge will succeed with the disadvantaged students of today.

The Rest of the Flight

by Clay Combs, Staff Writer

Last week, if you were paying attention, you marked the return of our dearest friend. Our friend visits every year when the time is right, and last week, on Thursday afternoon, the time was right. Kill the fatted calf. Fall is back.

Every year in Memphis, Spring gives birth to a Wonderful Feeling. We shed our winter coats to don cutoffs. We take our props, be they frisbees, kites, fishing poles or glasses of tea, and go out and drink it all in. We wash the winter grime off our cars and insist they actually *run* better.

But the Wonderful Feeling doesn't last forever. Summer, our own environmental Herod, jealous of all the attention paid to spring, steps in to issue a decree that the feeling should be killed. For two or three months, summer sends the sun to hover direct-

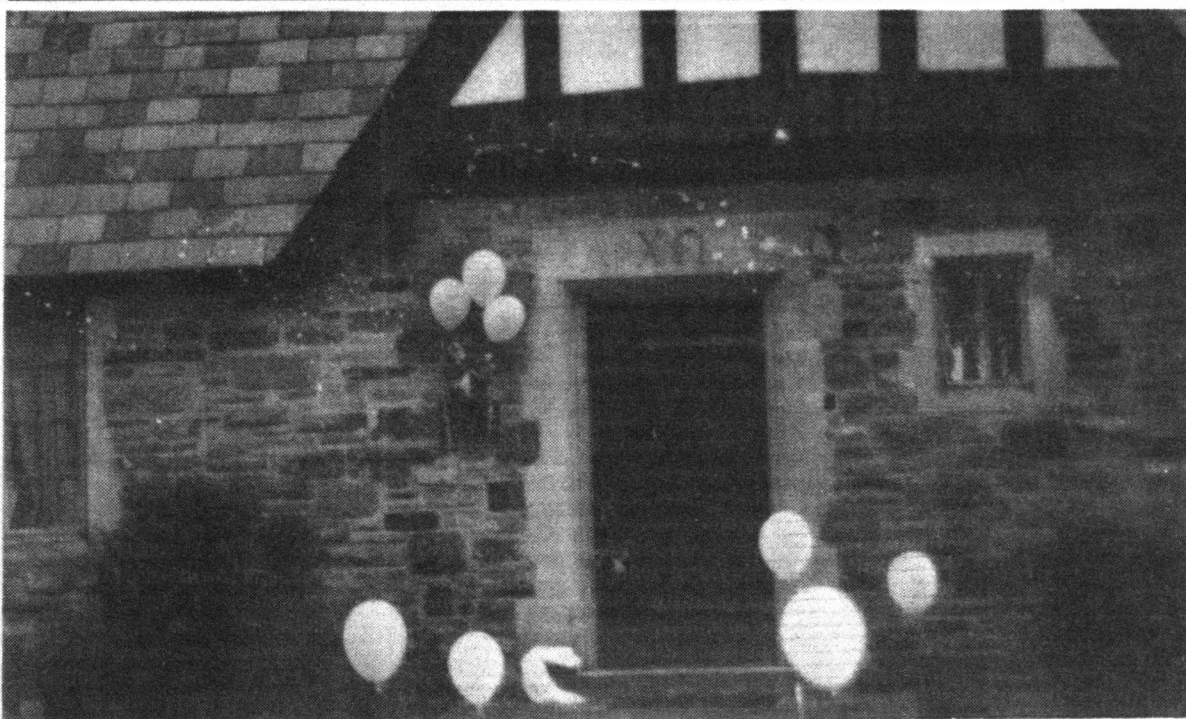
ly over Memphis. (Some Federal Express pilots have actually complained of slight melting in their planes' wings during summer.) As if that weren't enough, summer, known to be on good terms with the Prince of Power of the Air, has all our TV shows thrown into reruns. Our town grows intolerable. We must seek relief, lest we surely die.

Fortunately, we have a mediator in all this. Dave Brown, longtime WMC-TV weatherman, practices his homespun augury—his scientific prowess rivals that of Sir Bedicere in Monty Python's *Holy Grail*—and makes inquiries to the benevolent powers. "What can the people of Memphis do, he asks, to rid the land of the scourge of summer? The powers always answer the same: head for winter. We Comply.

We drag our feet as we head for winter. We are weak and weary from our boiling in summer's cauldron. We are heavy-laden with burdens. On top of all this, we have to start reading for classes again. We need a resting place, some kind of haven where we can collect ourselves and buck up strength for the journey. Just in time during our trek to winter, our flight into meteorological Egypt, fall visits. We can rest a while.

Fall brings all kinds of simple pleasures. The summer haze lifts from the sky to give us a moon whose brilliance obscures all heavenly bodies in its corner of the sky. College football returns to make Saturdays into the stuff of childhood. We get new episodes of our favorite show. (Granted, this brings only limited en-

(Continued on Page 4)



The Chi O's prepare for Bid Day with balloons and ribbons.

Photo by Chris Pollette

Rush:

A RUSHEE SPEAKS

by Jennifer Larson, staff writer

Speaking from the point of view of a first-year student who has almost made it completely through rush, I think I can honestly say that everybody is glad that rush is almost over. Not that we didn't have fun, but it is really rough to leave home, adjust to college, and go through rush all in a time span of about three or four weeks. In that respect, I think that the amount of activities packed into such a short time span made rush even more stressful than it already was!

However, the Panhellenic Council planned some activities for us rushees that we might not have gotten to do for quite a while, had we not gone through rush. A good example is FunPlex, where we got to play in a pit of balls and jump on a Moonwalk-type contraption. I loved going to FunPlex, probably because I never really outgrew Chuck E. Cheese's. So of course, they took us there, too. It's a lot easier to enjoy rush when you are encouraged to do "stupid" things that we all like to do anyway. Coming from a person who loves to blow bubbles, informal activities were a definite plus.

Like I mentioned earlier, it was rather overwhelming to arrive on the Rhodes campus and suddenly be thrown into rush. Older students defend this concept because they say that it gives you a chance to meet people. This is true, but from I hear, most first-year female students were a bit stressed out when they had to deal with orientation, the first week of college classes, and rush one right after the other. I think that delaying rush might be a good idea so everyone can get settled at college before the craziness of rush begins. I consider myself to be a person who can adapt quickly, but even for me, it was overwhelming.

Overall, I had a pretty good time during rush. I like to meet people, and I will even admit that I liked to get dressed up for the formal parties. I got to meet about ten times as many upperclassman women than I might have. I do not easily get nervous about things like rush, so I tended to watch other people stress over what to wear and how to act, while I stayed calm. I just decided to be myself and let people decide for themselves whether they like me or not.

By the time that anybody reads this, it will have been decided whether I pledged or not and if so, what did I pledge. Rush 1992 will be over for all first-year women. I have made several very good friends who decided not to rush, at least not this year, and they have been amused by the whole rush process. It was fun, and it was interesting, but I will definitely be glad for rush to be over.

Rush:

AN INDEPENDENT SPEAKS

by Emily Flinn, staff writer

One of the things that concerned me about coming to Rhodes was the fact that I had no interest in Greek life, and the Greek system seemed so important to Rhodes students. I had never really wanted to join a sorority, and all the dues would have put serious dents in my checkbook. Now, having witnessed my friends all going through rush, I am more confident on my decision not to rush.

The term "rush" is aptly used in this case; my friends were constantly running around going to parties and making sure everyone knew who they are. I became the official rush fashion consultant, as all the other girls tried to decide what to wear, how to do their hair, and what to do at the different houses. I just couldn't understand how these decisions could be so life-or-death important, but getting dressed each night became a nerve-wracking experience for the rushees.

The week of formal rush happened when every class seemed to be having their tests and papers due. While all my rushing friends had to stay up after the parties to study, I could go to sleep. It put even more stress on my friends to have to worry about studying and rushing.

One thing about rush that I have missed out on is meeting all the upperclass girls. The sororities enable you to meet other girls and get to have a closeness with the upper class girls, as your sisters. However, while all the other girls were off rushing, I had the chance to meet more of the guys. As one of my rushing friends said, "You can't go out with upper class girls." I have made plenty of friends just by living in the dorm, but all my free time during rush gave me a chance to make guy friends as well.

The level of stress involved in rush amazes me. There were tears as girls got cut from the sorority of their choice or "fell through." I had to be sympathetic to my friends, although I couldn't really understand how serious it felt to them, not having experienced rush myself.

As I write this, the other girls are getting ready to run to whatever sororities they got into. I don't think I'm really missing out on anything. My friends tell me it was fun, but I realize that I'll have friends no matter what. I've even met some other girls who didn't rush. It is possible to have a social life at Rhodes without rushing, and I don't feel that I've missed out on anything by having a stress-free two weeks.

*Address Your
Letters to the
Editor*

**Ceremony at Rhodes
Kicks Off New Year**

Rhodes College will hold its annual Founders' Convocation Friday morning, Sept. 18, celebrating the opening of the 144th academic session of the college. Though classes actually began several weeks ago (on August 26), Founders' Convocation at Rhodes is the ceremonial start of the academic year.

The ceremony will take place in the Hubert F. Fisher Memorial Garden, on campus, beginning at 10 a.m. In the event of rain the convocation will be held in Hardie Auditorium, 2nd floor, Palmer Hall.

CLASSIFIED ADS

**MODELS, ACTORS /
ACTRESSES NEEDED**

for a major motion picture
to be filmed in Memphis.

Contact Leslie at

West Coast Modeling Agency

901-794-8392

**Get Your Money For Nothing
& Your Checks For Free**



First Tennessee Bank Student Checking

Whether you need to write a check for a psych book or get fresh cash for a concert, First Tennessee's Student Checking gives you what you need without breaking your budget.

Because now when you open our Student Checking account you get your first order of checks absolutely free. And you don't have to pay a fee when you use any MONEY BELTSM, MOST[®], Plus or GulfNet ATM.

So come by our nearest campus location or call 1-800-999-0110, and get into the groove of the best checking account on campus ... First Tennessee's Student Checking.



Baroque Series Highlighted By Bach's Brandenburg Concertos

The complete Brandenburg Concertos of Johann Sebastian Bach, the towering musical figure of the Baroque period, will be performed in Memphis for the first time on two successive Thursday evenings in September. The Memphis Symphony Orchestra's "Basically Brandenburgs" series presents 8 p.m. concerts on September 17 and 24 at St. Mary's Episcopal Cathedral (Poplar at Alabama Street). In addition to the six Brandenburg Concertos, concertgoers will enjoy other "top ten" hits of the period, including Pachelbel's Canon, heard in the film *The Four Seasons*. These concerts are sponsored by Wills and Wills.

On September 17, Alan Balter will lead the Memphis Symphony Orchestra in the Brandenburg Concertos Nos. 1, 3 and 5, William Boyce's Symphony No. 2 and the Sinfonia No. 1 of Carl Philipp Emanuel Bach, son of Johann Sebastian. Harpsichordist Maryse Carlin is showcased in the fifth Brandenburg Concerto. Ms. Carlin has performed in Carnegie Recital Hall, the Whitney Museum, Boston's Museum of Fine Arts series, Lincoln Center's Mozart Bicentennial and has collaborated with such conductors as Leonard Slatkin, Joseph Silverstein and Raymond Leppard. She has appeared as guest artist at the Marlboro, Blue Hill and Castle Hill Early Music Festivals. Born in France, Ms. Carlin's numerous broadcasts have aired throughout the U.S. and on French National Television. In recognition of her special artistry, the Harpsichord Music Society recently awarded her a grant to record works by Couperin and Rameau. She currently teaches on the faculties of the Saint Louis Conservatory of Music and Washington University.

MSO Assistant Conductor Carol I. Crawford will lead the orchestra in the second concert of the series on September 24. The Brandenburg Concertos Nos. 2, 4 and 6. Handel's "Ar-

rival of the Queen of Sheba" from the oratorio *Solomon*, Vivaldi's Concerto for Strings and Continuo and Pachelbel's Canon and Gigue will be performed.

The Brandenburg Concertos were written by Bach at the request of the Margrave of Brandenburg, whom Bach approached for the gift of a new harpsichord on behalf of his patron, the Prince of Anhalt-Coethen. Bach sent the completed concertos to the Margrave in 1721, but when the packet of scores was rediscovered some 100 years later, Bach's seal was unbroken. The great Brandenburg Concertos had never been performed in the composer's lifetime.

"Basically Brandenburgs" marks the Memphis Symphony's highly anticipated debut in St. Mary's Cathedral. Music "purists" will appreciate this opportunity to hear the Brandenburg Concertos performed in a setting acoustically very much like the churches and courts in which they may originally have been performed. St. Mary's is the oldest Episcopal cathedral in the South and one of the oldest in the nation. For the refreshment of patrons, the women of St. Mary's will serve complimentary "Tea and Tarts" during intermission.

Several of the Memphis Symphony's fine musicians will be heard in featured roles, highlighting the superb talent of the Orchestra. Concertmaster Max Huls, violist Jack Abell, flutist Karen Busler, oboist Ellen Sherman, French hornist Jennifer Dugle and trumpeter Scott Moore are among the soloists. "Basically Brandenburgs" offer Memphis an unusual opportunity to understand and appreciate this amazing set of pieces by a great master.

Tickets are \$15 for each performance, or \$20 for both. Seniors and students may purchase both for \$15, or individually for \$7.50. Tickets are available at the Memphis Symphony Office, 3100 Walnut Grove Rd., Suite 501 (324-3627), or at the Episcopal Bookshop, 672 Poplar Ave. (527-5684).

Season 12 At The McCoy

by J. B. Cormier

Season twelve at the McCoy Theatre opens with a fall schedule of two musicals to be performed in repertory.

Cabaret starts the season off. Based on the play by John Van Druten and the *Berlin Stories* by Christopher Isherwood, the book is by Joe Masteroff with music by John Kander and lyrics by Frank Ebb. *Cabaret* is about Weimar Germany, the Germany between World Wars I and II. Using the political, satirical and ironic style of the cabaret, it gives a chilling view into the society that produced the Adolph Hitler.

It is directed by Julia "Cookie" Ewing, with musical direction by Tony Lee Garner.

Opening night for *Cabaret* is October 29.

The Fantasticks is the other show in the fall. The longest running musical in the world, it tells a story of love

and separation. The book and lyrics are by Tom Jones with music by Harvey Schmidt.

Terry Scott is directing this musical, with Kym Baum directing the music. The show opens November 5.

Both *Cabaret* and *The Fantasticks* have been cast, with production already underway. Casting for the spring performances will be later this year.

In the spring, the McCoy will present *Spring Awakenings* a powerful German play confronting the destructive effects of hypocritical adult morality on the sexual lives of young people. It was translated and adapted by Edward Bond, from the work of Frank Wedekind.

It will open February 19 with Frank Bradley directing.

The conclusion of the season, will

be Shakespeare's *As You Like It*. The McCoy will once again have Elfin Vogel as a McCoy Visiting Artist to direct this extremely popular tale of romance and trickery.

It opens March 26.

All these performances are sure to be sold out, which makes subscribing to the McCoy all but necessary. By subscribing, one saves 20% over the price of an individual ticket as well as receiving the McCoy Newsletter, which provides great information about the theatre at Rhodes.

The price of a single subscription for students is \$15 and a double subscription is \$30. First-year students receive a free McCoy t-shirt with their subscription, while returning students can receive one for \$6.

Stop by the McCoy box office and get your subscription now.

The Gold of Africa

by Leslie Farnsworth

Ending its United States tour at the Brooks Museum of Art in Overton Park, the "Gold of Africa" exhibit focuses mainly on jewelry and ornaments designed for royalty and other high officials of Western African culture. The display is an inside look into the drastically different lives of those living far apart from us, both culturally and geographically.

For centuries many West Africans — in the regions of Sahel and Senegambia, central and southeastern Ivory Coast, and southern Ghana — have mastered the art of creating exquisite gold pieces. The gold mined and traded has provided the economic base for a vast array of wealthy kingdoms over the history of Western Africa. The gold flowing from this region in its very lifeline, and the importance of this ore is portrayed in the cultural lives of the citizens.

If an African man feels that he has acquired a great deal of gold besides his family inheritance, he arranges for a public display of his gold at the next community festival. If the amount and quality of the gold please the eye of the people, the man's status is then

raised from commoner to respected elder, and he is known from that point as "rich man."

Prominent in this African artwork is the appearance of motifs or symbols to represent either the wearer or the wearers personal motto. A finger ring in the form of two crocodiles with a joined body illustrates the proverb: "Bellies joined, crocodiles joined; we all have one stomach but when we are eating we scramble because we say that we relish the food in our throats." This details the need for unity in the family or state. This ring, probably worn by a chief or high official, dictates that one should not fight for only personal interests because what one gains contributes to the goodwill of all.

Another example of themes in artwork appears on a linguist's staff where a man is eating food while another observes. The motto sculpted here states that the chief's authority is not absolute, but merely relative to that of the others. Different symbols are used to demonstrate and emphasize the beliefs and stature of that particular chief.

Ceremonial staffs with handles

fashioned out of gold are one of the most vital items in an Akan chief's collection. Swordbearers, important officials employed solely for the purpose of carrying these staffs, relinquish them only to the chief himself either when he is first inducted into office, when he pledges loyalty to his people or superior, or when he undergoes rituals that purify the soul.

Keys symbolize power in West Africa, and they have been used from as early as 1601 for personal adornment. As they gradually were incorporated into the state regalia, keys acquired so much importance that a specific court official was appointed with their custody. The queen mother's bracelet, on display at the Brooks Museum, is intricately designed with many minute keys, to symbolize her prominence.

On display until October 18, the "Gold of Africa" exhibit features a stunning collection of over 180 gold artifacts made in the nineteenth and twentieth centuries from Western Africa. Admission to the Brooks Museum of Art is free to all Rhodes students.

When you care enough to look your very best!

University Park Cleaners

Fashion Care since 1919

Pick up and Delivery Available

613 N. McLean

274-5851

Coupon	Coupon	Coupon
\$3.00 OFF	MEN'S SHIRTS	\$5.00 OFF
On Dry Cleaning	Laundered on	On Dry Cleaning
\$10 Minimum	Hangers	\$20 Minimum
Limit One Coupon		Limit One Coupon
Per Visit		Per Visit
Present Coupon with	85¢ EACH	Present coupon with
incoming order.	WITH DRY	incoming order.
Not valid with other	CLEANING	Not valid with other
promotions.		promotions.
EXPIRES 10-3-92	Present Coupon With	EXPIRES 10-3-92
GOOD ON DRY	Incoming Order	GOOD ON DRY
CLEANING ONLY	EXPIRES 10-3-92	CLEANING ONLY

Seen A Good
Movie Lately?

Heard A
Good Album?

Then Tell People
About It!

Write a Review for
The Sou'wester

See The
White Buffalo
Friday Night, 9-2
Amphitheater

Rest Of The Flight

(Continued From Page 2)

joyment because there are only four or five shows worth watching, only one of them prime time, but a good TV show can give just the right lift to an already delightful Fall day.) Bands take the stage in the amphitheater. And what can you say about trees during fall? Oak Alley should be declared a national treasure.

Fall brings the profound relief depicted by Caravaggio in his *Rest on the Flight into Egypt* of 1556. Joseph holds sheet music for an angel whose violin lulls the Madonna and child to sleep. Fall becomes our angel, one to whom we owe our rest and our whole year's strength.

Rhodesians are lucky to be in Memphis for the fall. Nowhere else can Fall be so appreciated. It takes a Summer as relentless as ours to make Fall into the thing of wonder it is.

It is even so wondrous as to inspire religious piety. True enough, Memphians have, for the most part, declined to enter the battle of apologetics.

There's been no need to. For nearly two centuries Memphians have simply taken fall as proof of the existence of God, following, as it does, proof of the existence of hell.

This should be clear enough to put us all in right relation to the good powers of the universe, but some people just don't get it. Religious thinkers can have their Cosmological and Ontological arguments for the existence of God. Memphians and Rhodesians need to rhetoric to believe. Fall is proof, and more. In a place where summer is sinfully hot, fall is the redemption.

Break out the sweaters. It's time to go out and sleep to the music of our angel violinist. (Incidentally, the best recent scholarship says the sheet music Joseph's holding in the Caravaggio is the score from *The Unforgettable Fire*, the greatest fall album of all time, eight years old this October.) By the time we're back on the road to winter, we'll be rested, and we'll walk with a spring in our step.

Harriers Off to Swift Start

by Welch Suggs, associate editor

The 1992 men's cross country team got off to a swift start last Friday with a strong showing against regional rivals Arkansas State and Memphis State at MSU's invitational meet at Audobon Park. The Lynx lost a narrow decision to their cross town rivals, but considering that Rhodes was missing two of their top runners and the Memphis State is a Division I school, the results indicated that the Lynx are well on their way towards their goal: a third consecutive Conference title.

Freshman Jon Michael Morgan of Beldin, Mississippi was the top finisher for the Lynx, placing 11th with a time of 22:21 for the four mile race. Close behind Morgan were sophomore Eddie Dieppa (17th, 22:50) and junior Scott Haines (18th, 22:57). Continuing the Lynx' tradition of strong freshman classes, Felix Vazquez of Mesico City and Myles Bogner of Atlanta placed 26th and 27th to round out the top five. Also finishing for the Lynx were sophomores Tom Overding and Ken Phelps and junior Edgard Cabanillas.

This meet was the first test for the team, which has been training since early summer to build on the proud accomplishments of the last few years. Coach Robert Shankman, beginning his third year at Rhodes, is confident that this team will turn out to be his best yet and is hopeful that they can repeat their victories of last year and the year before when the Conference meet rolls around in November. "We've got a good freshman class and strong group of veterans," said Shankman. "When James Westphal and Bancroft McMurphy get healthy, we'll have a team that can go all the way to the nationals."

Westphal, a senior and team captain, is a two-time member of the All-Conference cross country time and won the 5000 meter and 10,000 meter events at the S.C.A.C. track meet this past spring. McMurphy, a freshman from Mobile, won the Alabama State 6A cross country title three times in high school and has plethora of track state titles to boot. Both are recuperating from injuries incurred

during training this summer.

Westphal, Haines, and Cabanillas return as past members of the All-Conference team, having been three of the top four that won Conference last fall by a solid 40 points. Also returning from that team are Dieppa and Phelps. Oberding suffered from in-

juries most last fall but returns healthy to occupy a steadfast place on the team.

As such, the men's team is looking extremely formidable as the season begins. In addition to the Conference finals in November, the team will compete in the regional meet at Sewanee for the chance to represent

the South at the National meet. To do so, the team will have to be able to compete with such powers as Emory, Lynchburch, and Washington & Lee, but with the rapidly improving freshman class and the strength of the veterans, the Lynx are confident that they have as much chance as anyone.

ATHLETIC FACILITY HOURS

GYM HOURS, Monday-Friday, 8:30 a.m.-10:00 p.m., Saturday, 10:00 a.m.-10:00 p.m., Sunday, 1:00 p.m.-10:00 p.m.

RACQUETBALL COURTS, (Same as the Gym)

FITNESS ROOM. Monday-Friday, 7:00 a.m.-10:00 p.m., Saturday, 10:00 a.m.-10:00 p.m., Sunday, 1:00 p.m.-10:00 p.m.

WEIGHT ROOM - MACHINES: Monday - Friday, 1:00 a.m.-10:00 p.m., Saturday, 10:00 a.m.-10:00 o.m., Sunday, 1:00 p.m.-10:00 p.m.

WEIGHT ROOM - FREE WEIGHTS: Monday-Friday, 11:00 a.m.-10:00 p.m., Saturday, 10:00 a.m.-10:00 p.m., Sunday, 1:00 p.m.-10:00 p.m.

*Free weight area will be open only when supervised.

ALL FACILITIES WILL BE CLOSED DURING INTERCOLLEGIATE ATHLETIC EVENTS



The Macintosh Student Aid Package



Apple Macintosh PowerBook[®] 145 4/40



Apple Macintosh Classic[®] II



Apple Macintosh LC II



Apple Macintosh IIsx

Get over \$400 worth of preloaded software when you buy one of the Apple[®] Macintosh[®] computers shown above at our best prices ever. And if you are interested in financing options, be sure to ask for details about the Apple Computer Loan. But hurry, because student

aid like this is only available through October 15, 1992 – and only at your authorized Apple campus reseller.

For further information visit the
MicroCenter

215 Buckman or call ext. 3890



© 1992 Apple Computer, Inc. Apple, the Apple logo, and Macintosh are registered trademarks of Apple Computer, Inc. Classic is a registered trademark licensed to Apple Computer, Inc. PowerBook is a trademark of Apple Computer, Inc. The Random House Encyclopedia is a trademark of Random House, Inc. American Heritage Electronic Dictionary, Electronic Thesaurus, and CorrectText[®] developed by Houghton Mifflin Company, publisher of The American Heritage Dictionary and Roget's II: The New Thesaurus. CorrectText underlying technology developed by Language Systems, Inc. Calendar Creator is a trademark of Power Up Software Corporation. ResumeWriter is a trademark of Bootware Software Company, Inc. All product names are the trademark of their respective holders. Offer good on the Macintosh PowerBook 145 4/40 configuration only. All qualifying computers come preloaded with software and electronic versions of instructions. Disks and printed manuals are not included in this offer.

Editorial:

We Are All God's Children

by Trent Taylor, Staff Writer

For too long now, I have felt that church services have become too predictable and that instead of an active participation in worshipping God, it seems the services and the congregation merely "go through the motions." In these services, the same hymns are sung, the same scriptures read, the same sermon preached. Many times nowadays, people go to church not to worship God but rather be seen by others and participate in a memorized ceremony where everyone knows every word that will be spoken and in which those words long ago had lost any meaning they had. The actors certainly know their lines, but whatever happened to the feeling, and the emotion? Why is there such a passivity in so many churches today? Why are churches now more of a social gathering place than a place to worship God? Why ask why?

It seems that perhaps I am not the only one who feels this way. A new nontraditional, alternative service has been created by Evergreen Presbyterian Church and Rhodes College which specifically addresses these and other questions and caters to college students in general. So far it seems to be a huge success. These services start at 6 p.m. every Sunday night over at Evergreen and they have already met three times. They have also been incredibly stimulating and helpful to me. Essentially, I think there are three main reasons why this service is so gratifying.

First of all, this service transcends all artificial barriers erected for various reasons. Everyone is invited, whether they be Baptists, Methodists, Presbyterians, Catholics, Jews, or even just inquirers into the Christian faith. I now realize how incredibly stupid it is not to attend one church because they sing the Doxology a little differently, or to condemn one group to the fires of Hell because they view the Bible a little differently. No one holds a monopoly on God because we are all God's children. In a world where these artificial barriers so many times lead to pain and death, it is nice to see that someone has the courage to break down these barriers. At this service, we are not Methodists, Baptists, Presbyterians, etc. but rather we are human beings who have come because we want to worship God and for no other reason.

Secondly, I think this service is good because it offers a new perspective in worshipping God. Rather than having traditional hymns, organ music, and other standard practices, these services offer something a little different. A classical guitar and a silver flute perhaps. Perhaps a French hymn. Maybe a reading of a poem. It leads to the awareness that there are other ways to worship God and that maybe God doesn't really mind if we don't sing the Doxology or don't use an organ. It leads to an open-mindedness and a new respect for other cultures and people who worship God in a different way.

The third reason why this alternative service is such a big hit is because there is a real joy in these services, not a generic joy where painted smiles rest on a painted congregation. One cannot imagine how exciting it is to see genuine smiles on the faces of a congregation. There is a sincere joy in these services.

Now don't get me wrong. The traditional services still hold their place in spiritual growth. They are an invaluable, and perhaps necessary, part of anyone's faith. I realize that not all, and perhaps not even most, traditional services fit my descriptions above. But I believe most churches have to some extent fallen prey to a disease called complacency and restraint. The new alternative service offers a new perspective on worshipping God. I encourage everyone to at least come and see what this new service is like. It's a lot of fun and a refreshing change from the ordinary.

Has Dieting Gone Out Of Control?

by Julia Corruith

"Okay. I have had zero grams of fat today. One plate of french fries won't hurt, will it? I know! I'll get a plate of fries and then go back to my room and do 150 stomach crunches."

Unfortunately, it is not rare to overhear an exchange like this in the Rat. According to Dr. Libby Robertson, director of counseling here at Rhodes College, it would be a very modest guess to say that twenty to thirty percent of the women on the campus have an eating disorder in some form or fashion. This number only encompasses those who have a preoccupation with being thin. Dr. Robertson has counseled only ten females with eating disorders this year. This percentage would substantially increase if added to this number were those who overexercise, overeat, are obese, or who worry an awful lot about their weight.

According to Dr. Robertson, a big problem with females is yo-yo dieting. When you are dieting, your metabolism slows down. As soon as the diet has been stopped, the metabolism goes up very fast. This makes it more difficult to lose weight, and easier to gain. This is one of the worst ways to alter one's body shape. "It sets up a preoccupation for these girls — a battle to see how much weight they can lose and how long they can keep it off this time," Robertson said.

A July 3, 1991, *New York Times* article by Jane E. Brody emphasizes this problem with yo-yo dieting. She states that millions of Americans are yo-yo dieters, and that experts believe that as many as ninety-five percent of all dieters gain most, all, or even more of their weight back.

There is medical evidence that yo-yo dieting can be very dangerous. Doctors are saying that years of dieting can seriously damage one's health and shorten one's life. There is a recent study that was conducted on 3,000 people for three decades that shows that yo-yo dieting can as much as double the risk of developing and dying from heart disease.

The National Institute of Health held

a convention on eating disorders the last week of March, 1992, and, according to *The Commercial Appeal*, came up with several new findings. First, that "as many as one in three Americans are overweight, and permanent weight loss appears extremely difficult to achieve." Also, Americans spend more than \$30 billion annually on diet products and programs.

In *Eating Disorders*, L. K. George Hsu lists many danger signals for a person who is developing an eating disorder. For anorexia, some of the signs are that the person has lost a great deal of weight in a short period of time; they remain dissatisfied on their appearance and claim to feel fat, even if they are bone thin; reaches a diet goal and immediately sets another goal for further weight loss, becomes obsessive about exercising; and they appear to be depressed most of the time. A bulimic will have slightly different characteristics. Some of these include eating large amounts of food over a short period of time and then forcing vomiting and/or using drugs to stimulate vomiting, bowel movements, and urination; eating enormous amounts of food at one sitting, but not gaining weight; disappearing into the bathroom for long periods of time; having swollen neck glands; and having scars on the back of their hands from inducing vomiting so many times.

The personalities of anorexics and bulimics also differ. People who are bulimic are more likely to abuse alcohol and drugs. Anorexics tend to be "too good to be true." They rarely disobey, keep their feelings to themselves, and tend to be perfect-

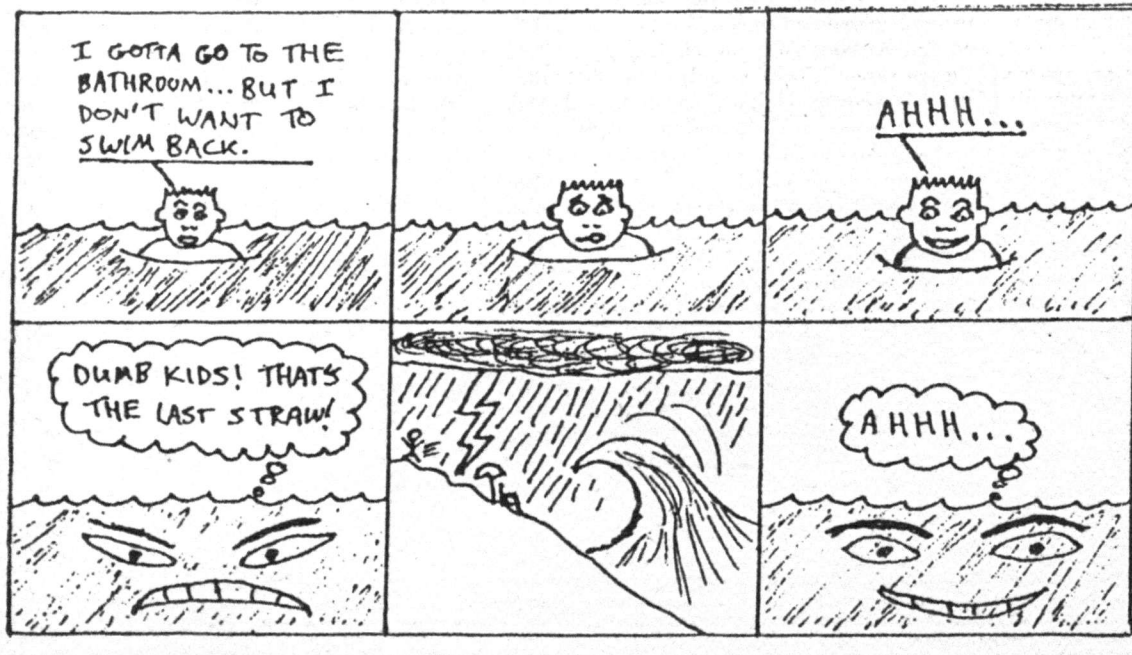
tionists, good students, and good athletes. However, both types of people have a lack of self-esteem, feelings of helplessness, and a fear of being fat.

Dr. Robertson states that a large part of the problem of why eating disorders are so widespread is because society has such a big influence. It sends out two distinct messages: eat and be thin. The ads for diet methods have soared, although it has been reported that while many help you to lose weight, it is difficult to keep it off. Society has a preoccupation with what a person looks like on the exterior, and it is because of this that eating disorders are so prevalent. Dr. Robertson said that "each person has their own individual weight range, and if they get caught up in a magic number that they have to be, they are just setting themselves up for a struggle."

Because Rhodes students are so achievement-oriented, and many are perfectionists, they feel they must control everything about themselves, including their body weight. Students here as a whole usually try to look their best, and many times they feel they must diet in order to do so. As a person with an eating disorder will look around, he or she will see that it seems like everyone else is dieting, also. It is hard for them to see the extent to which they have taken their dieting. It can be hard for a friend to express concern.

It is important for women to realize that not everyone can look like the models in the *Sports Illustrated* Swim Suit issue. With so much competition in society to see who can look the best, it can be very easy to become caught up in it and not realize what we are sacrificing.

why we have hurricanes . . .



The Sou'wester

The Sou'wester is the official student newspaper of Rhodes College. It is published every Wednesday throughout the fall and spring semesters with the exception of holidays and exam periods. The office is in the basement of Palmer Hall. Staff meetings are held there each Monday night at 9:00 and all students are welcome to attend.

Interested parties are encouraged to write letters to the Editors, which may be delivered to the office or sent via campus mail. All letters must be signed and include the author's phone number for confirmation (not for publication). Any letter for publication may be edited for clarity, length, or libelous content.

Student publications at Rhodes are governed by the Publications Board — the Editor-in-Chief and Asst. Editor are the elected representatives of that Board. The opinions expressed are those of the editors and contributing writers and do not necessarily represent the official viewpoints of The Sou'wester or Rhodes College.

National advertising representatives are CASS Communications and American Passage.

GAYLA D. BASSHAM
EditorWELCH SUGGS
Associate EditorJ. B. CORMIER
MATTHEW C. HARDIN
Contributing Editors

ELIZABETH TIMMONS

Photography Editor

BRENT MOBERLY

Campus Editor

CHRIS POLLETTE

Arts Editor

CHIP RIGGS

Sports Editor

TERI SULLIVAN

Rhode'ster Editor

KATHRYN GREEN

Business Manager

JUNI GANGULI

Circulation Manager

JIM TURNER

LESLIE FARNSWORTH

LORETTA LAMBERT

JENNIFER LARSON

CLAY COMBS

EMILY FLINN

BRANDI BARNES

ROSS GOHLKE

SUSAN EWART

TRENT TAYLOR

The Sou'wester
Rhodes College

2000 N. Parkway • Memphis, TN 38112

726-3970

Hate, "Family Values" And The American Public

Recently I watched *The Long Walk Home*, starring Sissy Spacek and Whoopi Goldberg. The film was about the Montgomery Bus Strike just before the onset of the Civil Rights Movement.

As I watched this film, I was overwhelmed with the hate of these white people. The repeated use of the word "nigger" and the treatment they received at the hands of their "superiors" staggered me.

One of the scenes with the greatest impact was a Christmas dinner where one of the "niggers" was serving a white family their meal. The family was discussing the bus strikes, discussing how bad it was for the city and worrying about the future of the city as "they" seemed to want more and more. The punch is the fact that this family was discussing how horrible these people were while one who had faithfully worked for them, served them their meal, spending her Christmas day, not with her family, but with some people who hated her kind.

I kept thinking, how could a society have existed like this?

Then it hit me — this is something which is a part of the human condition. I came to this dreadful conclusion after reflecting on many issues both in the past and the present.

Recall Stalin's purges and his starvation of Ukraine, all in the name of creating the ideal society. Even more people died here than during World War II, horrors only now beginning to surface.

Recall the Holocaust, where more than 6 million Jews were exterminated like pests at a European racial picnic. Everyone denied anything of the kind was taking place. How could such atrocities take place in Europe?

Recall the Inquisition, where people were burned for being heretics. The time, when Christians killed other Christians because they differed in religious opinion, where even reading the Bible in your native tongue could put you in the torture chamber and then in the bonfire.

Now, let us look at society closer to the present. It's been less than fifty years since the Civil Rights Movement and we still have the evil of racism. The Rodney King trial and the succeeding riots in Los Angeles provide shocking evidence that Americans have still not learned not to hate one another because of skin.

McCarthy's Red Scare, is a similar example. Some groups of people were ruined because they held a differing ideological approach to politics. The only reason people weren't put to death for these beliefs is because the United States has a fairly reasonable legal system. That didn't really make much of a difference, however, when many lives and careers were wrecked because someone had a "touch of communist pink" in their past.

An example of people hating others that is being encouraged right now, even as this is written. I'm talking about the Republican Party's emphasis on "family values."

I vividly remember Pat Buchanan's speech on the opening night of the Republican National Convention. It was a blistering attack on anything that didn't fit into his narrowly defined world of morality. For him, everything else is evil and must be destroyed. One line in particular sent a shiver of fear throughout my body. Buchanan was ranting about how this immorality and that immorality are wrong and cannot be tolerated "in God's country."

Students who were at Rhodes last year, may remember a very powerful play performed at the McCoy dealing with racism. It was about the events surrounding the death of Alan Berg, a radio talk-show host in Colorado, who was murdered by neo-Nazis. This play, directed by Frank Bradley, expressed one facet of the evil which is alive in our society today. The play's title is *God's Country*.

"God's Country" defines the concept that America is a Christian nation and should be a right-wing theocracy. It is a society where

tolerance is never practiced and being racially different is a crime punishable by death. It is also a place where feminists and homosexuals are illegal.

This may not have been explicit in what Pat Buchanan was saying, but I have heard repeatedly that the only thing missing from his speech was a call for ethnic cleansing, but his repeated calls for taking back "our country" and "our culture" is not very far from this.

This prejudice is the very antithesis of civilization, whose point is to take society and humanity to higher and higher levels through increased cooperation, which can only come from tolerance of difference.

I fear that this prejudice is rising in America today. David Duke almost won the governor's mansion last year in my home state of Louisiana. Violence against homosexuals has increased 31% from 1990-1991, in five major cities in the US. Prominent citizens such as Pat Robertson condemn the Equal Rights Act, which would grant women *de jure* equal status with men, for promoting witchcraft.

With all of these examples, I have to conclude that some or most people need to hate others. If they can't find a rational reason, they will grasp at an irrational one.

The hatred would be bad enough, but more often than not these people feel that they have to destroy that which they hate.

I've tried to understand how people could be this way. The only answer with which I've come is that they feel threatened. They are scared that their small, narrow universe might be wrong and everything upon which they have based their entire existence is a waste.

This requires a pretty weak trust in one's beliefs. If they were more secure in their beliefs, it wouldn't matter what someone else did. Take for example homosexuality. I believe that many people are insecure in sexual issues, but it exists. This insecurity then attacks anyone who is more secure than itself. How many women are

The
Scandalous
Chronicle



J. B. Cormier

labeled "slut" because they are confident in their aggressive sexuality which challenges so many males? The same thing can be said for homosexuals, who are comfortable with their lifestyle. They are indirectly an attack on all those "studs" who don't understand what it means to be a sexual person.

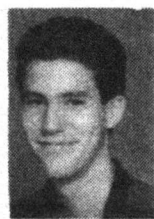
This mentality is what fed into Hitler's Nazism and gave the German government the license to get rid of the senile, insane, queer, Jew or any non-German.

This fear of that which is different is something with which we must all deal. Some allow it to develop a hatred and intolerance, which when put together with others, leads to the calamities I mentioned above. Others learn to work with it or around it and not bog them down.

I was always taught that hate, like a cancer, destroys the one who hates. Unfortunately this lesson wasn't taught to many people in this country or even many others around the world. Sadly enough, it often is given the opportunity to destroy the innocent before it destroys the wicked. This reflection, has made me wonder, whether the world wouldn't be better off without organized religion, which is usually the justification for intolerance.

Maybe humanity just hasn't matured to the point where these problems are left behind. I can only hope that we reach the level of societal development equal to that of our scientific and technological before we destroy the very planet upon which we all live.

The Art Of Lying



Pirate Ships
and
Licorice
Whips

Matthew C. Hardin

I'd like to take a little time out this week to encourage you to lie. I don't mean lies in the sense of cheating on tests, stealing, or taking extra Rat food back to your room. Those are bad lies. I want you to tell more of the good lies. The type which benefit everyone and are harmless, because it's easy to tell they're lies. I'm talking about the entertaining lies some people call stories.

I've worked on the Waterfront of a Boy Scout camp for the last five summers. Although trustworthy is the first point of the Scout Law, I've heard more lies during those years than in the remainder of my life. I wondered for a long time why at a Boy Scout Camp I heard so many lies. I finally figured out the reason. On the entire Boxwell Reservation where I work, there are a grand total of five women. Three are ranger's wives, one is the married daughter of the reservation director, and the final one is the eighty six year old cook, who has worked at the camp for over thirty years. So with the absence of available women wandering around camp, most of the staff spends their free time engaged in deep philosophical lying.

Many of the lies at camp are the legendary tales of former staff members. Every year, the staff members described in these lies get a little bigger, a little crazier, and a little more interesting to hear about. You'll hear about the Wilderness Survival teacher, who on the last day of summer camp many years ago, went to flag raising completely naked. I heard that story my first year on staff. By last summer he was naked not only at the flag raising, but for the entire day, and that night at flag lowering, the reservation director tried to have him arrested. Several police officers chased him, but the staff member ran into the woods, fashioned a pair of shorts out of moss, and was never seen again.

A good story is always appreciated, but the presentation of the lie is more important than the content of the lie. The teller needs to appear to believe with all his soul that the lie actually happened. You can never break down and laugh at it yourself, or your cover will be blown. A few men stood far above the best, when it came to lying. With due respect to Nike, when you talk about the lying legends, you've got to talk about a guy named Mike Kennedy. Two, three lies came out at once. I've seen some good liars, but Mike was the greatest liar of all time. I believe to this day, he would fight someone who questioned the validity of his stories, which is why I changed his name for this article.

Mike was a great liar because of his delivery. He'd casually start a conversation. "Hello, having a good day?" Then before you'd notice, he'd say, "Did I ever tell you about . . ." From his lips would flow words of ambrosia and majesty like the world has never seen. You'd be swept along hanging on every word until he was finished. Hours later after you'd had some time to think, you'd realize that he'd reeled you in, but

you wouldn't really mind. He told so many wonderful lies, I had a hard time choosing one to use for an example. But I found one which stood above all others.

Mike told lies about women and lies about places he'd been, but the best lies he told were about people he supposedly knew. My all time favorite lie is a story Mike told about one of his friends, who was a sixteen year old karate expert working for the C.I.A. deep undercover in Middle Tennessee. The line of the story was that this friend named John, no last name, had spent some time in Japan at age four, and while he was there he learned an ancient form of karate called Kai Aikido. In many circles, it is called "death karate", because only blows that killed instantly were taught. It had something to do with pressure points. After his return to Middle Tennessee, John was trained by the only Kai Aikido instructor outside of Japan. When John turned fourteen, the C.I.A. got wind of his training and immediately signed him on. They sent him on only the most dangerous missions for matters of national security. By the age of sixteen, he had killed nine people in five different countries. The best part of the lie is how Mike found out that John was a trained C.I.A. killer. Of course John had remained undercover by staying in a public high school. Mike was lucky enough to have a locker next to John, and one day some top secret papers fell out of John's locker. Mike discovered John's secret identity, before John could kill him with a crushing blow. John decided to confide in Mike and made him his pupil. After I told Mike to try to kill me with one of the moves, Mike actually showed me one of the pressure points on my back. But evidently John was sent on another mission to Mexico before the training was finished so Mike didn't know how to kill

yet. The story would have been dismissed immediately, if Mike would have conceded that it was a lie. But he would never admit anything. That's what made him so good. We asked him many times to repeat the death karate story, but he would always say, "I've told you too much already." Once I made the mistake of karate chopping him on the arm while laughing, and then I suggested that he was lying. After several others agreed with me, Mike muttered to himself and left the tent. He didn't speak to anyone for an entire week, thus creating a sense of credibility for the most outrageous lie he'd ever told. One by one we all apologized. Mike might decide to ask John to come up for a visit to prove to us that he existed. The last we heard about the death karate man, he'd called Mike one weekend to ask him if he wanted to run a small Mexican town with him. I don't think I could forget the death karate story even if I wanted to.

I think Mike was so good at lying that he actually believed himself. Mike was treated with a sense of reverence by the other staff members after he told us the story of C.I.A. John. No one really believed any of the stories at camp, but there was always a twinge of belief in the back of your mind. At least you wanted to believe the stories were true. So make your life more interesting. Go out and tell a lie today.



The Rhode'ster

Vol. 80 No. 13

Rhodes College

Wednesday, September 16, 1992



With the rising prices in the bookstore, this student was forced to stretch out in her backseat for the night.

Observations

I just learned something really interesting and valuable the other day. It was something that had been there all along. I had just been too stupid, I mean, too busy to see it. Did you know that there are cubby holes for book bags in the Rat? I was just as shocked as you must be at this moment. I never saw it. But its true. I swear it's true! They're right there on the left just as you walk into the Rat. I just looked over there one day and there they were!

I feel like I'm on some kind of weird voyage of discovery or something. The world just seems to be opening itself up to me recently. Like some crazy sort of a coming of age. There is so much I never knew was out there for me. Like once I was in this restroom in an airport and when I got up, the toilet flushed by itself. I swear I'm not making this up! I would not lie. Ask my mother. Anyway, I also found a faucet that comes on by itself so that you don't have to turn the knobs and they've got hand dryers that do it too. Talk about neat-o! I mean, how does it know when to start? Oh, the technology!

And just last week I found out that Saturday Night Live really does come on Saturday nights. And to think I thought that that was just a name. I never thought that it had anything to do with which night it appeared. I mean, I have a friend named Rose, but it doesn't have anything to do with the flower. Her mother doesn't even like roses, but she liked the name, so she used it. But Saturday Night Live didn't just happen. It comes on Saturday nights. man, I need to watch television more often. I just wish I didn't have to unhook the VCR every time I wanted to watch regular t.v. I always thought those things were more trouble than they'er worth. TS

BID DAY ENDS IN TRAGEDY

Eight bodies were found trampled to death after Bid Day activities Sunday afternoon. Said one new sorority member, "We had called their names out several times after realizing that they were missing, but I guess they didn't hear us amid all of the noise." The bodies were not discovered until the crowd of excited first year women had dwindled into a small gathering of tired pledges. By this time, however, the bodies of the eight young women were mangled beyond recognition.

David Hester, Director of Student Activities, was immediately called. "When they called me, they were frantic. After they told me about the gruesome event, I went into shock. I mean, this has never happened to me before. Is this kind of thing normal on this campus? Hester was then given several past copies of *The Rhode'ster* to prove to him that things like this accident-murder-suicide (Nobody knows for sure yet) happen all the time. "Well, then," a startled and angry Hester screamed at the *Rhode'ster* reporter, "Why didn't somebody tell me? You take a job, not really wondering why the other person left it, hoping to God that this school will be better than the last one, and then you find it's only worse. Do you know what it's like to wander aimlessly across the country, going from town to town, changing your name everywhere, wondering what your next meal will be and where it will be coming from, hoping each day that they don't catch up with you? Do you? At this point the *Rhode'ster* reporter decided to find a story elsewhere, but was prevented from leaving the room. "This won't go anywhere else, will it?" Hester didn't realize to whom he was talking, so the reporter was allowed to leave.

The eight bodies after correctly being identified were buried alongside the cable and should be forgotten in a few days. The investigation is still in progress with top Rhodes security officers at the helm. It is currently unknown whether the girls were murdered by jealous pledges, or whether they hurled themselves into the oncoming stampede after rejection from a sorority. The possibility of an accident, however, has officially been thrown out, since, as everyone knows, there are no such things as accidents at Rhodes College, at least not that the *Rhode'ster* reports.

THE BOOKSTORE ANNOUNCES ITS ★ PLEDGE WEEK SALE ★

All Greek items have been discounted 15%. Please add 25% back to this discount for the grandest profit we've ever made!!! Prices of all other items in the bookstore have been readjusted for an addition 10% to accomodate this once-in-a-lifetime sale. So, don't miss out on this extravaganza. We're giving the store away and making a larger profit of 10% in the process. And remember our slogan, the price only *looks* more expensive.

Bookstore Prices Create Panic

The bookstore, in an effort to trick students once again, hiked its prices this week. One brainwashed student muttered, "I thought it was such a great deal. I mean I only paid ten percent more for this item than I did when I bought it last week. I know that I really don't need two razor travel carriers, but it was just such a great deal, I just could not resist."

Rhodes College, in response to the bookstore's rising prices, has announced a campus recession. Jane Darr, Bookstore Manager, however, blames it on inflation and hopes to prove with her trickle-down theory that "it only seems to be at its worst. It will be better. Just wait a little longer. And you think it seems more expensive. If you weigh the cost benefit analysis, you'll see that it's actually less expensive. And it's not as if we just take all of the students' cash. We accept mortgages, too."

One student, who preferred to remain Nameless since it was on her birth certificate, was forced to mortgage her own dorm room and make

her bed in her car in order to buy books for her classes. "I just didn't realize that Search class would make me go broke. There's just too many books. I can't take it any more! I lost my home, my husband, my dog. My life is a country song." The *Rhode'ster* reporter did not sympathize with her because of her attack on country music, but the photographer thought she was kind of cute and decided to take her picture.

Meanwhile, the rest of the campus is bracing itself for the plummet of the recession. Many students have begun a collection to help pay for their books, so that they may not suffer the same fate as Nameless. A coalition is also being formed to aid any new homeless Rhodents.

Protesters are already gathering ammunition to hurl at the bookstore. Soup Kitchen has offered it shelp and there are some extra blankets in the Robinson laundry room for those who need warmth. The *Sou'wester* is running extra copies of this week's edition in case students run out of blankets.

DAUGHDRILL RESIGNS! Saint Mongo Appointed by Board

In a surprise move that shocked all connected with the Rhodes community this Monday, President James Daughdrill, president of the college for two decades, has offered his resignation to the Board of Trustees to be effective October 1, 1992. After an eleventh-hour emergency meeting, the board has appointed Saint Mongo as president. Saint Mongo, recently known as Prince Mongo, King Mongo, and Mayor Mongo, is the owner of the popular downtown night club Saint Mongo's Planet and various other establishments in Florida. Said one board member, "Prince, uh, I mean, Saint Mongo is actually an excellent choice for the position of president. He has good business experience, an excellent personality, and his sainthood will help us maintain the religious traditions of Rhodes." Another said, "With Mongo, we will be the first college in the nation to have a native of another planet as our chief executive," in reference to Mongo's being a native of the planet Zambodia. Though Mongo could not be reached on the phone, his secretary informed the *Rhode'ster* that Mongo has accepted the position and is looking forward to joining the college. Said the secretary, "St. Mongo plans to bring Rhodes right into the 23rd century."

President Daughdrill was not available for comment until Tuesday evening, when he finally shed some light on his startling decision to leave the college he has been with for so many years. "I resigned because of the guilt. I just couldn't take the guilt anymore," he said. When asked about the source of the guilt, he paused a second, choked back a tear, and in a very quiet voice said, "Gayla's editorial, it's been like a knife in my side ever since I read it," in reference to Gayla Bassham's Sept. 10 editorial about the decision to purchase a new residence for the president.

"Her logic is infallible, as usual. And if it only had been as bad as she said. It's not just a half million dollars, it's more like two million. Sure, we could've bargained for a better price or tried to sell the old house, but it never occurred to us to try to save any money."

Daughdrill did confirm the rumors that he attempted to throw himself off the top of Haliburton Tower. "I just read the editorial and snapped. Luckily, Nurse Gill (the college's hostage/suicide negotiations specialist) managed to talk me down." Daughdrill reported that he has recovered from that and will not attempt suicide again.

Executive Vice-President Harlow, in a phone interview, said that he will miss working with President Daughdrill but has "high hopes that the school will prosper under St. Mongo." When asked why the board did not select him he responded, "I feel just as guilty as Jim about this house business. Ms. Bassham really shook me up too. After that editorial, I just wouldn't feel right in taking over right now."