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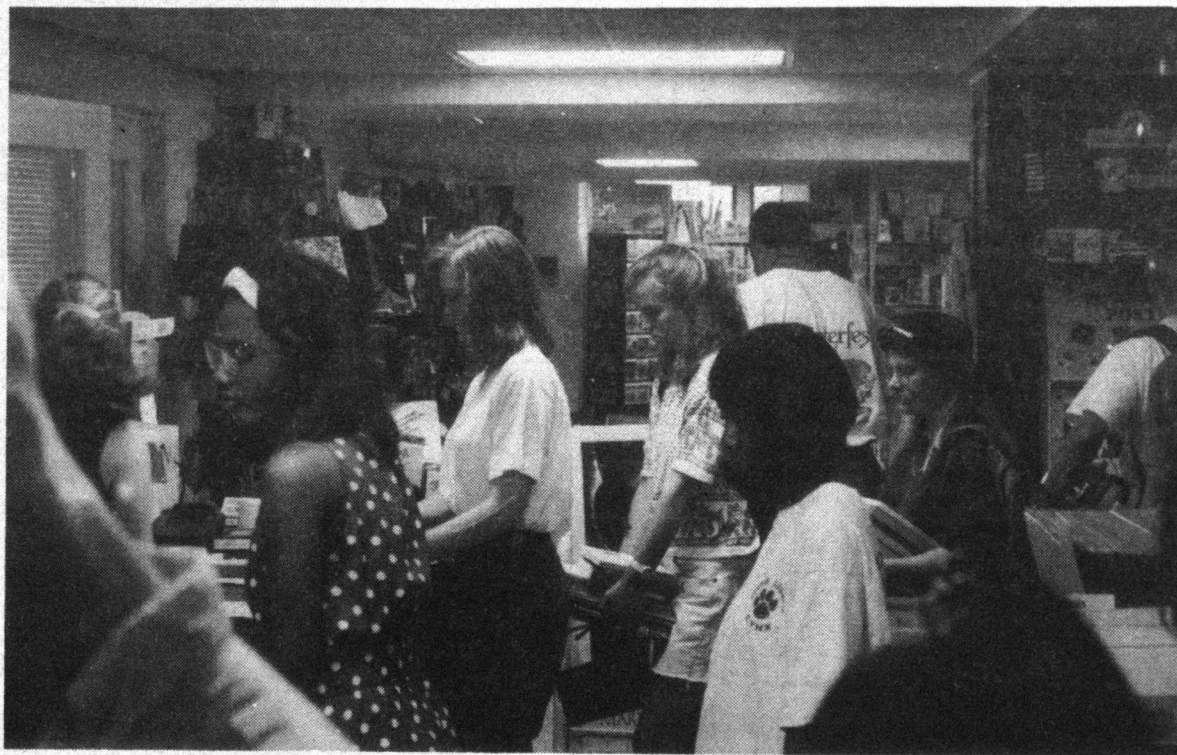


Photo by Elizabeth Timmons

Students stand in line to buy books before the semester begins.

That Book Cost How Much?

by Brent Moberly
Campus Editor

There are some things that most — if not all — students complain about at least once in their Rhodes career. The bookstore is one of them. With the cost of college rising every day, students often wonder if three hundred dollars worth of textbooks is really necessary. "They may be necessary," said one student, "but do they cost what we pay for them?"

"We are very aware," said Jane Darr, Bookstore Manager, "that there is some resentment about the need to buy books to take classes, and we are aware that a good part of this resentment comes because the price of the books is unknown until the books are needed." Darr continued to say that the bookstore offers students a choice between new and used textbooks whenever possible. "We try to make the books as inexpensive as possible for the students, but at the same time we try to retain a 23% profit margin."

There are some on campus, though, who would question Darr's 23% margin. "Last year when I was making a syllabus for a class," explained one professor who wished his identity withheld. "I looked in *Books In Print*" in the library to see if a book was available. I happened to notice the price, which was 11.95. Now my understanding of the way the book industry works is that the bookstore charges the publisher's price, and they get a 30% discount from the publisher. This discount is supposed to be their profit margin. Well, instead of doing the usual and ordering a desk copy of the book from the publisher, I bought the book from the bookstore. If I remember right, they charged me 18.95 for it. That's a markup of over 100%."

A student reported a similar story. "We complained to Professor Wren," she said, "about how much one of our

Japanese books cost. It was \$40.00. He told us that it should have only been \$20."

Darr countered these charges by explaining that sometimes the prices listed print are not accurate. "Up to two or three years ago," she said, "all publishers gave the bookstore a discount from the suggested price, but recently, some publishers list the net price. It could have been that the professor saw the net price. There would have been an 'N' after the price."

"Also," she said, "we experienced some difficulty in getting Jim Wren's books because of the freight charges concerned. We had to include those charges in the price of the book."

Perhaps the largest student complaint concerns textbook buybacks. "I must have spent \$300 last semester," said one student, "and I only got \$40 back, and people told me I was lucky." Another student reported that "the bookstore wouldn't buy back half of my books, and what they gave me for some of my books was ridiculous—I got 75 cents for a paperback book that I paid \$3.50 for."

Darr said that textbook prices are affected mainly by whether or not they are going to be used next year. "We deal in used text books to give the students a lower priced alternative," she said. A pamphlet put out by the bookstore states "that generally, when the faculty choose to reuse a title on this campus and have ordered the book, the bookstore pays up to 50% of the new book price. Books not being used the following semester have substantially less retail value."

Sometimes Memphis State will buy textbooks that the bookstore refuses to take.

There are a few alternatives to buying books at the bookstore. One is to check the books out of the library.

Another is to photocopy, but that entails copyright violations. Also, it's considerably cheaper to buy Tolstoy's *War and Peace* than it is to photocopy the whole thing. Perhaps the most viable alternative is to buy books at one of the many bookstores around Memphis.

"I usually buy some of my literature books I need off campus at places like Bookstar and Davis Kidd," said one student. "They're less expensive there."

"If you're fortunate enough to find your book at Bookstar or a book discounter," said Darr, "then more power to you. We try to get the best bargains for our students, but we don't have the connections that those places have."

A survey done by *The Sou'wester* found that many books were not offered at Bookstar. The books that were available were usually the same price as those that the bookstore offers. For example, the Collier edition of Edith Wharton's *The Reef* cost \$3.95 whether you get it at the bookstore or at Bookstar. Here were some cases, though, where some books were cheaper than those sold in the bookstore, but they were different editions printed by different publishers.

There have also been complaints about the high price of non-textbook items. "It's not so much the textbooks," said another student, but the other stuff. They really overcharge for the other stuff—for example, I paid \$6.95 for a bottle of Nyquil."

Darr said that the bookstore isn't large enough to attract the discount suppliers that the larger retail stores have. "If we charge more for certain items," she said, "it's because our supplier charges us more. With some items, we view the service as just having them available."

Student Assembly: Safe Sex At Rhodes

by Emily Fliin
Staff Writer

The topic of the night at last week's Student Assembly meeting was safe sex at Rhodes. The issue of condom distribution was discussed, and decided opinions in both sides of the issue were voiced.

Last year, a proposal for the availability of condoms in the residence halls was brought before the Board, but never went anywhere. The Student Assembly is working now on ideas to present at the next Roundtable meeting with the President and Trustees on this issue, and this meeting's discussion helped to get ideas and opinions out in the open.

Some students in the Assembly were against any kind of condom distribution. They cited the fact that Rhodes is a religious school and therefore has certain moral responsibilities regarding premarital sex. Others felt that making condoms available would encourage students to have sex. One student asked, "Whatever happened to abstinence?"

Students on the other side felt that students will have sex no matter what, but that they would be encouraged to be more responsible if condoms were readily available. The Student Assembly, as one student said, is here to help the student body, not promote any type of sexual ethics. Another student said that students need not to condemn others sexuality but to look out for one another, especially as Christians in a Christian school. Students at

Rhodes are adults who should be secure enough in their beliefs to not be "encouraged" to have sex simply because condoms are available.

Many felt that the issue of AIDS made condom distribution important. Rumor has it that there are eight students on campus with AIDS. Statistically, out of every thousand college students, three have AIDS. By 1995, AIDS will be the number one killer of college students. The "it can't happen at Rhodes" myth can no longer be believed. One student said that if just one case of AIDS were prevented by condom distribution, it would be worth it.

There were some different suggestions as to how to distribute condoms, if it was decided to do such a thing. Machines in residence hall bathrooms were brought up, but many students found the idea "offensive" and "revolting." Another suggestion was to follow the lead of some Texas schools and make condoms available in the Tom's snack machines. It would be less obvious than having a whole separate machine, but as one student said, "I don't want to see condoms next to my Cheetos." Others suggested machines in the infirmary or distributed like medicine, but would you go to Nurse Gill to get a condom?

Though the students did not come to an agreement, all agreed that more education was needed for Rhodes students. And, any decision the students propose must be approved by the Board.

Preregistration: Win, Lose And Try Again

by Jennifer Larson
Staff Writer

It's past the midsemester mark of the fall of 1992 and preregistration is currently one of the more important matters on Rhodes students' minds. Choosing classes for next semester is not something to be brushed off. Students want to take courses that interest them, but distribution requirements have to be fulfilled and major requirements need to be completed.

The seniors I spoke to were not too worried about getting into classes or getting certain hours or professors, and most of them did not need to be. Since seniors get priority in preregistration, it is the underclassmen who have more of a need to be concerned over classes closing.

Louise Cassini is a senior and a theatre major. Louise said that she did not expect any problems because the theatre department was a small department with only seven senior theatre majors. Louise did express some concern about being able to take the Disease and Immunity class.

Senior psychology major Drew Henry said that he had no problems getting into all of his first choice classes. "I only needed 12 hours total with only 3 hours of general degree requirements and the other 9 hours elec-

tive credit." His requirements in the psychology major were completed this semester, so Drew is only taking classes that interest him and an astronomy class to fulfill science requirements.

Even though Josh Almond is only a junior, preregistration went well for him on Friday. By taking 17 hours and 2 classes that will go toward his religious studies major, Josh will only have to take 6 more hours in the religious studies department his senior year to complete his major requirements.

It remains to be seen whether the first year students and the sophomores will be able to take any classes that they really want to. Most seniors hold the same attitude toward this: first year and sophomores have several years left when they can take all of those classes, but seniors and juniors don't. Seniors and juniors already have definite majors and have to fulfill these major requirements.

As such it is advisable to sign up for introductory classes because there is less of a chance that seniors and juniors will have already closed these classes. For all the students out there who are not fortunate enough to get into all of your first choice classes, there is always the drop/add period.

Facing The Facts About D.U.I.'s: Members Of The Rhodes Community Work To Increase Awareness

by Joe Hardin
Staff Writer

Every twenty-two minutes someone in the U.S. dies because of an alcohol related crash. The Counseling Center and several Rhodes students are working to fight the serious problem of drunk driving before the holiday season, addressing the high number of alcohol related incidents that occur during this time of year. This effort will involve an exercise to demonstrate the effects of different amounts of alcohol on the ability of an individual to operate a vehicle, and also a day in which students will attempt to "bring home" the impact of drunk driving to the college community.

On Friday, November 13, Officer Richard Mills of the Shelby County Sheriff's Office Metro D.U.I. Squad will give a field sobriety test demonstration at 3:00 p.m. Several volunteers, having consumed different amounts of alcohol will take the test. The effect of eating vs. non-eating with the use of alcohol will be shown. The demonstration will also trace decreasing reaction times that occur with alcohol use by drivers. It is important to remember that a delayed reaction of even a half-second can make a fatal difference.

The following Tuesday, November 17, will be Rhodes' first "Dead Day." Every twenty-two minutes throughout the day, a different student volunteer will symbolically die, putting on a black armband and sign. After this, aside from regular classroom participation, the student will isolate himself/herself from friends and community, remaining silent for the rest of the day. Individual faculty must agree to let these exhibitions occur during their class. Student Assembly and Lynn Dunavant of the Counseling Center are working together to organize this day.

During the holiday season, D.U.I.'s increase dramatically with parties and celebrations. Having a responsible party can be done without sacrificing all alcohol, but certain measures should be taken. Establishing a definite time when the party will be over and then stopping all alcohol use one hour before, serving a wide variety of food and non-alcoholic drinks, and, of course, encouraging designated drivers or using cabs, are all ways of preventing accidents.

The statistics speak for themselves: sixty-six people die each day because of drunk driving, and two out of every five Americans will be involved in an

alcohol related crash at some time in their lives. For those who have not had the experience of losing a friend or family member to a drunk driving incident, the problem may seem distant. There is a tendency to believe that such things will not happen to you. In order to bring awareness to this problem, and an increased sense of responsibility, a Rhodes staff member has agreed to tell her story of how an alcohol related incident forever changed her family and her life. Her story, perhaps better than statistics, can convey the tragedy which irresponsible use of alcohol and driving can bring.

DUI The Victim

We left the airport deciding to eat dinner in Midtown having picked up our daughter who came home for the Christmas holidays. She had graduated from college six months earlier and begun a new job. The whole world was open for her. Suddenly I saw the headlights of a car coming directly at us. I exclaimed "He's coming right at us." My husband turned the wheel in an attempt to avoid contact but the other car crossed the median hitting us broadside.

I don't know which came first, the sound of the two cars hitting or the feel of the impact. I came to feeling as if I had a large post in my chest. I wondered whether I was alive or dead, whether I was going to live or die. I let out a scream or groan because I could not get my breath. I felt something just above my left eye and reached up to take it out. It must have been the bow of my glasses. I also wanted to swallow but had something in my mouth which was glass. I opened the car door and spit it out not knowing if maybe I had spit out all of my teeth. The medical staff in the emergency room at Baptist Central spent 4 hours taking the glass out of my face and hair as well as taking x-rays to ascertain my injuries. The social worker's office had to call my sister in Ohio and my husband's brother in Virginia to tell them what had happened.

My husband died on impact, my daughter spent 2 weeks at "The Med" half of which was in the ICU Trauma Unit and I spent a few days in the hospital with a concussion. My daughter will live with scars and permanent disability in her hips because she had a broken nose, jaw, facial cheek bones and a fractured pelvis. She spent 6 to 8 hours in surgery to set these fractures and rebuild her facial cheek bones the day after her

father was buried, which was the day after Christmas and she was not able to attend his funeral.

My husband was an associate professor of Chemical Engineering at Christian Brothers and was called "the students' professor" by a colleague. He cared about his students the same way that most Rhodes faculty care about the Rhodes students. He helped them when they were having trouble in a class, listened to them when they were having personal problems. He was one of the first mentors to high school students in Memphis. He was only 48 years old.

The young man who hit us had a broken leg. He had never been convicted of a DUI and only one minor accident. He was not a habitual drunk driver but a young man, 30 or 31 years old, who drove when he had no business being behind the wheel of a vehicle. He will have to live with the knowledge that he killed a human being because he was drunk and stupid.

Do you want to be this stupid? Do you want to feel like a murderer? Do you want to cause permanent disability and/or disfigurement to yourself, someone you love or another person? I pray that all of you will use alcohol and drugs with responsibility. I pray that none of you will put someone through what I have been through, what my daughter has been through or what the young man and the woman he married only a few weeks earlier have been through. Their first child was born when he was in the County Correctional Center serving a sentence of 1 year for vehicular homicide. He served 3 months and 18 days and I believe he will in his conscience serve a life sentence.

I don't want our Chaplain, Billy Newton; Tom Shandley, the Dean of Student Affairs, or President Daughdrill to be in the position of having to call the parents of a student at Rhodes telling them that their son or daughter is either dead or seriously injured because of someone who was driving under the influence or is in jail for driving under the influence.

Please have respect for yourself, your friends, your family and all people; don't get behind the wheel of a car when you have been drinking. Your friends and family as well as the faculty and staff at Rhodes care about you. I am a member of the staff at Rhodes and as a Christian believe in God's love and the love that Jesus, as the Christ, taught us. I love each and every one of you. Don't throw away your life.

Grammar At Night Is Like A Spider In Soup

by Steve Dorst

Last month I spent a weekend with a German family. Michael and Daniela Ufert both teach English in Radeburg, a village outside of Dresden in the former German Democratic Republic. Children Martin and Thea, four and two, were shy toward this **auslander** in their living room. But by Sunday night little Thea kissed me goodbye. We toured the Ufert's old stomping grounds in Leipzig, rode bikes through the country, and shared a wine called **Nacktarch** in a local pub. We talked about the paradoxes of communism, the shadow sides of capitalism, social programs and unemployment, music and cars. For a weekend I taught English to two English teachers and learned a little about real life in eastern Germany, before and after the **Wende**, or change, of 1989.

Near the Ufert's, in Dresden, I rode the **Strassenbahn** (made in Prague like most street cars in the former eastern Bloc) along Bautznerstraße, north of the polluted Elbe River. I could see the slaughterhouse on an island where Kurt Vonnegut survived the allied fire bombings of 13 February, 1945. Further east I rode by a curious monument to capitalism—a bus parked on the sidewalk, painted bright green, with the words "Dresdner Bank". This most mobile of temporary shelters is one of 250 Dresdner Bank branches opened in the former GDR in the last three years.

Between the slaughterhouse and the bank bus a huge complex of white buildings represents an ironic juxtaposition of old and new. This is the former headquarters of the Stasi, the State Secret police. A graffiti-splattered front wall, barred windows and remnants of a sharp wrought iron fence recall the past. Graffiti is prolific. Colorful in language and hue, it reads: "Dem Volke Die Freiheit." (Freedom for the People), "Auch Diese Maure Muss Weg!" (Even this wall must come down!), and "Wo ist meine Akete?" (Where is my File?). Neo-Nazi "Hass, Hass, Hass" screams out "Hate" recalling the **Schwitzestaffel** of the Third Reich with a lightning bolt shaped 'S'.

Above a section of wall that reads "Stasi Angerlage Wegen Landesverrat" (Stasi Accused of State Terror), a blue billboard advertises the present businesses: a Vegas Bistro, Ristorante Venezia, Hollywood Disco, the Treuhandanstalt. More than the entertainment spots that are named for icons of Western culture, the Treuhand epitomizes East German transition toward the free market. It is the government holding company established in the spring of 1990 to privatize some 10,000 formerly nationalized socialist business interests. Like the Stasi, its predecessor behind these walls, the Treuhand wields enormous power and generates wide controversy.

Michael Efert, back in Radeburg, is the town's third **bürgermeister**, or the mayor. Like most East Germans, he has no shortage of opinions about the Treuhand. "The idea of this institution is good," he says. "I don't know any other way to do it. But the reality is other. They waste money. They wait too long to sell companies. We wanted to build a recycling plant outside of town, but they wouldn't sell us the

land. We don't know why. We can't understand because it is our money and they are our jobs."

I saw the tract of land he spoke about. It is an old factory that looks like a trash dump. Michael, like many **Ossies**, or easterners resents the fact that **Wessies** have effected such destabilizing socio-economic changes. Western managers dictate Treuhand policies. Wessies in the same jobs in the same factories make more money than their eastern counterparts. As teachers, Daniela and Michael make about 80% of what Western teachers do. But they are the winners, they say, because they have jobs. Unemployment wavers above fourteen percent, not counting the approximately ten percent that have been readjusted to government created social employment programs, like the old American WPA or CCC. Daniela's father is fifty. He taught five years in the army. Now he is unemployed and he will never work again, not only because he is old, but because of his communist association.

In Leipzig, Daniela and Michael show me their old school, Leipzig University. It used to be called Karl Marx University. Augustplatz, formerly Karl Marx Platz, opens in front of a huge copper relief of Marx leading the proletariat that still graces the facade of a university building. Most people don't know why some remnants of the communist past have been trashed and why some still exist. In Berlin, a humongous statue of Marx and Engels stands in the Forum of the same name. In Dresden, a large war memorial to the Soviets still stands.

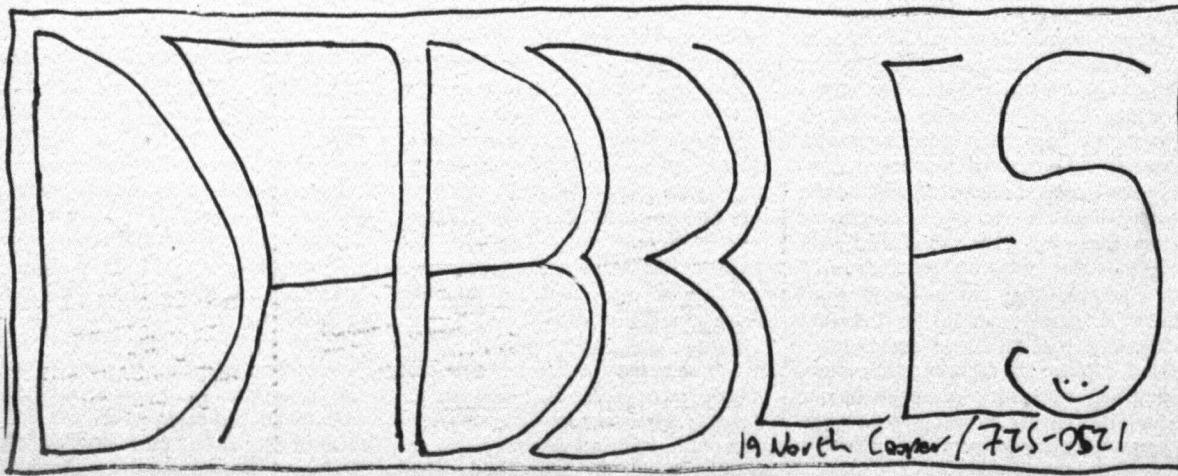
Undoubtedly the ugliest monument to Communist social engineering are the geometrically perfect blocks of flats. These huge concrete apartment buildings taint skylines from Budapest to Prague, from Bucharest to Berlin. The Ufert's live in one now. They first lived in one in Leipzig.

In an area a few kilometers square on the outskirts of Leipzig, 100,000 people live in these blocks of flats. The government once named this area "Green Field" or **Grünau**. Residents dubbed it **Graunü**—Saxon dialect for "gray and new." These blocks conjure up words such as uniformity, proletarian, equality, and crowded. They look like concrete versions of American brick projects, but are inhabited by people from all social levels.

Inside the Ufert flat we take a dinner of bread, cheese and salami, and drink a beer I can't pronounce. I ask if we can listen to their copy of U2's The Joshua Tree on their record player. They tell me this player cost 1,200 East marks. (It's difficult to translate to American dollars because the currency was inconvertible). They plan to keep the player because it was so expensive for them, though cassette players and CD players are abundant now.

Their favorite group is a German one — Pension Volkmann. Before the Wende, this group was controversial. During one concert, the story goes, the Stasi cut the electricity because of the song lyrics. Daniela pulls out an album: Vollpension. It means full pension, an allusion to the state control over so many aspects of the former

(Continued on Page 4)



Don't Stop Thinking About Tomorrow

by Trent Taylor, staff writer

"Don't stop Thinking about Tomorrow Don't stop It'll soon be here. Yesterday's gone, yesterday's gone..."

Tomorrow arrived Tuesday, November 3, for Gov. Bill Clinton and Sen. Al Gore. For better or for worse, the winds of change that have swept the earth this past decade finally hit the United States, propelling Clinton to victory and installing him as the 42nd President of our nation, while breaking the Republicans' 12 year stranglehold on the Presidency. With the theme song of their campaign, *Don't Stop* by Fleetwood Mac, blaring in the background, Bill Clinton, Al Gore, and their wives and children danced and swayed with the 40,000 plus crowd in front of the Old State House in Little Rock as they celebrated with their overwhelming victory in the Electoral College. It was a great, great victory for the Democratic Party, including the College Democrats at Rhodes, and quite a disappointing loss for the Republicans, of course, including the Rhodes College Republicans. For these two groups waged their own war here at Rhodes, and though the College Democrats won the first battle between the two, these groups will no doubt engage in many more conflicts. It is perhaps mind-boggling to fathom the changes that will occur in this nation over the next four years, and no doubt, those changes will trickle down and affect everyone, even us students here at Rhodes in our own little Utopia. But will these changes be good or bad? That of course depends on your perspective. For Gov. Clinton's victory means different things to different people. For some it means hope. And for others it means disappointment!

For the Rhodes College Republicans, it means disappointment. Like the Col-

lege Democrats, they worked extremely hard in the Memphis community in advocating their candidate. According to Ric Crowder, Chairman of the Rhodes College Republicans, the Republicans will not dwell on the defeat though. "We cannot always look backwards to what might have been. Bill Clinton is our next President, and there is nothing that we can do about it. We congratulate him on his victory and wish him the best of luck in White House," said Crowder. Crowder also stressed that November 3 was not a total loss. He mentioned that many of the elections did go their way with the Republicans gaining seats in the House of Representatives. In fact, the College Republicans celebrated the reelection of Don Sundquist to the House of Representatives at the Adams Mark Hotel on Election night. But getting back to Presidential election, Crowder said he and his fellow College Republicans were baffled by Pres. Bush's loss. He commented that "the political climate was very strange this year" and that "this year the voters wanted someone who told them what they wanted to hear and agreed with everyone." Crowder added that Clinton won with a smaller percentage of the votes than Dukakis received in his failed attempt for the presidency in 1988.

When asked what Clinton's victory meant for the Rhodes College Republicans' future, Crowder replied that it will benefit his organization. He said his organization's chief focus will shift to keeping the students and public informed on President Clinton's progress and on whether he is keeping his numerous campaign promises. Crowder added that his organization has moved from the defenders to the challengers, but that the Rhodes College Republicans will be extremely busy over the next four years in challenging Clinton "to provide

college-age students with the best country in the world in which to succeed."

Finally, Crowder was asked to comment on how he sees Gov. Clinton's victory directly affecting students here at Rhodes. Crowder stated that although it is too early to foresee anything, it could be a bad situation for graduating students if Clinton, or his proposed legislation, moves further left of center in the political spectrum toward more taxes and more expensive programs. Crowder added though, that he did not want to be a doomsday preacher and that anything could happen. He expressed hope that Clinton could accomplish what he wanted to, but offered some skepticism that it could be achieved with a bigger government.

The Rhodes College Democrats viewed the election of President Clinton a little differently however. Clyde Henderson, Treasurer of the CDs, described the group as "ecstatic" to have a Democrat in the White House after twelve years of Republican domination. The CDs threw a huge victory party at Membership Chairman Sam Wood's apartment Tuesday night while many others drove to Little Rock to celebrate the win. When asked to comment on why Clinton won and Bush lost, Henderson replied that he believed people were ready for a change. He added that Bush lacked vision in governing America, while Clinton had direction and ideas. He went on to say that the American people realized that Bush's ideas on the economy just weren't working and that Bush lacked any semblance of a domestic agenda.

Henderson was then asked to address what Clinton's victory meant for the future of the Rhodes College Democrats. He commented that he believes it will greatly strengthen their organization and increase their membership. He described the victory as "a great boost to the

club" and hoped the CDs could get more involved in the Memphis community in the future. He added that their organization will also be very busy in the next four years.

Henderson went on to say that he believes Clinton's victory will have a positive impact on Rhodes students. He said that Clinton actually has an education policy and that Clinton will be more concerned about education than Bush was. He also mentioned a specific proposal of Clinton as having a profound influence on all college-age students. He said Clinton plans to scrap the existing student loan program, and establish a National Service Trust Fund which, in effect, will guarantee every American a college education if they so desire one. These loans will be paid back either as a small percentage of the individual's income over time, or through community service as teachers, law enforcement officers, health-care workers, or peer counselors for two years. Henderson said that this program will help future Rhodes students to be able to afford the high price of an education today. He commented that this program "helps education become attainable" for those whom it otherwise would not be.

Henderson added that he foresees the workforce to be stronger for graduating Rhodes students under Clinton's administration. He sees the economy being turned around under Clinton, and adds that it will be easier for Rhodes Students to find a job in the next four

years. Henderson also thinks that under Clinton's helm, this nation will "break down the barriers that have been erected by the Republicans in the last 12 years." He believes there will be a more open and welcome atmosphere in our country, and the Clinton will help redirect our nation and bring our people together once again. Henderson concluded his remarks by saying, "It's going to be a great 16 years (in the White House)! A quite bold assertion indeed, although who knows what the future holds for both the Democrats and Republicans.

In conclusion, let's face the facts, whether you like them or not. Bill Clinton is our next President, winning by quite a large margin in the Electoral College, 370 to Bush's 158. It was quite close in the popular vote though, with Clinton taking 43 percent, Bush taking 38 percent and Ross Perot with a strong showing at 19 percent. Whether you like Clinton or not, he and his administration is here to stay for four years. Everyone should at least give him a chance. Clinton worked extremely hard to get where is today and overcame many obstacles. Even his worst critics must admit that there is a certain feeling in the air, a giddy feeling of hope and a new beginning that has not been felt in a long time. I wish Clinton and Gore my heartiest good luck, and I urge everyone to support Clinton's bid to solve our nation's woes. I think out-going President George Bush summed it up best when he said, "The people have spoken." Indeed they have.

Letter From Underground RiverKings and Master's Degrees

by Clay Combs

I'm all riled up. Somebody done told me we got weird new things going on in our town and I ain't sure I like it. All this new stuff at once and besides that, the weather's turning off cold again and I'm used to the god-awful heat, heat like Hades, That's right, heat like Hades, and that starts with and H and rhymes with... Okay, it don't rhyme with nothing but you know where I'm going with this. It starts with an H and that stands for both Hades and Hockey.

It ain't no coincidence. Devil works in mysterious ways. You wouldn't figure him to have an outpost in the frozen lands where they play hockey. Down here in River City, he just tortures us with heat all the time, so we know he means business, but the last thing we need is the work of the devil put upon us from some frozen northern land where they play on ice, play Hockey with a puck and that starts with P and that rhymes with T and that stands for Trouble, and that's what you got right here in River City.

I'd have never believed it until I woked up this morning and looked in the *Commercial Appeal*. On the front page there was a picture of some boys dressed up in big suits like they wear

in the frozen northern lands when they play on ice. The caption stood there right beside it saying something about the Memphis RiverKings.

I went straight over and got me another cup of joe. Figured I wasn't even awake at this point. I drank that cup of joe down good and slow and let it sink in and coat everything. I was sitting back long and quiet, tasting it because it was Kenya AA and I ain't no fool. I wasn't going to squander it by slurping down good joe when it should be tasted. But when I went back to that front page of the paper, I saw that same picture again and figured it must be for real. We've got an ice hockey team called the RiverKings right here in River City. What is this? Some sort of carpetbagger plot flung forward over a hundred years? I'm riled up. Things is all weird now.

I say you've got television to blame for it. If didn't everybody have TV sets, they wouldn't be sitting around watching sports all the time, and weird sports at that. We ain't got no ice down here. Ain't nobody got no skates or pucks. No need to be watching weird sports you can't play in your own backyard. What'll become of the kids? What about when they say, Can I have

a pair of skates for Christmas? What are you going to say, No, honey, you don't have no ice to skate on? Kids ain't going to take that for an answer.

The world's a smaller place, everybody's got television sets, everybody wants to be like everybody else. I say just do what comes natural and leave other people to wait on themselves. Hockey first, who knows what next.

Next thing you know, they'll be giving out master's degrees at Southwestern. Right, *Rhodes*. I forgot. Everything's changing. Go a hundred years on one name and then you change it to Rhodes. Can't expect me to keep up with all that. What? They are giving out master's degrees? No? The want to? Well I don't know what for. Plenty of good graduate schools to go to. I thought Rhodes was a college for undergraduates. Shows how much I know.

So what would you get a master's in, History or English? Those are big departments. They seem liberal artistic. I guess that wouldn't be so bad, but then you run the problem of getting to be known for one thing and nobody gives you credit for the other things. Ain't going to MIT to study no English Literature.

Weekly Crossword

"November 4 Headline"

By Gerry Frey

ACROSS	1 Montana specialty	5 Enthusiastic excess	10 Shrub	14 Ero, eras follower	15 Correct	16 Ms. Karenina	17 Steak order	18 Depart	19 Row	20 Start of headline	22 Headline continued	24 Metal container	25 Field of endeavor	26 Wabash Cannonball	29 Comedian Carney	30 Candid	34 Congressional locale	35 Missing in action	36 Skillful	37 "All About"	38 Ms. Walters	40 Summertime in Paris	41 Named	43 Labor org.	44 _____ bien: Very good	45 Fragrant floral oil	46 Preserves	47 Ballots	48 Sing softly	50 Drilling tool	51 Headline continued	54 Headline concluded	58 Garfield's friend	59 Burning	61 Narrow way	62 Bread spread	63 George _____: Star Wars Director	64 "Bom Free" lion	65 Take care of	66 Poverty areas	67 Convey property	DOWN	1 Fringe benefit	2 Russian sea	3 Indian gown	4 Printing pattern	5 Casaba, eg	6 So be it	7 Teacher's org.	8 Turn upside down	9 Fred Astaire's sister	10 Bruce Wayne's garage	11 Single part	12 Dagger	13 Difficult	21 Lifeguard's perc	23 _____ Gay: WWII plane	25 _____ Nights	26 Greek letter	27 Fastener	28 Wide awake	29 Broadcast	31 Chrissy _____	32 Spot the ball again	33 Hair	35 Magazine	36 _____ Magnon	38 Yogi _____	39 Audio-lingual method	42 Gavin _____: Love Boat Captain	44 Completely demolished	46 Lighthearted	47 Compete	49 Exam types	50 Sanctify	51 Owl call	52 Lazy	53 Legal claim	54 London buggy	55 Flea market	56 Nons and pret ending	57 Kicked the bucket	60 Special Hosp. ward
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A Not-So-Fantastick Show

The *Fantasticks* opened at the McCoy on Thursday, November and was in a word, cute. Actually it was too cute. This show, as performed at the McCoy, is better suited for children than adults and in a day when even Disney no longer produces such feathery fairy tales. *The Fantasticks* seems totally behind the times.

The production fails to hammer in the point of the fairy tale, leaving the audience with nothing but horrible fluff. Act I drags on and on, with little driving force. Its best feature is the heroic rescue of the maid and this could have been done better. The rescue isn't realistic enough and at the same time isn't exaggerated and broad enough to have been intentionally comic. The result is just simply bad sword-fighting.

In Act II, there is a half-hearted attempt to carry the message of the script, but the actors never quite make it. The best scene of the whole show is in this act, where the worldly El Gallo (Charles Billings) tries to show the sheltered Luisa (Amy Hill) a little of the world around her. In this scene, she sees her love experience all the horrors and worst of the world and laughs as the mask over her eyes distorts the reality into some sort of carnival-like amusement. Even this point, however, isn't adequately made, with the result that many in the audience fail to get its importance.

With a couple of notable exceptions, the cast was good. By far the best performances came from two supporting actors: Russell Moody, the melodramatic and aged Henry; and Brandi Rogers, the silent, but impressively communicative Mute.

The strength of Moody's character, along with Jonathan Bumpas' Mort-

imer, was always a breath of fresh air in the show, as the two provided a little comedy thought. Certainly no one will ever forget Bumpas' intense "death." The pulse of the show was the strongest when these two were on stage.

The Mute was wonderful device in the show. With this character, the show is able to progress and develop and Rogers gives an impeccable performance. Her movement and her posture always was in perfect response to the circumstances of the action about her. Her face and body carried so much expression that words would have been as vulgar on her character as a leech on a baby's face.

The score is perhaps the best aspect of the work produced by Tom Jones and Harvey Schmidt. It weaves in and around the action, and for this fairy tale, is entirely appropriate. Even the music to the rape and for Matt's "wordly lessons," are just the right blend of light and dark.

The three-person orchestra is superb, never overbearing, always managing to add to that light, dreamy quality which belonged to the show. The use of the harp is particularly fascinating and Anne Schilling's work is truly marvelous. The music is actually so well managed and executed, that it was rarely noticed, allowing the focus of the audience to remain on the action or the voice of the singer.

The only voices worth mentioning in the show, are Amy Hill's and Charles Billings, which were both beautiful and powerful, as they give moving performances of the show's most popular numbers.

As for Kim Justis (Hucklebee) and Karl Chambless (Ballomy), singing simply isn't their forte and Cort

by Jason Briggs Cormier, contributing editor

Winsett (Matt) has a nasal quality to his voice that would cause even a Parisian to shudder. It is a tragic shame that with seven roles requiring speaking and singing, only two were cast who could sing.

Both Justis and Winsett make up for this with their acting. The relationship between their two characters as mother and son is so well-defined and so nice that it is nearly breathtaking.

This is true for all the actors, and the interpersonal relations are perhaps the best aspect of the performance. They all relate very well with each other. The pairs and trios which interact on stage are very strong and clear.

While this is the case, the action is, in general, still lacking. Neither Billings nor Chambless really act. Their characters are simply themselves, with no exploration of the inner motivations of their roles.

Henry Swanson's set and lighting is worth mentioning. It is a beautiful design, enhancing the lightness of the show. It has such an ephemeral feel, that the characters seem too solid on the stage, which is best noticed when Matt and Luisa are getting romantic just before the staged rape where the moonlight streams down so softly.

The show is also staged too broad, with choreography utilizing the entire stage. This comment may sound odd, but this is a show requiring an intimate and light focus, which the director seemed either not to notice or totally disregard.

This is perhaps the single worst mistake, for if the staging had been more controlled, the fairy tale quality would have been stronger and could have taken on more meaning.

Events for Your Cultural Enrichment

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 12

Cabaret 8:00 p.m. McCoy Theater

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 13

The Beethoven Club/Rhodes College Music Department present Mignon Dunn, Kurt Klippstatter

8:00 p.m. Hardie Auditorium

Cabaret 8:00 p.m. McCoy Theater

Fantasticks 8:00 p.m. McCoy Theater

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 15

Fantasticks 2:00 p.m. McCoy Theater

Rhodes Music Academy Guest Artist:

Philip Autry, Piano 3:00 p.m. Payne Recital Hall

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 18

"Cross Cultural Cinema" Film Series

"Stand and Deliver" 6:30 p.m. Orgill Room

Thoughts

(Continued from Page 7)

Clinton won. I did have historical souvenirs. I had met a famous star, although Cindy and my paths never crossed. My mom called the next day to say she had seen me on N.B.C. in the midst of the crowd. But I didn't get to meet Clinton or Gore. I knew exactly what I wanted to say to them. I had a piece of paper in my pocket with two quotes on it I wanted them to see. The first one was a quote by Dwight Eisenhower, who said "no easy problems ever come to the President of the United States. If they are easy to solve, somebody else has solved

them." The second one was from John F. Kennedy, who said "I know that when things don't go well they like to blame the Presidents, and that is one of the things which Presidents are paid for."

I believe in Clinton and Gore. I left Little Rock last week with a feeling of profound hope for the future that I haven't felt in a long time. Now it's up to Clinton and Gore to turn things around.

America and I can only hope that now that they are in office they live up to their extensive promises.

Grammar At Night Is Like A Spider In Soup

(Continued from Page 2)

life, she says. The album cover pictures an empty cage in a small dirty room. Their favorite song has the most poignant lyrics: "Was soll ich dir erzahlen" or "What I should tell you." Pension Volkmann's style is carefree. The music features a playful voice and a cheerful harmonica. It sounds a little like a Poi Dog Pondering tune. But beneath this veil of weightlessness lies a heavy message, dangerous because it was true.

I'm told that two words are economic terms, creating a tone that mimics a government financial report. The word for kill is literally "to ice." The environment is such that extreme people have no place, where personalities are pressed to a middle ground, where individuality is repressed. Like with uniform blocks of flats. With a ubiquitous Stasi.

Daniela and Michael Ufert are young enough to have avoided the more orthodox days. They were able to become teachers without joining the Party, though their University was named for the founder of Communism and professors referred to Western literary sources as "poison paper."

But the Ufert's are old enough to know the paradoxes of the past. Former leader Erich Honnecker was chauffeured around in a Mercedes, while his fellow East Germans only

drove cars they could pay for with the inconvertible EastMark: the Soviet Lada, the Czech Skoda, the GDR Wartburg and Trabant. This lack of car choices made for another limit to individuality. The infamous Trabant still represents probably a fourth of all cars driven in Dresden. It looks like the pygmy sibling of Herbie the Love Bug. It has a choke button, is made of fiberglass, and sounds like a weed-whacker on a good day. Riding in one is akin to a trip in a wooden roller-coaster, yet louder and considerably more jolting. In GDR days people waited up to fifteen years for the right to pay 15-20,000 East Marks for one of these automotive wonderkinds. I met a student who just paid his neighbor 1 DM (70 cents) for a Trabi so his neighbor wouldn't have to pay the 300 DM junkyard fee.

Michael Ufert has his own car story. The 27 December 1982, on his 16th birthday, he filled out a card that placed him on a fifteen year waiting list for the Lada Was 21061. It was the most expensive of the Soviet Bloc cars but he hoped that by the age of 31 he would have the 26,000 East Marks to pay for it. On 3 November 1983 Daniela entered the waiting game for a Wartburg 353 Tourist. They're saving these cards so Martin and Thea will believe them when they tell stories about the "old days."

But the waiting game isn't yet a thing of the past. Oddly they have no phone, and they've been on a waiting list for more than four years now. The lines just haven't been built. Soon, they hope.

After listening to music, we prepare to go out. A word comes up in conversation that they don't know. I struggle to explain English to the English teachers. Finally Daniela signs and says, "Grammar at night is like a spider in soup." I smile. This phrase aptly sums up the insights I've gotten into East German life. I understand the words, even part of their meaning, but I can't ever know the emotions that inspired them. Why a "spider" in soup?

I would have said a "fly". I may learn the facts and figures about the changes here, but I'll never truly know what it was like to live under communism, nor what it's like to struggle in the instability that is its legacy.

Daniela and Michael admit they are the winners of the wende. But their neighbors and families are not. Social programs are deteriorating, jobs disappearing, rents skyrocketing, women's issues seemingly moving backwards.

Why can't we combine the freedom and opportunity of today with the social security of yesterday, many ask. Post-communist euphoria does not exist, but mixed-emotions do.

Hark, The Herald Angels Sing

by Don Price

By now you have probably sauntered through the Student Center lobby and done a double-take when you noticed a large, festive evergreen with little cut-out Angels all over it. This is an opportunity for the Rhodes community to share a bit of cheer with families in need of a little help this holiday season. Each angel represents a child in the Memphis area that might not normally receive gifts at Christmas. A brief description of the child's age and sizes along with gifts

that the child needs and/or wants is printed on each angel. So how to partake in this joyous occasion, just go over to the Student Center between 8:30 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. sometime before the Thanksgiving break and select an angel. Go into the Pub and sign a contract. Go out to your favorite store and have fun buying gifts for the child. Wrap them up and return them to the Student Affairs Office, 220 Palmer, anytime before 4:00 p.m. December 3. If you have any questions, call Don Price at X3384.

Dean Brown

The University Gallery at Memphis State will present the paintings of Dean Brown, art historian and MFA candidate, from November 14 through December 16, 1992

Inspired by 17th century Dutch "vanitas" or still-life paintings which commented upon the brevity of life and the inevitability of death, Brown's work arrests everyday objects at various points in the process of existence and extinction. Like the modern artist Joseph Cornell, who salvaged (saved) bits from the the material world and arranged them in glass display boxes, Brown composes paintings in which common things—anchovies, artifacts, bowls, gourds, oranges—extracted from their normal settings become timelessly beautiful. Accomplished through the Dutch masters' laborious technique of applying dozens of transparent glazes, the small paintings have the quality of jewels—polished ambers containing fragments of life.

The opening reception Friday, November 13, beginning at 5 p.m., is free to the public. Gallery hours are Tuesday - Friday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Saturday and Sunday from 1 p.m. to 5 p.m. The facility is wheelchair accessible.

THE BIRD'S EYE VIEW

by Chip Riggs
sports editor

Baseball '93? Maybe Not

Usually, at the end of one World Series, the collective baseball world starts looking ahead to the next season. Usually. This season, unfortunately, might be an exception. There might not be a 1993 Major League Baseball season, because of the havoc league owners are wreaking on their league.

Once Fay Vincent left his position as Commissioner, the fans' and players' last hope disappeared. The game is now entirely in the hands of the owners, a situation that spells possible disaster for people who look at baseball as a game or a sport, instead of as a business.

Bud Selig, the new "commissioner" and the owner of the Milwaukee Brewers, is a notorious tightwad. And this whole situation is about money. Here's one possible (worst case) scenario:

★ The owners reopen the collective bargaining agreement with the Players' Association in an attempt to remove free agency and revenue sharing, two issues that have been hotly contested for years. The whole point of this will be to bring salaries back down to a reasonable level. The owners feel that players' salaries have gotten out of hand (something I agree with, as do most reasonable people), but this attempt to force the players to go along with their demands simply will not work. The owners believe that with no true commissioner to step in, act "in the best interests of baseball," and keep them at bay, they can push the players around. Wrong. Donald Fehr will never let the players give in to such demands. Instead, the owners will enforce a lockout next spring, and will keep it until the players give in, or when Hell freezes over.

This all comes back to the position of commissioner, something that every major sport needs to keep the owners and players away from each other's throats. Vincent was good at keeping everyone civil, if not happy. Now, however, Selig and the rest of his cronies are free to do as they please.

Lynx Tie Millsaps Remain in Hunt

by Chip Riggs, sports editor

The Rhodes Lynx tied the Millsaps Majors, 14-14, in Jackson, MS, on Saturday, to remain alive in the chase for a possible Division III playoff berth. The game ended controversially, with the referees ending the game and refusing to give Millsaps a second they believed they had, and a chance to kick a game-winning field goal. There were no other details available at press time. Rhodes plays Centre College at home next Saturday in the last game of the season.

Here's the best case scenario:

★ Some of the owners come to their senses and realize that baseball belongs to the fans, not to Bud Selig, and somehow find a way to, as oldtime fans used to put it, "throw da bum out." They find someone a little more reasonable than Selig, let the collective bargaining agreement run out naturally, and then renegotiate reasonably. The chances of this happening? Slim to none, and Slim just left town.

Those of you who happen to be baseball fans better prepare for the possibility of Baseball '93 not happening. It's a strong possibility. What really makes me (and a lot of other fans) madder that hell about it is the fact that major league baseball is healthy and popular right now. A Canadian team just won the Series, something that will be wonderful for the league in the long run, and the sport is more entertaining than ever, and a small coalition of the owners (Selig and Jerry Reinsdorf of the Chicago White Sox, among others) are going to screw it up for the fans and for themselves by viewing baseball as a business only. It's not, and it never has been.

We'll see what happens, baseball fans. My other big question is this: Why did they have to wait until the Braves got good before they did this? Oh, well . . . til next time, keep on choppin'!

Rhodes College Basketball Preview

by Thomas Johnson

Ronnie Robinson, C, 6-9, Jr.; (transfer).

now see when he shoots, which should help.

SITE

Memphis, TN

MASCOT

Lynx Cats

OUTLOOK

The Lynx hope to improve on their 20-5 record last year and their second place SCAC conference finish. To do this they will have to beat both Fisk and Centre on the road. Coach Hilgeman returns four starters from last year's team, and their experience, coupled with a few talented newcomers, could take the Lynx a long way, possibly even into the NCAA tournament in March.

FRONTCOURT

Rhodes will sorely miss the great attitude and inspirational play of center Hank Lindeman, who was lost to graduation and now works as an accountant for Arthur Anderson. But he should be ably replaced by the tall transfer from Cookeville, Ronnie Robinson. Carlton Austin got contacts over the summer and hence can

BACKCOURT

Johnson, Gonda, and Pippenger all were honored on all-SCAC teams of some form or another last year, and Thompson was voted newcomer of the year in the conference. All return, and the addition of Johnson, Robicheaux, and Brown, the three roommates from 128 Glassell, should make the Lynx backcourt decent.

TRAINER

Brain Gerry, of course, is back for another year as the trainer and to drive the team's vans.

KEYS TO SUCCESS

Keeping the spirit of the Division III dig alive, while still playing hard and playing together.

COACH HILGEMAN SAYS

"I would like to tell another Rhynia story, but by the same token, it's one where we've got a chance to do what no Rhodes team has done since the O'Keefe era—that is go to the tournament."

COACH

Herb Hilgeman (150-150, overall record, 12 years; 447, O'Keefe era)

1991-92 RECORD

20-5, overall. SCAC/ 2nd place.

STARTERS LOST (1)

Henry Lindeman, center (11 points per game, 66% three-point field goal percentage)

OTHERS LOST (1)

Mike Fulton, forward (2 ppg)

STARTERS RETURNING (4)

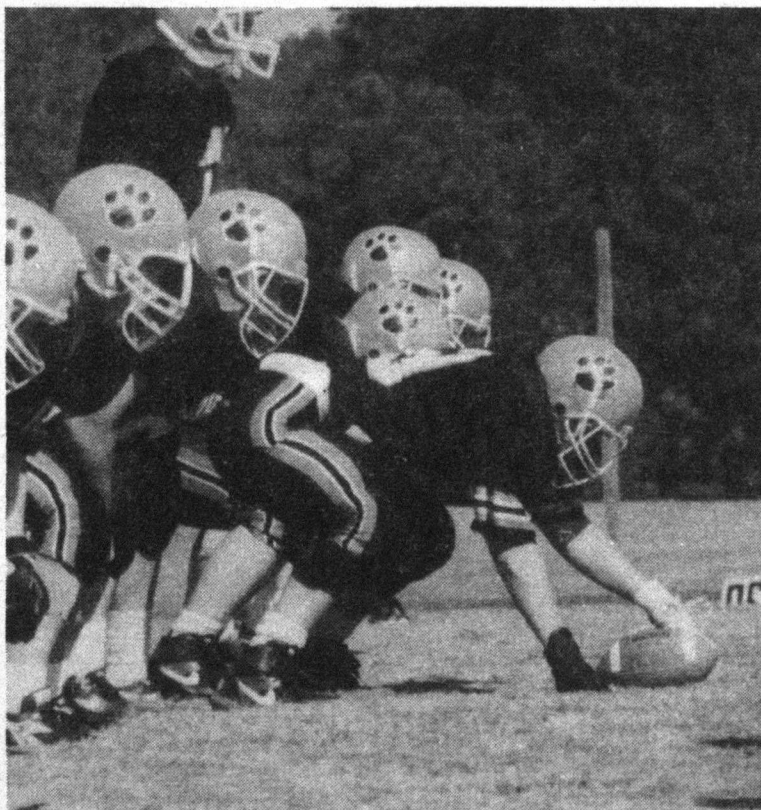
Mike Gonda, guard, junior (20 ppg, 6 assists per game); Thomas Johnson, guard, junior (19 ppg, 4 steals per game); Andy Pippenger, guard, senior (12 ppg, 50% 3-pt %); Pat Thompson, guard, sophomore (6 ppg, 35% free throw percentage).

OTHERS RETURNING (6)

Carlton Austin, C, So.; Chris Caldwell, G, Jr.; Brian Coldron, G, So.; Mark Loftis, C, Jr.; Kemper Maxwell, C, So; Josh Morris, G, So.; Steve Smith, F, So.; Taylor Tagg, G, Jr.

TOP NEWCOMERS (5)

Scott Brown, F, 6-5, Fr.; Albert Johnson, G, 6-0, Fr.; David Parker, G, 5-11, Fr.; Shay Sabom, F, 6-3, Fr.; Duane Robicheaux, F, 6-2, Fr.;



(Rhodes College Archives)

The Lynx prepare for battle

Rhodes Races to Third Straight Conference Championship Title

by Eddie Dieppa

On a very flat, but rough course, the Rhodes Cross-country team once again showed its capability and determination, taking home another Conference Championship Title and a third place finish. The team flew to San Antonio, TX, for the SCAC Conference Meet, hosted by Trinity University. The meet took place on Saturday morning, which was a perfect running day.

The women's team placed third overall out of eight schools. Centre College took first with 58 points, Oglethorpe was second with 65, and Rhodes followed with 84 points overall. This was a great achievement over last year's last place finish. Rhodes beat Millsaps, which had beaten them earlier in the year. Billie Ann Snodgrass came in 7th in the race, making the All-Conference team with a time of 20:57.

Elizabeth Lowe (16th, 22:02) had a strong race, followed closely by Jennifer Farringer (18th, 22:08) and Kristin Oswald (21st, 22:26). Rounding out the top seven were Meredith Neer (22nd, 22:34), Tracy Nelson (27th, 23:07), and Elizabeth Irvin (38th, 24:42). The women's team has made great strides since last year and looks forward to next year's Con-

ference meet.

On the men's side, Rhodes dominated the competition by having four All-Conference runners. These were James Westphal (2nd), Bancroft McMurphy (5th), Eddie Dieppa (7th), and Felix Vasquez (8th). Rhodes had 37 points, and the nearest team, Sewanee, had twice the points with 74. Third overall was Centre, 78, fourth was Oglethorpe, 87, and fifth was Trinity with 109 points.

Racing very well for Rhodes after having surgery this year was James Westphal (2nd, 27:14). Freshman Bancroft McMurphy was right on his heels with a time of 27:33. Racing side by side for the last mile were Eddie Dieppa (7th, 27:49) and Felix Vasquez (8th, 27:52). Also having good races were Edgard Cabanillas (15th, 28:26), who rounded out the top 5 for Rhodes; Jon Michael Morgan (17th, 28:43), and Scott Haines (18th, 28:44).

They now must face the likes of Emory, Washington and Lee, and Lynchburg at the Regionals Championship at the University of the South, Sewanee, TN. The top 2 teams there qualify for nationals. Next year, Rhodes may get its fourth consecutive Conference title as only one senior, Westphal, graduates this year.

Go Lynx!!

**NEXT FOOTBALL GAME:
Saturday, November 14 at Home vs. Centre**

Editorial:

Dan Quayle: An Apology

by Gayla Bassham, Editor

Over the past few weeks—really since the Presidential campaign began—I've had an uncomfortable feeling that all those "potatoe" jokes were going to come back to haunt me. I was right. Now I have to say something I never thought I'd say: Dan Quayle really impressed me this week.

That's something, coming from an inveterate Quayle-basher. I've never liked our Vice-President. Like every other American, my first reaction to Bush's announcement of a running-mate was "Dan who?" By the time I had listened to Quayle's giddy acceptance speech, heard the stories about the National Guard and his lackluster college and law school records, and worst of all, seen his devastating performance in the Vice-Presidential debates, I was convinced that the man was a lightweight. Over the next four years, with each month or so bringing a new gaffe by the Vice-President, I revised that opinion: Dan Quayle, I thought, was an idiot. And God forbid that anything happen to George Bush.

But I was wrong. I haven't suddenly become a Quayle fan; Quayle is too conservative for my taste and, let's face it, he's no rocket scientist. But the past political campaign has shown that he is by no means an idiot. He handled himself very well during the whole Murphy Brown/family values debacle. He committed fewer slips of the tongue than his boss; it was George Bush, after all, who complimented a group of supporters on their "lovely recession." He went from being the butt of every late-night talk show host's jokes to being the Bush Administration's spokesperson for the conservative right-wing Republican Party. In the process, he went from being a drag on the ticket to one of its greatest assets — and a real prospect for the Republican nomination in 1996. He conceded the election with a great deal of grace and dignity, and he showed that he was no political fool by distancing himself from the Bush campaign as fast as he possibly could.

I am not now and will, in all probability, never be an enthusiastic supporter of Dan Quayle. But I have to admit that he has been treated unfairly in the last four years. I don't think he could ever be called an intellectual, and no one will ever accuse him of being a great communicator. But neither is he an imbecile who can barely pronounce his name. He is, instead, a man of fairly average intelligence who is shrewder politically than most people would expect — and who would probably not destroy the country if put in high office. In short, Dan Quayle is a typical politician.

When Vice-President Quayle conceded the election to Bill Clinton and Al Gore, he said, "If they run the country as well as they ran their campaign, then the country will be all right." If Dan Quayle handles the rest of his political life as well as he handled this campaign, then he too will be all right.

Masters Programs Need To Prove Worth, Relevanceby Welch Suggs
Associate Editor

It's strange to think that just two years ago I was busying myself filling out applications to a wide variety of schools all across the country, trying desperately to get out of high school as fast as I possibly could and on to a new world entirely different from the insular setting of an Atlanta prep school. Although Rhodes wasn't my top choice of schools, and the number of people here who also graduated from my high school seems to increase daily, this "gothic playground" has indeed provided a brave, new world with a wealth of different and unique people in it.

When I was looking at schools, I specifically wanted a "small liberal arts college," as *US News & World Report* classifies one set of schools. The other schools I considered—Bowdoin, Carleton, and Haverford—were all like Rhodes in having enrollments between 1,000 and 2,000 students, a broad emphasis on the liberal arts rather than more technical fields, and *no graduate programs*.

When I envisioned a college, I saw a group of people working towards similar academic goals, with no serious distinctions made between students from one field and those of another. This is what sets colleges such as ours apart from universities such as the Ivy League schools as well as state schools, which attempt to cater to a broad variety of students working towards various degrees. Such schools have the facilities, staff, and endowment available to try to do a much larger number of jobs, while Rhodes

has the specific mandate to provide an undergraduate education and corollary services (social provisions, educational and extracurricular facilities, etc.)

Furthermore, Rhodes has been in the "up-and-coming" category for several years now in relation to other small liberal-arts colleges. There is an obvious question resulting from this: just where are we coming up to? The only comparison I can make is to the schools I mentioned before, all of which are consistently in the top 10-12 schools according to *USNWR's* criteria. Since none of them have graduate programs, how shall Rhodes having them help the college's standing in the academic community?

Regardless of comparisons to other schools, there are many reasons why it is not in Rhodes' interest to consider advanced degree programs. My fellow editor J. B. Cormier seems to suggest that the college should concentrate its resources in a few select disciplines, such as International Studies, in which it already has considerable assets. This makes no sense whatsoever. Rhodes should be trying to improve *all* its departments and attempting to elevate them to the level of repute that I.S. has in order to continue to attract a diverse range of students who will create a

heterogeneous community, rather than a select society of I.S. majors. For example, I'm a philosophy major, and there are the equivalent of three full-time professors in my department. Under Cormier's scheme, my major would be eliminated. What purpose would that serve for the Rhodes community?

In sum, it seems that the school ought to worry about more pressing concerns, such as the dismal state of the library, the proposed Student Life Center, and the proposed renovation of the athletic facilities (which nobody outside the gym seems to know anything about). All of these are things which would benefit the school at large rather than the "six or seven" graduate students who would be involved in a Masters program in I.S. These, then, are my objections to *any* advanced degree program, not just the I.S. Masters: it contributes little if anything to the Rhodes community as a whole and it would divert time, talent, and treasure from existing programs and from efforts to improve the undergraduate curriculum. A desire to implement such programs fails to show any concern for the community at large, as such programs will detract from existing programs.

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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.

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The Scandalous Chronicle



Jason Briggs Cormier

The American Election: A Reason To Exterminate Democracy

the American people decided that Republican leadership in the White House, was ruining the United States, but because the Republican campaign failed to push the right buttons of the voters. It wasn't because the Democrats offered a better plan for the government, but because they did hit the current hot topics.

This is not the way politics should be managed. The election news centered around the hot topics and the petty issues which have little real bearing on a candidate's ability to lead the government. The hot topics this campaign, were family values, abortion, gay rights and others. The petty issues ranged from marijuana to affairs and everything in between.

All of this media hype was condemned by everyone, including the parties propagating the proverbial mud. In spite of this, the media continued to address and provide coverage to it all. Some say that this is just the media trying to manipulate the political scene, but in reality, it is the media responding to the economic forces in the news market. This type of coverage "sells."

It is only a small percentage of the people who vote for a candidate who vote the way they do because of the real issues of government such as foreign policy initiatives, specific plans for education, detailed and attainable goals for the economy, etc. Everyone asked, will use at least one of these topics as a reason for their vote, but the issues that really decide the matter are the ones that appeal to the individual's heart, not his/her head.

Some could argue that Arkansas Governor Bill Clinton won because Americans were unhappy with the economic conditions in which they now find themselves, which is a result of the domestic policies of a Republican White House which started with Ronald Reagan.

Even this, isn't really an informed opinion. It

is merely a opinionated assessment of one's personal economic success. It is an example of people voting with their emotions and not their heads. If people were really concerned about the nation as a whole, they wouldn't make decisions based on such a narrow criteria, but would take into account a host of other factors.

This is perhaps the greatest problem with the American electorate. I know of many people who voted for Clinton or Bush because of their position on the abortion issue, or something else as small and emotionally stimulating.

When people cast a vote for any office in this country, they should do so, with as close to perfect knowledge about the real issues and qualifications necessary for the position and how the candidates measure up as possible. This would allow them to make as rational a judgement as possible.

This goal is almost impossible to attain. This ridiculous campaigning takes place in spite of the fact that nearly every state requires some sort of U.S. politics or civics class for graduation. In this class, one would think that people would learn about what democracy really means and about the responsibilities of being a citizen of a democracy.

Unfortunately this doesn't happen. People listen to empty rhetoric spewing from the candidate's mouth and listen for the key words: taxes, Social Security (and other entitlements), government spending, etc. Rather than listening to the policy statements put forth, the electorate listens to the "feel good" information or to its converse, the "feel bad" language.

This is a grotesque mockery of democracy. The political parties are supposed to insure that the people are able to make informed decisions when voting, instead they seem to do the opposite. The tragedy is that the electorate goes along with it. There are many grumblings and

complaints from assorted people around the country, but they never amount to anything that could succeed in changing the system.

Changing the system is what is necessary. Our political system, which has been the pride and envy of countries around the world, is falling apart at the seams. It is time to take another step and approach government from a different angle.

A suggestion for getting the best candidates elected to office is to not allow the general population to vote in elections for anything larger than their representatives to their state legislatures. State legislatures in turn would elect the executive officers of their state as well as their representatives in Congress. Congress in turn would elect the president and vice president.

This system would allow the general populace to vote for their city/town councils and county administrations as well as their representatives to their state legislatures. These are the elections where the public actually has the closest contact with the people for whom they are voting.

At the federal and state level more rational evaluations could be made of the candidates, by a smaller group of people. Campaigning would be totally unnecessary. This would allow a fair sum of money to be saved in the election process as well.

The process could work a lot like the Senate confirmation hearings, where the entire Congress could ask all the questions of the candidates that they wanted within a set period of time and then cast their vote.

Rather than centering the decisions around such petty issues as marijuana, the members of Congress could ask for the detailed plans for education and defense and carefully evaluate each candidate's proposed policies and decide what they think would be best for the country. In the end, this would lead to a more efficient government.

With the election over, I am even more convinced that democracy is not the best political structure. The campaigning has come and gone, resulting in a massive change in the American political scene. An important question which needs to be asked, however, is why did this change occur?

First, let's look at the numbers reflected in the voting. No candidate received a majority of the popular votes cast. Clinton received 43%; Bush, 38% and Perot, 19%. Add to this the fact that only 54% of the American public eligible to vote actually voted. This means that less than one-fourth of the voting population actually chose the man who will be the next president. It is an even smaller fraction of the entire U.S. population. This should be an incredibly scary and frightening fact.

Another scary, even terrifying fact is that those who do vote aren't making educated choices and decisions when they vote. By this, I mean that people make their decisions based on information that has little bearing on a candidate's true qualifications for office.

It would be better to have the executive officers of a state or the federal government chosen by the informed 15% of the given population, rather than those who were sufficiently stimulated by the rhetoric of the campaign.

Look carefully at the situation. The change that took place this November, didn't occur because

Clinton, Gore: Election Night And The Future Of America

As I drove to Little Rock, Arkansas last Wednesday to see Bill Clinton and Albert Gore speak on election day, I set some goals. First, I hoped they would win not only because I believe in their vision, but also because I was driving two hours to see them give victory speeches. Second, I wanted to hobnob with Hollywood's elite. I'd heard throngs of celebrities like Tom Cruise and U2 and most importantly Cindy Crawford were in Little Rock to hear the speeches. For a long time I've had an intense desire to converse with Cindy about our similar political views while I fed her grapes in her candle lit hotel suite. Third, I wanted to shake Clinton and Gore's hands and tell them that they had to go to work to fulfill their promises now that America believed in them. Fourth, I wanted to get some sort of souvenir to commemorate the day. And finally, I wanted to get on national television. Perhaps I would be interviewed by Tom Brokaw immediately following the declaration of Clinton as the winner.

Through the course of the night, I managed to live out most of my election night fantasies, and I experienced a few surprises along the way. First and foremost, Clinton did win the election so my drive to see history was worthwhile. As Sei Shorogon, an early Chinese writer, once said, "I realize that it is very sinful of me, but I cannot help being pleased when someone I dislike has a bad experience." This is how I felt when I heard Bush had lost the election. By the same token I couldn't help but share in the elation of having someone I do like win the election.

While waiting for Clinton's acceptance speech the group of people I was with stood for nearly two hours outside the old State House shivering in time with the medley of about eight songs by artists such as U2, John Mellencamp, and Bonnie Raitt that were repeated over and over again. Finally, after a choir sang renditions of nearly

every patriotic song ever written, Clinton was introduced as the President-elect. From a sideways, through the branches of a tree view, if we squinted and held our heads to the left at an angle of 47 degrees, we could make out the forms of Clinton and Gore. Clinton's speech echoed the themes of his entire campaign, the basic tenet in his calling for a change in "a new America". I think the statement which most struck a chord in me came during Albert Gore's speech. I can't remember the exact words, but basically he said that Bill Clinton's weathering of attacks from all sides in the campaign could be summed up in one word, character. I really like that description of character. Everyone makes mistakes during their lives, but it is the people who rise above past indiscretions, realize they've erred and learn from it that have character.

After the speeches were over, I was able to get a clear view of both the President and the Vice President elect dancing to the music. By unanimous vote, it was decided that the Cindy Crawford quest would now officially begin. The word on the street was that all the famous stars and Clinton and Gore were rendezvousing at the Excelsior Hotel only a couple of blocks away from where we were. Somehow, somehow, we knew that somewhere in that hotel was Cindy Crawford, and we were going to search every nook and cranny in the hotel until we found her.

The quest almost died before it began when the police officers in front of the hotel refused to let us or anyone else into the hotel. I stood there contemplating that Clinton would be furious if he knew even one of his loyal voters was being denied the opportunity to hunt down a beautiful model. As I began considering the logistical possibilities of scaling the side of the building, the police officers reversed the flow inward. The first place we headed to was a

restaurant in the lobby of the Excelsior called Profiles. We sat down at a table, ordered the least expensive item on the menu, and scoured the restaurant looking for famous people. I began to get a little discouraged, but then out of nowhere one of the guys in my group said, "Oh my God! Don't look now, but Woody Harrelson from Cheers is sitting right over there!" Five pairs of eyes immediately stared in the direction his finger was pointing. It was him. Slowly and quietly, we moved to a table which was closer to Woodman. After ten minutes of staring and attempts to hear his conversation, Woody got up, and he walked into the kitchen. Our theory was that there was a secret star entrance that went upstairs to hotel rooms and our opportunity was gone, but several minutes later he walked back out. Approximately five seconds later, all of us were introducing ourselves to him. As I told him my name, I noticed he had a stamp on his neck so I asked him what it was. He told me to look closer. It was a miniature Bill Clinton. You got to love this country.

We returned to our seats in a state of euphoria, and finished our soups. You can imagine how we would have reacted if we'd seen Cindy. After the rush of meeting a star had abated, we decided to go for the big time and sneak up to the Presidential and Vice Presidential suites. You have to understand that to get anywhere in the Excelsior that night you had to have passes or keys or be famous or know someone important. We didn't have any of these. The elevator to the floor the suites were on was locked off to the public. We simply waited until a couple got on the elevator that was going to party upstairs and then we followed them off. When the security guard asked us where our passes were, most of us froze. Yet one guy who is thoroughly indoctrinated in the art of lying convinced the guard that his mother was a member of Congress from



Thoughts

Matthew C. Hardin

Georgia, and we got through. We headed first for the Vice Presidential suite, which was packed with people. Unfortunately, Gore had just left, but it was still exciting to be there. A guard asked us to leave about thirty seconds after we arrived, but it was worth it. While the others waited by the elevator, the Georgia Congresswoman's son and I went to the Presidential suite in search of Clinton. He had left nearly twenty minutes before. Sitting on a table I noticed two wine glasses. One with lipstick. One without. My theory is that Hillary and Bill toasted the election with the glasses. I wanted to have something to remember the evening by. It would accomplish one of my goals for the night. It was a relatively innocent crime, so I acquired them.

We rode the elevator back down to the lobby and attempted to get into Josephine's, a restaurant where Clinton was speaking. Several police officers asked us to move back. We walked back, waited a few minutes, and then pushed forward. This process was repeated two more times. During the fourth trip five officers grabbed us by our shirts, escorted us to the door, and told us not to come back or we were going to jail. Needless to say we decided that it might be a good idea to call it a night.

Rolling into Memphis as the sun came up I realized that I'd accomplished most of my goals.

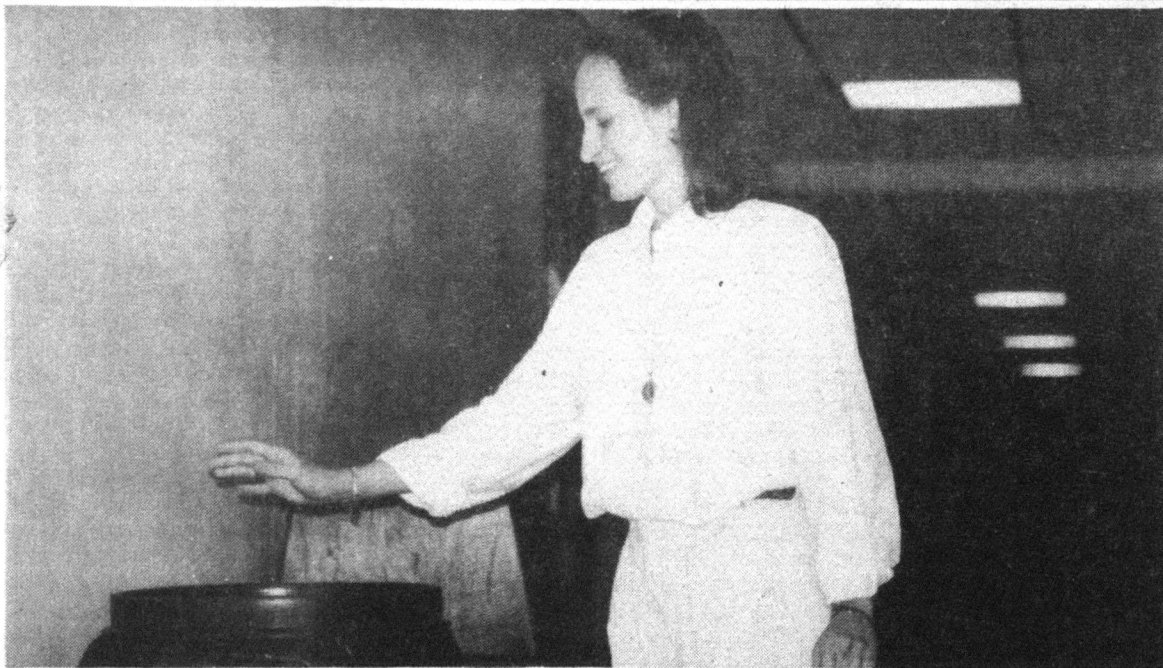
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The Rhode'ster

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Thais Davenport takes time to say hello to the mysterious man stuck in the recycling bin. It is still unclear as to why and how he got there.

The Rhode'ster Editorial

I've been really concerned about the population of chipmunks around here recently. I remember how I used to be so excited to see chipmunks on campus. There were only a couple then. And then this year, they seem to be sprouting up all over the place, and instead of being excited to see them, all I do is kick them out of my way. The squirrels are O.K. I've finally gotten used to them, but squirrels and chipmunks are two different things. We just don't have any room for them. I think it is about time that Physical Plant starts to find a home for them with the pigeons, if you get my drift. All I can say is that I hope that couple of chipmunks I saw last year was at least married.

-TS

Letter To The Editor

I recently met a girl in the bathroom. We started talking about politics and discovered that we had a lot in common. I really started to feel that for the first time since I have been here, I was bonding with someone. Teri was so right. Without all of those social conventions and the prejudice at the way someone looks, it really is easy to find that special someone to share your secrets with.

It was so weird. It was like we were on the Dating Game or something. I just couldn't wait for her to walk out of that stall, so that I could get a chance to see my new found best friend. And then I realized that I had seen her on campus before, but I had always thought that she was unattractive and I didn't want to meet her. I'm so glad I got a chance to now. We've been friends for almost a week now and we are very happy with each other. Tonight we are going to study Political Science together. I have never been so happy. Thanks, Teri.

Signed

A Successful Bathroom Encounter

Freudian Corner

First of all, I assure that I am feeling fine. Yes, I said it. I feel fine. Second of all, I resent the insinuation in last week's *Rhode'ster* that I was hearing voices in my head. Actually, I was merely taking a break in a way that would allow me the most peace and quiet. The fact that it was at a "protective resort" was purely coincidental, I assure you. Secondly, I'm glad that Chip, Teri, and Jason are trying to help each other out. Maybe I can add one to their little group this week.

In last week's *Sou'wester* we were treated to an entertaining little summary of events happening on campus this Halloween by our talented campus editor Brent Moberly. The article was a pleasant slice of life of Rhodes and gave us a feel for what Halloween during Parent's Weekend is like. There is, of course a bit more to it than that. Really now, you don't expect me to accept Brent's article merely as a bit of entertainment, do you? As usual, Brent, probably without knowing it, has given us a very telling self-portrait. Let's see just how Brent painted himself.

The first quote in Brent's article is, "The most scary thing about this Halloween was the parents." Ah ha. So, Brent, can you say "Oedipus?" I bet you can't! Okay, just try to say it a few times, and then begin to accept it. That's okay, Brent, we've all gone through it, though most of us got over it a long, long time ago. but that's

okay. However, I'm sure glad we caught this. Brent's article is full of allusions to parents. I know some would say it was because Halloween fell on the second night of Parent's Weekend, but that's just a little to much of a stretch for me.

Brent also chooses to mention other students trick-or-treating on Halloween. Now, students did a lot that night, but Brent didn't mention everything. Why trick-or-treating, then? Well, let's examine the term "trick-or-treat." "Trick" has quite a few meanings. It could mean a really neat thing that someone can do. It can also refer to an act of prostitution. In fact, if one merely adds an "f" to "trick-or-treat." Now that's a bit more obvious, is it not? It seems to me that Brent is revealing to us that he has a secret wish to be a prostitute. So, we're starting to see a few things about Brent more clearly. Now maybe we can understand why the Deltones took, and I quote, "forty-five minute breaks." Maybe they were passing out a little candy themselves.

Well the happy ending for this week is that if journalism doesn't work out for Brent, he does have something to "fall back" on. Isn't that nice. Well that's why I'm here, to make people's lives just a little happier. Oh, well, another week, another seriously disturbed journalist. I love my job!

-JT

The Rhode'ster is seeking journalists interested in investigative reporting.

Topics to be investigated:

- Elvis' Death (Come on now, Is he alive or isn't he?)
- The Assassination of President (Accident or Murder?)
- Big Foot (Just Another Pretty Face?)
- The Bermuda Trinagle (Wouldn't a Circle be More Effective?)

The great mysteries of the world still remain unsolved. Don't you think it's about time that the *Rhode'ster* gets involved?

Election Tensions Still High: Possible Casualties

As a protest to the recent presidential election of Arkansas Governor Bill Clinton, a perturbed Bush supporter has locked himself in a Campus Green can recycling bin. At this point, Campus Safety is not revealing the identity of the student. Many have tried to coax him out, as did Thais Davenport, President of the College Democrats (see photo). However, none have had any success.

Said Ms. Davenport, "I tried everything. I waved sweetly at him. I tried humming the National Anthem. I spoke sincerely and softly to him, but he just remained hostile, calling me a 'destructive liberal,' and 'hater of humanity.' I just don't know what else to do."

Insiders say that the student was aided by someone else. "How else could he have gotten in that bin? You don't think he could have stuffed himself in there? I mean, his feet are behind his head!" informed one secret informant over the telephone.

Others say that not only was the student aided in getting into the can, he was forced there. One person hypothesized "I think that he was a Clinton supporter who had a run-in with a Republican. You saw how things had gotten around here before the election. Everyone was just mad!

I was afraid to leave my room. All I could do was hold my knees and rock myself to sleep at night, hoping that the madness would soon end."

Campus Safety is investigating this possibility. "You know," said Ralph Hatley. "That would explain why he won't talk, or eat, or move. I thought that he was just really dedicated to his cause, but, after all, he's been in there almost a week, and he is starting to decompose now."

For now, however, the investigation has been put on hold because of a more pressing investigation of a door that was left propped open in one of the dorms. Director of Physical Plant, Brian Foshee is outraged. "Since this kid has been in that bin, the roach population has doubled on that hall. We just can't have that. And I want to know who put him there. My workers have enough to do with taking out those cans, we don't need dead bodies to start piling up around here too. Just one more thing I'll have to take care of."

Campus Green also issued a statement to the *Rhode'ster* concerning the incident. "How many times must we say this? Only cans in the can bins. Only cans. This is getting annoying."

-TS

Rhodes Creates New Mascot

In a bold maneuver last week, head Coach Mike Clary announced that the college is changing its mascot from the lynx to the triceratops. Apparently worried about the image problem created by a cute, fuzzy, cuddly-looking lynx being associated with the football team, Coach Clary made up his mind to come up with a more ferocious looking symbol for the team and the school. "It was really beginning to look bad on us," Clary said at a press conference Friday. "That thing was just too lovable; the Pep Band even started calling it 'Peter Cottontail', of all things! The old versions of the lynx were all right; those stone ones over the gate and the bronze 'Chernobyl Cheetah' are pretty mean looking, but I thought we needed to try something new."

Four biochemistry students were assigned to the task and created the triceratops from altered lynx DNA and some leftovers from the Rat. One of the four was reported as saying, "Fools! I'll destroy them all!" The other three have mysteriously disap-

peared and could not be reached for comment.

Student reaction has been mixed. When asked his opinion on the school's choice of a dinosaur, one said, "Somebody told me we were getting Dinah Shore for a mascot. Man, I'm kind of disappointed!" Gerry Fernandez, who is rumored to have dated the lynx, was shocked to hear the news. "Ouch! I feel like that guy in *Ghostbusters* whose girlfriend got turned into a dog," he said in a recent telephone interview. Others were pleased with the decision. Exclaimed one cheerleader, "This is great! He'll really kill the opposing team! I mean, . . . he won't really kill them, will he? I mean, they've got, like, a leash or something, right?"

Storage of the beast is expected to be a problem. Students are advised not to enter Frazier Jelke after dark or on weekends when there is no home game. Campus Safety will be providing armed escorts for those needing access to the building (call x3880).

-T.H. & C.P.

A note to anyone interested in locking yourself in a recycling bin: There's a place for people like you. It's called the "Freudian Corner."