

# THE SOU'WESTER

The Weekly Student Newspaper of Rhodes College

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## Rhodes Named as "Politically Incorrect" College

By Matthew Shippe  
Staff Writer

Rhodes was named as one of the 25 most politically incorrect colleges in the September 8 issue of *Insight On the News*, a publication of the *Washington Times*, in an article entitled "Ten Different Schools of Thought."

Rhodes was included within in the article with such colleges as Brigham Young, Furman, William and Mary, Sewanee, University of Chicago, Millsaps, and Davidson College.

In choosing the top 25 *Insight* considered several criterion. *Insight* first looked at schools that were "true to themselves and haven't altered their traditions to fit academic fashions or fads." According to the article this eliminated such schools as Harvard and Stanford, who have shown tendencies of altering their "academic makeup to fit notions of what's fashionable in education." Rhodes, with such long-standing course offerings as the Search and Life courses, was able to fulfill this requirement.

The magazine also looked at schools that educated the "whole student", by not only stressing the academic growth of the student but also the character development of each and every students. This value can clearly be evidenced at Rhodes by the mission statement and through the broad based liberal arts curriculum offered.

The magazine also looked at col-

leges that challenged their students academically. To this end *Insight* looked at schools that offered fewer courses, with those course being taught with greater competence. The magazine stated in the article that its greatest criterion in judging colleges was that it looked at schools that placed "an emphasis on undergraduate teaching by full professors."

Mary Ann Whitmore ('99) was pleased upon hearing of Rhodes inclusion on to such a list when hearing about the factors in determining the list believing that Rhodes deserved the honor.

"I think that close contact and small classes make Rhodes exceptional," Whitmore said. "While I could have learned at a larger university, the accessibility of the professors and the students defiantly facilitate learning."

When asked on how this article and inclusion this list would affect recruitment, Dean of Admissions and Financial Aid David Wottle said he thought being mentioned in such a publication should generally help recruiting. "I don't think the article it will have a tremendous effect on recruiting, with the Washington market being fairly small," Wottle said. "However, inclusion in an article is a positive. Students that would disagree with our inclusion on such a list won't inquire any further in Rhodes. Those who agree with our inclusion on the list are the type of student who will look into Rhodes."

## Roundtable Meeting To Be Held November 14

The Chancellor's Roundtable will be meeting on November 14 at 5:30 p.m. in the Edmund Orgill Room in Clough. The topic of discussion will be "The Educational Potential of Rhodes' Residence Halls" and "Perspective on Residence Life as Studied in the southern Association of Colleges and Schools (SCACS) for Rhodes Reaccreditation and Developing Rhodes' Vision for the Third

Millenium" led by Charles Landreth, Associate Dean of Student Affairs, and "How Does Living in the Residence Halls Provide Support for Individuals as a Student" which will be led by Carol Casey, Director of Residence Life. The next Roundtable will be held on January 29th. The topic will be "Leadership at Rhodes." Anyone interested is welcomed to attend.

New Scandals  
Justice Department

# Insight

ON THE NEWS

10 BEST

## Politically Incorrect Colleges

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Education Vouchers, p. 14

Cover *Insight on the News*, September 8, 1997

## Rhodes Students Face the Problem of Hunger and Homelessness

By David Elder  
Staff Writer

The Kinney program plans to correct misconceptions about those who are homeless that students may hold during the week of November 15th. Hunger and Homelessness Week at Rhodes, includes a week-long schedule of events that aims to raise students awareness about these serious problems.

The program's coordinators are Kristin Fox ('98) and Trent Pingnot ('00). Pingnot and Fox hope to raise awareness through these programs and to give a face to the homeless.

Fox expressed the hope that these events will, "spark the interest of students, and become a

springboard for long-lasting interaction with this problem."

The events will include a "Hunger Banquet" on Wednesday, where students can donate their meal at the Rat and the proceeds will go to OXFam Fast International to help fight the problem of hunger world wide. To bring attention to the magnitude of waste in our society, on Monday all the left over food at the Rat will be weighed.

On Tuesday at 6pm, students will have an opportunity to talk to people who were homeless at a "Faces of Homelessness Panel". Pingnot said the goal of these events is to "get students at Rhodes to realize the enormity of the problem of hunger and homelessness,

and at the same time show them that there are ways in which they can get involved and make a difference."

There are various other events that will be going on throughout the week which have not been finalized as of Tuesday night. Information on these events will be posted on the Kinney board in the Rat.

The coordinators' hope is that these programs will make Rhodes students realize that this is a problem that affects all kinds of people. They want these programs to help students recognize that there are millions of good people, and even entire families, world wide that find themselves hungry and without a home.



## It's Okay To Be Smart – Really, It Is!

JASON BISHOP  
THAT GAY GUY



Why is it that when people comment that Rhodes is such an "academically oriented school," I don't always find myself able to agree? I wonder sometimes if the student body at Rhodes is as academically oriented as our reputation suggests. Or maybe it is, but no one wants to admit it, however strange that may sound.

Amazingly enough, while sitting here writing this column, I have been phoned on the Alpha twice by some Rhodes genius whose name I shall conceal out of tact, pestering me with profound questions like "Why do you call yourself 'That Gay Guy?'" and "Why would you want everyone to know that you're gay?" I don't know this person, but I can tell that he spends his time in very scholarly pursuits.

Somehow, I feel like I could end this column right here, Q.E.D.

But that would be unfair, and besides, I have more space to fill.

It is my experience that a large portion of the Rhodes student body is academically concerned, while the values of others seem to be quite different.

Sometimes I wonder just how many people are motivated to make good grades out of personal interest and how many are simply terrified that if they don't make at least a C average Daddy will take the credit card away.

One thing that bothers me is the hesitation on the part of many students to appear knowledgeable on anything.

How many times have you known something, or had a certain amount of expertise in a particular area, but have refrained from demonstrating your knowledge because someone might think you were SMART?

God forbid.

I understand that most people don't want to come across as an arrogant "know-it-all," but I just don't think there's anything wrong with taking pride in what you know, what you're good at, and not

feeling the need to hide it.

I also think this ties into another phenomenon: our apologetic nature. So many people, myself included, often find themselves justifying their knowledge (e.g., "Well, I only know that because...") or degrading their ideas, (e.g., "I know this sounds stupid, but..." or "This is probably wrong, but...").

Hold out your hand! <Smack!> NOW STOP THAT!!! Really, it's ok to know stuff. And it's okay to have ideas. Really. It's also okay to at least *act* like you have a clue.

I don't mean to suggest that the Rhodes community is not academically oriented, nor do I mean to suggest that modest people are weak. There are a lot of brilliant, hardworking people here.

But as a student community, do we place enough value on such scholarship, or do we use it as a stigma?

Really, let's think about it. How does a class usually respond to those people who seem to know a lot of the answers, ask the scholarly questions, and are really in-

terested in what's going on?

Much of the time, unfortunately, I think the tendency is to stamp that person a "kiss-up" or a "show-off." But what if that "show-off" is just a really smart, genuinely curious student? Is that so wrong?

Don't misunderstand me; I am just as annoyed as anyone by complacency and arrogance. But well-presented, well-earned knowledge should be worth something, shouldn't it?

In any event, I can say that at an academic institution with a reputation such as Rhodes, there are far more respectable things to do than harass people on the Alpha. If I am sure of nothing else, I am sure of this.

Socrates once said, "The only good is knowledge, and the only evil is ignorance." Honestly, I couldn't agree more.

Maybe it's a good idea for us all to give some thought to how much we respect academics.

Perhaps what we need is a National Coming Out Day for smart people.

Now wouldn't that be cute?

### EDITORIAL OF THE SOU'WESTER

## RSG Senators Should Staff Ad Hoc Committees

There is speculation that a new Ad Hoc committee, this time on sexual harassment and assault, is in the works. As with most Ad Hoc committees, this one is composed mostly of non-RSG members. We are directly opposed to this externalization by Rhodes Student Government. The senators should be held responsible for these concerns and issues on campus, that is why they are elected. Constantly going to other members of the student body weakens their position as senators and slows down the effectiveness in terms of physical action and decision of the issue at hand.

Of the Ad Hoc committees, RSG members have had a conspicuous absence as members, serving mainly as a liaison between the committee and RSG. Why is this extra step necessary? If action is the desired result of studying these issues, why slow it down with further bureaucracy? Appoint senators within the various committees of RSG to these Ad Hoc committees, increasing both the strength of the position of senator, giving strength to the infrastructure of RSG, and expediting

the process of action.

Within any organization, a clear knowledge of responsibilities and duties is essential for motivation and efficiency. RSG senators need to have their roles clearly defined for them, so as to know what needs to be done to maintain the day-to-day operation of RSG and what needs to be done as far as long term planning and special circumstances. If the senators only have a vague notion of their duties and responsibilities they will not be effective senators and the work they will accomplish will lack focus and expedience. Appointing RSG senators who have knowledge and time to these Ad Hoc committees will continue to make them feel essential to RSG and will make RSG feel essential to the student body. RSG should not be as concerned with hour-long time limits on the dryers or the addition to a snack machine as they should be concerned about issues of sexual harassment and assault on campus. By throwing the topic to a non-RSG based committee, RSG is sending the message that the issue is not important enough to be

dealt with directly.

Look at the Ad Hoc committee on the Rhodes College Mission Statement. This committee was composed of senators and was one of the most efficient Ad Hoc committees to date. They took less time determining, discussing, and resolving the issue and had less bureaucracy to work through. This is what RSG needs to do with all its Ad Hoc committees. The proposed Ad Hoc committee on sexual assault and harassment cannot work on its own unless an RSG member is present to act as this liaison and guide for determining how to study and handle the situation. This wastes time and frustrates the process of RSG as being an effective governing body.

We realize that RSG senators are not experts on every subject and that outside knowledge and voices are needed to be effective and comprehensive. However, these outside people should not be put in charge and should be considered a resource for the senators to use. They do not have the experience of working on

a legislative body and while all may be bright and capable students, they are not familiar with the processes involved in making a student government decision.

What RSG should do is organize a type of "town meeting" during which interested students should come present problems and issues on campus to RSG, similar to the Chancellor's Roundtable, but with the intention that the ideas presented and discourse that follows may be acted upon. If the members of the Ad Hoc committee are so interested in effecting change, then it reasonably stands that they would do the work required to make themselves heard, thus guaranteeing attendance. RSG then could create the appropriate committee, staffed by RSG senators, now based on student input rather than creating a committee and relying on other students to do the actual legwork, increasing RSG's knowledge of campus issues and decreasing the amount of time spent working through the process of working on the issue.

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As the official student newspaper of Rhodes College, *The Sou'wester* is produced entirely by the students on staff. It functions independently of faculty and administration. It is published weekly throughout the fall and spring semesters, except during exam periods and breaks.

Staff meetings are open to the Rhodes community and convene in Tuthill every Sunday afternoon at 2 p.m. *The Sou'wester* is a member of the Student Publications Board, a six-publication consortium that includes the editors of all student publications, class representatives and at-large representatives from the student body.

All staff editorials published in *The Sou'wester* represent the majority opinion of the Editorial Board composed of section editors and executive editors. Opinions expressed in *The Rhode'ster*, opinion columns, and letters-to-the-editor do not necessarily reflect the opinions of *The Sou'wester* Editorial Board. Letters-to-the-editor are encouraged; all letters must be signed and will be edited for clarity.

#### REACHING THE SOU'WESTER

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## New Professors Upbeat And Adjusting Well

By Tim Hayes  
Staff Writer

This year's new professors at Rhodes are nearing the end of their first semester. Generally, they have had extremely busy fall semesters and have had little time to see much of what Memphis has to offer. So far, the professors say they have been impressed with the faculty, students, and friendly atmosphere that Rhodes offers. All the new professors are highly qualified, and several expressed their excitement about getting a chance to teach after focusing on research in recent years. Others have taught elsewhere and also say they are delighted to be here.

Dr. Haleh Vaziri came to Rhodes as an assistant professor of International Studies after receiving her Ph.D. from Georgetown University in 1995. Dr. Vaziri spent the past year as a post-doctoral fellow at the Center for Middle East Studies at Harvard University. She is enjoying the interac-

tion that teaching brings.

"Research is lonely," Dr. Vaziri said. "Interacting with people is much more stimulating".

Like many students here at Rhodes, she admits that her "time management skills have been tested," adding that things are just now starting to settle down. In adjusting to daily lecturing, Dr. Vaziri said that "the small classes have helped."

Noted Dr. Vaziri that her students "seem to be receptive" and are "as bright and inquisitive" as those at other institutions, including Georgetown and Harvard. Dr. Vaziri said that she has also benefitted from the feedback she receives from her students.

Dr. Vaziri said that she feels "very fortunate to come here," especially noting that she joined an I.S. Department that has "lots of expertise".

Dr. Bruce Abedon joined the Biology Department as an assistant professor. He comes to Rhodes from the

University of Wisconsin-Madison, where he received his Ph.D. and also served as a teaching assistant. Much like Dr. Vaziri, Dr. Abedon has enjoyed the freshness of teaching after recent endeavors in research. According to Dr. Abedon, things are beginning to go smoother after a hectic start.

"I'm actually enjoying myself now," he said, "though I had an intense workload at first."

Abedon is very grateful for the support that he has received from his colleagues in the Biology Department.

"They've been there to give advice when it was bumpy, and they've also helped me to celebrate when things go well."

"The students are highly motivated, which I expected," Abedon added. "I wanted to focus on the student-teacher contact from the beginning."

After spending several years at an

### Who Are The New Professors?

Along with the 429 first-year students and transfers that joined the student body, fourteen new professors have joined the faculty of Rhodes College this year. Of these professors Marshall Boswell (English), Victor Coonin (Art), and Patrick Shade (Philosophy) have previously taught here at Rhodes. Here is a department by department run-down of the new professors at Rhodes:

Art:	Victor Coonin
Biology:	Bruce Abedon
Chemistry:	Andrea Woods
English:	Marshall Boswell Tina Barr John Hilgart
Foreign Language:	Amanda Irwin David Sick
International Studies:	Paul Senese Haleh Vaziri
Mathematics:	William Linderman Michael Rieck
Philosophy:	Patrick Shade
Religious Studies:	Diana Bass

extremely large campus, Dr. Abedon stressed that the small, community-like atmosphere at Rhodes offers a unique opportunity to form friendships with professors in other disciplines. He spoke highly of the other new professors and the bond that they have formed.

"We get together every couple of weeks at lunch to swap stories about our new jobs," Abedon stated. "Seeing other people's perspectives helps me to rethink the way I teach."

Professor Abedon mentioned that he has bought a house with his wife and son, whom he has been able to take to the zoo despite this busy semester.

Dr. John Hilgart is one of three new assistant professors in the English Department. Dr. Hilgart comes to Rhodes after receiving his Ph.D. from, and teaching at, Duke University. He seems quite happy with his position here.

"I have been generally pleased with Rhodes," Hilgart said, "mainly because this is the kind of job that I wanted."

Hilgart mentioned one major difference between Duke and Rhodes that drew him here. "I want nothing to do with graduate students," Hilgart commented, "because helping some of them sometimes becomes a moral quandary." In the increasingly difficult academic job market, Hilgart finds it difficult to continue helping students who may never be able to get a teaching position.

Dr. Hilgart happily described the friendly, almost dorm-like atmosphere in the English Department on the third floor of Palmer.

"I've got a dozen pals, and we just

wander in and out of each other's offices," Hilgart said with a grin.

Hilgart has had one disappointment, though: "I don't think my students are taking full advantage of all the opportunities for me to help them."

He also believes that the required English 151 course is an important early part of every student's career at Rhodes, and he says he is more than willing to help whenever he can.

Dr. Victor Coonin begins his third year in the Art Department as assistant professor. He is in the unique position of being able to easily remember his first year here, while also being able to comment on the new professors that have come to Rhodes since he started. Hired while doing graduate work in Florence, Italy, Dr. Coonin had a good feeling about the job from the start.

"I knew everything would be different," he said, "but I definitely thought that good things would happen here."

Coonin said he has been able to do many things that might not have been supported elsewhere.

"I've really been pleased with the encouragement that I have received in doing non-traditional things, such as using technology in the classroom and participating in service projects," Coonin said.

Dr. Coonin seems very comfortable and happy in his position, and he also spoke very highly of the professors who have joined Rhodes' faculty since he came here: "They have impressive credentials and dynamic personalities, and fresh faces are always exciting to see."



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## Dylan's Weary Masterpiece

By Gerritt Lagemann  
Staff Writer

At first there was the angry Bob Dylan. Next came the reflective Dylan. Now, on *Time Out of Mind*, his best album in twenty years, we discover the weary Dylan.

There was a time that Dylan's albums were equal parts bitterness and lightheartedness. *Blonde on Blonde* (1966), for example, has tracks about both sad-eyed ladies and leopard-skin pill-box hats. Those days are now gone. *Time Out of Mind* is a masterful work, but its excellence comes because Dylan so clearly expresses his frustration and anger. *Time Out of Mind* could be subtitled *Dylan Gets Old*.

The bulk of Dylan's weariness is aimed at women. Dylan has sung about love gone bad since 1962, but up until now he had been in control of the breakups. Those days were before his bitter divorce, in which he lost custody of his five children.

On the current album, he's bitter and hurt. "I was happy 'til I fell in love with you," he sings on "Til I Fell in Love with You," and "Don't know if I saw you, if I'd kiss you or kill you" on "Standing in the Doorway."

Dylan has also begun pondering his encroaching death. "It's not dark yet — but it's getting close," he sighs on "Not Dark Yet." Dylan is now 55 years old, which puts him in the final third of his life. Look forward to similarly existential lyrics everywhere as baby boomers grow old.

The most surprising aspect of *Time Out of Mind* is the new influence of blues on Dylan. "Dirt Road Blues" has a quick, bouncing melody (Be warned: It's amazingly easy to get stuck in your head), but the lyrics are so depressing that they could come straight from the Delta: "I'm gonna walk right down this road 'til my eyes begin to bleed," he whines. The blues influence keeps the rest of the album low-key but weary. (That means no harmonicas anywhere on the album.)

Dylan's heyday was in the early 1960s, when he appeared as a folk musician who idolized Arlo Guthrie. He emerged as the premier singer/protester in the Viet-

nam War era. Beginning in mid-sixties, however, Dylan gave up on protest music to become more introspective.

He shook the musical establishment in 1966 when he went electric and toured with The Band. After 1970 he released mediocre and bad albums, with the huge exception of *Blood on the Tracks* (1975), which, along with *Blonde on Blonde* (1966), is one of his two best albums.

*Time Out of Mind* is Dylan's second album produced by Daniel Lanois. Along with Dylan's *Oh Mercy* (1989), Lanois has also produced with U2 and Peter Gabriel. He creates a couple of high-tech folk-music surprises on *Time Out of Mind*, such as filtering Dylan's voice through a fuzz box on "Love Sick" and creating an electronic echo on "Dirt Road Blues."

As with every Bob Dylan album, there is his voice: Foes hate it, fans don't mind it. The conventional wisdom has been that Dylan is a great songwriter, not a great singer.

His first major hit was "Blowin' in the Wind"—as covered by Peter, Paul and Mary. David Bowie wrote that Dylan had a "voice of sandpaper and glue." Some fans actually enjoy the voice—they say it wards off people who wouldn't take time to appreciate what Dylan's songs are really about, the lyrics.

Unfortunately, his voice went from bad to worse in the 1980s, when he shouted or whined on stage (as notoriously captured on his *Unplugged* album). On the current album, he sings with the same effort he used long ago, although some of the hoarseness and nasal tone seem to be permanent.

Dylan actually does allow one glimpse back into his early days in music. At the beginning of the meandering, 16-minute "Highlands," he sings "I wish someone would come and push back the clock for me."

He then tells about a harmless, even slightly funny conversation with a waitress. What's amazing about the song is that Dylan actually seems to be enjoying himself for a moment. In his youth, Dylan was a fireball of anger, but in old age he's become a glowing ember of exhaustion.

## Guest Artists Featured In Faculty Concert Series

By Chris McKenzie  
Staff Writer

Vocalists Pamela Gaston and Carole Choate Blankenship ('85), a Rhodes music instructor, wowed a mixed audience at the November 6 installment of the Faculty Concert Series. Accompanied by guest pianist John David Peterson, Blankenship and Gaston performed various selections from famed composers Claude Debussy, Gustav Mahler, Samuel Barber and Joaquin Turina.

Blankenship's gorgeous soprano vocals rang out as she performed arias in French and Spanish from composers Debussy and Turina, respectively. Gaston's mezzo-soprano voice graced the German arias of Mahler and Barber's unique compositions with American poems as lyrics.

The highlight of the evening was, however, the stunning duet performed from Leo Delibes' opera

"Lakme." Overall, the performance was high quality and highly entertaining.



Photo by Chris McKenzie

## McCoy Offers Diversity Through Durang

By Henry Murphy  
Copy Editor

Currently the McCoy Theatre is offering one of the widest ranging spectrums of theatrical experience to hit Memphis in a long time. Christopher Durang's "Sister Mary Explains It All For You" and "The Actor's Nightmare," running in rep with the highly praised "Richard III," are whirlwind comedies: brief, sharp, and scary. Anyone familiar with Durang knows his penchant for combining contemporary cultural critique with a borderline absurdist sense of humor.

The first, and longer, of the two plays (the show's total running time is about two hours), "Sister Mary," directed by alum and associate professor of theatre David Jilg, enacts a confrontation between the (literally) cloistered mind of an aging nun and four of her former Catholic school students. The structure and action smack of agitprop - the students show up expressly for the purpose of "embarrassing" their former teacher, in an attempt to show her the limitations and extreme difficulty of interacting with the world from any frame of purity. As the play develops, its focus becomes a commentary on the hazy barrier between principles and personal desires.

The figure of Sister Mary becomes, over time, an unstable vortex of attention. This is partially because Sister Mary has almost all of the lines, and partially because the students are

rather thinly drawn. Community actress Carolyn Spratley, as Sister Mary, draws out this instability through skillful manipulation of her stage voice. The problem with focusing on the instability is that it confuses the play's themes: we in the audience have to wonder if Sister Mary is just crazy, or supposed to symbolize, by the end of the play, some sort of cultural disintegration.

In other words, the play is very open-ended, in terms of both performance and reception. The rest of the cast, all Rhodes students (except for seven-year-old Carter Jones, who plays Thomas) is quite good: Matt Nelson ('00), as Gary, brings a light, deft touch to the play, and DeNae Winesette ('99) plays Philomena with a strong and touching blend of pathos and dread. Philomena's anxiety about confronting Sister Mary is rendered skillfully and expressively through Winesette's body and face. Lindsey Patrick ('00), as the unbalanced Diane, maneuvers through tricky representations of anger and sadness; for me, the angle of anger and frustration adds more to the production. Monty Montgomery ('99), as Aloysius Benheim, brings his usual levity and casually strong presence to the production.

"The Actor's Nightmare," directed by alum and instructor of theatre Greg Krosnes ('89), is (by not much) the weirder of the two plays. Wes Meador ('00) plays, it seems, a man named George Spelvin, who (kudos

to Durang and Krosnes) wanders into the theatre and is suddenly required to substitute for an actor named Edwin Booth, who has been in a car accident. I'm not sure why I'm actually telling you this, because it's completely irrelevant to the play; Meador's character (we never learn his real name) ends up running through a post-apocalyptic hybrid of Samuel Beckett, Noel Coward, Shakespeare, and (unfortunately for him) Robert Bolt. He seems to be in productions of each of the plays, but his life's story keeps spilling into the dialogue. The other characters are not very helpful, and, in a very funny sequence, neither is the lighting designer - Meador keeps scrambling around the stage, trying to catch up with the vanishing lights, while his hair flips and flops, his eyes bulge, and his arms wave in a futile attempt to create a "theatrical" posture.

Meador is more often funny than not, and so determined to please that the occasional thinness of the play's plot gets rubbed to softness. Jill Peterfeso ('00) is very funny as a barely British and devotedly overacting actress named Sarah Siddons. Summer Oakley ('01), as the hyperactive stage manager Meg, is also very funny; her shrill commandments to Meador are perfectly overwrought. Christine Callsen ('01) and Andrew Sullivan ('01) round out the cast. Callsen is funniest in the mock Samuel Beckett production, and at the end of the play; she makes comic use of dry timing and precision.



## International Students Explore Mainstay Of Southern Economy

By Jennifer Durovchic  
Staff Writer

International students from Rhodes and other Memphis area colleges took a trip to a cotton plantation on Saturday, November 1.

"The Memphis Rotary Club sponsors several events for international students throughout the academic year," Director of International Programs Katherine Owen Richardson said.

Five students from Rhodes visited the cotton plantation in Sumner, Mississippi. Frank Mitchener, the owner of the plantation, is also the Chairman of the Board of Trustees for Rhodes College.

"Frank Mitchener graciously invited these students down to his cotton plantation," Richardson said.

"For me, the most interesting part was to see cotton's process of transformation," Fabienne Gautier, a participant from Rhodes, said.

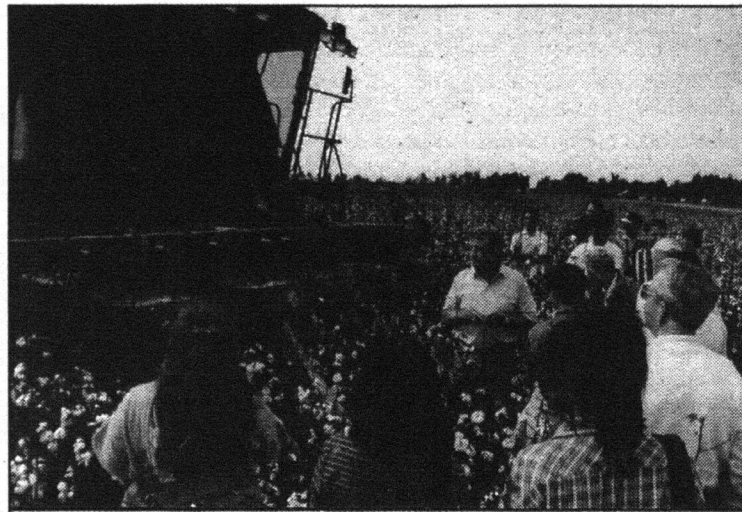


Photo provided by Rosa Roy

**Frank Mitchener** gives international students a tour of his cotton plantation. This is the second year Rhodes has participated in this event.

Richardson stressed the importance of showing the history of Memphis, considering that cotton was a major part of the making of Memphis. The students also experienced what Richardson called "A taste of the South" at lunchtime. The students were served

fried catfish, hushpuppies and coleslaw following the tour of the plantation.

This is the second year that the trip to Mitchener's plantation has been offered to international students, and this year participation in the event doubled.

## Computer Science Students Place Well In Competition

By Benji Hughes  
Staff Writer

At 7:00 a.m. on Saturday, November 1, three Rhodes Computer Science students, along with CS Professor Michael Reick, left the campus for a computer programming contest at Harding University in Searcy, Arkansas.

Late that night, the team of Tehsin Syed ('98), Bryan Alexander ('98), and Dave Mankin ('98) returned, with awards for their proficiency in generating functioning computer code with speed, accuracy, and overall teamwork.

As Alexander jokingly put it, "The keys to our success were no practice, no sleep, and lots of alcohol." But in reality, it was a total of six years' experience with similar contests, all sponsored by the Association for Computing Machinery, that enabled the Rhodes team to place seventh out of 79 teams in the Mid-Central Region, and second out of seven at the Harding site.

Every year, the ACM hosts a series of contests aimed at rewarding the best college CS programming

team with substantial awards, including computers, software, and cash prizes.

The contests begin with regionals, with several different "satellite sites." The sites allow different teams easy access to the contest, but all teams compete with all other teams at all sites in a region. The Rhodes team came away with several hundred dollars in software, and expenses of the contest paid.

"The contest is a great team experience," Syed said. "It feels good to be able to compete with larger engineering and technical schools, and hold our own against them. Rhodes should expand its Computer Science department so we can win this contest."

Rhodes has been sending teams to the ACM contests for over seven years. Last year, the college sent two teams. Team A placed first at their site, and fifth in the region. Mankin, who was on Team A last year, summarized the programming contest experience, and gave his secret to winning: "The Egg McMuffin is on the way. Those always help."

## Great Moments In Rhodes History: The San Hedrin

By Steele Means  
Staff Writer

### The first in a continuing series examining Rhodes' past

Incoming students at Rhodes today need have no fear of hazing from the general student body. Many American colleges and universities, in response to the national outcry of recent years against the dangers and torments of hazing, have dropped their traditions of first-year hazing and have implemented regulations to control and subdue it on their respective campuses.

Rhodes has, for the most part, followed suit. However, there was a time when hazing of first-year students was not only widely practiced, but was also officially condoned and one of the traditions of the school known then as Southwestern.

"Woe to the Frosh [first-year student] who tampers with the dictums of the San Hedrin, mystic order of upperclassmen at Southwestern," declares an article in *The Sou'wester* issue of September 25, 1926.

According to the Southwestern yearbook of 1926, the San Hedrin was a council of upperclasspeople which ensured that incoming male students observed and abided by the traditions and customs of South-

western first-year students.

The San Hedrin was composed of one member from each fraternity, one independent man, and the editor of *The Sou'wester*. One member was elected High Priest, who was the leader of the council, and the other members retained the title of Elder.

The date of its founding is unknown to the author, but the original San Hedrin disbanded in 1923. However, upperclasspeople revived it in the fall of 1924.

"The San Hedrin soon inculcates into the savant that discipline is an insurmountable precept of life," according to an article in the October 1, 1926, issue of *The Sou'wester*.

The hazing and application of restrictive, often nonsensical, rules to first-year students was seen as furthering part of the Southwestern tradition and as an essential part of the maturing process of an incoming Southwestern man.

The San Hedrin had the power to uphold traditional regulations for

first-year students and to enact new rules for them as well, according to the Southwestern yearbook of 1926. Examples of these traditional regulations were the wearing of straw hats in the fall and rubbing down football players. First-year students

**The San Hedrin reserved the right to try and punish any first-year student who had violated the rules.**

were also expected to be polite and deferential to upperclasspeople at all times.

A public notice given by the San Hedrin on September 17, 1924, provides other examples of first-year rules. Among them were the prohibition of being out after 10 p.m. without the permission of the San Hedrin, requiring first-year students to make their dates by and through upperclasspeople. Meetings of first-year students held without the permission of the San Hedrin were prohibited.

It is important to note that,

while the wearing of straw hats was, for example, a first-year tradition at Southwestern, many of the rules enacted by the San Hedrin were not. The San Hedrin might implement certain regulations one year and different ones the next.

"The tower room torture den is maintained to mete out punishment to any Freshmen who violate any rules that are passed to govern their conduct," reports an article in *The Sou'wester* issue of October 11, 1930.

The San Hedrin reserved the right to try and punish any first-year student who had violated the rules.

*The Sou'wester* issue of October 14, 1927, provides a list of the names of people recently brought before the San Hedrin and their specific infractions. Their violations range from "being too pert" or "being entirely too fresh," to being out after 10 p.m.

As stated in the previous quote, the San Hedrin used a tower room, supposedly located in

Palmer Hall, to try and punish offending first-year students.

According to an article in the October 11, 1930, issue of *The Sou'wester*, the San Hedrin often employed physical chastisement in the form of paddling as the means of punishment.

"It is the aim of the mystic order of the girls' San Hedrin to abolish impudence of freshets to upperclassmen," according to an article in *The Sou'wester* of September 30, 1927.

A separate San Hedrin council enforced the rules of conduct prescribed for first-year women at Southwestern. First-year women were also subjected to nonsensical rules such as being forced to bow to upperclasswomen and to memorize the senior class roll.

The women's San Hedrin also staged humiliating activities such as burlesque shows in which first-year women were forced to participate, according to *The Sou'wester* issue of October 1, 1926.

The San Hedrin council came to an end in the fall of 1937, according to *The Sou'wester* issue of October 1, 1937.



## CAMPUS SAFETY LOG



11/3/97 - 11/9/97

11/3	11:46pm	Spann Place, rear: two alcohol violations issued
11/4	8:55pm	CLC Alarm - Supervisory alarm - checked ok
11/5		NO UNUSUAL ACTIVITY TO REPORT
11/6	1:10am	Spann Place, three Alcohol violations issued
	11:05am	Hardie, 2nd floor Palmer hallway: illness. Nurse and Campus Safety respond - no need to transport
	10:05pm	University Street: Attempt Burglary of an Auto: five suspects apprehended by Campus Safety and arrested by MPD, transported to Juvenile Court.
11/7		NO UNUSUAL ACTIVITY TO REPORT
11/8	9:10pm	Williford: Prank Call - Number traced, MPD notified and report filed. Victims will prosecute. Number turned over to MPD for prosecution.
11/9	1:31am	Williford: Disturbance: MPD and MFD called to the scene for an injured subject injured in fight off campus.
	5:50am	Tutwiler: Attempt Burglary of an Auto: one suspect apprehended by Campus Safety, arrested by MPD and transported to Jail
	4:30pm	Perkins Avenue (off campus-east Memphis) student reports her car wind shield apparently struck by what she believes to be a bullet. MPD called, report taken.
	9:50pm	Faculty/Staff Lot: 4 Alcohol violations issued

### STATS

ACCESS:	119
VISITORS:	741
CITATIONS:	57
JUMPS STARTS:	14
ESCORTS:	16
ALCOHOL VIOLATIONS:	9

## Workshop Encourages Incorporating Service Into Coursework

By Erin Davis  
Staff Writer

A service-learning workshop was begun last spring by professors Michael McLain and Joe Favazza after they received a Hill grant from President Daughdrill. During the workshop, students and faculty meet to discuss the integration of service into some of the courses here at Rhodes.

Although several courses at Rhodes already include service-learning, this is the first time in which a group of both faculty and students have assembled to discuss the merits, problems, and philosophy of the integration of service-learning into the Rhodes curriculum.

Students and professors have been aiding many Memphis-area service organizations, including the Vollentine-Evergreen Community Association (VECA) and the Civil Rights Museum, with valuable knowledge and service through these service-learning projects.

The basic criterion of service-learning is that must provide experiential learning outside the normal classroom setting, and benefit the community outside of Rhodes with the knowledge and skills students gain while studying on our campus.

Associate professor Steve Gadbois' Elementary Probability and Statistics classes, for example,

are helping VECA in "collection, proper analysis, and interpretation of data" which will aid that organization in various projects it is currently undertaking, and those it hopes to begin in the future.

Associate professor Lynn Zastoupil's history course on Gandhi is another service-learning course that is currently underway. Students in the class are working with the M. K. Gandhi Institute for Nonviolence, located at Christian Brothers University, as well as the Civil Rights Museum.

Morgan McMillian ('00) said of Zastoupil's Gandhi class "service-learning is really necessary to bring [the course] home. Without [service-learning], it would just be another history class and wouldn't be as special."

McMillian also said that making a service-learning course a requirement for all students might be good idea for the college.

For now, the workshop is focusing on the ways in which service-learning seems a natural part of the Rhodes environment. The Rhodes Mission Statement calls for "expanding the horizons of knowledge and scholarship" as well as "off-campus learning experiences."

Service-learning seeks to encompass these ideas by allowing students to put concepts into action outside the gates of Rhodes. President Daughdrill, when asked

for his thoughts on the benefits of service-learning, said that it was "an opportunity for everyone to do service" while at Rhodes. The President said that service-learning "is part of a celebration which inspires other students and faculty to be involved."

He added that service learning is a part of the Rhodes education that "students will take with them" after they graduate from Rhodes.

Another aim of the participants in the workshop is to provide a wide-range of service-learning courses that expand into areas which most people would not consider to be traditional service-learning areas.

The designated service-learning courses being offered this semester include everything from Plant Physiology and Elementary Probability and Statistics to Beginning Sculpture.

Other courses will become service-learning courses in the Spring 1998 semester.

These courses include Philosophy 370 (American Philosophy), History 223 (Women in American History), and German 202.

The participants in the service-learning workshop hope to expand the horizons of service-learning at Rhodes and make it a valuable part of many disciplines of Rhodes curriculum, well into the next 150 years of Rhodes College.

## Committee To Form Time Capsule For 150th And 200th Anniversary

By Seth Jones  
Staff Writer

Fifty years from now, the class of 2048 will dig up a plot of land on the Rhodes campus to uncover the life, people, and times of 1998.

That's the idea behind a time capsule project being assembled by a special committee for the 150th anniversary celebration. The committee is composed of several members of the class of 1998 and will be selecting objects for the capsule to reflect life at Rhodes College. In fifty years, at the college's bicentennial celebration, the capsule will be unearthed.

Inside, the capsule will contain objects representing facets of residence life, academic life, athletics, technology and service. Also, the

capsule will address issues such as diversity, campus safety, and predictions of what Rhodes, the students, and the world will be like in the year 2048.

"I feel as though the purpose is to capture the essence of what it means to be a member of the Rhodes community," said committee member Damon Norcross ('98).

Presently, the committee is gathering ideas for the project. "Anyone with suggestions is encouraged to contact any member of the committee . . . or to direct their inquiries to Associate Dean of Student Affairs Charlie Landreth," said committee member Michael Faber ('98). "Anyone and everyone is welcome to give input, we would actually really appreciate it."

## Dryers Now 60 Minutes

At last Thursday night's RSG meeting, it was announced that the drying times on campus dryers had increased from 45 minutes to 60 minutes.

According to sophomore senator Rachel Bozynski, RSG liaison to Brian Foshee, director of physical plant, the drying time is now 60 minutes at the same cost of 50 cents per load.

"There were complaints about the fact that the dryers were not drying long enough," said Bozynski. Bozynski and the external services commissioners, Rob Thompson ('99) and Vanessa Hardin ('00), have been in contact with Foshee to alleviate student concerns regarding the washers and dryers.

Foshee said that the washer/dryer vendor will be placing new signs in the laundry rooms in the upcoming weeks advising students on the new prices and drying times.

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## They Keep Going And Going And Going...

By Grant Gandy  
Staff Writer

Another year, two more SCAC championships. For the Rhodes cross country teams, harvesting SCAC titles has become just as much a part of fall as colored leaves and dropping temperatures. The men won their eighth straight title, and the women won for the third consecutive year.

This year's contests were closer than in years past, a fact noted by head coach Robert Shankman.

"In previous years I have known we were going to win going in to the meet, but this year I was on pins and needles," Shankman said. "The conference has improved, but we are still a step ahead."

The women set the standard in their race, with Nicole Horvath ('98) repeating as the individual champion for the third straight year. Emily Ferguson ('99) was close behind in second place, and Joy Johnson ('99) turned in a strong tenth place finish, closing out the all-conference ranks. Megan Emery ('99) placed 12th and Kelley Thompson ('01) placed 15th, splitting up a pack of runners from Centre to ensure the win. Jenny Gorman ('98), who placed 21st, and

Lara Harkins ('98), who placed 24th, added support in the sixth and seventh positions. Johnson summed up the women's effort.

"Our hard work this season was well rewarded with a championship," Johnson said. "Centre challenged us, but we came out on top."

Dave Thomasson ('98) and Mike Wottle ('99) took the lead early, eventually finishing second and third. Kosta Dalageorgas ('01) ran a strong race to finish in an all-conference tenth position. The top seven for the Lynx rounded out with Grant Gandy ('99) at 15th, Dan Spinnenweber ('99) at 17th, Matt Alexander ('01) at 19th, and Virren Malhotra ('01) at 27th.

"This win was really a team effort," Wottle said. "Other schools have some talented individuals, but we proved we had the better team."

The Lynx will travel to Sewanee this weekend for the NCAA Division III Southeastern Region meet. Horvath and Ferguson will be contenders to qualify for nationals, while Wottle and Thomasson will be dark horses to qualify on the men's side. Both teams have the potential for top three finishes and have finished in the top five for the past several years.

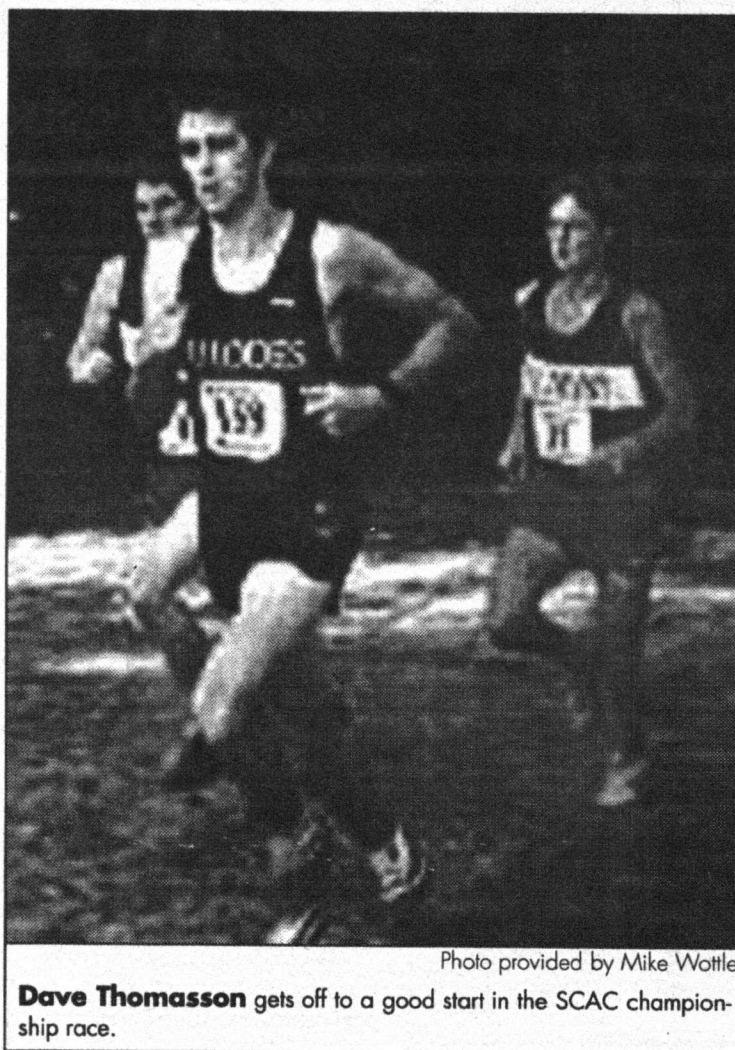


Photo provided by Mike Wottle  
**Dave Thomasson** gets off to a good start in the SCAC championship race.

## Ima Rec

By Farrah Fite  
Staff Writer

The Department of Recreational Services has been in full swing these past few months and has many more activities planned before the semester break. "Ima Rec" is a bimonthly *Sou'wester* article which will inform readers of the latest results and upcoming events in Intramurals and Recreational Services.

Flag Football season ended recently with victories for many in three divisions. The Lady's Division Title was captured by Leland's Team. In the Men's Black Division, Pike #2 defeated Mothership Connection with a score of 24-14, while the Pike #1 team defeated the SAE I team 18-13, clinching the Red Division Title. In the matchup of Fraternity brothers, the Pike #1 team held true to their name as they crushed their colleagues 42-6 to claim the All Campus Championship Title.

In other Rec. Service news, Wallyball play-offs are this week with four teams vying for the championship. Also, this Wallyball season shows there are the same number of faculty and staff teams as there are students teams.

Ultimate Frisbee began on Nov. 6 with two leagues and a total of nine teams. The season will run through the end of November.

Upcoming events include a Billiards Tournament, the Annual Shick 3-on-3 Basketball Tournament, and Exam Jam. The deadline for Billiards is Tuesday, Nov. 18, and the deadline for 3-on-3 is this Thursday, Nov. 13. Contact Heather Soto at x3466 for more information about Billiards and contact Mike Gonda at x3463 for information on the 3-on-3 Tournament. The Exam Jam will be held Friday, Dec. 12, from 10 p.m. to 2 a.m. The event is sponsored by Natural High, a division of Recreational Services, and is an opportunity for students to relax during the stressful finals week.

If you are interested in participating in Intramurals and/or Recreational Service programs, contact Kari Duncan at x3779. Duncan will be on maternity leave later this year and during that time, Soto and Gonda will be running the department's programs. Soto, a graduate of the University of Kentucky, is a graduate assistant pursuing a M.S. at the University of Memphis. In Sports Management. Gonda, a graduate of Rhodes, is also a graduate assistant pursuing a M.S. in Sports Management from the University of Memphis.

## Giddy-Up

Rhodes had four competitors place in various events at the Intercollegiate Horse Show Association. Here are the results from the show on the Oct. 25 and 26 at Murray State University. The Equestrian team has forty members and sent fourteen to this event.

### Saturday Show

#### Open Division

Chad Watridge - 2nd place over fences, 6th place on flat

#### Intermediate Division

Kate Bishop - 5th place over fences, 3rd place on flat

#### Novice Division

Kristin Kleber - Champion of division - 1st place over fences, 1st place on flat

#### Advanced Walk/Trot/Canter Division

Anne Markus - 6th place

### Sunday Show

Chad Watridge - 3rd place over fences, 2nd place on flat

Kate Bishop - 2nd place over fences, 3rd on flat

Kristin Kleber - 4th place on flat

Anne Markus - 3rd place on flat

## Revenge Not So Sweet For Lynx

By Jason Heller  
Staff Writer

Last Saturday afternoon, the rematch between the Lynx and the Millsaps Majors took place in Jackson, Ms. However, there were several differences this time around. A higher overall position in the SCAC standings, a chance to hand the Majors two losses this season, and the existing rivalry between us and them was motivation enough as the game was talked up ever since the last loss to Trinity University.

A little background information: Rhodes beat Millsaps in a last second come from behind victory during the second week of the season at home. It was by far the most memorable game of the season. Pat Williams ('00) found Austin Jowers ('00) in the endzone on a 10 yard slant pass with less than a minute left to snatch victory from the jaws of defeat.

Unfortunately, this time around, the Lynx came out a little flat and found themselves behind by a score of 29-7 with less than 11 minutes left in the game. Coach White made the switch to sophomore quarterback Williams and he delivered with al-

most the same success that he had earlier in the year against the Majors. Williams was 12-25 for 139 yards and 2 touchdowns. He also engineered another scoring drive culminating in a 1 yard touchdown run by Benard Quinn ('01) during the comeback bid.

Rhodes scored 19 unanswered points in the fourth quarter during a span of 6 minutes, and showed the offensive fire power that has been flashed several times throughout the season, but unfortunately has not been kept up for an extended period.

The comeback reached its peak when Rhodes clawed their way to only a 3 point deficit with 5 minutes left; however, this time there would be no last second victory for the Lynx. Millsaps scored with a little less than 3 minutes left, and the clock ran out with a final score of 36-26. The Lynx record dropped to 2-6.

Overshadowed by the amazing comeback attempt was the outstanding performance turned in by sophomore wide out Patrick Finley ('00), who had 10 catches for 191 yards and 2 touchdowns. The Lynx conclude their season at Centre next Saturday.