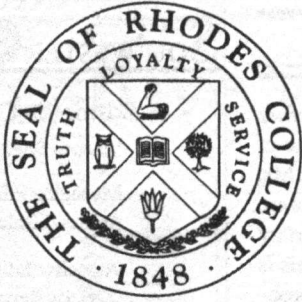


# Rhodes Defeats Sewanee See Page 4



## THE SOU'WESTER

The Weekly Student Newspaper of Rhodes College

Vol. LXXXV, No. 5

Wednesday, October 22, 1997

### No Hard Feelings After Masquerade Mishap

By Ford Baxter  
News Editor

A misunderstanding between two sponsors of the October 10 Masquerade Ball—the Rhodes Activities Board and the organization who principally organized the ball, Rhodes By Night—had students asking Thursday if the ball would even proceed. A missing soundboard the night of the ball, which left the party without music for a time until an alternate system could be found, resulted in the loss of an estimated 150 participants.

The controversy arose because RAB, which had committed \$200 to pay for the ball's DJ, discovered that RBN planned to incorporate their live action role-playing game into the ball. RAB Chair Suchi Pakkala ('99) contended that the game was an "exclusive" event since people could not simply arrive at the ball and participate in the game due to the September 25 deadline for role-playing participation.

Pakkala believed that RBN's flyers for the event "made the ball look like it was only for RBN members."

"Their signs said RBN up top—a person passing by might not pay any attention thinking that by participating they would be an RBN member," Pakkala said.

Also, RAB had encountered many students who felt uncomfortable with RBN and FOSTER's in-

volvement. RAB considers part of its duty to ensure as much participation in the events it sponsors as possible, thus the potential for losing involvement due to sponsoring groups was a very serious concern.

RBN's founders and leaders, Benji Hughes ('98), Ed Pichon ('98), and Brian Smith ('98), said that Pakkala approached them Thursday before the ball at 12:30 a.m. while they were posting flyers for the event. This, they say, was the first time RAB voiced its discontent to RBN about the planned inclusion of the game.

Ed Pichon, who conversed with Pakkala for "about two hours" early Thursday morning, said RAB believed it would be seen as sponsoring an organization, which RAB is constitutionally forbidden from doing. RAB can only support events that are open to the entire campus community and cannot engage in favoritism among groups. Because RBN exists to engage in live-action roleplay, RAB's helping to provide the means for this activity was seen as helping the organization itself, Pichon said.

"That's not the case," Pakkala

said. Pakkala gave the example that RAB sponsored a Christian singer along with Rhodes Christian Fellowship. Although such activities are part of RCF's mission,

RAB was able to sponsor it because RCF presented it as an activity for the entire campus.

See *Masquerade* on Page 6

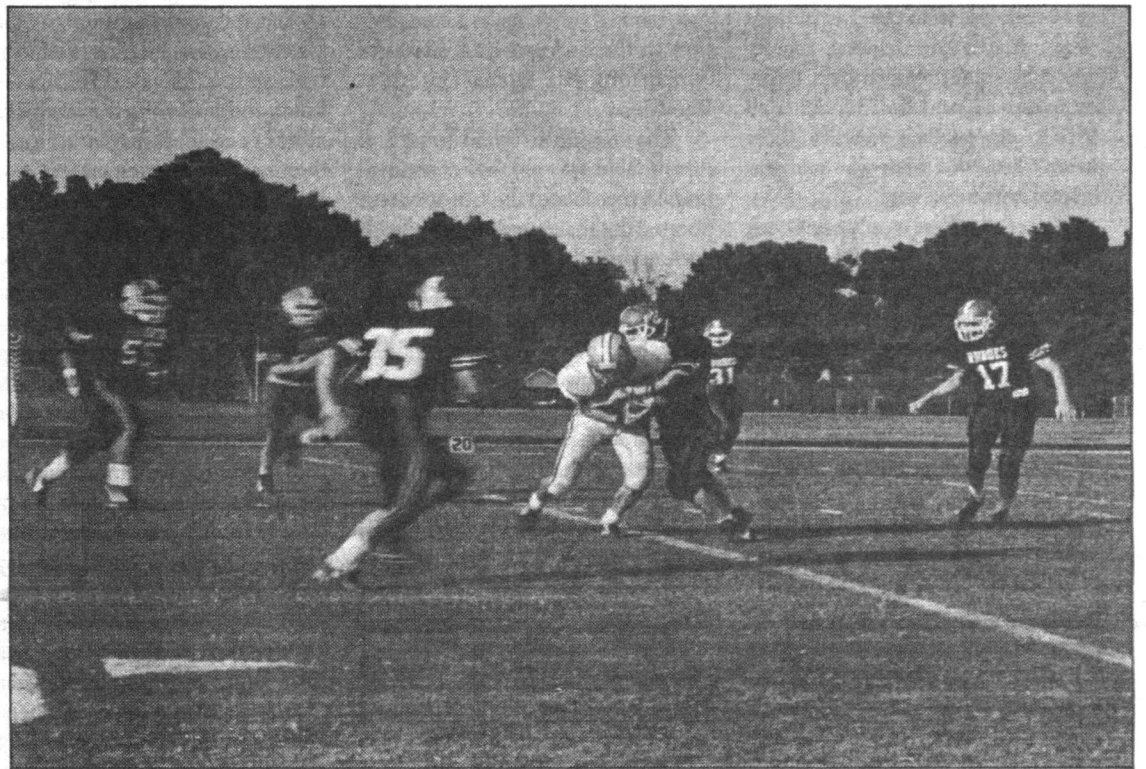


Photo by Chris McKenzie

Rhodes wins against huge rival Sewanee at the Homecoming game Saturday, October 18.

### Lexis-Nexis: Rhodes' Newest Information Database

By Angela Greeley  
Staff Writer

The Burrow Library recently purchased Lexis-Nexis, the world's most popular fully-searchable information database, for use on the ResNet. Well known for its comprehensiveness, this database contains full-text documents from wire services, magazines, and magazines world-wide, as well as government transcripts, academic and legal databases, trade journals, and corporate information.

Lexis-Nexis can be accessed from the Burrow Library icon on the Rhodes homepage. It is located under the Online Databases hotlink. The website address is [www.rhodes.edu/libhtmls/databases.html](http://www.rhodes.edu/libhtmls/databases.html).

This database is only one of several which have been added to Rhodes' list of online databases over the past few years. The other databases include:

**ABI/Inform:** This database deals with business and management topics. Many of the articles are available

as full-text documents. This is updated weekly and contains documents dating from Aug. 1971.

**NTIS—World Connection:** A service containing news reports and other documents in the area of International Studies. This full-text database replaces publications from the Foreign Broadcast Information Services.

**Project Muse Online Journals:** Access over 40 Project Muse online journals from the Johns Hopkins University Press. These are in full-text format.

**Latin American Database:** This is an online publisher and information source. LADB produces three weekly electronic publications (Sourcemex, EcoCentral, and NotiSur) and maintains an online searchable database of over 23,000 articles from back issues of LADB.

**PsychInfo:** This is the primary database for psychology and related fields. It searches journal articles and

books from 1987 to the present. The online version replaces the CD ROM index PsychLit.

**MLA Bibliography:** This is the standard bibliography for language, linguistics, and literature. The online version is accessed through the Associated Colleges of the South and covers 1963 to the present.

**FirstSearch Databases:** This is a gateway to WorldCat, ArticleFirst, ContentsFirst, FastDoc, ERIC, GPO, Medline, PapersFirst, and ProceedingsFirst.

**Online College Catalogues:** This is a full-text database of online college catalogues, both undergraduate and graduate.

Make note of the following CD ROM indexes in the Burrow Library: 1990 U.S. Census, BusinessLink, Newsbank and Religion & Theological Abstracts, Philosopher's Index, Social Science Citation Index, and Periodicals Abstracts Research II to be replaced by an online version.

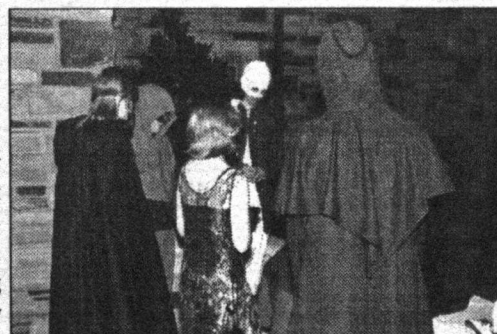


Photo by Amy Lawrence

Students gather outside the CLC during the Masquerade Ball on Friday, October 10.



## EDITORIAL OF THE SOU'WESTER

On Thursday, October 2, the Chancellor's Roundtable held its first meeting. The topic discussed dealt with the Greek system here at Rhodes College, and the dialogue and information presented targeted a number of issues needing to be addressed.

Issues of alcohol consumption by minors, issues of hazing, issues of Rush activities interfering with scholastic activities, and comparison of our Greek system to peer institutions were initiated and debated. Faculty members, fraternity members, sorority members, and independents all tried to express their views on these issues. Much of what was said was helpful, some was not.

Currently, there is only one Greek member on the Editorial Board. Perhaps this is due to the major amount of work required as a section editor that would possibly interfere with Greek activities and commitments. This is unfortunate for a number of reasons. First, while the editorial of *The Sou'wester* does not claim objec-

tivity, it would like to claim a wider perspective. With limited experience of Greek life, the information presented and observations made might possibly be incorrect because of the lack of inside experience on the part of the majority of the staff. However, as an outside body of experience, there is a distance achieved that allows an interpretation free from inside bias. What we present in this editorial is our opinion and our voice as a contribution to the dialogue and discourse concerning the Greek system at Rhodes.

The biggest issue addressed at Roundtable was alcohol consumption. A member of the Greek system pointed out that everybody drinks. It does appear that a large number of students, regardless of Greek affiliation do, indeed, drink, and it is a problem that does require serious attention. However, it might be more relevant not to share the blame and instead focus on how underage consumption within the Greek system

can be reduced. After all, this was the focus of the Roundtable meeting. Perhaps dry rushing would be beneficial.

The current plan is to make Rush dry by the year 2000, so that the then-current members (many of whom were underage when this resolution was proposed) could engage in an alcohol-related Rush. What concerns us is: first, underage drinking is illegal; second, it is dangerous; and third, the selection process for membership into the organization is already admittedly short, and impairing the mental faculties of a member may in fact weaken the process of selection that IFC President Mitchell Klink stated as "deciding if that individual had something to offer to the house and the house had something to offer to that individual".

Underage consumption negatively reflects on both the individual and the house. Is alcohol really necessary for Rush? Negative effects extend into the classroom, as the faculty members of Roundtable unanimously confirmed, and the potential for serious injury, either in the form of alcohol poisoning (the recent events at LSU and MIT come to mind) or drunk driving (since many of the Greek parties are held off-campus), is increased. If the members of the Greek community do believe alcohol is necessary, at least until the year 2000, we strongly urge them to monitor consumption by minors. Again, alcohol consumption is not limited to Greek social events, but the availability and pressure to engage in consumption is, we believe, intensified at said events.

Another key issue raised was the issue of how the Greek community fits in with the Rhodes community. Are there distinctions drawn by two distinctive groups, Greeks and non-Greeks? Or does everybody feel like a member of the community first, and as a member of a particular organization second? These are questions of personal identity, and must be answered on an individual basis. However, we would like to point out a couple of issues that possibly affect the answer one might come to.

Pride in an organization is key when it is mainly voluntary. The newspaper as an organization constantly feels the pressure to try to include staff members and make them feel appreciated, desired, and necessary. To boost their pride is to increase their loyalty, and all organizations, regardless of mission, know and attempt to utilize this observation. However, which tactics may cause factionalization beyond mere inclusion? Rivalry between houses is not

uncommon, and while living together in the dorms does alleviate some of this rivalry (as pointed out by Ms. Pennington), it still exists. Greeks are stigmatized as being anti-inclusionary by outsiders. Whether or not this is "real" it does point to a potential problem. "PR" was a buzz word mentioned several times at the Roundtable meeting.

Second, philanthropy seems to be mainly directed outside the community. We are not criticizing this move—indeed many of Memphis's neighborhoods and organizations benefit from community work coming out of Rhodes. But when there is little campus involvement, the image becomes one-sided. A party that lasts well into the evening and litters the campus with drunken bodies, empty beer cans, and vandalized halls becomes an image embedded in campus life, and the image of the Greek organization committing hours of community service is not often seen.

How then, does one go about improving the public image, maintaining a responsibility to alcohol awareness and consumption, and convincing potential members the benefits of Greek life? Simple: defer Rush for one year or at the very least one semester.

If a student is unable to Rush for an entire year, he or she is then able to see the different Greek organizations and interact in an atmosphere free of pressure to commit for an entire year. Greek members would be required to be more active in the campus community to be seen and to gain a better reputation.

Alcohol consumption by minors during Greek activities would be reduced, and the potential member of a Greek organization would be able to start college feeling like part of the campus community first and have adequate time to prepare and begin classes.

We do realize the potential problems of this action: namely "dirty" Rushing, extra expenses, and the possibility of not having a pledge class for an entire year, nor would the plan outlined above execute as smoothly as we have laid it out. These problems will most likely stake the current system to the ground, but perhaps it is worth considering.

Perhaps, even, it might be fruitful to look at alternative models—not with a skeptical eye as to how our system functions better, but with a critical eye to help implement the advantages these alternatives offer within our own system. A liberal arts education is, after all, an attempt to unify the best of the world in a holistic and responsible manner.

## Rhodes to Nowhere

by Justin Baker



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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 Tutthill 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.

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## A Positive View Of Rush (No, Not Limbaugh)

MELISSA STAMPLEY

ADVENTURE JUNKIE



A letter to the editor appeared in the September 10 issue of the Sou'wester which vehemently criticized Greek rush. The assertion was made that "The system of acceptance and rejection that is common practice for Greek societies goes against everything that this school is supposed to represent."

Although I respect this student's opinion, I feel this is an extremely broad generalization that is unfair as well as inaccurate.

First of all, let me make it clear that the Greek system, like any organization, is not perfect. Although the student admits that there may be some positive aspects of Greek life, she feels that "One of the primary purposes of sororities and fraternities is to give people a way to find accep-

tance by excluding others."

I think the depth of Greek organizations at Rhodes is being drastically overlooked. Rush is not designed to "exclude" anyone, rather it is a process which allows both the students going through rush, as well as the actives of each chapter to find new members who will uphold the values and purposes of the house. Essentially, rush is an attempt to *include* a wide variety of individuals who add different and unique aspects to each chapter.

As article two of the Panhellenic statement for Rhodes College points out, the purpose of sororities on this campus is "To maintain a high plain of sorority life such that the Greek experience is a positive force in the lives of women who choose it."

Of course the key words here are "positive force" and "to those who choose it." No one is forced to go through rush, and it is not difficult to reject the entire process by simply not taking part.

Contrary to popular belief, students are not, in fact, simply chosen for their "performance" in four

parties. A great deal more than first impressions and casual interactions is considered.

The qualities that a Greek organization looks for during rush are strikingly similar to what a college looks for in a potential student. Both processes are also extremely thorough and well thought out. Likewise, for the organization to function effectively, there must be a limit to those who are a part of it. The fact is, not all organizations can be productive with an unlimited number of members.

The most disturbing aspect of the letter, however, is the criticism of Greek Christians. The student believes that it is not possible to set a Christlike example when involved in an organization which "rejects people who don't fit their exact specifications." She alludes to Matthew 22:39 which commands one to "love your neighbor as yourself."

The point that is being missed is that rush has absolutely nothing to do with rejecting someone or not respecting an individual as a fellow person. It is about invit-

ing new members to take part in an organization which is founded, above all, on providing service for fellow "neighbors." Surely we can't assume that the administration at the admissions office is not Christlike simply because they are not able to accept everyone who applies.

Rather than condemning Christian Greeks, we should pause a moment to reflect on the reasons why they should be commended.

By joining a fraternity or sorority not only are they fulfilling their Christian values by offering service to those in need, they are also providing a positive example for their brothers and sisters as well as non Greek students at Rhodes.

Greek students help get others involved in charitable events such as canned food drives, blood drives, and numerous events to raise money for a variety of causes.

Rush is not what Greek life is about, and I can't express how much this is true at a small school like Rhodes where it is much more laid back than larger universities. Here at Rhodes, the process of in-

cluding new members to join only lasts about two weeks, yet each chapter offers time and effort to various causes for an entire year.

I'm sure not everyone is aware that members of Greek organizations are required to remain active in community service projects as well as clubs or activities which are not associated with the Greek system.

Life is a process of give and take. Sure, the fact that Greek organizations can't include an unlimited number of members is troubling, but on the other hand, I feel the positive aspects greatly outweigh the negative.

If there were not Greek organizations at Rhodes College, would as many individuals take the moral responsibility to serve others? Of course some would, and there are obviously other organizations at this school founded on service.

Still, when 51% of the college population takes part in an organization which contributes positively to the community, their fellow students should not criticize, but rather support their efforts.

## Got Those Marginalized Republican Blues?

BRADY POTTS  
THE MACHIAVELLIAN



Recently I've been catching a lot of flack through the grapevine and over Rat-time conversation about the supposed liberal bias of the Sou'wester in general, the Op/Ed pages specifically. Well, my first response was "Bias? In an editorial? Golly gee, I wonder how THAT could have happened..."

Were I a simple columnist, I could leave it at that and go my merry, Administration-bashing way, dealing out hot molten death in the form of witty barbs and hastily-formed opinions. Instinctively, I would have left it at a few choice words about how the poor conservatives get absolutely no representation at this institution.

God knows that the Board of Trustees are a bunch of libertine,

potsmokin', longhair, F.O.S.T.E.R.-funding goombahs. While we're at it, let's not forget the R.S.G., elected by the students and not a conservative senator in the Marxist bunch. And the Presbyterian Church? Why, they're the Moonies of Protestantism! What's a poor Republican to do?

But no, with my new parking space and salary as Op/Ed Editor—oh wait... make that, with my new door deck—comes great responsibility. So allow me to rebut.

First off, I will admit that as long as we're making polar distinctions about political positions, the "liberal" columnists outweigh the "conservative" ones. Or rather, the liberal columns outweigh the conservative columns.

Here, in my opinion (there's that word again), is why: The majority of columns discuss issues. Issues arise when the people in charge do something that the columnist does not like. The administration at the college is fairly conservative. Ergo, columns tend to be more liberal than the administration that they discuss.

When, however, a columnist is responding to a statement or actions made by students, it is very likely that the columnist could hold a more conservative position than is typically seen on these pages.

And I think it's a point worth making that being more liberal than the Rhodes College administration does not make one a card-carrying Leftist.

I would hazard a guess that our Managing Editor, a proud Republican, is nevertheless more liberal than the average Board of Trustee member.

We select our writers by their ability to tackle individual issues, not maintain a hard-line position. Our bias towards writers is thus: we are trying to cultivate a depth of discussion that a straight party line tends to overlook.

Besides, extremism on either side of the fence is boring. Kill the extremists, I say.

With the requisite bad pun out of the way, let's move on to my next point. There's a little section on these pages called "Letters to

the Editor." That means that you, dear reader, are invited to drop us a line and let us know what you think about what we're doing, or what the school is doing, or even what you're doing if it has relevance to the school as a whole.

Still disgruntled? Okay, consider this. I've been advertising an open space for a columnist for the last month! That's right, a whole month.

We recently ran an advertisement for, according to the ad, an "alternative conservative newspaper" designed to give conservatives or libertarians a forum that they apparently lack for those who "believe in competition." I'm offering a forum right here.

So here's an open call to any conservative who is willing to look at problems as an individual and not a political division. Submit a sample column to me, here at the Sou'wester: 600 words, preferably topical, opinionated, and well-written. That's all I ask. Email me if you have questions: potcb@rhodes.edu.

Remember, folks, that this is in

fact your school, and while sometimes it may be necessary to give the mainstream organizations the finger and start your own group, there is a lot to be accomplished by taking advantage of established institutions. (Advocating the mainstream? How liberal of me.)

So take advantage of me. Please. We at the Sou'wester do not discriminate on the basis of creed, color, gender, height, weight, shoe size, or anything else... except of course, taste in beer. "Natty Light" has no friends here.

Give it a try; you'll have a fair shot at getting your name in newsprint, if not lights. I'll give you a chance if you give me one.

Any perceived hostility on my part has everything to do with those who criticize my work or my positions without addressing me directly and publicly, and nothing to do with anyone's political beliefs.

I have nothing against Republicans. Hey, some of my best friends are Republicans.

Not that there's anything wrong with that.



# Homecoming

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SOU'WESTER

Wednesday, October 22, 1997

## Rhodes Steps Up To Challenge, Beats Sewanee In Homecoming

By Jason Heller  
Staff Writer

Despite facing overwhelming odds last Saturday, the Rhodes football team met the challenge of the University of the South and treated this year's largest crowd of 3,226 to a rare win.

They met the challenge of the 18th ranked rushing offense in the country (251 ypg), the 29th ranked defense in the nation (Sewanee only allows 244.4 yards per game), the pressure of winning their Homecoming despite the poor beginning of the season, and among many other things, they faced the possibility of losing to one of their biggest rivals at home for the first time in 14 years. Sewanee was a heavy favorite going into the game.

Throwing all the hype out, the Lynx came to play and placed a whipping on the Tigers.

The story of the game was senior quarterback Brent Keller ('98), who was extremely impressive playing in his final Homecoming of his career. Having by far his best outing of the season, he threw for 223 yards on 14-22 passing (60%) and 3 touchdowns.

Almost as impressive were the receiving trio of Patrick Finley ('00), with 5 catches for 91 yards, John Ferguson ('00), with 3 catches for 71 yards and 1 touchdown, and Kila



Photo by Chris McKenzie

**Kyle Ryan (50) and Micheal Lara (48)** help the lynx bring down a Sewanee player. The victory against Sewanee Friday moves the lynx to a record of 2-4 for the season.

Wilson ('01), with 3 catches for 71 yards and 1 touchdown. Defensively, the Lynx were again led by Jason Walter's 13 tackles, and the numerous tackles for negative yards by Matt Smith ('98), Fred Wix ('98), and Kyle Ryan ('99).

The game began ominously for the Lynx with Sewanee taking the opening kick-off and driving the length of the field for their first touchdown of the afternoon. However, that was when Keller took over and moved the offense for 2 unan-

swered touchdowns.

The defense tightened and only allowed the vaunted rushing attack of the Tigers to get a field goal with 4:07 left in the first half. Keller then marched the Lynx down the field throwing for 70 yards on 5 for 6

passing, hooking up with a variety of receivers. With only 26 seconds left in the half, Keller hit Austin Jowers ('00) for a four yard touchdown. The kick failed and the Lynx went into half-time with a rare lead of 20-10.

In the second half, the Lynx defense dominated, limiting the Tigers to minimal success. The University of the South turned the ball over on downs in their first three possessions of the third period. They punted in their following two possessions. Their offense had been rendered totally ineffective by the swarming Rhodes defense. With 6:03 left in the game, Keller drove the nail through the Tigers' coffin with a 12 yard touchdown pass to Ferguson.

Down 27-10, Sewanee took to the air only to be intercepted by one of their own. Matt Wilkenson ('00), a reserve linebacker originally from Sewanee, TN, picked off a pass ensuring the victory for Rhodes. Sewanee later tacked on a meaningless touchdown with 1 minute left, but the celebration had already begun.

With a few games left in the season, it is still possible for Rhodes to salvage a winning season for first year head coach Joe White. Hopefully the Lynx will use this extremely gratifying victory as a spring board to help turn around their season. Their next game is this Saturday at Colorado College.

## Alumni Come Home To A New And Different Rhodes

By Peter Snow  
Staff Writer

For recent graduates, Homecoming 1997 was an opportunity to catch up with old friends and check out the Campus Life Center that they saw being built while undergrads, but could never fully take advantage of. Many alumni commented on the flurry of construction in recent years: the improved bleachers for the football field, new tennis courts, and, of course, the gothic castle humbly dubbed the "CLC." However, for older alumni celebrating 50 and 60 year anniversaries, the changes were more than a few architectural improvements.

Gladys Pierce ('37) spoke lovingly about "Southwestern" and praised it for always having been a "school of high ideals." She told stories that were telling of the times she lived in and of the closeness of the

student body. Southwestern football games, according to Pierce, sparked many memorable weekends. The night before a football game, students gathered together for a pep rally and bonfire. Pierce recalled one rally that broke into revelry as the students joined hands and did a "snake dance" down Main Street.

"Memphis was much safer, then," Pierce said. After a long and jumbled journey in and out of several stores, the dance ended at Lowe's Theatre, where everyone plopped down to watch the show. Shortly, however, ushers removed most of the unruly Southwestern students.

"For some reason, they let me stay," said Pierce. Given her bright eyes and warm smile, it is no wonder that the ushers left her alone. Humorously, Pierce said that she had written a poem entitled "Old

Age is the Pits" for an alumni function Saturday night, even though she seemed to be making the most of her retirement.

Eugene Agnew ('37) also remarked on how seriously Southwestern students used to take their football team. Before he was a student at the college, Agnew remembered selling cokes at Southwestern football games. One player in particular captured Agnew's attention, Harold "Chicken" High. Weighing well under one hundred and fifty pounds, fans expected High to have a career full of bruises and broken bones.

To Agnew's surprise, though, High was the "most elusive player" he had ever seen, and very successful. Students and teammates rallied around the little player, their fervor marked by the one time High was injured by a late hit. Southwestern was playing Hammond College at

home and High ran the ball out of bounds next to the opposing team's bench. Obscured from the view of the official, the Hammond player in pursuit hit High in the back. According to Agnew, a Southwestern student (who had been working the down markers) jumped on the offending Hammond player, and then battle royale ensued. The Hammond bench was the first to clear, then that of Southwestern, until finally all the fans were on the field as well. Agnew, then only thirteen or fourteen years old, took the cokes he was selling and "ran to the top of the stands" to escape the mayhem.

Harland Smith ('47) recalled a much more disciplined Southwestern. Living in Collierville, Smith would get up at eight o'clock every morning so that he could make it to Hardie Auditorium in time for chapel services. Noting how much

Memphis has changed over the years, Smith said that there was "only one stop light" on his commute between Collerville and Southwestern. A student having a crisis of faith, he added, was still compelled to attend chapel, since excessive absences resulted in additional required credit hours to graduate. Furthermore, everyone wore formal attire to meals: coats and ties were the standard for men.

Many of the older Rhodes alumni spoke about the structural growth of the college from a mere four buildings when they were in school to the many that now make up the campus. (One woman of the class of '37 said that she had been lost for the better part of the day.) For these alumni, however, Homecoming was less a showcase of new buildings than it was a reflection on the kind of "home" Southwestern once provided for them.



# Arts & Entertainment

Wednesday, October 22, 1997

SOU'WESTER

Page 5

## Indigo Girls Play At Mud Island

By Hallman Graves  
Staff Writer

On October 16, at Mud Island Amphitheatre, Indigo Girls Amy Ray and Emily Saliers played with the relentless energy and talent that has persisted throughout their career. The night was truly a pleasant evening, complete with the Indigo Girls' impressive acoustic skill and vocal harmonization set in front of the Memphis city lights and the currents of the Mississippi River.

Although the show was not sold out, the enthusiastic crowd ranged from screaming fourteen-year-old girls to more sedate young adults and a number of Rhodes students. The small space and familiar atmosphere at Mud Island made the show personal and comfortable for the crowd. There really was no bad seat. The crowd remained standing except during the more peaceful songs, but continued to sing all the way through the concert. Saliers and Ray stopped singing many times to find their words carried by the passionate crowd.

The set list consisted primarily of songs from *1200 Curfews* and their newest CD, *Shaming of the Sun*. The Indigo Girls opened with a remake of Bob Dylan's "Tangled Up in Blue." "Shame On You," "It's Alright," "Least Complicated," "Galileo," "Thin Line," and "Land of Canaan" seemed to be the crowd's favorites.

While some enjoyed the selec-

tions from *Shaming of the Sun*, others wanted to hear fewer new songs and more of their old favorites. Samantha Laffoon ('00) commented, "The Indigo Girls' first few albums are what people know and what they listen to and why they come to their concerts."

The new stuff is different and it does not sound like the Indigo Girls. Some things aren't meant to be changed." Many, like Samantha, felt that the selections from *Shaming of the Sun* had abandoned the wonderful folklore and powerful lyrics of their previous collections for a modernized edge with which the crowd was not comfortable. Despite the prominence of new material, the Indigo Girls gave the crowd the heartfelt performance that they expected.

Saliers and Ray left the crowd pleased by concluding the concert with an all-time favorite "Closer to Fine." With a little outside assistance from the opening artist, Terri Binion, the song rang in the ears of the audience. Saliers and Ray explained that "Closer to Fine" is meant to be a "sing along."

They pride themselves in the fact that no two versions of the song are exactly alike and encourage the audience to sing with them. This version was true to its purpose. When the lights came on and the crowd streamed out of the amphitheater, the lyrics, as always, remained with them as they walked by the river on the way home.

## Joe Deal Photography Reflects Southern Californian Culture

By Erin Riches  
Staff Writer

When we think about the population explosion in the Los Angeles vicinity, we tend to emphasize scenes of urban violence and conglomerations of skyscrapers gouging through layers of smog. Instead, Joe Deal shows us the southern California we forget—and perhaps the only one that is real to the majority of those who seek its sunshine and opportunity.

Deal's exhibition of black and white photographs at the Clough-Hanson Gallery (Oct. 18–Nov. 14), "Joe Deal: Southern California Photographs, 1976–1986," takes 10 years of the explosion as it happened in the huge expanse of bedroom communities that surround Los Angeles—from Long Beach on the coast and miles inland to valley cities like San Bernardino.

Deal, who is dean of the School of Fine Arts at Washington University in St. Louis, Mo., seems particularly interested in the ways people have changed their environment through architecture. While humans are not always direct participants in his photographs, his landscapes never get relief from their constant, even destructive demands.

Many of the photographs capture the middle-class planned communities in varying stages of construction. Others show the neat completion of model houses, playgrounds, amusement parks, and mobile homes carefully arranged in the valleys and along the Pacific.

But Deal forces us to see more than just the clean lines of a freshly constructed home with a two-car garage. His housing communities in Diamond Bar and San Bernardino do not look like neighborhoods—the repetitive economy of their construction suggests a revolting predictability and monotony to life in the valley.

Even worse, Californians may find themselves at the mercy of developers who leave communities unfinished: "Inversion Layer, Chino Hills, California," 1983, shows the shell of a house as an exposed foundation and no yard, and "Model Home, Phillips Ranch, Califor-

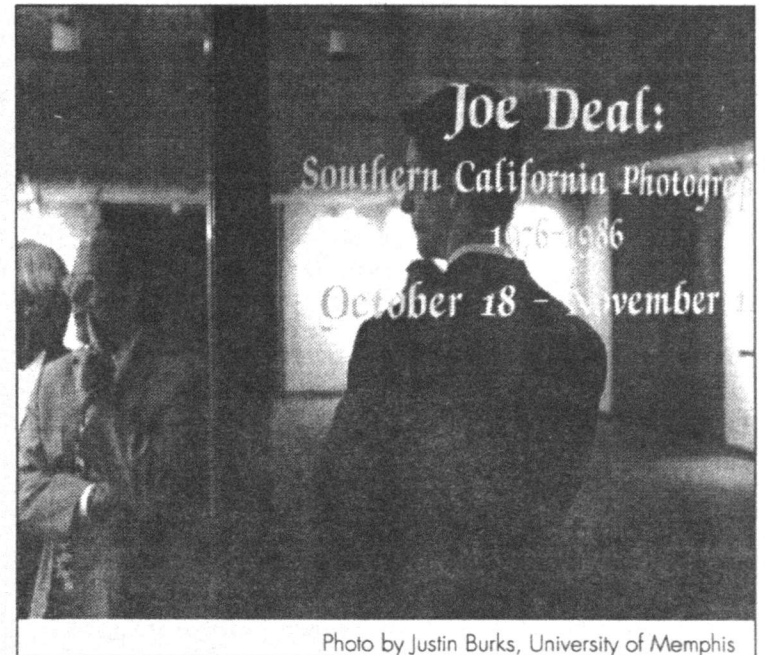


Photo by Justin Burks, University of Memphis

nia," 1984, shows a house backed up to unnatural hills that suggest mining and have dirt piles in front.

Lethargic palms along highways and treeless, grassless yards with metal swingsets suggest that nature has yielded to the concrete and metal that thrive in sundrenched glory.

A tree with an impressive network of branches, even in death, tries futilely to hide the smog that has settled over a planned community in "Topos #24," 1986. Tightly packed mobile homes are pushing an eroding beach into the ocean in "Newport Beach, California," 1978. An imposing set of waterslides strangles the land, reducing it to barrenness, in "San Fernando, California," 1978. These slides have already defeated nature in a destructive game, but the mobile homes have not yet won.

Deal seems to view the game of unnatural selection, a game that dense population and mass construction have forced southern California to play, with neutrality and detachment.

People seem to be enjoying the amusement parks and playgrounds, but the expansiveness of his photographs makes the people seem as small and insignificant as their homes.

We might infer the paradox that the

people who live in these communities feel an increased sense of isolation, even as the population explodes. Isolated, literally, from the natural environment that has been brutally compromised. Isolated, perhaps, by the monotony of popular culture.

"Front Lawn, Phillips Ranch, California," 1984, may offer the manifestation of the new ideal for the middle-class Californian—a small but brand new home with a green lawn that the owner is watering and a Honda Accord out front.

Deal also has a series of color photographs, "Men and Women," in the smaller room of the Clough-Hanson. Several individuals, whom we know only by their first names and locations, are engaged in what seem to be ordinary processes. The longer we look, however, the more we sense that these tasks have a greater significance for the individual, who is always alone.

In "Jim, Portland, Oregon," a shirtless man is watching television, but we soon notice that he is only watching scrambled fuzz, and is sitting too close to the screen. Deal's suggestion in these photographs may be that seemingly ordinary processes can mask issues of greater complexity for these people.

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## Professor Spacks Speaks On "The Logic Of Self-Love"

By Hallman Graves  
Staff Writer

Rhodes was fortunate to have Patricia Meyers Spacks as a guest on Thursday, October 9. On behalf of the Phi Beta Kappa Visiting Scholar Program, Professor Spacks spoke on "The Logic of Self-Love in Jane Austen and *Frankenstein*."

Spacks engaged the audience consisting mainly of faculty and English majors in talks that forced them to think in alternative ways about familiar works of literature. Although some students did not take advantage of this opportunity, many students felt fortunate to have such an experience.

"Attending lectures outside of your discipline is one of the best ways to reap the rewards of a liberal arts education," Hallie Mitchell ('99) said.

Spacks analyzed the complication of the female perspective in the Romantic Age in regards to the topic of self-love through the works of Austen and Shelly.

In this period, Spacks comments, the idea of self-love often wrongly connotes a more negatively interpreted focus on the individual self.

This self-respect or inward attention is viewed negatively in the Romantic Age especially when connected to women.

Self-respect and self-love are not connected, only self-infatuation is associated with this term. While the topic of self-love seems necessary for human survival, it can also cause religious and social problems.

Spacks explored the different forms self-love can assume and the problems it can create. Through the female voice of Austen and Shelly, Spacks made an interesting commentary on the components of self-love and its connection to the period of Romanticism.

Professor Spacks is currently a Shannon Professor of English at the University of Virginia and has chaired the English departments at Yale and Virginia, where she received the Outstanding Faculty Award. She is a past president of the Modern Language Association. Her books include *The Female Imagination, Desire and Truth: Functions of Plot in the Eighteenth Century English Novels*, and *Boredom: The Literary History of the State of Mind*.

## Rat Policy Changes For Take-Out Boxes

By Seth Jones  
Staff Writer

Students wishing to take food from the Rat back to their dorms may find themselves in a jam.

Because of a new policy, students must now bring either a note from a Resident Assistant saying that the student is sick and cannot eat in the cafeteria or must provide ARAMARK with a class schedule proving that they do not have time for a lunch

break. Previously, anyone who wanted to eat outside of the cafeteria could request his or her food to go in a styrofoam box.

The new policy was designed by Dean of Administrative Services Allan Boone and Food Services Manager Tim VanderMeersch in response to fears that students would get a to-go box, leave the food sitting around for a few hours, then eat it and become sick.

"We just don't have any control over where this food is going and when it is being eaten," said VanderMeersch.

"We're not toddlers," RSG senator Mark Anderson ('00) said. "I think we can use common sense when eating food from the Rat."

Because of the new policy's unpopularity with students, RSG has assigned the matter for investigation by the Student Life Committee.

## Masquerade

Continued from Page 1

"Rhodes By Night did not make it clear that this was not Rhodes By Night's ball" Pakkala said.

According to RBN, they were inspired by the Campus Life Center's Grand Ballroom in May 1997 to start an annual Masquerade Ball that would give the beautiful facility the kind of event it deserves.

RBN twice discussed the planned event with Director of Student Activities Cindy Pennington, and then made its proposal to the RAB on September 24. They did not include their plans to incorporate their role playing game at that time.

"We left it out because we didn't want funding for it," Hughes said. "We did not want nor need anybody's help with the game. We considered the activities to be separate things, drawing from different resources."

RBN said that they discussed their plan to integrate the game, with RAB present, on September 28 in the general planning meeting with all of the ball's sponsors, including Model UN, FOSTER, ASIA, GROUP, and Philosophy Club. Of all these organizations, RBN says, only ASIA and RAB later claimed no knowledge of RBN's plans.

Pakkala said that when she arrived at the September 28 meeting, RBN members were talking about "player this and player that," but that since she had no reason from past discussions with RBN to think they were referring to the night of the ball, or the time and place of the ball, she did not think they were talking about a part of the Masquerade Ball itself.

"I basically found out by word of mouth that they planned to include the game in the ball the week before Fall Break," Pakkala said. "I set up an

appointment with Ed Pichon for October 2, but he missed it and the next time I was able to contact him was the next week, the week of the ball." Pakkala said that it was early Wednesday morning, not Thursday, that she was first able to make contact with RBN.

RBN readily admitted that they were negligent in making their plans explicit because they did not communicate those plans in their initial proposal to RAB.

"We thought we were going to be part of a number of groups donating time and money into the ball, and we were fine with that," Hughes said.

Allocations Board Chair David Wells ('98) said that on the Thursday before the ball, Pakkala asked him if he could "punish" RBN through the allocations process. The plan was, according to Wells, to extract the \$200 from RBN if they played their game at the ball.

However, to compensate RBN for their time and effort in removing all their signs and posting more explicit ones, and recognizing that the group has a large, dedicated membership of 45 students who give their own money, Wells recommended to the Allocations Board that they give \$350 to RBN.

RSG has recommended that RBN be recognized as a Category II group eligible for funding, but RBN had not gone through the recognition process at that time. Dean of Student Affairs Mel Hokanson and President Daughdrill must approve RBN's Category II status, and then after one year the organization will be eligible for funding.

RSG President Damon Norcross ('98) and Wells encouraged RBN to request that RAB remove its involvement. Wells believed it was more important for RBN to be involved because their large membership

would provide the ball with a core group of people. He added that RBN, as a nonmainstream group, provides diversity on the campus that outweighs RAB's priorities. Thursday night RBN discussed this option with Pakkala, who agreed removing RAB's sponsorship would be best if RBN planned to continue with the game. The night before the ball, RBN removed all the flyers that included RAB's name. RAB made their final decision the day of the ball.

Pichon said he holds "no hard feelings toward the Rhodes Activities Board."

"I am concerned, though, by what I perceive as a possible unfair bias," Pichon said. "Otherwise, this was just an unfortunate misunderstanding. The conversation was never unfriendly, just stubborn on both sides."

"The fact that they were Rhodes By Night had nothing to do with our not sponsoring the event—just the fact that we don't sponsor organizations," said Pakkala.

Pakkala feared that RBN misinterpreted her observation, "We're going to have to work extra hard, since the campus is generally against FOSTER and RBN, to assure the campus that it's an event they can go to."

"I think they took that to mean that RAB was including that in their decision, but our purpose is to be objective when we judge anything" Pakkala said.

Regarding RAB's charges of exclusion, RBN said that their organization is open to anyone who wants to participate, and the flyers advertised a September 25 deadline for participating in the game. As for "disrupting the ball," RBN said that the rules of the game itself call for the participants to keep a low profile. The Masquerade convention ensures that nobody knows who is playing the game and who is not.



Photo by Chris McKenzie

Kristen Fox ('98) and Damon Norcross ('98), were named Mr. and Ms. Rhodes at the Homecoming game Saturday, October 18.

### STUFF TO DO

Wednesday October 22, 8 P.M. CLC Grand Ball Room- T.J. & Joel-Aids Speakers

Thursday October 23, 5 P.M. Hyde Hall- D.U.I. See administrators get drunk!

Friday October 24, 11:15 P.M. Mallory Gymnasium- Midnight Madness!

Saturday October 25, 8 P.M. Ampitheatre -Silence Of The Lambs.



## Panelists United In Support Of Union Ideal

By Steele Means  
Staff Writer

Students and professors came together on Tuesday, October 14 in the Rat to discuss the place of unions in American society today. The event was sponsored by the Moore Moore townhouse, and the panel of professors consisted of Professor of Political Science Marcus Pohlmann, Minority Fellow of History Russell Wigginton, and Associate Professor of Business Administration Dee Birnbaum.

As each professor was introduced, he or she briefly stated his or her interest in, or affiliation with, unions. Pohlmann said that he was a card-carrying member of three unions at the moment. His union affiliation began in his college days when he was working to put himself through school. He joined because he thought that unions helped him to receive fair wages and also because he believed in collective bargaining between management and workers.

"Workers should have a say in the decisions of their workplaces," Pohlmann said.

Wigginton said that he was not a member of any union but that he had a strong academic interest in them. He stated that he had a specific interest in the history of the railroad industry and also in

railroad unions for the fact that African-Americans had consistently played a role in the American railroad industry.

Birnbaum said that she had held various management positions in companies in the past and that, despite this fact, she is not antiunion.

"Lousy management is responsible for negative relationships with unions," Birnbaum said.

The first question put to the panel concerned the reasons for the negative opinion surrounding unions today. Pohlmann responded by saying that certain aspects of unions run counter to American political culture. In addition, Pohlmann said that the media plays a large role in the negative stereotype of unions. The mainstream media is made up of large businesses, according to Pohlmann, and therefore strikes are covered from a negative angle. The media also has a tendency to stress the corruption present in unions and to gloss over some of the positive aspects.

"We see unions as corrupt, greedy, and troublemaking, and this image is fed by the media," Pohlmann said.

One student, referring to the demands of the U.P.S. strikers, inquired as to why management should give full benefits to part-

time workers. Wigginton responded to this question first by saying that people naturally want to retain that standard of living which they have built up for themselves. Since companies are currently in the process of downsizing, there are, and will be, many displaced people who once occupied the high echelons of power. These people want jobs that will continue to meet the demands of their life-style, not part-time work.

"The trend towards having fewer jobs that pay a living wage will be a problem for U.S. society," Pohlmann said.

The next question concerned the effect of temporary jobs on unionization. Birnbaum said that the phenomena of widespread temp work makes it very difficult for unions to organize, since a temp worker ideally works for many different companies.

The last question of the evening addressed the future of unions in America. Pohlmann remarked that union membership is declining and that unions hopefully will be able to accommodate the workers in the modern service-sector area of employment.

Wigginton stressed the need for unions to take a different approach today and not simply focus upon trying to secure higher wages for workers.

"Education is needed on that which workers can benefit from in the long-term by being in a union," Wigginton said.

"If unions are creative and smart, they will discover new measures of action for a new economic system," Birnbaum said.

## Levine Lectures On American Identity

By Lisa Roy  
Staff Writer

Distinguished historian Lawrence Levine provided insight into questions of American identity in a lecture sponsored by the Department of History on Monday, October 13.

Levine, Professor of History at George Mason University and a past president of the Organization of American Historians, spoke from his recent publication *The Opening of the American Mind* which defends the role of multiculturalism in education. His lecture, entitled "The Search for American Identity," gave a historical context in which to examine multiculturalism.

According to Levine, scholars in the nineteenth century became intrigued with the question posed by Alexis de Tocqueville: What links diverse individuals in the United States together? Emerson saw the US as a "smelting pot" and Crèvecoeur argued individuals "melted" to create a new American.

Levine proffered that there were two differing interpretations of the melting pot historically; one theory was represented by Emerson and Crèvecoeur, while the other theory, which triumphed until the dawn of the politically correct era, was composed of a melting pot in which individuals conformed to an Anglo-Saxon identity.

Levine imparted that the triumph of this second version led W.E.B. DuBois to ponder, "Am I an American?" Discussing the repeated waves of nativism in American history, Levine noted that many Ameri-

cans have in every generation feared those immigrants who failed to assimilate into Anglo-Saxon culture. Reality clearly did not match theory, Levine pointed out, and the experience of immigrants and of African-Americans led some to pronounce the "melting pot" a failure at the beginning of this century.

Punctuating his lecture with personal anecdotal evidence, Levine spoke of growing up as the son of a Lithuanian Jew who had immigrated to New York. Levine said that the patriotism of his father was undeniable: his father loved baseball and his fervent allegiance to the Democratic Party led him to vote against a Republican Jew. And yet once a month his father met to converse in Yiddish with a society composed of other Lithuanian Jews.

"I understood from early in my life I didn't have to choose between culture venues as much as navigate, negotiate," Levine said.

Immigration throughout American history has forced American society to continually re-examine its identity and recall its principles, Levine concluded. Increasingly in the twentieth century, Americans have been exploring culturalism and abandoning the Anglo-Saxon version of the melting pot: Americans began to recognize that in the personages of such figures as Elvis Presley, the effects of many cultures could be seen. Ultimately, Levine offered, continual immigration has made American society what it is today and what it will be tomorrow.

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