

THE SOU'WESTER

The Weekly Student Newspaper of Rhodes College

Vol. LXXXVIII, No. 16

Wednesday, February 28, 2001

Campus News...

All stories courtesy of U-Wire

Jennifer Gorski ('01), the chairman of the Georgetown University (Washington, D.C.) chapter of College Republicans, has complained of sexual harassment by a high-ranking official in the Republican national college committee. Gorski and two other employees of the Republican National Committee and the College Republican National committee submitted affidavits to the RNC earlier this year. Gorski claims that the official acted unprofessionally, making unwanted sexual advances and inappropriate lewd and/or personal comments. Her allegations also include misuse of funds for personal expenses. The NRC has made a decision, but has not revealed it, and the official declined to comment.

A University of California-Santa Barbara (Santa Barbara, CA) student was arrested Friday night after his car struck five people, killing four and injuring one. Police estimate that the car was travelling between 50 and 65 miles per hour through the downtown residential area, a 25 mph zone. Two of the victims were UCSB students, one was a Santa Barbara resident, and one a Santa Barbara City College student. The other victim is expected to survive, but was in critical condition as of yesterday. The car side-swiped several cars along the curb before hitting the pedestrians. The driver was detained by passersby when he tried to leave the scene, and later refused a field sobriety test. Police are waiting on the results of a blood test to determine if he was intoxicated.

The University of Virginia (Charlottesville, VA) will begin e-mailing decisions to international students next year in addition to sending letters. This decision was made to avoid unnecessary late fees and housing problems for the students. It will affect about 80% of international students; the other 20% are not e-mail-accessible. In addition to the e-mail from the Office of Admissions, they will also receive e-mails from the Office of Orientation and New Student Programs containing vital information. UVA hopes that this will help international students adjust to their first year.

Stewart renovation to begin in May for August reopening

By Sara Mason
Staff Writer

Upon closing its doors on May 6th, Stewart Hall will be receiving a makeover in order to provide a much-needed update for the facility. At this time, the plans are focused on the design of the interior in order to set a time schedule and a budget. In order to have the dorm ready to open by the 2001-2002 academic year, it will close on May 6th, the mandatory move-out day for all underclassmen. However, this leaves the senior residents in Stewart without lodging for Senior week. The solution to this problem will be to have the senior residents to move into the vacant rooms in the dorms on campus. This was also done when Trezevant Hall was renovated several years ago. The seniors living there also relocated for the week.

At this stage in planning, the Director of Residence Life, Carol Casey, as well as other members of the administration, are meeting with contractors in order to finalize the designs of the building. The architects and the contractors who will

be remodeling Stewart are also those responsible for the construction of East Village. For all involved, the interior design is the key focus at this stage of the design phase in order to insure that the dorm will be completed by the beginning of the academic year. "The designs we are working on now are based upon the dorm opening for the 2001-02 academic year," Carol Casey states. Among the many changes, a central space will be constructed that will consist of a social room, a kitchen and a seminar room, as well as study and laundry facilities.

In Stewart (as will also be true for all residence halls next year) the cost of laundry will be incorporated into the cost of room and board, meaning that quarters will no longer be required for use of the washers and dryers. The rooms themselves will be arranged in order to follow a more uniform design and size. Also, more electrical outlets will be placed in the rooms along with the addition of sinks to each room. The floors will be replaced and carpeted, the walls will be better insulated and

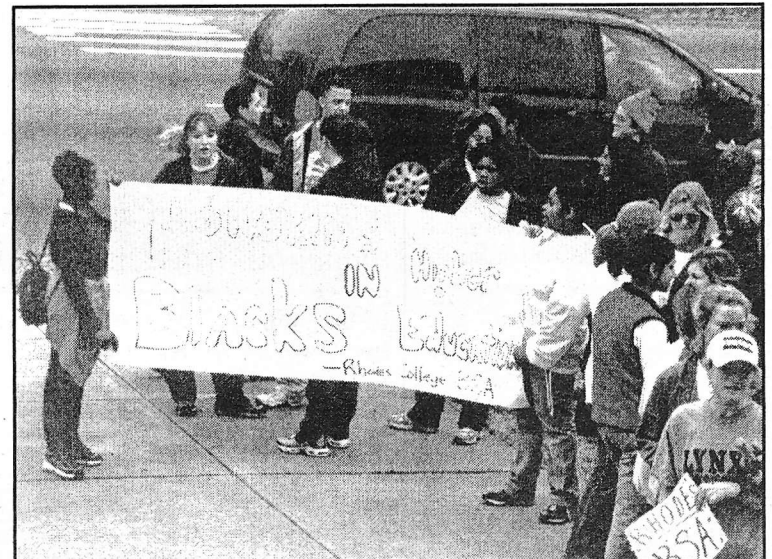


Photo by Miriam Dolin

Students converge on North Parkway for the Black Student Association's March on Rhodes, Saturday, February 24th, 2001. See one BSA member's thoughts on the March, page 5.

all of the windows will be replaced. In all, as Carol Casey remarks, the central space "will be better arranged—and there will be more of it."

The main focus of the renovation is to get the interior designed, budgeted and scheduled before any exterior changes are undertaken. However, plans for landscaping and possibly painting the exterior of the

building are also in the works. Until the designs are finalized, though, no specific dates can be set for completion of the project; but the target date for completion will be the beginning of the academic year this fall. Stewart Hall will be included in housing selection, and its renovation will provide relief from the housing crunch.

Students plan Rites of Spring reforms Task Force solutions focus on student responsibility

By Drew Hughes
Editor-in-Chief

The Rites of Spring Task Force met for the third time last Tuesday, February 20th, to discuss solutions to various problems, particularly vandalism, associated with student behavior during the yearly music festival.

Members of the task force at-

tribute these problems; to lax policies for student behavior, uneven enforcement of those policies, and relaxed standards of conduct among the Rhodes student body during Rites of Spring. Proposed solutions address all three of these areas.

One change planned for this year is that no open beverages, cups in-

cluded, will be permitted to pass in or out of the gates surrounding the festival. Instead, due to a lack of consensus at the meeting, Student Affairs is considering two policies to slow down students' drinking:

(1.) Only commercially sealed non-glass containers will be allowed. As was allowed last year, each person 21 or over would be limited to a personal quantity of alcohol, for example, no more than six beers.

(2.) No containers of any type brought in or out. In this event, vendors will be invited to sell beer within the festival gates.

Aside from this policy change, the task force's proposals focus on enhancing a sense of student responsibility for

Rites of Spring. The Rhodes Activities Board (RAB), which sponsors the festival, is currently developing a new method of distributing wristbands, both for students and guests.

Based on comments from student representatives on the task force, the traditional hall meetings will be overhauled at the very least, and may be scrapped in favor of a ticket booth, to be open for several hours a day during the week of the festival. RAB is also considering distributing wristbands via a combination of hall meetings and a ticket booth.

Campus Elections

Due to confusion over the student identification number required to vote online, students may have voted multiple times. According to Election Commissioner David Burke ('02), the computers will be programmed to eliminate double-votes, instead counting only the last ballot cast by a particular student. This will produce an accurate vote count sometime Wednesday. As a result, *The Sou'wester* is unable to bring you the results of Tuesday's election.

Rites,
continued p. 5

Holy &@#!, should I emigrate?

EVE STRAIN
I LIKE MICE



The long, hot summer between my sophomore and junior years was spent wondering how much fun my friends were having abroad. I half dreaded, half happily awaited the stories that were to come from those trips. Far-flung destinations such as Mexico, Russia, France, and China were on the itineraries of my world-traveling friends—and a lot, I mean almost all, of my close friends used their passports at least once that year. Meanwhile, back in southern Kentucky, I lounged around in a swimming pool and waited for August to deliver me from the boredom of small-town life.

It's times like this, when I'm feeling pensive, that I find myself wanting to kick my own posterior for not looking into my options for traveling abroad earlier in my college career. I should have gotten out while the getting was good, some time in the last two years or so. I may have been better financially equipped to take part in a program such as British Studies or Maymester had I attended a state school, I reflected. But scholarships and other means are available for the truly persistent, countered the logical portion of my brain. I suffered that summer, and still suffer today, from travel jealousy. The U.S. is not enough, baby. Why can't I be on a plane to experience the wild, exotic culture of Sweden? Where is my chance to improve my horrible French skills?

But there's no use in looking back wistfully at what might have been; I now look to my future as a cosmopolitan traveler. I think. I mean, it would be nice to get out of the United States and experience another culture up-close. I definitely think a good dose of perspective on my own country would help me understand it more. However, I have a fear of leaving too: the safety of the nest, of being in my own culture where people understand me, keeps me in a Hamlet-like stasis. "The readiness is all," huh? But preparation to leave intimidates me no matter what I'm about to do; I'm not sure how I'd react to flying (I'm an acrophobe); and will I just change my mind and decide to stay home at the last second out of a sense of fear?

I could join the Peace Corps when

graduation rolls around this May. In doing so, I could gain near-fluency in a foreign language, see other societies at work, help out with building institutions of some significance, and fulfill the dream put forth by the various literatures concerning that volunteer organization. That would not only put me hopefully on another continent, but would also allow me to help out humanity, in a small way.

I do wonder how much my willingness to devote two years of my life

There's no use in looking back wistfully at what might have been; I now look to my future as a cosmopolitan traveler. I think.

to teaching English in Africa is spawned by my wanderlust and how much is my suffering from altruism. Do I want to leave my homeland for the sake of leaving, or to learn, or to help out an organization with somewhat noble means? My plans for joining up with the Peace Corps are troubled by this question lately, almost a year after I made the decision to go and started telling my family and inquiring parties what exactly I would be doing with a degree in philosophy. And who do I think I am, anyway—an American inflicting American values on another country that may not even want my influence? Awareness of other cultures and the effects denizens of this nation have on those other cultures give me pause.

For whatever reason, my applica-

tion essays for the Peace Corps are in my computer files in a half-completed state. Maybe it would be better for me to stay home this summer and work. Or I could stay in Memphis and do something else. Or maybe...

What am I going to do? I stare at my computer screen, unable to write papers that I know I have the ability to write. I can't decide whether I want to stay in and watch a movie or go to the Ugly Mug and drink coffee. How am I going to decide what to do with

the rest of my life? And I have less than three months left to think about it.

I'm not a planner, and I never have been. Perhaps rethinking my plans to join the Peace Corps has been brought about by the uncharacteristic planning that I did for this major change in my life. I don't want to think about the future. Everybody else is doing it, but why should I?

Maybe because I have seen what happens to other people who don't plan enough in their lives, I should know better. People with college degrees can languish in fast food their entire lives, or become guidance counselors with a BS in biochemistry. My small town has people like that who were probably like me once, with a dream of a college education put to

good use in some way.

I'd like to use my degree to write. Arguably, in order to write one must have some sort of knack for putting words together, and something about which to write. International adventures sounds like a bitchin' subject to me. There's my motivation. My intense, hardcore philosophy training (har har) has allowed me to really think through my moral code; based on that, I think that altruism is my bag. There's suffering I can try to alleviate by getting involved in some way. The Peace Corps could have an agenda that I don't fully understand yet and may be wary of espousing, but I have nothing against it. I'm just not decided yet.

Staying home and helping to develop what's in my own state would work just as well, or even better, arguably. Maybe I'll stay in Kentucky and start teaching English there, or help little old ladies cross the street or run errands for them, or tutor "at-risk" teenagers. The stories I witness there may be enough encouragement for a literary career anyway. Do I really have to leave the United States to get the most out of my life? I guess not, but where should I look for direction—to the examples put forth by my peers, by those back home, or where?

That's a damn fine question. And no matter how I answer it, I'll have to face it beginning at least on the car ride on I-240 this May with my belongings in the back and my diploma in my hand.

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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 Buckman every Sunday afternoon at 5 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

Phone: (901) 843-3970
Fax: (901) 843-3409
E-Mail: souwester@rhodes.edu
Address: The Sou'wester
Rhodes College, Box 3010
2000 North Parkway
Memphis, TN 38112-1690

Or visit *The Sou'wester* Online:

http://www.students.rhodes.edu/sw/
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***Petitions for Editor-in-Chief and Associate Editor are now available in the Publications Board folder on the Academic Volume.**

Petitions must be submitted by March 14 for consideration.

The other option to Harbor Town: Tutwiler/Faxon fosters a sense of community

SHAWNA MILLER
RED HAWK FREE



SARAH SLOCUM
POLYGLOT



In last week's *The Sou'wester*, there was an article expounding on the variety of housing options in Memphis. We feel that there was not enough emphasis placed on the exciting life that can be led outside of the more exclusive neighborhoods—most specifically Tutwiler/Faxon

participate in during my college days. For the narrow-minded, this does include having huge smashing parties when and if the occasion arises; however, it also means being able to paint your bedroom, build a snow fort in the lawn, barbecue while admiring your gardening, and even being able to just sit and sip lemonade as you watch the world promenade past you.

The largest argument for avoiding Tutwiler/Faxon like the plague is, of course, the high rate of crime. Living in this area has become a constant balance between becoming too comfortable and living in constant paranoia. All of a sudden Rhodes cannot protect you and physical plant cannot always come out to fix your car. It becomes the age old story of living safe or living it up and accepting the risks that are involved. I have never gotten in trouble as long as I was smart about my lifestyle. Unfortunately, we all become lax at some point, and this is the time at which we can get struck.

Last semester we forgot to lock the outside door of our house only one time, and my roommates came home to find the place ravaged. The thieves had taken a few expensive things, but they had also eaten our food, taken old clothes, and stolen some of our favorite mugs. The importance of the community in this case can be seen in the fact that a boy had reported the incident to the police as soon as he noticed the strange individual near the house. The response just happened to be a bit too slow. We cannot let incidents such as these completely determine how and why

The most important advantage that these houses have over living in campus housing, gated communities, or apartment buildings is the freedom of space and consequently, the freedom to do whatever the hell you want.

Avenue. We have both been living on this street for a number of years and strongly believe that the benefits far outweigh the inconveniences that do constantly arise (we are not out to lie to you).

For me... (Shawna), Tutwiler offers an awesome opportunity to actually live outside of locked gates and among other Memphians, yet it does not carry the inconvenience of being more than a short jaunt from our campus. The houses found there range from the bizarre but comfortable to 100-year-old fixer-uppers, with a house for everyone in between. My house offers huge bedrooms, a front yard, and even a fake fireplace all for the low price of \$600 divided among me and my two roommates.

How is this possible? I know that some will be saying that the low price reflects the trouble that comes with the house. On the contrary, I really liked it when my window fell out in the bathroom at an inopportune time, when two roaches ate my small dog, and when the burning stove made shaving unnecessary for a lifetime. In all seriousness though, my house has given me the chance to treat Memphis as a home instead of simply a four-year stint; and this has made my life as a Rhodes college student 1000 times better.

On Tutwiler, the community offers interaction with both Rhodes and non-Rhodes individuals. Anyone can tell you that the students who live along this street have a crazy great time. The unique households that this street contains have included the infamous 3rd Base, Slutwiler, 1454, The Rugby House, the SAE Tutwiler house, Rudabegas, and even the Uterus of the World (this is not my house, I promise). Activities are endless when you live in such an interesting neighborhood.

Indeed, one of the best days that I can remember occurred on our one snow day of the entire year here in Memphis. On that glorious day of complete whiteness we hiked all the way to school, picking up crowds of people as we went. By the time that we reached campus we had accumulated a Tutwiler crowd never to be equaled, complete with perfect aim and an appetite for pansy Rhodester snowballs. These happy days exist because we are connected to a secondary community in addition to Rhodes, which cannot always provide for every need of every student.

The most important advantage that these houses have over living in campus housing, gated communities, or apartment buildings is the freedom of space and consequently, the freedom to do whatever the hell you want (oh come on, I am talking within reason here). This type of life is very conducive to creative expression and a plethora of activities that I might otherwise not have been able to

we live our lives. If only we had been more careful, it never would have happened. Neither I nor my roommates have ever felt seriously threatened, a statement that can't be made about too many places in Memphis.

Past Shawna's house Tutwiler metamorphosizes into Faxon Avenue. One block further down I (Sarah) live in a house for three people rented from a Rhodes professor. It is a lovely midtown bungalow, with a non-working fireplace, front and back porches and large heating bills. Tutwiler-Faxon is well known for its rampant raccoon population, most of which live and party in my attic. The dulcet scratching and screeching of raccoons during birthing, mating, and fighting has been a little unsettling in the wee hours of the morning. My block is unique in that we have an albino raccoon, which I have had the pleasure of seeing a few times. I have heard stories of a former albino raccoon that emerged from a fireplace with beady, fiery red eyes. I have also heard a story of a raccoon that scratched its way through a ceiling and reached its arm through. However, as long as you have a plan of action (namely running), then this should not be cause for alarm.

I have never had a front porch before, and perhaps my enamored with sitting out front has helped get me acquainted with my neighbors. I lived on Faxon over the summer, and one of my neighbors took pity on us trying to live minimally without air-conditioning. One night, around ten or ten-thirty, he knocked on our door with a plate of fried green tomatoes and a pork chop. We are not sure why we received this libation, but I felt truly southern as I ate it on my front porch in the sticky, summer night and was truly happy in my home on my street.

There are many kids in the neighborhood too, many of whom Rhodes students are acquainted with through visiting Snowden school. Over the summer we had many visitors—all boys. We once asked if there weren't any girls living on the street (since we hadn't met any), so one boy said he had a couple of sisters if we really wanted to meet them. I haven't seen too much of the kids since school started, but over the summer our living room would be filled with kids of various ages all wanting to rap for us, dance with us and meet the new people who had moved in.

Community is certainly found in dorm living, but living off-campus and becoming a part of a neighborhood can also be an enriching part of a college experience. Unlike other apartment complexes geared to students and young adults, the residents of Tutwiler/Faxon are more varied. This is not to say that other housing choices are bad, this is just an account of where we live and why we like it. We have no doubt that other places are nice too, but the wondrous community of Tutwiler/Faxon deserves our focus.

Tutwiler/Faxon is a part of VECA, the Vollintine Evergreen Community Association, which was formed to resist white flight in response to changes in neighborhood makeup and continues to be a group dedicated maintaining and beautifying their neighborhood while fostering community spirit. This is certainly a wonderful initiative, and an opportunity for students who want to experience living in Memphis, beyond a sheltering gated community.

We believe that there are real concerns to living in many of the neighborhoods in Memphis, even the ones that are gated and thus separated from the rest of the Memphis world. Tutwiler/Faxon could never be considered completely safe, yet it is the happy home to many families and Rhodes folk. At times, the fears are completely unfounded and based only on naïveté.

This happened to my roommates and I (Shawna) not too long in the distant past. We looked out our window one day to discover a man running down the street as fast as possible. Following behind him was a white van filled with yelling men, all waving dangerous implements wildly in the air. We didn't know what to do as all the worst case scenarios leaped to our minds. Murder, attack, destruction...which of these was would it be? It was at this moment that another van rounded the corner, this time not filled with yelling men, but instead a movie camera. How silly I felt when I was told about the upcoming Memphis feature.

Tutwiler/Faxon is an adventure. In Joshua Welter's own words when asked about his experiences on this magnanimous street, "I live on Tutwiler." That is all he said, but we are sure that it was profound.

RSG Update

Dear Student Body,

The Dean of College Search is nearing its end, and an acceptance should be made by the time this letter is published. I would like to recap a bit of my experience working on this committee so that you may know that the student voice was indeed important. Many times on this committee, we held votes, and when we did so, we cast votes anonymously. That is to say that my vote, your student vote, was counted equally, as any other member's vote. Many times votes came to 4-3 or 5-2, and no issue was brought up as to which vote had been mine. In the spirit of fairness, we certainly discussed matters after the vote to see what those in the minority may have seen—but just know that your vote and voice counted and was important. Please, students, do not underestimate the amount to which your opinion is sought in many matters.

For those keeping with issues, the Pass/Fail resolution written by the student senate was reviewed by the Academic Affairs Faculty committee, and we received a detailed letter explaining what the committee

thought the questionable issues were regarding our resolution. We considered this letter a step forward as we have never received such detailed feedback as this, or such respectful consideration on academic policy. The senators of our Academic Affairs committee lobbied and defended this resolution, and kept in constant contact with the faculty on this issue. We, therefore, see this letter as a step toward more open communication between students and faculty and more respect for the student voice.

The resolution passed regarding a fallow period prior to finals is now in the beginning stages of review, and I will keep you updated as time progresses.

Spring elections for senator spots are coming up quickly, so be ready for that when you return from Spring Break.

As always, feel free to attend our meetings held at 7:30 in Buckman 108. This week's meeting, prior to Spring Break, is pending the urgency or existence of issues brought before the senate. Thank you,

John Ramsey, RSG VP

Mock Trial argues path to victory in St. Louis Team looks forward to national competition in March

By Ricky Sadowski
Staff Writer

Rhodes student Anna Smith ('02) led her Mock Trial team to a first place victory in the Regional Competition held at Washington University in St. Louis on February 16th and 17th.

Matt Helland ('02) also led his team to second place in the Regional Competition at Bradley University in Peoria. The teams consist of 8 members each, many of whom are pre-law students.

The teams competed in the Invitational Competition earlier during the school year and performed well enough to move on to the Regional Competition.

They were given a fictional case before the Invitational to prepare arguments for the year. The case, Gilbertson vs. The

Everest Experience, concerns a man who was killed while on an Everest expedition led by the Everest Experience group.

The team prepares for both sides, and represents both the plaintiff and the defendant at different times of the competition.

The same case is also used by all other mock trial teams from the other schools, of which about 18 are at each Regional Competition.

The students compete against the other schools from the positions of attorney and witness, and are judged on opening and closing statements, and examinations of witnesses. The winner is determined by which team wins the scores of four ballots from each of two judges.

Anna's team won all eight ballot scores and Matt's won six. This was enough to for the teams to finish first and second place at their separate Regional Competitions.

The first and second place finishes qualify each team to go on to the National Competition in March at Drake University in Des Moines. They will continue to work on the case before they go to the next competition.

Anna said of this year's team, "We are very fortunate this year to have such a diverse group of really talented students participating. Both teams really came together at Regionals, and I'm confident one of our teams can come back with a national victory."

For information on how to become involved with the Mock Trial team, e-mail Anna Smith at SMIAR@Rhodes.edu.

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Campus Safety Log

2/19/01 TO 2/24/01



2/19		NO UNUSUAL ACTIVITY REPORTED.
2/20	8:30p.m.	Buckman Parking Lot: Motor Vehicle Theft-Video review. MPD investigating.
2/21	9:50a.m.	East Village Construction Parking Lot: Motor Vehicle Theft-Video review. MPD investigating.
	4:30p.m.	Bryan Campus Life Center: Larceny of a wallet.
	5:00p.m.	Bellingrath: Suspicious Person-checked okay, visiting Clergy.
	7:20p.m.	Voorhies/Townsend-Fire Alarm: faulty smoke detector, checked okay.
2/22	10:49a.m.	Phillips Lane: Hit and Run Vehicle Accident: Report taken, under investigation.
2/23	3:00p.m.	Dorothy C. King Parking Lot: Motor Vehicle Theft-Suspect identified and information provided to MPD.
2/24	6:30p.m.	Bailey Lane Gate-Suspicious Juveniles: Escorted from campus after visit attempt invalidated.
	7:30p.m.	Lynx Lair: Disturbance-report filed.

STATS

ACCESSES: 106	VISITORS: 1566
PROPPED DOORS: 5	ESCORTS: 26
JUMP STARTS: 2	CITATIONS: 84
ALCOHOL VIOLATIONS: 0	BOOTS: 2
TOWS: 0	

Rhodes vocalists shine in regional competition

By Kristjen Lundberg
Staff Writer

On Saturday, February 17th, Rhodes Music Department hosted the annual student vocal auditions of the Memphis Chapter of the National Association of Teachers of Singing (NATS).

Eighteen Rhodes students participated in the competition, along with 80 other students from colleges in Memphis, Jackson, and Martin, as well as private voice studios.

Each student sang in a category designated by age and length of voice study, and performed before a panel of judges made up of local NATS members.

The following Rhodes students took first place in their respective divisions: Katie Castille ('02) (Junior Women) and Caroline Vance ('04) (First-

year Women). Taking second place were Amanda Brewer ('01) (Senior Women), Alice Davidson ('02) and Beth Serex ('03) (tie - First-year Women), and Daniel Anglin ('04) (First-year Men). Adam Richardson ('04) took third place for the First-year Men.

Other students participating in the auditions were Christine Dietz ('02), Emily Goodman ('04), Caitlin Goodrich ('04), Meredith Harrison ('01), Richard Johnson ('04), Adrian Killebrew ('04), Kristjen Lundberg ('02), Paul Murray ('01), Sarah Pruett ('02), Kristin Rishoi ('03), and Taylor Teas ('02).

Congratulations to these student winners on their hard work and success!

Dance marathon to benefit LeBonheur

By Margie Hall
News Editor

On Friday, March 23rd-24th, from 8 p.m. to 8 a.m., the Panhellenic-sponsored, student-run Up All Night event will raise money for LeBonheur Children's Hospital. Students who participate in the first annual event will raise donations from sponsors, and then participate in the event.

The 12-hour affair will feature activities to keep students awake, which the fund-raising depends upon. All funds raised will be donated.

Up All Night is associated with the Children's Miracle Network National Dance Marathon. Children's Miracle Network is a non-profit organization

that raises money for non-profit children's hospitals that treat more than 14 million children each year.

LeBonheur is the Mid-South's most well-respected pediatric research center and hospital, designated one of only seven U.S. "Centers of Excellence" by Mutual of Omaha insurance company. It is non-profit, and run by a board of volunteer citizens.

The Dance Marathon program has been quite a lucrative fund-raiser at Pennsylvania State University and Indiana University. It has become an annual event at both schools; Penn State has been putting it on since 1973.

The Rhodes event will benefit more specifically the Starbright pro-

gram in conjunction with LeBonheur. Starbright is an interactive computer network that allows hospitalized children to communicate with other children in hospitals across the nation.

The program hopes to relieve the sense of segregation that comes from isolation in a hospital room, and to build a sense of connection for children with diseases.

Student organizers of Up All Night hope that it will become an annual event at Rhodes, as well. Lara Luxford ('03), the overall committee chair said, "This is really for a good cause. We hope everyone who can will participate. It will be twelve hours of fun, food, and entertainment!"

Order of Omega announces January/February Greeks of the Month

This month, Order of Omega would like to recognize three women this month whose efforts have been a blessing to the Rhodes community and a source of pride to the Greek community: Mandy Fisher ('02), Jill Doshier ('02), and Amanda Flaim ('01).

Mandy Fisher and Jill Doshier organized and ran the Order of Omega Charity Bake Sale on Thursday, January 25th. Under their volunteer efforts, the bake sale raised over \$150 for New Hope Christian Academy.

Mandy is a Political Science major and a member of Chi Omega Sorority. She has served her sorority as Rush Chair and is now the New Member Educator. Last spring, Mandy organized and ran the Panhellenic Rites of Spring bake sale, which raised money for the

Matt McBride Foundation.

Jill Doshier is a Business major and a member of Kappa Delta Sorority. She has served as the Assistant Treasurer and is now the Treasurer of the sorority.

In addition to Amanda Flaim's many accomplishments, she has received specific praise for all of her hard work with AIDS Awareness Week in December, as well as for her advancement in the interview process for the distinguished Rhodes scholarship. Amanda, an International Studies major, serves as co-moderator for the Kinney Team, as a senior RSG senator, as a Rhodes Ambassador, and as Personnel for the Chi Omega sorority. Congratulations Mandy, Jill, and Amanda!

Order of Omega would also like

to recognize two men this month for their outstanding accomplishments: David Merriman ('01) and Daniel Fordham ('02).

David is an active member of Pi Kappa Alpha and has made incredible scholastic achievements here at Rhodes. He plans to attend medical school after graduation.

For those of you who enjoyed the IFC Ball this semester, you have one man to especially thank: Daniel Forham of Sigma Alpha Epsilon. For the past semester, Daniel has worked very hard to put on the best ball yet and his efforts have given the entire school an amazing event to remember. Daniel also serves our community as an SRC secretary and is the newly elected President of IFC. Congratulations to both of these men.

Rites, Continued from Page 1

Before receiving their wristbands, students this year must sign a pledge, written by the Social Regulations Council (SRC), reaffirming their devotion to upholding the standards of the Rhodes College community. The task force expects this to foster a greater sense of pride in the school and will attach a greater stigma to vandalism of college property.

Other plans include the following:
—Strengthening the connection between Rites to Play and Rites of Spring by inviting Rites to Play's attendees to join students in the amphitheater area for Saturday's first band.

—Increasing security presence and visibility. Director of Campus Safety Ralph Hatley has hired more

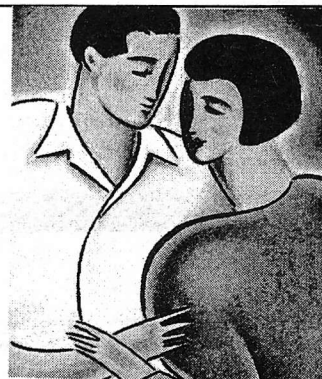
contract officers for the weekend and lengthened current officers' shifts. The contract officers will be in uniform.

—Raising the price of guest passes to Rites of Spring. The new price will be set by RAB and the Student Activities office. In recent years, guest passes have cost \$10.

—The Panhellenic Council and Interfraternity Council are working on a plan for activities, including

music, in the BCLC after Saturday night's last band.

The task force comprises representatives of ten student organizations, including Rhodes Student Government, Honor Council, and SRC, and administrators from the offices of Student Activities, Student Affairs, Residence Life, and Campus Safety, among others. The task force also met on January 23rd and February 6th.



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Diversity characterizes Academy Award nominees Despite a slow year in Hollywood, several unique films prove worthy of praise

By Christian Masters
Staff Writer

Despite Hollywood's minimal output of quality films over the past twelve months, several Oscar-contending films were thrown into the mix late last year. This year's nominations present no real surprises, and the

results seem fairly obvious, but the showcased films are all surprisingly solid. There were 23 categories, with 242 movies on the ballot, and the 5000 Academy members chose remarkably well.

The nominees for Best Picture are: *Traffic*, *Chocolat*, *Crouching Tiger, Hidden Dragon*,

Gladiator, and *Erin Brockovich*. Consider the variety: we have a pseudo-kung fu flick, a Roman epic, a romance, an uplifting legal drama, and a "documentary" of drug trafficking.

The only bone I have to pick is with the Academy is over the nomination of *Chocolat*. I've heard that the movie was above average, but couldn't *Almost Famous* or *Cast Away* have filled those shoes better? Supposedly, *Wonder Boys* was excellent, but got barely a whisper of a mention at the announcing ceremony. All in all, however, this selection is very well-rounded, and there might still be some mystery as to who will win.

Director Steven Soderbergh walks away with two Best Directing nominations under his belt, for *Traffic* and *Erin Brockovich*. Hard to believe they were realized under the same eyes.

Other best directing nominees include Stephen Daldry (*Billy Elliot*), Ang Lee (*Crouching Tiger, Hidden Dragon*), and Ridley Scott (*Gladiator*). No real qualms here, and I didn't see *Billy Elliot* so I can't say anything about that. Congratulations to Soderbergh and the other big winner, *Gladiator*,

which managed 12 nominations.

Best actor contenders include Russell Crowe for his role as Maximus in *Gladiator*, Tom Hanks in *Cast Away*, and Geoffrey Rush as the Marquis de Sade in *Quills*. Other actors given the nod are Ed Harris for *Pollock* and Javier Bardern in *Before Night Falls*.

The battle in this category will prove to be interesting; three of these films are not mainstream blockbusters and I give credit to the Academy for their diversity. Their recognition of acting talent, not bankability, is commendable.

The Oscar for Best Actress is totally up in the air. Julia Roberts (*Erin Brockovich*) contends with Joan Allen (*The Contender*) and Juliette Binoche (*Chocolat*) for the grand prize. Other actresses who made the cut are Laura Linney, for her role in *You Can Count on Me*, and Ellen Burstyn in *Requiem for a Dream*. All of their performances have been notable and unique.

More unpredictability awaits. The nominees for Best Supporting Actor are: Jeff Bridges in *The Contender*, Willem Dafoe for his role in

Shadow of the Vampire, Benicio Del Toro from *Traffic*, Albert Finney in *Erin Brockovich*, and, finally, Joaquin Phoenix for *Gladiator*. I believe that this category will be a nail-biter. Every performance is extraordinary, from Phoenix as a diabolical emperor to Del Toro's portrayal of a conflicted cop.

The performances by the Best Supporting Actress nominees are equally interesting. Judi Dench in *Chocolat* and Kate Hudson from *Almost Famous* highlight the list, but other contenders include Marcia Gay Harden (*Pollock*), Frances McDormand (*Almost Famous*), and Julie Walters (*Billy Elliot*).

This year, the supporting roles are not minor in any way compared to those who got the nod for more visible performances.

On March 25th, we will be presented with an interesting dilemma... homework or Oscars. In my opinion, this show will definitely be worth watching.

As for who we think will win? *The Sou'wester* and Time-Out for Choices would love to learn what you think. Just fill out the ballot on this page and bring it to the Choices Oscar Party. Prizes will be awarded to the people with the most correct Oscar predictions!

2001 Oscar Ballot

Best Picture

- Traffic*
- Crouching Tiger, Hidden Dragon*
- Chocolat*
- Erin Brockovich*
- Gladiator*

Best Director

- Stephen Soderbergh (*Traffic*)
- Stephen Soderbergh (*Erin Brockovich*)
- Ang Lee (*Crouching Tiger, Hidden Dragon*)
- Ridley Scott (*Gladiator*)
- Stephen Daldry (*Billy Elliott*)

Best Actor

- Russell Crowe (*Gladiator*)
- Tom Hanks (*Cast Away*)
- Geoffrey Rush (*Quills*)
- Ed Harris (*Pollock*)
- Javier Bardern (*Before Night Falls*)

Best Actress

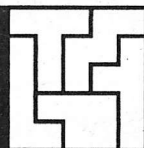
- Julia Roberts (*Erin Brockovich*)
- Joan Allen (*The Contender*)
- Juliette Binoche (*Chocolat*)
- Laura Linney (*You Can Count On Me*)
- Ellen Burstyn (*Requiem for a Dream*)

Best Supporting Actor

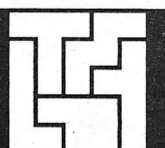
- Jeff Bridges (*The Contender*)
- Joaquin Phoenix (*Gladiator*)
- Albert Finney (*Erin Brockovich*)
- Willem Dafoe (*Shadow of the Vampire*)
- Benicio Del Toro (*Traffic*)

Best Supporting Actress

- Marcia Gay Harden (*Pollock*)
- Kate Hudson (*Almost Famous*)
- Judi Dench (*Chocolat*)
- Julie Walters (*Billy Elliott*)
- Frances McDormand (*Almost Famous*)



Rhodes Puzzler



#15, February 28, 2001
4 points

Last week's Malco movie pass winner: *Marian Butcher*

It is not too late to save the semester! Before heading to Cancun, take a few minutes to change FAIL to PASS in only four steps, changing one letter at a time and making a proper English word at each step.

F A I L

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— — — —

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P A S S

The Rhodes Puzzler is sponsored by the Math/CS Department of Rhodes College. Send your solution (with name!) to puzzler@rhodes.edu, or place a Word or text document named "<your name>.doc" in the Puzzler folder located on the Academic Volume (under Academic Programs), or turn in a hard copy to Kennan Shelton, 318 Ohlendorf. All solutions must be received by 5:00 p.m. Saturday. A weekly winner will be randomly chosen to receive two free movie passes, donated by Malco Theatres. Semester winners will each receive gift certificates for dinner at Zinnie's East. For a complete set of rules, see the Rhodes Puzzler homepage at <http://www.mathcs.rhodes.edu/puzzler.html>.

Arts & Entertainment

Wednesday, February 28, 2001

THE
SOU'WESTER

Page 7

The return of CUP Improv troupe still gets laughs

By Bob Coleman
Staff Writer

On Friday night, the Rhodes improv troupe Contents Under Pressure held its first show outside of the McCoy Theatre. The show took place at 8 o'clock and was entitled "2001: An Improv Odyssey." The show was plagued by several environmental problems, and tended to be slow at times, but, on the whole, was still entertaining, and well worth viewing.

One extremely persistent problem was the lack of quality acoustics in the ballroom. I often had to turn to a friend to find out the line just spoken, and host John Ramsey would often have difficulty hearing quality suggestions for games; he sometimes even had to separate the audience into small parts so that he could fully hear the suggestions. In addition, everything was performed on top of a stage, which is a dramatic change from normal C.U.P. performances, and I believe that it had an adverse effect in certain ways.

For one, I had trouble seeing various things that were happening onstage, which is a serious problem in improvisational comedy. Also, it seemed as though the people performing weren't one-hundred per-

cent sure how to deal with the audience below them as well.

The skits, though, were pretty damn funny. Kyle Hatley, portraying a dead person and being peppered with footballs and thrown around as dead weight, was hilarious. The opening and closing sketches were also funny; but then again, they usually are. I wonder as I write this if I am actually reviewing the performance I saw on the 23rd, or if I am reviewing the performance in comparison to all the previous ones I have seen by CUP. I suppose that, for me, one could not exist without the other, and therefore my view might be tainted somewhat negatively in comparison to others.

With the exception of the humorous sketches, the show seemed to go by particularly slowly. It was funny, but by no means as funny as the group is capable of, from what I've seen of them. This isn't to say that I don't respect their ability and share their joy of improvisational humor, because I do.

By the end of the show, with "Party Quirks" and the "water-dunking game" (I don't know what else to call it), it seemed like the members had finally gotten used to the surroundings and began putting

on a wonderfully hilarious performance. Kyle Hatley, Bob Arnold, and John Whitfield's game of party quirks (with Brent Morgan as the host) is one of the funniest skits I've seen CUP perform. Sadly, this was also the end of the show, and left me feeling a little disappointed. Not

that I didn't receive an entertaining performance in response to my attendance, but I felt the show was ending just when it started getting really good.

All in all, Contents Under Pressure's "2001: An Improv Odyssey" was entertaining, and well worth the price that it cost to attend. Which, in case people might have

forgotten, is *still* nothing. I will gladly be present at their next performance, secure in the belief that the show will be better off due to the previous experience in the ballroom environment, and that the group of Bencsath, Reed, Arnold, Morgan, Whitfield, Hatley, and Ramsey will hook me up with my much-needed fix of improvisational comedy.

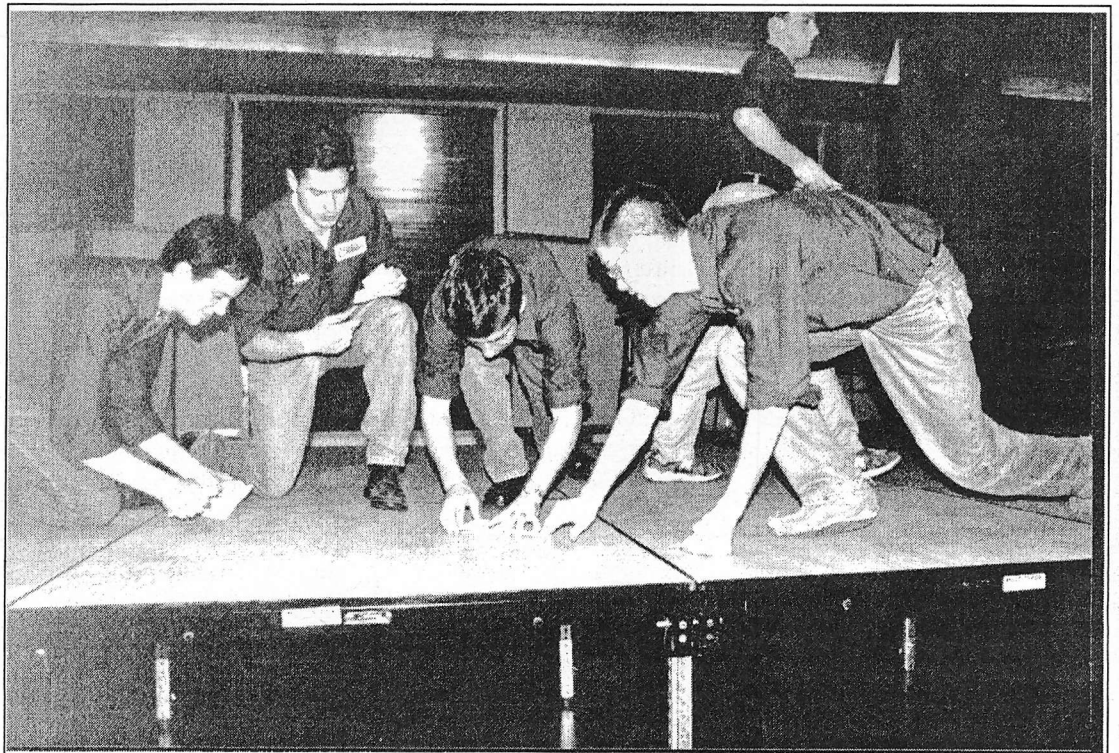


photo by Jordan Badgett

L to R: Matt Reed, John Whitfield, Kalman Bencsath, and Kyle Hatley scramble for their next lines in an improvisational game. Contents Under Pressure performed in the CLC Ballroom last Friday evening.

Upcoming Memphis Concerts

★ Friday, March 2nd: Southern Culture on the Skids at the New Daisy

★ Friday, March 2nd: Blue Mountain at the Hi-Tone

★ Saturday, March 17th: Chantal Kreviazuk and Barenaked Ladies
at the Mid-South Coliseum

★ Saturday, March 17th: Ho Hum at The Blue Monkey

★ Thursday, April 12th: Ani DiFranco at the New Daisy



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Dixie Café exemplifies culinary hospitality

By Jennifer Durovchic
Staff Writer

A few weeks ago on a whim, a friend and I chanced upon a nice family restaurant tucked into a strip mall. The Dixie Café is located on Poplar Avenue in the Knickerbocker Plaza, in between S. Perkins and Colonial close to Target.

From the outside, you wouldn't expect much. When do you ever expect much from a strip mall? But in this case, the Dixie Café delivered. The atmosphere was pleasant and homey with Americana memorabilia strewn about. Although the clientele was not a young crowd—it consisted mostly of families, senior citizens, and middle-aged couples—it was still a comfortable atmosphere. The café had two dining rooms, which could accommodate large groups while still allowing for the privacy of small parties. We sat at a booth towards the doorway and did not feel as if anyone was encroaching on our personal space. There were quite a few families with small kids. The setup of the restaurant allowed them to enjoy their meal without me having to listen to screaming children. An added bonus, discovered on a trip to the restroom, was

a 50's-style soda fountain where you can order dessert or have your dinner. They even have soda jerks.

The café's menu consisted mostly of traditional American and southern dishes like meatloaf, fried chicken, and chicken fried steak. Most entrées came with a few side items. Some of the main dishes came in smaller portions accompanied by smaller prices. The smaller portions were what you might expect to pay for lunch rather than dinner; however, it was plenty for me.

A long list of them followed the choices for the main course. The list included cold salads, vegetables like green beans, fried okra, squash, and mashed potatoes. There were a few interesting items but were pretty much your basic side items. The meal came with jalapeño corn bread and other assorted rolls.

The dessert menu consisted mostly of ice cream dishes and cakes, but they also had fruit cobbler. A meal with dessert, drink and tip would probably run you between ten and fifteen dollars, depending on your choices. I ordered chicken fried chicken, which was a fried chicken breast with gravy on the side. The breading was different than I am used

to, a bit on the bland side, but overall I enjoyed it. The taste of the gravy was probably what made the chicken so good. I had mashed potatoes and okra as my side items. The mashed potatoes, appearing with a nice brown gravy on top, were tasty. The fried okra was unexceptional as fried okra goes, but since I'm a big fan, I liked it. The cornbread, although not Mom's, was really good, especially since you could accidentally come upon a chunk of jalapeño, causing you to remember what you were eating. One nice thing about the Dixie Café was the very large glasses they served drinks in. I chose to have sweet tea, with my dinner and it was a damn good glass of tea (or, actually, about three glasses).

For dessert, I had blackberry cobbler. It was enjoyable but the dough was a little coarse and heavy. The blackberries on the other hand were well-cooked and very delicious.

Overall, I would recommend this restaurant to someone who wants a middle-priced meal, in a quiet family atmosphere, with a traditional menu. It won't be the most exciting restaurant ever, but you'll eat well and have a quiet dinner—something which can't be found just anywhere.

Campus Events Through March:

Wednesday, Feb. 28th: RAB presents their third Coffeehouse at 8:07 p.m. in Java City. It's an open mic night with no theme.

Wednesday, Feb. 28th: Panel discussion on "Diet Myths and Body Image," 7 p.m. in Hyde Hall in the Rat.

February 28th–March 2nd: "The Century Project" photography exhibit, 9 a.m.–9 p.m. in Hyde Hall of the Rat. The exhibit is running in concurrence with National Eating Disorder Awareness Week.

SPRING BREAK: March 3rd–11th

Wednesday, March 14th: RAB sponsors a fourth coffeehouse at 8:07 p.m. in Java City. Featured musician: Jennifer Daniels.

Friday, March 16th: Battle of the Bands in the Lynx Lair. Students both vote on one of the bands they want for Rites of Spring and hear the Rites lineup.

March 16th–24rd: Sigma Gamma Rho Week! Tentative events include: Alzheimer's daycare, 19th; "Fat Tuesday" dinner, 20th; Campus Green co-operative effort, 22nd; Greek Auction, 23rd. Check for more information on forthcoming fliers.

March 16th–23rd: MOSAIC Week

March 23rd & 24th: "Rhodes Up All Night" fundraiser for LeBonheur Children's Hospital. Call Joe Petri x3552 or stop by the Rat for information.

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Women's hoops sweeps Trinity and Southwestern to finish season at 17-8

By Hannah Miller
Staff Writer

The 2000-2001 season has definitely been a year of firsts for the Rhodes women's basketball team. This is the first year Rhodes has had a winning record in many years. They finished 17-8 overall, 8-2 at home, and 12-6 in the SCAC. This is also the first time Rhodes has ever beaten Hendrix, Trinity, Southwestern, and DePauw in the history of the SCAC.

Beating these top teams in the conference placed Rhodes in the top tier of the SCAC for the first time in years.

Jessie Hunt ('02) emphasized, "It has been incredible season. We knew that we were a good team, but actually coming through and beating so many good teams felt wonderful. Beating Trinity and Southwestern on the road were definitely a great way to end the season."

Rhodes came home from their final road trip with two back-to-back wins in Texas, beating both Trinity and Southwestern in their gyms.

The game against Trinity on Friday night was definitely a nail-biter. With two minutes to go in the game, the Lynx were down by 8 points. Guard Anna Kizer ('03) came into

the game and nailed three crucial 3-pointers in a row. With about 30 seconds left, the Lynx were down by one point and called a timeout. Coming back out and plotting to get the ball to guard/forward Kerry Wingo ('02), point guard Rosemary Boner ('03) saw an opening and drove her way through the lane, sinking the lay-up and giving the Lynx a one point advantage.

With four seconds left and in the hole by one point, the Tigers had to call a time-out. With only four seconds to get their shot off, a Tiger guard drove into the lane and shot a running jumper. Wingo grabbed the defensive board, and the game was over with a final score of Rhodes 64, Trinity 63. Hunt, Kizer, and Hannah Miller ('01) each scored twelve points, Wingo had 11, and Boner grabbed nine boards and had four steals for the night.

"We have never beaten Trinity in all my four years here. I cannot tell you how badly I wanted to beat them before I graduated, and finally we did it. Our overall record with them might be 1-7, but that one win is all I care about right now. What a way to go out," said Sara Miles ('01).

On Saturday, the day after the

battle against Trinity, Rhodes defeated Southwestern by 12 points. Despite being down at half time by three, Rhodes came out strong in the second half and leaped ahead by fifteen points. They maintained the lead throughout the rest of the game and won with a final score of 78-66.

Seniors Miller and Miles ended their careers against Southwestern with 20 and 19 points each, while Wingo pulled down nine rebounds and scored 10 points.

Assistant coach India Weaver said, "The win against Southwestern was huge. Being the last game of the season, we didn't know how everyone would react to the challenge. The girls came out fighting, though, and they made it happen. It was a lot of fun to watch."

Guard Lora Filsinger ('04) commented, "This season was so much fun. It's not just that we were winning for the first time in a while that made the season so great. Everyone on the team is so close, and we all get along so well, it makes the chemistry that much stronger on the court."

After a successful season, the Lynx hope to build on their accomplishments and continue to be a powerful threat in the SCAC.

Rhodes horse team shows well at MTSU

By Sarah Tipton and Raven Babcock
Staff Writer

The Rhodes equestrian team has experienced quite a bit of success in the last two years. At a stock seat show held at Western Kentucky University on January 27th, Lauren Dellinger ('02) and Allana Clarke ('02) competed, with Clarke placing fifth in the walk/jog division. At a hunt seat show on January 28th held at Middle Tennessee State University, the team placed 5 times. In the walk/trot division, Clarke placed fifth, and Kathryn Taylor ('03) placed fourth. Raven Babcock ('01), the team captain, placed fifth in advanced walk/trot/canter, Tara Krisle ('03) placed fifth in open over fences and third in open flat, and Dellinger placed third in the open flat class. Two first year students, Julie Alford and Krysten Ivy, competed in their first show with the equestrian team. Jennifer Keirce ('02) rode competitively as well.

The success of the equestrian team has taken many people by surprise. Michael Clary, the Director of Athletics, recently expressed his amazement at the growth and maturity of the team. As a first-year student (way back in 1997), Babcock

became involved when the team had no more than five members.

Dellinger said, "It is amazing to see a club sport go from so few members to more than fifty in just a few years."

Today the roster contains both students and faculty of the college. The admissions department has also taken notice of the team and often arranges meetings between prospective students and team members.

Aside from considerable growth and success, the team is currently preparing to tackle a huge project: hosting an intercollegiate horse show. Teams from Mississippi, Missouri, Tennessee, Kentucky, and Illinois will travel to Memphis on March 17th-18th for the Rhodes Hunt Seat Show as well as for the elite Regional competition.

The team especially awaits facing two teams, Mississippi State and Wood College, who have recently joined the Lynx's region. The equestrian team hopes to prove itself both to its competitors and to the Rhodes community. In order to make the show happen, the team needs to raise almost three thousand dollars. Most of these funds will be used to

rent the show facilities at Shelby Showplace Arena.

Unlike regular shows, the competition on Sunday will consist only of those individuals who have placed highly enough to qualify for regional competition. Dellinger qualified for the Intermediate flat division earlier this year. Many other riders will have the chance to qualify at the show on Saturday. The two top riders in regional competition will go on to zones in Florida. The National Show will be held in Atlanta in the first week of May. Last year the equestrian team sent a rider all the way to Nationals for the first time. Tara Krisle ('03) placed fifth in the highest hunt seat division, open flat.

The team would greatly appreciate the support of the Rhodes campus at the show on March 17th-18th. Competing against much larger schools, such as Mississippi State and Vanderbilt, presents a challenge for the team. Competition will begin on both days at 9:00 a.m. and should finish by 3:00 p.m.

On March 12th, the team is bringing a pony to campus, on the lawn between Palmer and Frazier-Jelke, to encourage support.

The XFL is a disgrace

By John Zeonah
Staff Writer

ANALYSIS

On February 3, 2001, WWF owner Vince McMahon unveiled his new excuse to be obnoxious—the XFL. Packaged with its new rules, new format, and seductive cheerleaders, the XFL promised that younger generations of football enthusiasts would have a league independent from that of their fathers.

On the day of the debut of the XFL, football fans and casual viewers tuned in to the games. Since the games' ratings have dropped from 10.3 to 3.1 in three weeks, it is safe to say that most people have lost interest, and for good reasons.

I won't spend much time on "He Hate Me" or any of the other aggravating jersey names; they're not really worth the effort. However ridiculous the attitude of the XFL may seem, it is one of the problems the league faces.

This league, from the very beginning, has been hyping the new rules that would supposedly restore the game to what it was meant to be: bigger hits, which would draw more attention from fans, and a general no-holds-barred attitude that would distinguish it from the obviously superior NFL.

This hype, coupled with the trash talk of a few of McMahon's favorite henchmen, Steve Austin and The Rock, among others, gave fans high hopes of another football outlet once the Super Bowl was over. Four weeks have passed and the hype and the loaded talk have worn off to reveal the true identity of this fledgling league—just another attempt of second-rate football destined to fail.

But the XFL has promised that it will prove me wrong, that this is real football, and that it could be a threat to the stability of the NFL. So what sets this league apart? Here are a couple of the main examples:

New rules—more annoying than L.A. Xtreme wide receiver Darnell McDonald's "booty dance," these new rules, if not an attempt to cause injury

like allowing "bump and run" defense downfield, are just pointless. For example, under XFL rules, a punt returner cannot signal for a fair catch but is granted a five-yard halo while receiving the punt. If there is a lofty punt where the defenders reach the receiver before the ball does, they have to wait five yards. It is like lowering the basketball hoop to nine feet and then outlawing dunks. It does not make sense.

The Big Hits—of all the hype, this is the funniest. From the beginning, NFL defensive legend Dick Butkus has mentioned the notoriety of the big hits in the XFL. Other leagues would have these "bigger hits" too if they put cameramen and microphones on the field that picked up all of the crunches and grunts that are even slightly audible.

In four weeks time, the glitter has fallen off of the XFL despite all of the hype and mudslinging that makes the WWF appealing. The reason for this decline is something that the XFL hoped fans would not figure out—that it is not real football.

In the NFL, players have the strength, athletic prowess, and well-sharpened skills that set them apart from the rest. Players have the heart to charge out onto the field under any circumstance and press forward as a collective unit to the greater goal—victory. NFL players do all of this while playing within rules that are designed for the well-being of players. Not so in the XFL where arrogant linebackers can take cheap shots at quarterbacks and then gloatingly hover over them without a 15-yard penalty and a seat on the bench.

This league may be around longer than other secondary leagues, but it definitely will not achieve the popularity that it had hoped to get. Maybe in the end, the XFL would be wise to quiet down and aim for a more noble purpose such as existing as a second-chance league. And yes, this means sending Jesse Ventura back home to do his real job. I think I speak for those of us who truly love this sport by saying that we are turning off our televisions, and we will gladly wait for the real thing to come around again in the fall.

Men's hoops swept in Texas

By Stu Johnston
Staff Writer

The last weekend for Lynx basketball proved to be a rough one, as Trinity and Southwestern handed Rhodes consecutive losses as the Lynx finished the season with an 11-14 record (7-11 in the SCAC). Unfortunately, Trinity emerged from the locker room on fire. As if 17 hits in 30 attempts were not enough, Trinity nailed 7 of their 11 attempts from beyond the three-point line. The Tigers led 43-31 at the break and pulled away for a convincing 21-point victory, 84-63.

Against Trinity, the Lynx had four players in double figures. Neal Power ('01) led the way with 15 points, followed by Justin Myers ('02) with 14, Austin Lutz ('04) with 12, and Michael Davis with 10 ('01).

Southwestern came out even hotter than Trinity and overcame the Lynx's shooting prowess by sinking a scintillating 15 of 24 from the field, including eight three-pointers. Southwestern kept their 40-33 halftime lead en route to a 75-63 win. Bryan Baird ('03) led the team with 19 points and three steals.

People shouldn't have opinions

BOB ARNOLD
What It Is



I'm mad as hell, and I'm not going to take it anymore.

After the last *Rhode'ster* was published, a few people made it a point to track me down and tell me how much they "liked" that particular issue. Obviously, they said this with the ridiculous assumption that I had edited the issue with the enjoyment of others in mind (of course after a peal of insulting laughter I quickly set them straight; I only edit the *Rhode'ster* because it fills me with a deep sense of self-worth). One brave soul even went so far as to tell me that the last issue was "good."

"I know it was!" I cried. "I don't need you to tell me that!"

These days it seems like everywhere you look, somebody is standing around spouting off an *opinion*. There are opinions floating around about all sorts of things: who we should vote for in the next election, which deity (if any) we should worship, what kind of wine tastes best

with grilled salmon filets. I even had a guy tell me the other day that he thought my shirt went really well with my tie.

What gives?

When I give somebody a Christmas present, I don't want to know how much they "liked" it. When I see a movie, I don't want the people with me telling me afterward whether or not they thought it was "good." Who cares? Not me. And not Hollywood,

seafood pasta. It's delicious."

"That's your opinion and it's *stupid*," I replied. Fortunately the waiter saw things my way and refrained from value judgments for the remainder of my meal. And the pasta, as it turns out, was not great at all; in fact, it tasted curiously like urine. See what I'm talking about?

My main point is this: I already know whether most things are good or bad, so I don't need anybody tell-

that people should have and share opinions. This is, for obvious reasons, appalling. Look around: what's the purpose of the bulletin board? Of philosophy classes? Of debates and discussions? I'll tell you: they allow people to quibble and bicker over ridiculous issues that have *already been resolved*.

Take, for instance, the death penalty. Obviously, it's wrong to kill other people. This isn't just my dinky little opinion; this is a cold, hard *fact*. Never mind that the prisoner in question confessed to murdering fourteen boy scouts and a crippled nun. Fact: Killing others is wrong, and we shouldn't do it. I don't care if it prevents a mass genocide two years down the line. It's still *wrong*.

Isn't this kind of thing obvious?

That's a silly question. Of course it's obvious, and by asking that I seem to imply that I'm interested in whether or not you, dear reader, find it obvious. It doesn't matter if you find it obvious or not. It is *objectively* obvious.

Having established this, I'd like to list a few obvious facts that certain nincompoops seem to need help with. If you find yourself reacting with doubt or outrage to these facts, please understand that it is simply

because you are an idiot and you need to wake up to the truth of things around you.

Fact: The U.S. is the best country in the world because we have the biggest weapons.

Fact: Country music is bad. So are Hip Hop and New Age, and you have no business claiming to "like" any of them.

Fact: PCs are far superior to Macs. End of story.

Fact: The color green is not as visually pleasing as the color blue.

Fact: I am cool. I don't care what anyone says. I don't care if you poll my high school class and they tell you otherwise. I am cool, and anyone who doesn't think so is just flat out wrong.

And a stupidhead.

I hope this clears things up a little. From now on, let's all try to be more conscious of our own ignorances. In the future, if you need to know whether something is wrong or right, whether a particular movie is good or bad, or whether abortion should be allowed under the law, just ask me. I can tell you the cold, hard truth.

I think the world would be a much better place if we'd all leave our stupid little "opinions" behind.

It's gotten to the point where even waiters have no qualms about recommending things to me. Who do they think they are?

certainly; since when has Hollywood based movies on what they think audiences will or won't like? *Charlie's Angels* was an exercise in high art. Anyone who doesn't think so is an idiot. Period.

It's gotten to the point where even waiters have no qualms about recommending things to me. Who do they think they are? Just the other week I was ordering at a restaurant and I got this: "I'd recommend the

ing me. I know, for instance, that sushi is gross. So any time somebody tells me how "good" sushi is, they're only embarrassing themselves by committing a blatant factual error. I have tried sushi, and I know *for a fact* that it is gross. Why, then, would someone use *opinion* to try and convince me otherwise?

Don't think that this problem isn't affecting Rhodes; in fact, Rhodes seems to *promote* the idea

Sex, violence, and the XFL

JACK LESLIE
The Xtreme Team



It was a cold and rainy night in Memphis, one of those nights that causes people who are new to the city to say, "What the hell? It was 75 degrees and sunny yesterday and now it's 29 and rainy?" So it was cold, and yet there was a whole slew of rednecks blocking my path to the Liberty Bowl entrance. You could tell they were rednecks because the only warm clothing they had was camouflage hunting jackets, camouflage pants and those neon orange hunting hats. Had a 12-point buck somehow gotten into the line, it wouldn't have been able to tell the difference between the stadium and its home in the woods. It also would have been dead within seconds.

Luckily for the deer, security was pretty tight. I mean, it was an XFL game, so it had to be. In case you haven't heard of it, the XFL (Xtreme Football League) is a new football

league created by wrestling promoters and NBC (apparently still trying to make up the ratings it lost when "Seinfeld" went off the air) that is more exciting than regular football. Besides the trendy spelling of "extreme," they have made the once simplistic game of football more exciting by incorporating a group of very attractive cheerleaders and a few new rules that encourage violence.

I am unsure of what exactly constitutes "xtreme," but if sex and violence are key factors then I think everything should be "xtreme." For example, we could take a couple of un-"xtreme" things like, say, a course in organic chemistry or the entire Judiciary branch of the U.S. government. Now add a touch of sex and dash of violence and you have college courses like "Xtreme Organic Chemistry 204" and programs on C-SPAN like "Xtreme Judicial Review."

You may not think that sex and violence have that much influence over people, but, really, why do you think all my redneck friends and I were at the game? Because we genuinely think that the coin toss is the downfall of modern football? Be-

cause Vince McMahon is a creative genius who is revolutionizing modern sports? Hell no! We went because there were cheerleaders in tight pants and because when the quarterback got sacked, he stood up and started swinging on the defensive end.

We finally made it through the gate and into the stadium. I noticed very few fans without a cup of over-

I am unsure of what exactly constitutes "xtreme," but if sex and violence are key factors then I think everything should be "xtreme."

priced, watered-down domestic beer. Amid yells of "Woohooooo!" and "Suck it, Las Vegas!" my friends and I attempted to walk to our seats. The only problem was that no one could find their gate because of drunkenness or, in our case, because the stadium sections were not clearly marked and no one was around to offer assistance. So instead of going to their assigned sections, everybody

went to the section directly in front of the cheerleader platform. Unfortunately my friends and I got caught in the middle of this alcohol-and-hormone-induced frenzy, and we were even further delayed in getting to our seats. Then of course, the game started.

By the time we made it to some seats (not ours), we had missed the first half of the first quarter. I was

already frustrated, but I became even more frustrated when I tried to watch the game. I couldn't help but be distracted by all the gaudiness that engulfs the XFL. I wanted to watch football, but as it turns out it is the show - not the game - that people go to see. It's like Planet Hollywood: you don't go there for the crappy burgers, you go there for the crappy memorabilia from old Arnold

Schwarzenegger movies.

It was 15-3 at the half, and, as hopes of a victory dimmed, the crowd grew more and more rambunctious. They started throwing the free XFL foam seat cushions on to the field. Some didn't make it, and instead landed in the sea of spectators near the field. This wasn't that much of a problem because the seat cushions were pure foam and didn't hurt, but when someone got the great idea to start throwing beer bottles, things got ugly. It seemed that the only reason the cushions had made it to the field was that they were light and caught a breeze that carried them there. The beer bottles, sadly, dropped like bricks. One can only hope that no one was seriously injured.

Once the game - and the fans - were clearly out of hand, we left. I had a good time, even though we lost and I didn't know quite what was going on. I was certainly entertained to the "xtreme," but I don't think I'd go again. That doesn't mean I'm trying to discourage others from going. I would advise, though, that you don't bring any deer.

Late-night Rhodes exposed

By Scott Holmes
Rhode'ster Graveyard Shifter

Last year, in what can only be described as academia-induced drunkenness, I signed up to take seventeen hours this semester. This schedule has forced me to pull several all-nighters. By "all-nighter" I do not mean the half-assed first year's "study-until-four-a.m.-for-Search" all-nighter. I mean the "proofread-over-breakfast-and-print-your-final-copy-just-before-your-first-class" all-nighter. These long stretches of not-sleeping have brought to light an entirely new side of campus to me: the late-night underground of Rhodes.

I have overturned this stone after being forced into the dark night by the ever-empty Coke machines of Glassell. After several nights of wandering over to Bellingrath, or on nights I was forced to trek to Robinson, I noticed a pattern to these strange events. I decided that a schedule of said events might help Rhodes students connect, if only in some small way, to their classmates.

11:00 p.m.: Fluids in the Glassell hallways begin to congeal. The number of rooms that emit loud music drops to 40. RAs shut and lock their doors, while a few drunk squirrels throw acorns from the trees.

12:00 a.m.: Fluids in the Glassell hallways become sticky, foul-smelling spots. Rejected freshman guys begin the long lonesome journey home from Williford. Drunk squirrels pass out. All toilets in all bathrooms in all dorms flush simultaneously. The midnight rave in the

Bellingrath chapel begins, in which hundreds of brightly dressed 13 year-olds armed with anything that glows converge on the chapel. They are led by Tim Hayes.

1:00 a.m.: Fresh fluids deposited in the halls of Glassell. The last student waiting in the Lair finally accepts the fact that she is not ever getting the grilled chicken she ordered at lunch. Glo-sticks and necking rave kids lead to "ghost" reports in the attic of Bellingrath. Campus safety officers notified. They run.

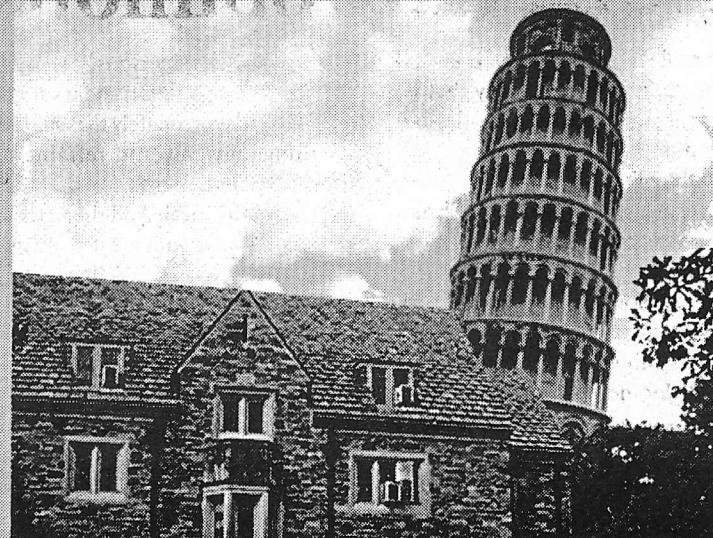
2:00 a.m.: A large dump truck loudly empties the dumpster behind the Rat repeatedly for the next forty-five minutes. "Girls Gone Wild: College Girls Exposed" becomes the entirety of Comedy Central's programming. Computer lab attendants give last call, students rapidly check e-mail before being sent home in waiting taxis. The Spanish elves who live in the Glassell chimney come home and climb loudly up the gutters to the roof.

3:00 a.m.: The early bird gets the worm. Lynx repeatedly ridden. The bread truck makes its delivery at the Rat; gains admittance by screaming and banging. Prof. Ekstrom's Geology class meets. Bob Coleman and John Ramsey seen holding hands in Fisher Gardens, telling each other, "I could never be mad at you."

4:00 a.m.: Squirrels wake up and begin frantically climbing in the trees. Construction crews begin hammering on East Village. Certain students are roused and poked repeatedly to achieve that "attitude" we all know and love.

5:00 a.m.: Relatively normal people begin getting up. Small brawls for public showers break out. Bob Arnold begins hurriedly writing the entire Rhode'ster under assumed names.

EAST VILLAGE NEARS COMPLETION



Workers are now putting the final touches on Rhodes' most ambitious architectural feat to date, the East Village housing complex. East Village, shown here looming over Voorhies Hall, is expected to be completed sometime this summer. When asked about the building's obvious tilt, the architect commented, "Oh, dammit."

CORRECTIONS

The Rhode'ster staff would like to apologize for several factual errors that somehow seeped into the last few issues.

Drew Hughes' story concerning Ralph Hatley's role in the upcoming Rites of Spring was, we have since learned, a complete fabrication. Hughes never actually spoke to Hatley, and at gunpoint he admitted to making up all of Hatley's quotes himself. As punishment, Hughes will henceforth be denied entry into the Pub Center.

Matt Reed's exposé on the Rone/Trout feud was not only a complete lie but also included several typos. He has been shot dead as a result.

Moreover, the front page story this issue on the Anna Kournikova

non-virus is just plain silly, and we're slightly embarrassed for agreeing to run it. Keith Knop's fingers have been ritualistically severed, and he has been tied up in a burlap bag and dropped in a river. That should teach him.

The story to the left of this one is also untrue, as are all those things Bob Coleman wrote and even this issue's opinion columns. Jack Leslie lies repeatedly about his feelings for the XFL, and the article attributed to "Bob Arnold" was actually written by two coked-up hamsters with pencils tied to their paws.

In the future, we will try to be more meticulous in our journalism.

Then again, this article could be one big fat lie itself.



Swami Keith's
HOROSCOPE

Ares (Mar 21-Apr 19)

It is an inauspicious time to design commemorative plates; any efforts in this direction will end in financial catastrophe and the vengeful wrath of a just and merciless Fate. Turn your efforts rather to macramé and lawn statuary, and financial success will surely be yours.

Taurus (Apr 20-May 20)

You will be exposed to unrivaled prospects for advancement in the fields of law, dentistry, and archaeology. Unfortunately, your sole talents lie in the fields of TV/VCR repair and infomercial scriptwriting. Scorpio and

Aquarius play important roles in your life, probably much more important than your own.

Gemini (May 21-Jun 21)

Your relief at getting a "B" on your history paper will be mitigated by the discovery that your roommate has installed a hidden webcam in the room, and that 2,345,824 people to date (including your brother, your grandparents, and your soon-to-be ex) now know all about that naughty thing you do with the avocado and the bottle of Windex. Sicko.

Cancer (Jun 22-Jul 22)

Your plans of world domination will be thwarted by a ragtag band of young, plucky adventurers with spiky hair and unusually large eyes. Now is a good time to unload long-term stocks. If you are female, your panties are on backwards. If you are male, your panties are still on backwards.

Leo (July 23-Aug 22)

A beautiful woman with long, auburn tresses and a slight limp will approach you in a parking lot. She will be wearing a black jacket and sunglasses. Tell her, "The caged marmot yearns for witty banter." She will know what to do. Disregard this prediction if you are a foreign spy.

Virgo (Aug 23-Sep 22)

A seraphic choir will manifest itself in your sock drawer. "Oops," they will sing. "We thought you were someone else." Be sure to wear sunglasses. Your lucky number is four over the cube root of pi.

Libra (Sep 23-Oct 23)

Warm, natural colors will enhance your creative spirit and reduce the risk of gingivitis and tooth decay. Someone close to you is actually an ancient, maleficent force with limitless potential for evil (see Cancer). Don't forget to floss.

Scorpio (Oct 24-Nov 21)

Never wash your socks on a Thursday. Don't take candy from strangers, particularly smelly, drooling ones with needle tracks the size of adult pythons. Always carry a small onion, as it will protect you from nearsighted vampires with poor senses of smell.

Sagittarius (Nov 22-Dec 21)

As a result of certain lunar influences, common words and phrases may begin to seem strange or unreploable. Vargity wimpum hooly, lyster peratinate napple the proper authorities with all due scunge. If so, your only hope is to slap the harmonium angry walrus with rancor.

Capricorn (Dec 22-Jan 19)

Your life will be dramatically improved by if anyone reads this *i am being held captive in the pub center please send help!* until the rash

Rhode'ster Staff

DEE-LIGHTFUL
Bob Arnold

DEE-LICIOUS
Keith Knop

DEE-RISIVE
Bob Coleman

DEE-SPICABLE
Scott Holmes

DEE-BILITATING
Jack Leslie

DEE-MENTED
Jack Kevorkian

DEE BOSSES
Drew Hughes
Susan Hughes

DEE-VINE
Jessica Hoffman

Why edit the Rhode'ster?

- *Lots of deadlines!
- *Beg, plead, and cry fruitlessly for submissions!
- *End up writing most of the blasted thing yourself!
- *Become miserly and jaded!
- *Listen to people say "It was funnier when Shipec did it!"

The Rhode'ster is looking for a brand new editor for next year. Interested?

Send inquiries, stories, or story ideas to arnrf@rhodes.edu.

goes away. Remember please the rope is really starting to chafe! when you put on your shoes.

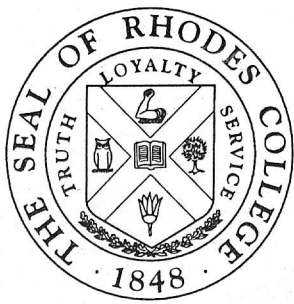
Aquarius (Jan 20-Feb 18)

Man, you should see the week ahead of you! We'd tell you about it, but every time we think about it, we laugh so hard we wet ourselves. You've cost us several pairs of pants already, but damn was it ever worth it.

Pisces (Feb 19-Mar 20)

People like you, small children trust you, attractive people lust for you, and elderly women give you homemade brownies for no reason. This means your powers of mind control are working. But be warned: they have no effect on small, bushy-tailed mammals. Beware the squirrels, for they are wily adversaries.

"Swami" Keith Knop is a professional astrologer and part-time swindler.



THE RHODE'STER

The Parody Student Newspaper of Rhodes College

Wednesday, February 28, 2001

This Page is a Humorous Parody. Read at Your Own Risk.

Page 12

Campus News...

All stories courtesy of Bob Coleman

In a tragic misunderstanding, a Rhodes College student was brutally beaten outside of his dorm room in response to perceived inflammatory remarks about religion, race, gender, and the environment on the school's bulletin board. After being released from the hospital a week later in a full body cast, S. Julzman stated that his post "Those Dumb Indian Chicks Can Go Screw a G---mn Rainforest" was entirely misunderstood by the student body. Rhodes Campus Safety and the Memphis Police are currently investigating, and have promised to "maybe persecute the offenders" if found.

Local student Kalman Bencsath was nearly shocked to death when he witnessed an entire music video played on the national television station MTV. "I wanted to watch 'Undressed,'" Bencsath said, "or maybe 'Daria.' I thought I had accidentally turned on VH1, but then this fellow came on, and he was yelling about St. Louis, and about grammar, and I knew it couldn't be VH1. When the little MTV logo came up, I stopped breathing for nearly a minute. Luckily, 'The Real World 37: Albuquerque' came on, and I was able to regain my senses." MTV, or Music Television, is currently avoiding comment on the case, but a press conference is expected within the week and a full apology will likely be made to Mr. Bencsath.

Rhodes College will now be introducing a new regulation on campus in an attempt to control the amount of intercourse at the school, or, as the Rhodes Student Handbook defines it, "special hugging." The school has created a series of wristbands which will be handed out to those people the school deems worthy of carrying on the human race, namely rich, white students. Freshman Lloyd Paul seemed upset at the news, but then stated that "It really doesn't affect me anyway." When asked why it didn't affect him, he stated, "@#%* you, Bob. You need to show some @#%*ing respect." The administration will allow the school's Resident Assistants to issue intercourse violations (I.V.s) using the same sacred judgement they have shown with alcohol and noise violations. The school's official comment was: "No @#%*ing on campus, already."

KELLEY DEFEATS RAMSEY

By Bob Arnold
Rhode'ster Gun Jumper

In an unprecedented underdog victory, unprecedented underdog Mike Kelley ('03) stole yesterday's Rhodes Student Government Presidential election from current Vice President John Ramsey ('02).

The victory came as a surprise to many students, the majority of whom actually voted for Ramsey.

"Maybe you shouldn't run this until we know for sure who won," commented Elections Commissioner Marvin Addison ('03). "Seriously, Bob, that's crappy journalism."

The campus presidential election just begs to be compared to the recent national election, with lots of bad jokes about recounts and Floridians. This reporter, for one, will do his best to refrain from such tired material.

According to political analyst and Rhodes political science professor Michael Nelson, Tuesday's election was significant for several reasons.

"There was quite a bit of mudslinging surrounding this race, especially on the campus' electronic bulletin board," commented Nelson. "The candidates themselves didn't participate, but their supporters used some pretty outrageous claims to promote their views and make the other guys look like real doofus."

"Which is the plural of doofus,"

Nelson explained, after a long and uncomfortable silence.

The bulletin board posts were indeed outrageous, and often bordered on slander. The back-and-forth began when Kelley supporters accused Ramsey of not taking his current position seriously. Ramsey supporters responded by accusing Kelley of not taking his personal hygiene seriously. The debate escalated wildly from there.

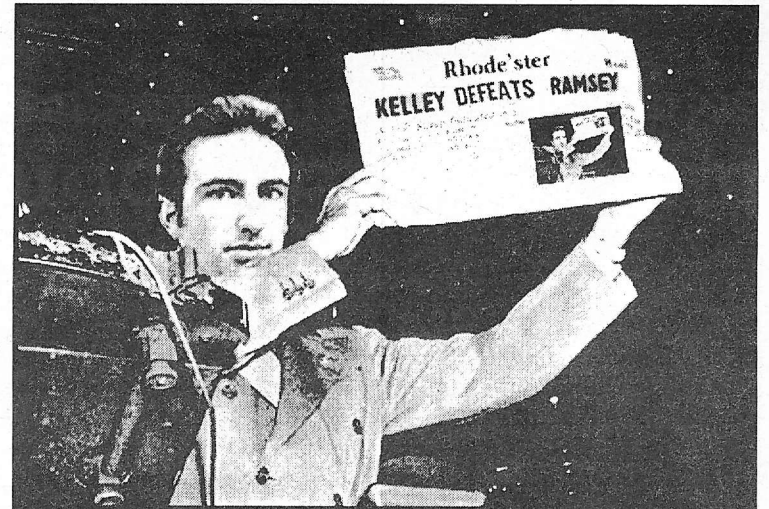
"Before it was over," Nelson recalls, "they had Kelley sniffing Lysol and Ramsey collecting human eyeballs in a mayonnaise jar. Kelley was a space alien and Ramsey a kidnapper, and both of them reportedly lacked several integral parts of the male anatomy."

"It was awesome," Nelson said. "I just hope *this* election don't require no recount."

When notified of this reporter's promise to avoid such overdone references, Nelson responded, "Did they get the absentee ballots from Florida yet? Maybe Ramsey still has a chance! HAW HAW!"

The interview ended there, and Nelson's home was mysteriously rolled the following night.

The brawl-like atmosphere of the recent election can be attributed to several influences, not in the least the fact that Kelley's campaign was coordinated by professional wres-



In a really weird anachronistic mixup thing, actual RSG Presidential winner John Ramsey holds up this very newspaper in amusement. Obviously Ramsey has control over the space/time continuum, allowing him to procure this issue and pose for the above picture before the issue even came out. Students, beware this man. He may be more powerful than we know.

ting guru Vince McMahon and Ramsey's by talk show host Jerry Springer.

"We almost went with a segment where the two candidates would go after each other with folding chairs," commented McMahon. "Mel Richey wanted to throw them in a cage with a hungry lion and let the survivor be president. But the PETA people were all over us on that one."

"Besides," interjected Richey, "then we'd have a lion as RSG president."

Future campus elections are ex-

pected to follow an increasingly violent format, in which both parties will avoid addressing real issues in favor of cutting each other down. When asked if this shift to the personal attack will indeed be effective, Ramsey commented, "Your mom was effective last night!"

Because the election was conducted electronically, there weren't any of those little chads to argue over.

Chads! Like the Bush and Gore thing, you know? Chads?? HA HA HA!

Ahem. Sorry.

New computer non-virus threatens electronic world

By Keith Knop
Rhode'ster Virtual Virtuoso

This week Rhodes students received an urgent warning from Charlie Lemond, that guy who does stuff with computers, in reference to an insidious new threat to the well-being of the Rhodes network.

This menace takes the form of an e-mail message, allegedly from someone named "Ur Friend," with the subject line "Free Virus inside!" Students were cautioned not to believe the message's claims.

"Although the message clearly states that it contains a devastating computer virus," Lemond said, "it in fact contains a disguised link to pictures of nubile Russian tennis sensation Anna Kournikova." Lemond warned that some college networks have been slowed to a snail's pace because of the bandwidth consumed

by students sending the pictures to one another.

Although some students at Rhodes were affected by the message, Lemond expressed gratitude that they were so prompt in contacting the proper authorities. Asked about the dangers posed by the pictures already on the network, Lemond replied, "Computer Center staff currently have the pictures under...close scrutiny." Rhode'ster staff members hummed loudly in an effort to remove the resulting image from their minds.

First-year student Albert Mugwump, whose name has been changed just because we have the power to do so, was among those taken in by the clever ruse.

"I was real surprised, you know?" he said. "I mean, spam is nothing new. I get spam all the time. I'm just shocked that they would resort to

such deceptive tactics. I guess I've grown accustomed to expecting honesty and integrity from spammers — I mean, if you can't trust unsolicited e-mail from people who don't use their real names or valid return addresses, what can you trust? It hurts, man, it hurts."

Asked why exactly he would want a computer virus, Mugwump stared blankly, slack-jawed, for some time before answering, "Well, it was free, you know?"

The message, which authorities believe may have been the work of an easily-confused hacker, has drawn the attention of several major software firms, including antivirus giants Symantec and McAfee. A Symantec official issued a strong statement decrying the ploy as "an offense to honest, hard-working virus programmers everywhere. This sort of shameless deception will only

serve to sully the fine reputation of their craft.

"Although," he added, "of course they are all callous, jaded, godless fiends, intent on wreaking gleeful havoc inside your computer. I hear they also eat babies. So be sure to purchase one of our fine products, if you have not already done so."

Also paying close attention are Microsoft, Apple, and Sun Microsystems, all of whom have reported substantial productivity loss as a result of the pictures. Fortunately, quick thinking on the part of Rhodes students has spared the campus network from most ill effects.

"It just goes to prove you can't trust anyone these days," said junior Prunella Symthe-Falafelbottom (we love being able to do that) as she checked her e-mail. "Hey, look! I can get a master's or Ph.D. from a prestigious, non-accredited university!"