

## THE SOU'WESTER

The Weekly Student Newspaper of Rhodes College

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Wednesday, September 26, 2001

### Campus News

All Stories Courtesy U-wire

Federal authorities investigating last week's terrorist attacks are looking into a former University of Oklahoma (Norman, Oklahoma) student detained by immigration officials on September 11, the day of the attacks. Hussein Al-Attas has been transferred to a facility in New York, and the FBI is investigating his connection to another man, Moussaoui, detained in Minnesota, whom he may have escorted this summer. Al-Attas attended since 1997 but did not enroll this fall. OU records list him as a Saudi Arabian national, the official said.

Preceding President George W. Bush's announcement of war on Thursday, demonstrations at Boston-area campuses, including Boston University (Boston, MA), implored a peaceful response to last week's terrorist attacks. National Campus Day of Action spurred more than 140 peace rallies nationwide, including 10 in Boston. About 3,000 ralliers at Harvard University (Cambridge, MA) and about 200 at Boston University's Marsh Plaza toted placards with messages like "Bush: defend our justice, not our pride." Coordinated by an Emerson College (Boston, MA) senior, Boston-area rallies aired widely held campus sentiments that the U.S. response to last week's attacks should be one of peace.

Columbia University (New York, NY) student Aaron Goldsmid is one of the multitudes who survived last week's terrorist attacks on the World Trade Center towers. "Even though I was there, I walked away unscathed," he said in an interview Tuesday night. "I don't think I deserve the title [of survivor]." Aaron Goldsmid's story is probably not that different from the countless others that involve sprinting down the stairs of one of the World Trade Center towers on the morning of September 11. But his story is, and will forever be, extraordinary. He arrived at One World Trade Center at 7:30 a.m. for his part-time job at Lehman Brothers. A little before 9:00 a.m., he heard a drone. "I don't remember the sound. Memories are totally piecemeal," Goldsmid said. He paused at this point, searching for words: "I didn't do anything. I just ran."

### New conservatory will offer unique atmosphere for gathering

By Robert Edgecombe  
Business Manager

The signs of a sustained administrative effort to improve campus life at Rhodes are evident in a little publicized project in the works. Residents of Voorhies, Townsend, and Trezevant Halls have doubtlessly noticed the ongoing construction in the quadrangle between the three dorms. This is the site of a unique architectural and social addition to the Rhodes campus: the conservatory.

Scheduled to be completed by November, the 1300-square foot conservatory will consist of a glassed-in social room, complete with new furniture, kitchen, and study spaces, as well as a terrace area with patio furniture. All this will overlook a newly-landscaped quad where greenery and a fountain will create a garden setting where hedges will hide a large cement air-conditioning structure.

"The Voorhies-Townsend-Trezevant quad was once a very popular student gathering space," pointed out Lloyd Templeton of Rhodes' College Relations Department, but the installation of the central air-conditioning unit a few years ago took away from much of

the green space and the aesthetic quality of the lawn. "We think the conservatory will play a big part in creating a new student gathering space in that community," he said. Allen Boone, Dean of Administrative Services, agrees. "We've realized that there was a great need for some improvements in that area, particularly in Trezevant," he said, "and we think this will make a big difference."

The conservatory, the estimated cost of which is \$500,000, is another result of a study taken a couple of years ago to address some of Rhodes' residential shortcomings. Based on observations from a consultant and with input from student representatives, several recommendations were made and multiple projects were conceived, including improvements to Trezevant, which has only a small and seldom-used social room. The conservatory will serve as a social room, providing a place to gather that is much different from most parts of the Rhodes campus.

The conservatory is being built adjacent to the arched hallway that connects Trezevant with Voorhies and Townsend, and entry into the terrace and garden room will be through that hallway. Residence Life Director Carol Casey hopes the location and the comfort of the conservatory will help an

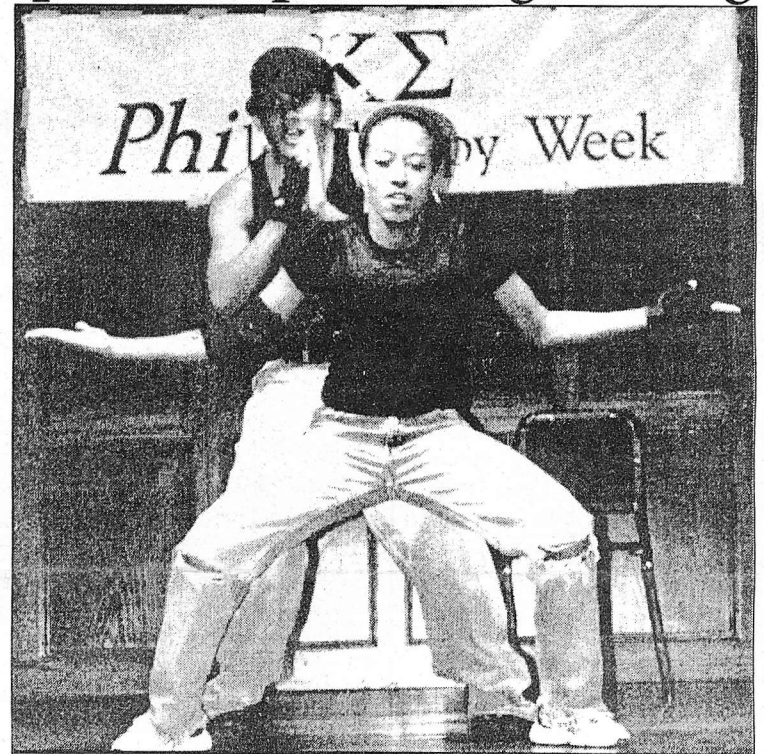


Photo by Miriam Dolin

Aisha Sharif ('03) and Parag Shah ('03) took first place in the Kappa Sigma Lip Synch Contest last Friday for their rendition of Michael Jackson's "You Rock My World."

area that she sees as "somewhat fragmented." Said Casey, "We hope that the conservatory will provide much needed space for meetings and other things that pull students together."

As the project nears completion,

administrators are anxious to see the results of their planning. "We certainly hope the students are as excited about it as we are," said Templeton, "because we think it's going to be a great space."

### Rhodes professors lead discussion on Islam and terrorism

By Stu Johnson  
Staff Writer

The attacks on the World Trade Center and the Pentagon have generated a great deal of speculation in this country about terrorism in general and, more specifically, about the Islamic faith. Simple ignorance has generated many adverse reactions to followers of Islam and wild speculation concerning Osama bin Laden, the nature of terrorists, and the nature of the groups to which they belong.

Last Wednesday evening, Dr. Bette Ackerman introduced Dr. John Kaltner (Assistant Professor of Religious Studies) and Dr. Quintan Wiktorowicz, who led a discussion concerning both of the issues men-

tioned above. Kaltner, who resided in Egypt for several years before moving to Memphis, shed light on the basis of the Islamic faith and the concept of *jihad*, or "holy war." He stressed the diversity of the Islamic faith and warned against blind acceptance of religious stereotypes that have no basis.

The concept of *jihad* can be separated into the "greater *jihad*" and the "lesser *jihad*." The greater *jihad* refers to struggles that Muslims incur day to day in maintaining their faith, while the lesser *jihad* is the more militaristic "defense of the faith." This lesser *jihad* has been the focus of media scrutiny, surrounding the attacks on New York and Washington, D.C.

Verses in the Koran that refer to *jihad*, like excerpts from any religious

document, are subject to a wide range of interpretation, and the vast majority of Muslims are opposed to the attacks.

"Many Muslims have come out denouncing the bombings, religious leaders included," Kaltner said. "The message from the top has been very clear: that Islam is a religion of peace, not war."

Dr. Wiktorowicz then spoke about terrorism. Osama bin Laden, despite his current high media coverage, is only a small piece of the puzzle. Bin Laden is a facilitator, connecting nodes of this "vast transnational network" of terrorists. His importance lies largely in the financial means he has to fund operations such as the attack on the United States. Wiktorowicz said

that attacking bin Laden alone would be a symbolic triumph for the United States, but it would not get at the root of the problem. Leadership of this network is loosely organized, and eliminating the threat entirely is an unlikely scenario, at best.

The nature of the beast the United States is up against is ambiguous, to say the least. A hastily planned attack would be a mistake, according to Wiktorowicz, who summarized his point of view by saying, "We need a multi-dimensional approach, and we need to consider our Arab allies, along with the political issues. Why did this happen? What are the grievances this group has against us? We cannot kowtow to terrorists, but we must understand the issues they bring to the table."

## Can we all just get along, please?

By Frank Hardy  
Contributing Writer

My name is Frank Hardie and I am the president of Sigma Alpha Epsilon fraternity here at Rhodes. In light of the recent articles concerning the Greek system, I would like to offer my opinion about what has been said thus far.

In the September 12 edition of the *Sou'wester*, David Hurt posed the question, "why do frats and sororities exist, really?" He then attempted to answer that question in what was probably the most ill-informed and generalized article that I have ever read.

I will not try to speak for all Greeks, or even all fraternity members, but as I have been heavily involved with the system here at Rhodes, I feel that I can offer some information in favor of the existence of fraternities and sororities, in opposition to what Mr. Hurt has previously written. He states, "frats and sororities exist so that participants in these organizations can A) meet attractive members of the opposite sex, B) drink large amounts of alcohol, and C) make lifelong friends in a highly structured, secure environment."

For answer (A), I have no argument against, although I would not put it as the very first answer.

For (B), I would say that is wholly false. There are members of my chapter who drink and there are those who do not. For those who do not, I think that their experience in our fraternity has been just as rewarding, if not more so, than of our members who do drink.

In regard to answer (C), members do join to make lifelong friends, but the environment of the fraternity is no more structured or secure than any other environment on campus, such as in class or on a sports team. The lifelong friendships that our members develop are

a result of the brotherhood we foster. We do not meet for an hour every week to force members to become friends.

The next point that Mr. Hurt makes is that fraternities and sororities stifle diversity. He then quotes his "good friend Trent Lutz [who] said it best: 'weak-minded people need labels to fill in the gaps of their identity.' If you wear a Greek jersey you are a walking label."

Since Mr. Hurt and Trent Lutz are good friends, he probably knows that Trent is in a fraternity, my fraternity. He may not know that Trent was my pledge trainer, and he may not have heard him speak numerous times of the great benefits of

### *To apply condemning sociological terms to this discussion . . . is a stretch.*

being an SAE (including loving, lifelong friendship).

I also doubt that he saw Trent cry on the shoulders of brothers four years ago over the death of a sophomore member (one of Trent's closest friends). Our brother's death devastated our chapter, but at the same time brought us together like no other event. I strongly believe that Trent's quote was taken a little out of context (and if I am wrong, then that is for damn sure the label that I want to wear, weak-minded though I may be).

Mr. Hurt goes on to talk at length about how Greek organizations are stereotyped. He explains that, "people like to be with others who are most like them." On this point, I can agree.

This actually brings me to my main argument, which is: there is little difference between members of a Greek organization and groups of friends who are not involved in a Greek organization. Is it not true that all groups of friends "share the

same modes of interaction and the same system of values."

I would also like to respond to Mr. Hurt's comments on spring semester recruitment. He writes that Greek leaders are opposed to spring recruitment because freshmen may have time to realize that "they do not need a Greek organization to fulfill their social needs."

As a Greek leader, I will say that this is not what I believe. I am interested first and foremost, in young men identifying a fraternity whose members, collective and individual, they feel most comfortable with. I want the rush period to be later than it is, possibly a few weeks. This way, potential members can take more

time to make the right decision, on whether or not to join, and if so, what fraternity to join.

I do not support deferred rush because it would mean an extension of rush rules (basically no socializing between freshmen and Greek upperclassmen) until the spring, and because it would mean that there would be less members in my chapter for a longer period of time.

If Greek leaders used an early fall rush to convince rushees that they needed the Greek system to fulfill their social wants, then how do you explain the number of upperclassmen that pledge every year (Trent Lutz pledged as an upperclassman)?

I have yet to understand why some independent students express such anti-Greek sentiment. The Greek system is not for everyone, and sometimes the things that Greek organizations do appear silly. But I have never seen a fraternity or sorority member say or do anything negative to an unaffiliated student because they were not in a Greek or-

ganization.

Yet, there are those that continue to criticize the Greek system. If you do not like the way the Greek system is, and you are not a part of it, then where is the problem? If you have constructive criticism about the Greek system here at Rhodes, I am sure the leaders of IFC or Panhellenic will be willing to address your concerns.

If there are things that disturb or frighten you about the Greek system, I apologize. I honestly believe that there is very little difference between Greeks and non-Greeks.

The only true difference that I see between Greeks and non-Greeks is that Greeks have the organization to put their money together and throw a party with live music.

I have several non-Greek friends who like to tell me how stupid fraternities are, but whenever we throw a party, they are the first to show and the last to leave, which is fine. I have no problem with their attendance at our social functions because that is why we host parties. But to apply condemning sociological terms to this discussion and say that we "institutionalize social interaction" and become "more aligned with the collective group" is a stretch.

In closing, I would like to ask that students, non-Greek and Greek alike, to please stop arguing over why the Greek system should exist.

I am not going to go over all the great things that it has done for me, but if the system has been around for 150 years, and if the vast majority of those involved with it are strong supporters, then it obviously has some valuable qualities.

I know that there are problems with it, but IFC and Pan are working hard to correct those problems, and we (Rhodes students) will not be able to create an ideal learning environment by trying to tear down what others work hard for.

### LETTER TO THE EDITOR

To the editor,

In response to the article written by Josh Wilmeyer, "Greek system beneficial, just ask Greeks," I would like to clarify the validity of Josh's arguments.

Although I am so happy that someone wrote an article in response to David Hurt's from the previous issue, I am frustrated

by Josh's statement that Kappa Sigma has made the largest contribution in Rhodes' history.

I think it is impressive that Rhodes is a great place to participate in philanthropies, and the fact that Kappa Sig raised \$2,500 for Big Brothers and Big Sisters of Memphis last year is outstanding.

Every little bit helps.

I think, however, that it is incorrect for Josh to write "Kappa Sigma has presented the largest philanthropic check ever given by an organization of Rhodes College."

He was incorrect in saying this, when, in fact, Kappa Delta has raised as much as \$10,000 in one year for a children's hospital in Richmond, Virginia.

I am not refuting Josh's efforts to communicate the Greek system's philanthropic contributions. I am however, writing to inform *Sou'wester* readers that the spirit of service extends throughout the Greek system, and is the cornerstone of this campus, Kappa Sigma, and Kappa Delta.

Sincerely,  
Rebecca Marshall ('04)

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

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## Time for all to wake up and take action

PAT DUGAN

Apathy at Work



I had a dream last night. I went on a game show, a lot like the trivia game in *Quiz Show*, Twenty-One.

I was on the show, but it was not just me competing. I was on a team with the entire world population, all of Earth's human beings.

We had won the show so many times that, like Herbie Stempel in *Quiz Show*, everyone was getting lackadaisical about the show—not practicing, farting around like a bunch of retired professional athletes, watching MTV2 and Sports Center.

In the first match I watched we were pitted against a group from the planet Shotput—a bunch of half-wits; Professor Kaltner almost handled them all by himself, scoring 18 of our 21 points.

We went on to beat teams from all over the Universe, going on a winning streak that lasted millions of years. Throughout the streak, however, apathy became more and more the predominant disposition of the team.

One night I finally had enough with it. I stormed into the green room before the show. Everyone from Earth was in rapt attention, watching *Forrest Gump 2*.

I lashed out at them, telling them they never knew who was going to come on the show next, that it could be a species a million years more evolved than us, with brains the size of Texas.

I asked them if they knew what would happen if we lost.

"What would happen," they asked.

It is not an ordinary game show, I told them. On an ordinary show, you would be kicked off the game when you lost and you could not come back.

When you lose here, you do not get kicked off the show, you

get kicked off the curved face of the universe!

At this point, after having informed Team Earth of the whole game-show-loser-genocide deal, my dream played one of those intra-dream tricks on me.

*Team Earth now has a reason to get creative, to get up off our lazy butts.*

In a spasm of inattention—maybe I woke up for a second or, more likely, a malicious demon distracted me—the facts of the dream were suddenly altered.

It turns out that instead of dominating the show for millions of years, we have not even appeared on the show once. We are only about to go on the show for the first time.

Those three million years we have spent thinking we were on the show were actually only practice, designed so that we could get good enough to play on the real show.

Team Earth, I find out, has always known we were just practicing, and they still do not care about the consequences of losing.

The dream ends and I wake up without seeing our first appearance on the real Quiz Show.

Laden, the Taliban, or highlights from the latest Bush speech.

It seems to me that Team Earth is a lot more active than we were before September 11.

Everywhere creative solutions are being devised to deal with sudden changes and challenges to our previous way of life.

On the national level, I see George Bush and Congress finding billions of dollars in aid for the airline industry, billions and billions of dollars for a campaign of anti-terrorism, and I am sure there is more to come.

Team Earth now has a reason to get creative, to get up off our lazy butts.

The threat of losing certain things is finally palpable.

Terrorism is one of many issues challenging the real Team Earth. Let us hope our team works harder than the one in my dream.

Let us not get hurt in practice either—this is Team Earth, right?

Or is it just Team America? Or Team Christian?

## America now needs to give peace a chance

EMILY HOGUE

Peace Keeper



I have been too busy to watch the news lately. All I know is what I have picked up from discussions and a little bit of the newspapers.

So, what I am trying to say is that I am not an expert on what I am about to talk about.

There has been a lot of talk about the United States going to war after the events of September 11. This scares me. I have never experienced the effects of war.

Sure, Desert Storm happened during my lifetime, but I was not directly effected by it. I think I was in fourth grade when it happened. As a fourth grader, it is hard to understand all the implications of war.

I did have family members flying planes and bombing people in Saudi Arabia, but not understanding what was happening, I did not understand what that meant.

I wish I was a war specialist and could quote facts and figures about

war, but I cannot. I am sorry if that makes me seem less credible to you.

What I do know is that when countries go to war, innocent people are killed. The bombs that are dropped do not only destroy buildings. They destroy people's homes and jobs. They destroy their entire existence.

*It is hard for me to feel represented by my country when my country is going against my wishes.*

I am sure it is hard to start life over after everything you know is destroyed. Just think how devastating it is when we have natural disasters that destroy our own way of life.

It takes a lot of time and money to repair the damage. War would effect people in much the same way, if not greater.

I do not want to be a part of this. I wish my country would choose not to be a part of this. It is hard for me to feel represented by my country when my country is going against my wishes.

I am not saying I hate America

or anything like that, because I do not.

I am just asking for there to be peace. I do not have all the solutions. I do not even have alternative solutions to war. However, I do think retaliation is a bad idea.

Whatever the cause of the terrorist acts, we need to ask ourselves

if the way we live needs to change. We cannot always assume that we are perfect and that everyone else has the problem.

Again, please do not take what I am saying the wrong way. I only want people to start talking about other possibilities.

Wednesday night there will be a Peace Forum in the Orgill Room at 7 p.m.

I hope that you will attend. This will be a casual discussion about ways to promote peace instead of violence. Please bring your concerns, questions, and opinions.

Want to share  
YOUR opinion?

Come discuss the  
possibilities for peace.

Rhodes Peace Forum

Orgill Room  
Wednesday, September 26  
7:00 p.m.

# Forum

## Americans search for comfort in aftermath of recent events

By Chris Ebersole  
Staff Writer

Although two weeks old, the events of September 11, 2001 are still fresh in our minds, and probably will be for some time. It seems impossible at times to move beyond such an unprecedented event, especially when faced with so many unresolved issues.

The searching has begun, but not just for survivors or suspects. An emotional quest is also underway to find some sort of superfluous measure of preventative security to restore that relaxed comfort that a group of individuals suddenly destroyed.

The pursuit of increased security is gaining momentum, as we seek something, some measure of defense that can once again make us feel secure. We want to say, "Look, that cannot happen again," and be able to believe ourselves, but few are willing to acknowledge that such an assurance is impossible. Instead the inclination is to impose short-sighted restrictions

and regulations to make our country seem "safe" again.

Inevitably, the very way we look at things has changed, and while such a change is indeed somewhat necessary, some of the actions that either been proposed or have taken place have been, for lack of a better word, un-American. Some citizens of middle-eastern descent have begun to experience not only harassment, but also the denial of fundamental rights, as in the case of four Arab men who were refused airline service due to "passenger concerns."

A New York City councilman initially suggested the idea of forcing middle easterners to register with the local government; granted this was a spontaneous emotional reaction, but it came from an *elected leader*. More recently, polls have been taken that show up to one-third of New Yorkers favoring internment camps for Arabic citizens. Although the credibility of such results can be called into question, they reveal a sentiment that does in fact exist.

President Bush has reviewed a proposal to issue national identification cards, and the Oracle Software Company has volunteered the resources to create them. To put this idea into a historical context, one can recall that sixty years ago, another national leader required his citizens to carry identification cards; his name was Adolf Hitler.

The recent terrorist attacks on our country have been compared to the Japanese bombing of Pearl Harbor, but in light of our national reaction, a different comparison comes to mind, one that this generation might better relate to: Columbine High School.

Within hours of that rampage, fingers had been pointed and blame had been placed, be it on video games, rock musicians, or the subculture of teenagers who dress as "Goths." Rating systems were reaffirmed, boycotts were held, and dress codes were instated, all so that high school administrators could call their schools "safe."

Still, the truth remained, al-

beit pessimistically, that if an individual wanted to shoot up his high school, he could. And the truth remains today, as a nation, we still are, and always will be, vulnerable to an attack.

Fear is a natural response to such events, but it must be overcome. As individuals and as a nation we cannot afford to always be looking over our shoulders. New York Mayor Rudy Giuliani conveyed this message best on Tuesday morning when inundated with questions about the security of his city. "Life is risky," he responded, "You can

decide to live your life afraid of that happening, or you can decide to live your life the way Americans live their lives, which is unafraid."

Do improvements need to be made in national defense? Yes. Should our intelligence have seen this attack coming? Possibly. But should we revise our way of life to accommodate those who threaten it? Absolutely not.

We live in one of the freest nations on earth, one that is the envy of the modern world. Let us keep it that way.

Express your opinions in...

### Forum

A supplement to Sou'wester news coverage focusing on issues of national and global importance. Students are encouraged to write on pressing scientific, economic, cultural, or political topics. All Rhodents are welcome to participate.

Interested? E-mail Pat Dugan at DUGPJ

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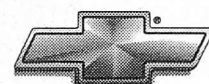
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## Public Service Announcement

### V-Day 2002 Stop Rape Contest

All full- and part-time students at Rhodes who have ideas on how to stop rape in this community are invited to enter the V-Day 2002 U.S. College Stop Rape Contest.

Strategies can be outrageous, daring, unconventional, funny, artistic, or improvisational, but they must be effective, inexpensive to implement, and non-violent.

Through the U.S. College Stop Rape Contest, V-Day hopes to bring new and creative energy to its worldwide movement to stop violence against women.

A facilitator is responsible for publicizing the contest at this school, collecting the ideas, and submitting them to V-Day. Rhodes entries will be

judged by the V-Day Benefit Committee, and at least one idea from every school will become a finalist. Three winning ideas will be chosen from among the finalists, and those ideas will be awarded a grant from V-Day for implementation.

The deadline for submissions is December 15, 2001. The finalists and winners will be selected on or around February 1, 2002 so that they can be announced at subsequent V-Day College Campaign productions of *The Vagina Monologues* worldwide.

For more information on becoming a facilitator of the V-Day 2002 U.S. College Stop Rape Contest, please visit [www.vday.org/college](http://www.vday.org/college) or contact [judy@vday.org](mailto:judy@vday.org).

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## Campus Safety Log



9/17/01 TO 9/23/01

9/17/01	7:10pm	East Village Halls – Alarm Checked okay
9/18/01	1:07pm	East Village B – Theft – Larceny reported
	10:00pm	East Village Halls – Alarm Checked okay
9/19/01	1:12am	Robb, White, Ellett – Alarm Checked okay
	9:00pm	East and West residence halls Fire drills – All okay
	10:15pm	Robb Hall – Alarm – Checked okay
9/20/01	5:45am	Palmer Hall – First floor – Dead snake located/removed
	10:03pm	Bellingrath – Possible unlawful possession of controlled substance
9/21/01	8:00am	Vehicle accident east of Briggs No injury – Report taken
9/22/01		NO UNUSUAL ACTIVITY TO REPORT
9/23/01		NO UNUSUAL ACTIVITY TO REPORT

STATS THIS WEEK:  
 PROPPED DOORS: 5  
 ACCESSES: 116  
 CITATIONS: 130  
 CARS TOWED: 4  
 BOOTS: 2

ESCORTS: 23  
 VISITORS: 1,255  
 JUMP STARTS: 2  
 A.V.: 3

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The Diversity Group will hold a campus-wide dialogue on Monday, October 29 at 8:00 p.m. in Rhea Lounge.

Westminster meets every Thursday at 5:15 p.m. in Rhea Lounge for Presbyterian fellowship. All are welcome to attend.

Muslim Student Association will have a meeting on October 2 at 8:00 p.m. in Rhea Lounge. This is the MSA's first meeting of the year, and all are invited to attend and to learn about Islam!

There will be a campus-wide referendum of the student body to vote on proposed revisions to the Constitution of the Social Regulations Council. The ballot process will be online. Please visit the Social Regulations Council homepage to view the proposed revisions and vote [www.students.rhodes.edu/~src/](http://www.students.rhodes.edu/~src/). Students may vote anytime between 8:30a.m. on Wednesday, September 26 and 5:00 p.m. on Thursday, September 27.

Meet behind the mailroom every Friday at 3:00 p.m. to go to the Alzheimer's Day Center of Memphis. Natalie Tiner will drive, or you can carpool.

## VOA controversy amplifies holy war threats

By Pat Dugan  
 Staff Writer

In the ongoing terrorist-related situation, of which the public knows very little concerning the evidence linking Osama Bin Laden to the crimes of September 11, President George W. Bush made a bold move last week, saying in his speech that the Taliban could either hand over Bin Laden or else expect an all-out offensive from the United States.

Taliban leaders reacted immediately to Bush's ultimatum, calling it "unacceptable" and reiterating the Taliban's own demands on the U.S., namely that it remove itself from Muslim affairs, in particular from the Israeli-Palestinian dispute. Pakistan continues to be one of the key players in the Afghani-American pre-war. Officials from the State Department, as well as the Pentagon, traveled to Pakistan in order to discuss strategy with the cooperating Pakistani leadership.

The Pakistanis that are not cooperating—namely, members of Pakistan's Islamic parties—continue to urge faithful Muslims to consider *jihad* if the United States follows through on rumors of entering the Pakistani borders.

*Jihad* is defined as "strive, effort, struggle, to follow Islam; [it] can include defense of the faith, armed struggle, holy war" (*Islam the Straight Path*: Esposito, John L., p. 254). The last variation of the term, "holy war," is what the Taliban is preparing for at present. There is an estimate of 300,000 holy warriors—ten times the number of soldiers in the Taliban before the terrorist attacks catalyzed American-Afghani tensions. The increase can be attributed to Taliban expectation for Muslims from all over Afghanistan, Pakistan, and other Mid-Eastern countries to join in the fight against the "United States Crusaders."

One of the most riveting stories of the week deals with a Pashto translation of American radio normally sent out to almost half of the Afghanistan population. Voice of America (VOA) is a worldwide American program designed to spread news of, as well as to explain, American policy.

VOA's recent controversy centers around an interview with Mullah Mohammad Omar, leader of the Taliban regime in Afghanistan. As could be expected, Omar attacked the United States in the interview, accusing America of being the fundamental cause behind the terrorist attacks two weeks ago.

If America had not been so harsh to Islam and Islamic nations in past decades,

Omar reasons, there would have been no reason for any nation or religion to hate America as much as certain Islamic factions do now. Omar, among others, suggests also that an assassination of Bin Laden or of himself would do little to deter future terrorist attacks on America. Since the VOA is an American-based program, literally the Voice of America, some might argue that American leaders should be able to veto the airing of anything they consider controversial; moreover, if it is truly the voice of America, Mohammad Omar is hardly going to express that voice appropriately.

However, the nature of the VOA is not merely to present American perspective, but to do so in an "objective" fashion. CNN.com describes the nature of the program: "The VOA charter also calls for accurate, objective and comprehensive news and a broad spectrum of American thought and institutions."

Further restrictions on what the VOA can broadcast should be expected. This decision made by the State Department is none-too-pleasing to journalists working for the Voice of America.

"We believe the integrity of the VOA is at stake," the VOA journalists said in their letter. "This censorship sets a most unfortunate precedent and damages our credibility with our worldwide audience," (CNN.com).

## Recent developments

- New York mayor Rudy Giuliani is now allowing families of missing persons to file for death certificates.
- Giuliani reported that one of the largest surviving pieces of the WTC will be preserved for possible use in a memorial.
- The World Health Organization (WHO) is alerted to the possibility of biological or chemical warfare. For information on what to do if you might have a case of botulism or the plague, go to the WHO website.

# Arts & Entertainment

Wednesday, September 26, 2001

THE  
SOU'WESTER

Page 7

## "The greatest thing you will ever learn,"

### A review of the summer's smash hit *Moulin Rouge*

By Susannah Young  
Staff Writer

According to director Baz Luhrmann's summer smash *Moulin Rouge*, "the greatest thing you'll ever learn is just to love and be loved in return." Yet, clearly the greatest thing Luhrmann ever learned was a method for making visually stunning, over-the-top dazzling films, the kind you can't resist loving just because they're so, well, overwhelming. *Moulin Rouge* is no exception to this rule, which was set in place by Luhrmann's earlier film, *Romeo and Juliet*.

The plot of *Moulin Rouge* is a tried-and-true staple in the wide world of love stories. Boy (Christian, played by Ewan McGregor) moves to big city against the will of his overbearing father to fulfill his lifelong dream to be a playwright and a full-time bohemian living among artists and other creative

types. While there, he falls in with celebrated painter Toulouse-Lautrec and his band of bizarre compatriots - bohemian versions of the "Disney sidekick," if you will.

They begin writing a play which they want to stage at the Moulin Rouge, a nightclub/brothel where all are welcome, dissolving class distinctions in the name of sex and dancing to the beat of songs that had not been written in 1899. Christian, Toulouse-Lautrec, and the gang have written a play they want to be performed at the Moulin Rouge, so they go there one evening to approach the manager about staging it. They also ask the head courtesan, Satine (Nicole Kidman) about playing the lead role. Upon seeing Satine perform in that night's show, Christian is absolutely mesmerized, and, as fate would have it, so is the Duke, a man who wishes to marry Satine. The Duke arranges a "meeting" with Satine later that night. Satine is ex-

cited, thinking this is her big chance to be recognized. In a plot twist, after dancing with the dashing young Christian, thinks he is the Duke and takes him up to her room. She tries to seduce him while he attempts to tell her about his play. Of course, these antics lead to love, as they frequently do in such movies.

How is love conveyed in the world of *Moulin Rouge*? By snippets of 70's pop love songs, of course. Christian and Satine engage in this banter for close to 10 minutes at a time at points, essentially turning the whole endeavor into a musical. This tactic is highly entertaining at first, but starts to wear thin after a few medleys. It is a bit campy, but the movie is so visually stunning you can forgive the screenwriters for substituting dialogue with lines from the 80's classic, "Love Lifts Us Up Where We Belong."

Luhrmann's trademark filming tactics work wonders in *Moulin*

*Rouge*. Watching a Luhrmann film feels almost like watching an extended-length music video. The camera swirls and dips, the screen flashes, and the viewer is bombarded with bright lights and vibrant colors.

The lines of fantasy and reality are blurred in *Moulin Rouge*, for example, a man in the moon, Christian and Satine waltzing through cascades of sparkles high atop the Moulin Rouge, which works well with the story. The story itself is so fantastic that it seems almost like a fairy tale.

Elements of melodrama also pass by almost unnoticed, just because they seem so appropriate to the story. For example, Luhrmann employs a tactic usually reserved for made-for-TV movies: nearly halfway through the movie, Satine begins to cough while foreboding music plays in the background. This, of course, means that within an hour or so, she will be dead. And, true to the classic "ill-fated love affair" plot line, she does.

This further highlights the fact that it is tough to make your way in the world if you're poor or if you're a prostitute, and that it's nearly impossible for two lovers to live happily ever after.

Perhaps the best aspect of Luhrmann's directing style is its ability to mask whatever flaws the movie may have by giving one's eyes so much to keep up with. This is certainly the case with *Moulin Rouge*, which is by no means a great film, but is entertaining to a fault. In other words, I got a kick out of it.

It is fun to watch, and you cannot help but love the characters and be somewhat inspired by the fairytale love of Christian and Satine. If the greatest thing Christian and Satine ever learned was just to love and be loved in return, then the greatest thing the viewer learns is to overlook the hokiness of the movie and appreciate its sincerity and its entertainment value.

## Rhodes alumna steals the show in *Mame*

By Ann Morgan  
Staff Writer

A man in a black tuxedo with tails came onto the stage to pay homage to the two hundred volunteers that worked to put on this production. He introduced his character as Lindsay Woolsey. He gave the pitch for the season tickets. Then the musical started.

*Mame* stars Rhodes alumna, Ann G. Sharp. The musical itself takes place in New York City and spans from 1928 to 1946. Opening with the placement of a young boy and his nanny into the hands of his eccentric aunt, the story follows the pair into the boy's adulthood.

Although the script seems to lack some information and the lines and songs verge on corny, the overall musical keeps the audience entertained. By creating extreme stereotypes of the snobby elite, alcoholic actresses, hospitable southerners, and wild eccentrics, the play gives insight into a view of society during that era.

The young boy Patrick and his nanny, Gooch, enter stage first. Patrick, played by Matthew Kenwright, acted well for

a fifth-grader, however, for a number of his lines, he was hard to understand. Gooch, acted by Laura Anne Otts, stood out as an excellent singer; however, she overacted her character as an inexperienced, shy, young lady.

The highlight of the show was the star, Mame (Sharp), and her best friend Vera, played by Jude Knight. The relationship between these two comical characters made the musical. The song the two share about their friendship, "Bosom Buddies," was the best scene in the whole play.

Sharp has a remarkable way of connecting with everyone on stage, while still relating to the audience. She continued to play off other people through songs and scenes in which she was not featured. When she entered the stage, she immediately took control.

Of course, helping her achieve this accomplishment, were the 17 different costumes that also helped show time period changes. The costumer provided 120 costumes for the play, most with fringe and beads. The opening scene all the women wore flapper dresses with lots of sparkle and the men donned

black tuxedos with tails.

The set completed a pleasant production with multiple backdrops and side stages. With a magnificent staircase ascending to stage left and a frequently changing sofa and vase, Mame's house transformed to the phase of life she was going through, from oriental paintings to classic sophisticate to abstract modern. For the scene at Peckerwood, a southern plantation, a plantation home sat in back stage left, complete with three Corinthian columns.

Although the play lacked strong dancing solos, the choreographer made excellent use of the set and the large groups. Dancing included swing and jitterbug moves combined with lyrical and jazz and some moves reminiscent of Broadway's *Sweet Charity*.

The play ran from August 31<sup>st</sup> to September 23<sup>rd</sup>, but the 82<sup>nd</sup> season of Theatre Memphis has just begun. Upcoming plays include *Betty's Summer Vacation*, which will run from September 28<sup>th</sup> to October 13<sup>th</sup>, and *Death-trap*, which will run from October 19<sup>th</sup> to November 4<sup>th</sup>. For information or reservations call 682-8323.

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## Kappa Sigma's Lip Sync involves Rhodes students in national charity

Emily Ramsey  
A&E/Scene Editor

The Kappa Sigma fraternity brought their Philanthropy Week to an awesome, and comical, close on September 21. Though the week is over, Kappa Sigma is still collecting money for charity, and does not have a final tally of dollars raised, as of yet.

The Rhodes fraternity sponsored the Lip Sync contest at 7 p.m. in Hassell Hall on Friday, and six groups competed for first place. Parag Shah ('03) and Aisha Sherif ('03) claimed first place prize, winning \$100. Aisha performed "All for You," by Janet Jackson, followed by Parag performing "You Remind Me," by Usher. Together, the two performed a new Michael Jackson song, "You Rock My World."

Speaking of their performance, Parag said, "I want to thank Aisha for letting me work with her." Aisha seconded the camaraderie between the two, saying, "Parag was the best dance partner, and he really invested a lot into the dance."

Second place, and \$75 went to

the the several girls. Ann Morgan ('05), Angel Chen ('02), Djurdja Lazic ('03), and Aileen Hsu ('03) sang "Lady Marmalade," from the hit movie *Moulin Rouge*.

A group sponsored by Alpha Omicron Pi, including Whitney Garman ('04), Lisa DiTrollo ('03), Mandy Killie ('03), Cyanne Demchak ('03), Beth Purves ('03), and Jessica Hoback ('03), performed K. C. and the Sunshine Band's "Boogie Man," taking home the third place prize as well, and winning \$50.5

Several other groups performed, including a group sponsored by Chi Omega, who performed N'Sync, Tri Delta, who performed a song by Britney Spears and the Rolling Stones, as well as the Black Student Association, who performed a song by En Vogue.

"There was an overwhelming turnout," said freshmen Jade Opper ('05), "It seems like everyone was really into the show and having a good time."

In addition to the performances by members of the student body, several members of Kappa Sigma, including Andres Arciniegas ('04), Lloyd Paul ('04),



Photo Credit: Associated Press

**A relief worker stands on top of the massive pile of rubble from the World Trade Center on Tuesday, September 25. Clean-up efforts have removed thousands of tons of debris with an estimated million tons left.**

Jonathan Rogers ('03), and Matt Lum ('04), played several songs for the crowd during the intermission.

The Kappa Sigma fraternity also spearheaded several other philanthropic activities during their Philanthropy Week. Tuesday, they took the pledge brothers to the soup kitchen of St. John

United Methodist Church for a volunteer opportunity. Wednesday, they volunteered with Knowledge Quest. Saturday, the Kappa Sigmas hosted an event where many of the local children from Big Brothers and Big Sisters of Memphis came to play with them in the BCLC.

Overall, the show proved to be

a great success, with estimated revenues looking to be somewhere around \$1000.

The cost for the show was three dollars, and the proceeds will go to the Boys and Girls Club of Memphis.

Also contributed: Elizabeth Muller

## Peabody Place promises predictable and relatively cheap fun

Susannah Young  
Staff Writer

I am sure most of you who have been in the Beale Street area this year have noticed the presence of the recent addition to the Memphis skyline, new Peabody Place, Memphis' newest mall-type entity--a large concrete building bedecked with multiple alluring neon signs.

I was in the area a few weeks ago, and, seeing as I did not have anything else planned that afternoon, my friends and I heeded their call. I went inside to be greeted by new building smell, the sights and sounds of a belly-dancing festival, and throngs of tourists blinded by the gleam of new tile and their fervent desire to find the perfect souvenir. As yet, such a quest is probably futile--this mall is still in the embryonic stage.

Right now the list of "Com-

ing Soon!" stores outnumbers the stores already there; nevertheless, there is merchandise enough to satisfy the consumer in you.

Peabody Place is home to Tower Records, Hot Topic, Ann Taylor, and the Gap. There are also a few token bizarre specialty stores like Breaking the Mold, devoted entirely to candles, and Dapy, an oddly named business which claims to sell "high quality, home-oriented gifts," as boasted by the cryptic tag line on the Peabody Place website.

A number of eateries are already up and running, including Mrs. Field's Bakery Café, and the omnipresent Starbucks. Jillian's provides a combined club scene and restaurant atmosphere. If you are in the mood to enjoy a couple of pints, try the Dan McGuinness Pub, or if New Orleans is more your scene, seek out Fat Tuesday.

Peabody Place also houses the gargantuan Muvico--a 22 theater movie complex promising more variety than you can imagine. This mission to offer the widest possible range of choices seems to have extended itself to the concessions stand where the options read like a restaurant menu. Sample items include popcorn shrimp and quesadillas.

Muvico, operating on the Wal-Mart principle (where a larger than life store equals cheaper than dirt prices), doesn't threaten to empty your wallet. I paid around \$5.75 for my movie--less money than I have paid to see a new movie in a long, long time. (*Editor's Note: Using your Rhodes student ID, you can purchase a movie ticket for \$5.00 at Muvico.*)

If you are looking for a not-so-costly way to spend the evening keep this place in mind. Another discount opportunity-

-if you park in the Peabody Place parking garage and show them your movie stub, they will not charge you for the time you spent in the movie. I believe there are some parking discounts for Rhodes students in general as well.

Peabody Place has conveniently posted signs of their coming attractions at odd intervals throughout the complex. Up and coming stores include Memphis Motor Speedway, Morgan Studio, Victoria's Secret, and a store from the man who brought you "Theme from Shaft," Isaac Hayes: Music--Food--Passion.

Every time a new mall is hastily erected on the latest flood plain to undergo development, people like to think it promises something fresh and new. The consumers are promised something fresh and exciting, even though they are well aware of the fact that the entire concept of a mall is to bring stores you are al-

ready familiar with closer to you.

That being said, the Peabody Place is a mall like any other mall--the food court, the movie theater, the chain clothing stores. You pretty much know what to expect when you walk in, but then again, that is the whole attraction of a mall. It is nothing you have never seen before, but it is still a convenient place to go shopping or to spend a few hours at a relatively inexpensive movie.

Peabody Place Entertainment and Retail Center

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Located on the corner of Main and Peabody.



## Mens and women's cross-country teams compete at Vanderbilt Invitational

*Paine ('03) and Knight ('02) lead the teams with strong performances*

By Nate Mitchell  
Staff Writer

Rhodes' cross-country teams were scheduled to run at the New York University Invitational this weekend in New York City. However, due to recent tragedies, the men's and women's teams chose to travel to the Vanderbilt Invitational in Nashville. This weekend's course at Percy Warner Park has three very large hills, which makes it tough to race. The rough terrain also causes times to be slower than usual.

The Rhodes women finished first among non-Division I schools and seventh overall in the 25-team field. They were led with a strong performance by Amy Paine, who placed 16<sup>th</sup> in the meet. Also coming along well after be-

ing injured was Marianne Falk, who ran in the sixth position for the Lady Lynx.

The Rhodes men lost to schools Emory University and Lynchburg College, with whom they must compete in the post-Conference Regional meet in order to qualify for nationals. It was, for the most part, not a spectacular race. It has been a season full of injuries: this was the first race of the season for five of the Rhodes men. On the bright side, John Knight had another superb race, finishing eighth in the meet. The men finished eleventh overall.

Coach Robert Shankman said of the races, "Both teams were a little flat. We didn't run poorly, but we were not as sharp as I hoped we would be. Everyone was a bit tired from coming off a few

high mileage weeks. I expect much better performances when we run at home in two weeks."

The Rhodes cross-country teams have a home meet at Plough Park in Shelby Farms on October 6. Come support the fastest people on campus.

**Top 7 Rhodes Men's 8K times:** John Knight ('02), 27:12; Brian McCarthy ('03), 28:45; Matt Wood ('05), 29:00; Matthew Sauter ('05), 29:15; Todd Ridley ('05), 29:51; Mark Loeffler ('02), 29:52; Michael Hoover ('03), 30:44.

**Top 7 Rhodes Women's 5K times:** Amy Paine ('03), 19:20; Elizabeth Wester ('03), 19:53; Betsy Bogler ('03), 20:47; Marie Brandeweide ('04), 20:51; Lori Steger, ('03), 21:02; Marianne Falk ('04), 21:05; Lauren Glas ('03), 21:20.

## Complete domination at home

*The field hockey team defeats Bellarmine 4-1*

By Melanie Telzrow  
Staff Writer

This past weekend's field hockey game was the kind of game a team member is forever dying to write about.

Rhodes faced up against Bellarmine, a Division II team from Louisville, Kentucky, and punished them with an overall score of 4-1. Last year, Rhodes beat Bellarmine, so they came into

Saturday's game looking for a fight. The Lady Lynx made the effort not to tire themselves out in the warm-up, due to a particularly hot day. This strategy proved effective, considering how the game went.

With a crowd of about sixty rowdy Rhodes students equipped with dry-erase boards and posters, the team prepared to show Rhodes students what field hockey is

about. The women set the tone with a score by left midfielder Melanie Telzrow ('02) within the first ten minutes of the first half. Following that goal was another hard knock into the goal by the midfielder on the opposite side of the field, D.J. Horton ('03). It seemed to be a "midfielder's day," because the next goal was slammed into the cage by center midfielder Liz Cooper ('03). Lastly, forward Lee Thomas ('04) ended the scoring streak with a beautiful goal at the end of the second half.

Unfortunately, Bellarmine scored within the last ten minutes of the second half, but that never stopped the loud chanting of "You've lost that lovin' feelin'" coming from the sidelines. The ball was maintained on Rhodes' side of the field during the whole game, and the frustration of Bellarmine's team could be seen on the coach's face. This win was exactly what the team needed after their defeat against Centre from the week before.

Rhodes plans to gain two more wins this weekend at home against both Lindenwood and Transylvania. The Lynx appreciate their fan's support and look forward to seeing field hockey fans this Friday at 5p.m. and Sunday at 11a.m..

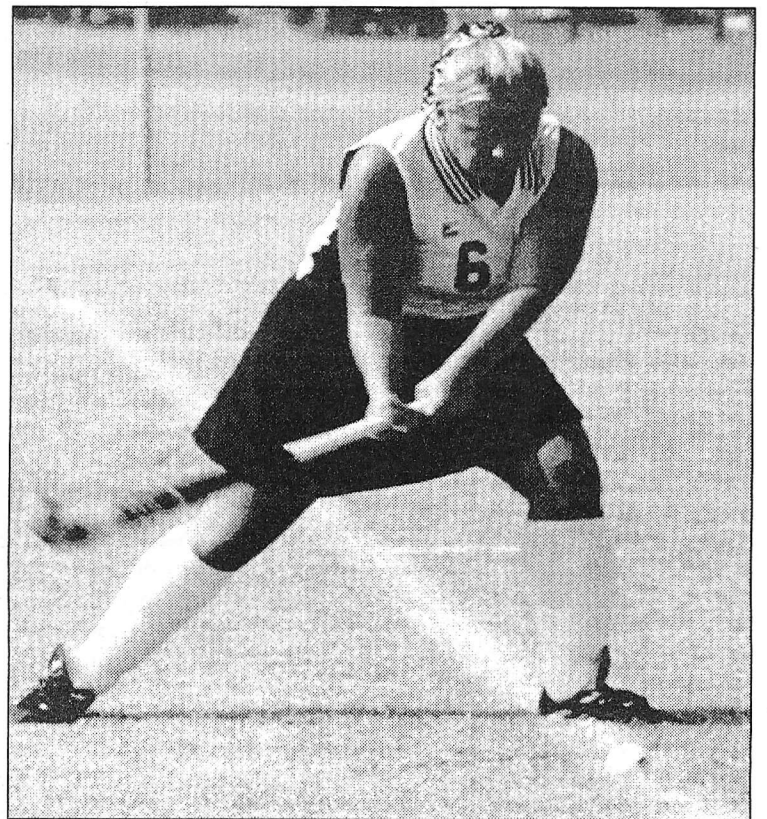


Photo by Miriam Dolin

Field hockey team member Rachel Chaney ('03) concentrates on taking a swing during this weekend's 4-1 win against Bellarmine. The Lady Lynx will take on Lindenwood and Transylvania this weekend at home.

## Soccer team wins again

By Lance Ingwersen  
Staff Writer

The men's soccer team capped off another successful road weekend knocking off conference foes Oglethorpe University and Millsaps College to improve their record to 6-2 on the season, 3-0 in conference play.

Friday found the team in Atlanta for the first leg of their trip taking on the Stormy Petrels from Oglethorpe. The Lynx set the tempo early, keeping Oglethorpe on its heels for much of the first half. But it took 20 minutes of poor finishing and many missed opportunities for the team to record its first goal of the match, as Justin Sampson ('05) settled a cross from Bryan Powell ('04) and hit a left-footed volley past the Petrels keeper. Oglethorpe, unable to build the ball through the midfield, resorted to the counterattack. Just ten minutes after the Lynx' goal, the Petrels caught the Rhodes defense unbalanced and tied the score at one, however the momentum never shifted in favor of the home team. Five minutes before halftime, Brad Stoner ('03) found himself underneath a Nick Reed ('02) corner and put the ball away. The second half opened just as the first had ended with the Lynx in control. Chase Mathis ('05) neatly finished a ball that was resting on the goal line after Powell had connected on a one-time ball from Reed. With just under ten minutes to go in the game, Oglethorpe caught the Lynx defense unorganized for the second time hitting a spectacular volley into the side netting. The Lynx answered immediately less than two minutes later as

Michael Phillips ('04) flicked the ball over the outstretched arms of the approaching Petrels' keeper from 22 yards out off an assist from Nick Elder ('03). Oglethorpe's keeper single-handedly kept the Petrels in the game with 18 saves for the day. The Lynx outshot Oglethorpe 31-13.

On Sunday, the Lynx went head-to-head with a much-improved Millsaps team. The Lynx were a little sluggish in the opening minutes but picked up the pace after Chase Mathis was fouled in the box in the thirteenth minute of play. Phillips took the penalty kick and scored the Lynx' first goal of the match. Thirteen minutes later, Phillips recorded his second goal of the match off yet another Lynx penalty. However, the Majors got on the board before the close of the first half, capitalizing off a foul with a well-hit free kick from 20 yards out. As the second half of play resumed, with the Lynx holding on to a 2-1 advantage, Millsaps came out with a final burst, but the men's team responded as Nick Frenkel ('05) put away the third goal of the match off a cross from Lance Ingwersen ('03). Only minutes later, Frenkel once again found the back of the net on a blistering strike into the side netting after settling a cross from Paul Koshgerian ('03). Bryan Powell scored the fifth and final goal for the Lynx off a great combination from Mathis and Zach Glaser ('04).

The soccer team will play Sewanee and Centre at 4:00 p.m. on Friday afternoon and 2:00 p.m. on Sunday, respectively.

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## Rhodes Says Good Riddance to Letter 'i' Ushers in age of 'y'

Letter to the Editor:

In my earlier years, when I was innocent and unaccustomed to the callous ways of the world, my parents used to tell me that my name was a special one. Damn fool that I was, I actually believed them. But with the benefit of hindsight, I now realize that they were trying to shelter me from the forthcoming onslaught of the gross misspelling of my first name. And while I will be the first to admit that my name, spelled B-R-Y-A-N, is somewhat foreboding to the average speller, I nonetheless am haunted by its alternate spelling.

For years, I have sat idly by as my would-be special name has been trampled upon, the letter 'y' having been so frequently and unmercifully supplanted by its degenerate cousin: the letter 'i.' But no

more, I tell you. No more. The sun is setting on the era of mental anguish that has plagued Bryans the world over. Beginning in early October at the inception of the new fiscal year, I will issue a school-wide referendum to have the letter 'i' stricken from the alphabet.

Any effort to impede the comeuppance of the sinister letter 'i' would be futile. For you see, I have spoken to Rhodes English Professor Robert Entzminger who assures me that I do indeed have the authority to enact such a drastic change.

My fellow students, I know you all have concerns like, "what personal pronoun am I going to use to refer to myself," but let's try to see the big picture: A 26-letter alphabet is way too bloated. "Twenty-five" looks so much more official. Plus, just think of all the time we'll save by doing away with that tedious exercise of "dotting!" So let's work together to nix the letter 'i.' Trust me, you'll

be glad you did.

-Bryan X

Editor's Response:

What can one do or say when confronted with such hostile, jaded rhetoric? We at the *Rhode'ster* were not sure. But we knew we needed answers and fast in order to assuage the fears of our loyal readers. As luck would have it though, we were all out of those answer type things. So we did the next best thing and took to the sidewalks of Rhodes College.

*Rhode'ster* on-campus correspondent Katherine Whitfield caught up with one student whose first name some experts believe exemplifies the anger prompted by alternative spellings of the name B-R-Y-A-N. Indeed, this young man who calls himself "Brian" Corrigan ('02) took time to respond to the 'i' vs. 'y' debate. Said Corrigan, "Well, the history of

the 'i' and 'y' conflict can be traced back to the introduction of Protestantism into southern Ireland back in the 1500's. 'Br(y/i)an' is an Irish name, you see. And while traditionally spelled with a 'y,' an argument could be made—"Corrigan continued further, but in the interest of time, we moved on to another student.

Asked her opinion on the two spellings of 'Br(y/i)an,' Christine Coy ('05) quickly became incensed. "God, that y-spelling has so been played. I mean please, when are these traditionalists going to wake up?"

Addressing the long-term effects of having one's name constantly misspelled, and in an attempt to understand the mindset of the this mad man, Associate Professor of Psychology at Rhodes College Robert Strandburg remarked, "Well such a student would likely suffer from acute blaséness, pronounced by chronic slackerdom,

uncoolcity, and a tendency to sleep through mid to late-morning classes."

When further probed as to whether 'blaséness,' 'slackerdom,' and 'uncoolcity' were indeed real words, much less *bona fide* medical terms, Strandburg thereupon insinuated a love tryst between himself and Ms. Whitfield's mother that had allegedly taken place the prior evening. The Rhodes English Department and the American Psychological Association are still investigating the matter, as is Whitfield's father.

At present, the unknown author of the anti-'i' document, or "Bryan X" as it were, remains at large. And officials are skeptical about uncovering his true identity any time soon. "Unfortunately," shrugged Ralph Hatley, Director of Campus Safety, "we won't be able to narrow it down to a small pool of suspects until the new Faces comes out with the list of students' preferred names."

## Citizen Kane Nothing More, Nothing Less than Not So Good

Katherine Whitfield  
Classic Shmassic



As a columnist this year, I've been asked to provide members of the Rhodes community with accurate and insightful movie reviews to aid in the selection of quality video entertainment for those cozy Friday nights. When browsing through the various film categories at Blockbuster, trying to find an interesting movie to critique, I decided to watch and comment on what is hailed as one of the greatest films of all times—Orson Welles's *Citizen Kane*.

Having never seen the film prior to this exercise in critical viewing, I was prepared to laugh, to cry, and most certainly to be dazzled by a cinematic masterpiece. I was not, however, prepared for the awful compilation of mundane storyline

and trite performers that assaulted me throughout the wasted 119 minutes of my life. Why, I could have been two-thirds of the way through *Titanic* in that time. (You know, people say Orson Welles was great actor, but I'll take Bill Paxton any day of the week.)

Viewing *Citizen Kane*, I felt as though someone had taken

pected more.

I understand now that the one Oscar actually awarded this film, to director, star, and co-writer Orson Welles for Best Writing, Original Screenplay, was undoubtedly a bribe given only with the understanding that Welles would produce no more movies. My claim was verified upon further investiga-

**Apparently, Welles felt that his budget would be better spent on ham sandwiches for himself and his cast and crew.**

canine excrement, smeared the substance onto celluloid, and presented the creation as something to be praised. Granted, I realize that not all movies can measure up to the true all time greats, such as John Carpenter's *Big Trouble in Little China*, but frankly, for a film nominated for nine Academy Awards, I ex-

pected more. I uncovered a secret press release stating that Welles's Oscar was revoked upon the release of *The Magnificent Ambersons* the following year.

If shoddy presentation and casting were not enough, I feel that any rational audience member would be put off by the

horrible lighting prevalent throughout the work. Apparently, Welles felt that his budget would be better spent on ham sandwiches for himself and his cast and crew (provided any of the latter were scrappy enough to wrestle the pig carcasses from Welles's gargantuan hands) than on bright and effective light fixtures.

For most of the movie, I had a difficult time even discerning faces and setting, much less noting important physical subtleties. In addition, Welles did not even have the presence of mind to remove such cinematic distractions as mirrors and other reflective surfaces from each scene. And on several occasions I felt like I had truly gone insane and become trapped inside some twisted house of mirrors, trying to discover which images were real and which were mere reflections. Clearly, a more experienced director would have had the foresight to correct such anomalies.

Heck, Welles also forgot to edit the film in chronological order! You'd think he had never even made a film before.

Charles Foster Kane might have, as he states, "always gagged on the silver spoon", but at least as a fictitious character he was spared the torture of gagging on his own ridiculous lines and choppy delivery. Orson Welles was once quoted as saying, "Gluttony is not a secret vice." Well, evidently, neither is ignorance, incompetence, or inexperience, for most of the free world has heard of *Citizen Kane*.

In closing, I simply ask that every reader take heed of this warning and remain safe and happy with excellent films starring such actors as Kurt Russell and Nicholas Cage. Finally, I only wish to say, "Up yours, Orson Welles. You owe me \$4.12."

CITIZEN KANE WAS RELEASED ON DVD SEPTEMBER 25. BUY IT TODAY!

## Fear and Loathing on Platform 9 and 3/4 A Trip Through Western Europe in Five Minutes

By Hunter S. Thompson  
Rhode'ster Gonzo Journalist

We were half way to Paris before the glowing, green-eyed monster that is Absinthe began to take hold. Absinthe alone was not enough. We had thirty-six cases of Heineken, eighteen cases of Italian and South African wine, a bottle of Jameson's Whiskey, a jar of Flintstone Vitamins, and a colouring book. We would never have what it takes to indulge or consume all of these items, but when embarking on a spiritual crusade with nothing but a pen, a paper, our mind, and this massive quantity of refreshing libation, the idea is to push it as far as you can.

The Silver Bullet, hosting thirty-four American parasites all searching for their individual spiritual differences and what's more, their inner artistic chi, sped fast and furiously down the tracks of Western Europe. We were ready to see the sites, ready to walk the walk of history's most traditional centre of art and melodrama; make no mistake about it, we are here to suck out all the marrow of life - avoiding nothing but condemned pastures, beef, and the *black pudding!* Black Pudding: an English breakfast treat comprised of cattle blood fried with oatmeal to contract what appears to be a round, fluffy, black patty. It can easily be mistaken for sausage - this was the case for many aboard the Silver Bullet. Black Pudding. How irresponsible! Good God, man, think

about it - the plague! My thoughts, officially motivated by malice, placed me and my mine in a state of unrest.

Where are we going? Paris? How can we be sure? How are we to trust that bohemian engineer or that horrible English-speaking French ticket collector? What were they conspiring to do? The Absinthe, although at the time a tasty libation, began to work against me, accentuating my paranoia! And so it was not pleasant when my attorney, to my left, screamed violently into my ear. "STONEHENGE, STONEHENGE!" He said with silvery tear-shaped drops of wet slobber clinging to his bottom lip and hanging a foot below his jaw line. Much to my disappointment the dumb, sloppy bastard wasn't pointing to the window. There was no Stonehenge out there - my God, we're not on the soggy island anymore! He was pointing to Anna Fraser asleep in a very incriminating position. "There!" he said violently, the string of rubbery slobber swinging with every syllable.

"Quiet you fool! You'll wake her up!" he reared back, his finger still pointing, "And then we'll all be done for!" From the look in his eyes it seemed he understood. Anna couldn't possibly be comfortable. Her legs in an upright, jarred position aiming her heels to the sky, her knee caps paralleled with her torso - crammed in the small of our compartment aboard the Silver Bullet.

Suddenly the compartment door slid open with a THUD! "Holy Jesus!" I screeched! In the doorway stood the figures of three antago-

nists, Jonathan Harder, Brian Waggenspack, and Mark Erskine. I wasn't going to give them any trouble. I was ready to obey their most crude desires. The big one spoke. It said, "Gryffindor stinks!" Before I could blink there was a sudden whirlwind of fury! BOOM! Punches thrown! CRASH! Kicking! WHAM! Cursing! \$%\*@!!! My attorney had attacked. He didn't like those words one bit, "Gryffindor stinks." He'll have none of that.

Next, the door slammed and I found myself on the floor peeling a nose-bleeding man off of me. He had lost the battle, my attorney, but he wasn't going to lose the war.

The trip continued, and so did the Silver Bullet. My attorney and Anna Fraser were fast asleep, my attorney still nursing his bloody nose. Feeling adventurous I found myself slinking out through the compartment door into a linear hallway. Suddenly a large creature with green, oily skin and a hideous roar. "Ribbit" came hopping between my legs down the hallway. "Holy jeez! What is this goddamned animal?" In fear of being attacked by this slimy critter a second time I hurried down the hall in the opposite direction only to be attacked by a sobbing buffoon crawling on the floor clucking his tongue like a mad thang. He stood. Our eyes squinting. It was Kyle Hatley. His speech was stifled by short, sharp breaths of panic and weeping: "Have you seen my Frog?"

"Seen it? Cursed thing nearly took my head off, man!"

"Wha-wha-where did it go?" said



Here the author is seen traveling through part of Western Europe... which looks suspiciously like the American Southwest.

the sniffing fool.

"I suggest you put that devil-creature on a leash! You're damn lucky I didn't smote that bastard animal through the helm down do its teeth!"

"But, but, but frogs don't have teeth." Said the sorry little, sissy boy.

"Don't lie to me! It had fangs the size of my ribs! I know what you're up to!"

This did not please him. As he stepped by, I extended my leg and tripped him. He fell and I had a good laugh. "Cheeky bastard."

My mission was simple -- get to the front of the Silver Bullet before we reached our destination -- wherever that might be. And, would the Absinthe wear off before I had completed my crusade, as it were? Suddenly the train stopped! The cold air from outside was leaking in -- "Turn on the heat," I thought...or...did I say that out loud. Suddenly I found myself cowering to a towering figure in a black robe and scaly, disgusting hands. It was Tim Watson. Dressed as death? Where am I? "I'm not ready, goddamn you! Suck an egg!" But the Tim did not speak. Instead, he reached for me. But before I could feel the cold, scabby hands my world went blank -- I'm in a dream.

Where am I? "Holy Jesus! Big Ben!" I was floating...or what seemed like I was floating sensation. Judd Hirsch from Taxi standing outside the Wyndham Theatre. But I can't stop, I see the Globe, no, the Sistine Chapel, no, the Moulin Rouge, no, Oxford University, no... "Wake up, lad!"...where am I?... "You're all right now" ... my scar hurts .... There before me stood a giant of a man with a scruffy beard. Behind him, a crowd of laughing spectators. The big man turned and

they silenced.

After hoisting me up and patting my back, I regained a sense of vision: the window outside told me I had just arrived at an enormous castle, a banner reading WELCOME TO HOGWARTS. It all came flooding back to me as we headed towards the Great Hall for the welcoming feast. A wild, wild time with wild, wild people -- to what degree do I consider this fairy tale a morality tale? I find this to be a great adventure; but the lesson to learn: wine, women, and song will be the death of me. But whiskey, cigarettes, and wild, wild women will drive me insane.

(The FBI has long suspected "Hunter S. Thompson" to be an alias of one Kyle Hatley.)

### Campus Safety Log. Back by Popular Demand!

- 9/17 Heated words exchanged out by the old flagpole. Broken up by officers. Lunch money returned with accumulated interest. Students sent to President Trout's office. Encouraged to "think about what they have done."
- 9/19 Freshmen couple caught "christening" new sofa in Townsend social room. RA left temporarily blind. Couch removed from social room. Couple told to "keep it."
- 9/20 Pillow fight in Williford between ADRL and residents. ADRL wins in decision. Rematch scheduled for January 8 on LYNX TV.
- 9/22 Student caught sneaking into Rat. Forced to stay for dinner.
- 9/25 Despondent Glassell resident found believing ex-girlfriend's assertion that it was "her." Officers dispatched, informed resident it was indeed "him."

Students hit by falling acorns in Phillips Lane: 12  
Off-campus dates: 3 and 1/2  
Number of days left to wear Capri pants: -23 and counting  
Believed "moments" shared: 39  
Actual "moments" shared: 4  
Your mama jokes (including this Rhode'ster): 247  
Times your personal license plate was openly mocked: 28  
Ways to feel sassy: unknown  
Father of Rachel's baby: not you

### THE Rhode'ster Staff

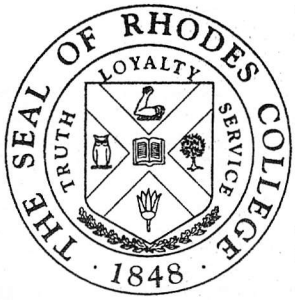
DON'T BELIEVE HIS LIES  
Bryan Kopta

HE IS THE ONE. KILL HIM.  
Jamie Groover

THEY TOO HAVE LOST SOMEONE  
Jamie Eubanks  
Kyle Hatley  
Katherine Whitfield

THEY WILL HELP YOU OUT OF PITY  
Margie Hall  
Scott Holmes

Uh uh uh, I know you didn't just come on up in MY house trying to tell me that MY Rhode'ster ain't funny. Baby, you jes' jealous, baby. You can just talk to the other side of my hand, baby. Unless you think you can do better? You can do better, baby? Then send your best to kopbs@rhodes.edu. Otherwise, you jes' keep your mouth shut, baby.



# THE RHODE'STER

The Parody Student Newspaper of Rhodes College

Wednesday, September 26, 2001

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

Page 12

## Pate Hopes Pandas Make It, Babies

By Jamie Eubanks  
Rhode'ster Dr. Ruth-little

Feisty zoogoers everywhere are well acquainted with the unique plight of the panda—a reticence to reproduce. With the Memphis Zoo's highly-anticipated panda exhibit just around the corner, many animal rights activists at Rhodes College are working fervently to find solutions to these animals' population-devastating chastity.

Bleeding heart activist Lauren Pate ('04) believes that the problem lies primarily in stimulation. "Yeah, I think pandas are hot," reports Pate, "but it's no mystery why they themselves don't. I mean, how often do you find an animal attracted to another of its species? In my experience, it's rare." When asked how she

proposes to entice the pandas toward "the nasty," Pate suggested lewd dancing.

Studies performed at Yale University show conclusively that pandas are, indeed, aroused by burlesque shows. Pate's idea is simply to "take it to the next level" with unabashedly erotic, perhaps even naked, dancing.

"We're just doing it for the sake of the species," she says. Other students have begun to take up her cause and have formed a group called A.D.N.A.P.: Association Directed toward the Natural Arousal of Pandas. One member explained the name as, "panda" backwards—a reversal—'cuz what we're trying to do is reverse the natural state of the panda. Yeah. [sic]"

A.D.N.A.P. is growing so rapidly

that after only a few weeks it rivals the numbers of a previous Rhodes group that attempted unsuccessfully to perform similar therapy on a sexless Morrissey in the mid-eighties. The former Rhodes group, or Zeta Tau Alpha as it was then known, no longer exists.

This precedent of failure discourages some students, but others are optimistic. Says fanatical nudist John Sexton ('04), "the problem with the Morrissey group was that they weren't committed—they were unwilling to get completely naked, and they were terrible dancers to boot. A.D.N.A.P.'s success lies in our passion for public exposure, a love only cultivated by the pretense of dignity that animal rights activism lends to stripping."



Photo by Bob Arnold  
"I've worked with better," admitted Singh-Singh (middle). "But not many."

## Rhodes Student Proclaimed King of Internet Sulzmann Reigns over Piracy, Porn

By Jamie Groover  
Rhode'ster Bulletin Border Collie

While most Rhodes students spent their summer taking a break from their relentless school schedule of getting drunk on weekends, getting drunk after class, and getting drunk between classes by shifting to a relaxing schedule of getting drunk at home, getting drunk at relatives' homes, and getting drunk in foreign countries, one student dared to achieve something worthwhile.

Jay Sulzmann ('04) managed to climb thread by thread to the top of the cyberspace dungheap to be declared king of the Rhodes Bulletin Board, and thus, the entire Internet.

The reason that Sulzmann was able to earn domain over the whole of the Internet simply by ascending the ranks of the campus bulletin board is simple: the Rhodes BB represents the pinnacle of Internet achievement, and by reigning over it, one proves himself to be capable of handling all other, lesser, web-sites. This message board obtained its status as the height of online possibilities due to its lofty content.

Discussion on the board ranges from sharp, edgy wit to deep, philosophical thought. This forum of intellectual discussion brims with such

colloquia as "shoutout" sessions from one "homey" to the next, list of songs that are really "cool" or "sexy," lists of movies that are similarly "cool" or "sexy," and various other topics that could not possibly be talked about simply by walking down the hall.

Current subjects of fierce debate are the history and origins of the enigmatic "shaved squirrel," a thread in which dozens of students vied to be the last to say "top" or some creative variation thereof, and of course, the brilliantly *avant-garde* "thread with nothing on it," containing little besides blank posts—a latter day 4'33".

This quality of discussion has earned the Rhodes BB attention and praise outside of the school community, receiving such praise as "It's the 1337est of the 1337," from one Internet denizen. The Rhodes board was only truly acknowledged as the acme of Web presence when it received the coveted "Geocities Kewl Site of the Day" award, despite not being hosted by Geocities.

Sites which have not won this award include [cnn.com](http://cnn.com), [salon.com](http://salon.com), [msnbc.com](http://msnbc.com), and [www.geocities.com/SunsetStrip/Diner/6377](http://www.geocities.com/SunsetStrip/Diner/6377).

"The discussion on the Rhodes BB is of such quality," said Jonathan Hulgán ('03), "that it doesn't even matter that Rhodes never upgraded past the freeware version of Infopop's UBB software. It's still the most dudical web forum in all of cyberspace!"

The Rhode'ster went to Mark D'Arensbourg, current owner of the Internet, for comment on this momentous occasion. "When I bought the Internet from Al Gore at a yard sale in 1995," D'Arensbourg said, "I had no idea we would ever come so far. I mean, I got it for 65 cents. I kept it in a box in my garage. I wrapped it in a blanket. I named it Smokey. I really had no clue that I would see the day that the Internet was graced with such a leader as Jay Sulzmann. It's such a happy day. I don't keep the Internet in my garage anymore. Now it's on my mantle. I may own the Internet, but Jay Owns it."

Others share in this celebration of the new monarch including, surprisingly, the former king of the Internet, who would only identify himself as "Jeff."

"D00D," Jeff commented, "TAHT JAY GUY IS 1337!!!! I THOUGHT I WAS

TEH ROKMINETS HA><0R OF ALL BUT JAY HAXORED MY GIBSON AND COMPROMSITESD MY COOKIES AND DLED/ A VRIUS TO YM GARABEG FIEL ADN OMG MAED ME LOOK LIEK A RETARD HE IS SO TEH KNIG OF TEH INTARWEB!!!!!!1112"

Some may not accept the changes so gracefully. One of the more prominent changes is the altering of the name of America Online, the world's number one internet service provider. The ISP will now, in light of the shift of power, be referred to as JayOL. Knowing that thousands of preteen girls and middle aged pedophiles rely on AOL to provide their link to the Internet, the Rhode'ster asked one AOL customer her opinion of the changes.

Rhode'ster: How do you feel about the new king of the Internet, Jay Sulzman?

Do you think his platform, and newly christened ISP, JayOL, will be beneficial in the long run to Internet users?

xXBritneyGrrlXx86: omg omg omg

Rhode'ster: Excuse me?

xXBritneyGrrlXx86: i just saw

justin timbarlaek on tv he is cute :P  
Rhode'ster: I'm sorry, but I'm trying to get an opinion on the new Internet

king, Jay Sulzmann.  
xXBritneyGrrlXx86: ???! a/s/l? :p~

Rhode'ster: Right. Do you speak English?

xXBritneyGrrlXx86: LOL G2G ROOFLEMAUSBUSTER ^\_\_^ kekekekeke

Rhode'ster: ...  
xXBritneyGrrlXx86: lor~  
Rhode'ster: ...  
xXBritneyGrrlXx86: :-)

Others are not so enthusiastic about this turning of hands. Some even question the importance of such an event, to the extent of questioning the legitimacy of a kingship over the Internet.

"Being the coolest person on the Internet is a lot like winning the Special Olympics," said JRR, frontman of Internet musical phenomenon, The Laziest Men on Mars. "You might be number one, but you're still retarded."

Like most Internet phenomena, news of Sulzmann's crowning will reach the real world some time in late 2008.