

# THE SOU'WESTER

The Weekly Student Newspaper of Rhodes College

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Wednesday, September 13, 2000

## Campus News . . .

The University of Iowa's chapter of Lambda Chi Alpha was released from responsibility for the 1995 alcohol-related death of pledge Matthew Garofallo. The Iowa Supreme Court's Thursday decision upheld a previous district-court decision, stating that the fraternity was not responsible because the drinking was not the forced result of a hazing act.

In Ann Arbor, MI, weekend talks between Eastern Michigan University administrators and the professors' union failed to end the educators' six-day strike. The strike began after the American Association of University Professors and the administration failed to agree on issues

See Campus News, p. 5

## September 11 Election Results

### First-Year Elections:

Rhodes Student Government	
Lindsey Chapman	won
Jon David Willingham	won
Chrissy Auger	run-off
Vanessa Kosloski	run-off
John Sexton	run-off
David Burke	run-off
Siamac Salehy	run-off
Ann Pressly	run-off

### Honor Council Male

Michael Lamb	won
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### Honor Council Female

Mary Elizabeth Williams	run-off
Kristy Kummerow	run-off

### Rhodes Activity Board

Daniel Head	won
Erin Gabbert	won
Sienna Spooner	won

### SRC Males

Aditya Bagrodia	won
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### SRC Females

Ashley Kutz	won
Kimberly Bartmess	won

### Constitutional Changes:

1. Once a month meetings...  
Yes 173  
No 20
2. Removing references to Roundtable  
Yes 162  
No 31
3. External Commissioners  
Yes 157  
No 36

## Rhodes improves in rankings, retention rate

By Ted Gentle  
Staff Writer

The oft-referred-to *U.S. News and World Report* college rankings are out, and Rhodes College has broken into the top national tier of liberal arts colleges.

According to the official Rhodes press release, seven factors determine the ranking of a school: academic reputation, retention of students, faculty resources, student selectivity, financial resources, alumni donations, and the percentage of students who are expected to graduate and do so.

Rhodes presented a sufficiently superior combination of these qualities to move from last year's ranking of 50<sup>th</sup> among national liberal arts colleges, to the 38<sup>th</sup> spot this year, of 550 colleges ranked by the magazine.

Said President William Troutt, "I am particularly pleased with our gains this year in academic reputation, retention and alumni giving."

In past years, the percent of first-year students who decide to remain at Rhodes for their second year has been uncomfortably low. However, with the start of this school year, the rate will have risen to a very healthy 90%. This marked improvement is great news for the college and its faculty, who will now have to rely less on recruiting more students with every year to sustain the desired class size.

## Voter registration group set to fight student apathy

By Eve Strain  
Scene Editor

The voting process is one that bypasses a lot of busy students during years when the top political office in the nation, the presidency, is not up for grabs. Too often, however, many do not vote during those crucial years either. To change that this year, Kinney coordinator Emily Hogue ('03) has spearheaded the drive to form a group that will help Rhodes students get registered to cast their ballots in November.

"Most people are either really

This also shows, according to interim Dean of Students Robert R. Llewellyn, that the environment at Rhodes is one which is capable of the accommodation of and adapting to the needs of its freshman students.

When asked why he thinks the percent was lower in the past, he explained that, "It is notoriously difficult to get good accounts of why students leave Rhodes. If a student is unhappy and wants to leave Rhodes, there can be a reluctance to talk about the cause of the unhappiness. Some have cited finances; others, social aspects of the campus; still others, academic expectations that are better met on other campuses. And then there are those situations in which the fit of student and campus is just not what the student expected."

This significant upswing, however, according to Llewellyn, is representative of the Rhodes administration, faculty, and advisors' growing concern with this specific issue. He adds that new programs have also been initiated in order to address or anticipate any issues a first-year student at the college might have.

"We are asking good questions," said Llewellyn, "showing a genuine concern for the issue, and putting programs in place to address the issue. We in fact have a more active academic support and residential life support team in place now, and

excited about voting or don't really care, and don't want to go down to the courthouse or library to pick up a packet and put forth the effort," she said. She received training at a seminar this summer on how to start a voter registration organization on a college campus.

Approximately 40 students interested in volunteering to assist the group signed up at the SACK fair in August, and will meet on September 24<sup>th</sup> for a training session on how to accomplish the goals set forth by the organization: registration, edu-



Photo by Scott Holmes

President William Troutt and several students convene over a copy of the latest *U.S. News and World Report*, which contains the recent college rankings. This year, Rhodes broke into the top tier of national liberal arts colleges.

we are beginning to see the positive results of early intervention, effective advising, and continuous monitoring of student development."

The question now becomes whether or not this rise in the retention rate will be maintained in later years. As the needs and demands of new students change in future years, will this college community be able to adjust to fit their needs while still providing the traditional liberal arts education that Rhodes is renowned for?

cation about the candidates, and getting people to actively vote. Hogue expects that roughly half that number of people will retain interest in helping out.

September 28<sup>th</sup>-October 4<sup>th</sup> is the week of the major effort of the Kinney coordinators; the volunteer organization often uses theme weeks to raise awareness about issues such as homelessness and eating disorders.

The voter registration deadline is October 8<sup>th</sup>, and Election Day falls on November 7<sup>th</sup>.

Hogue says that voting is impor-

When asked about the permanence of the rate increase, Llewellyn seemed confident that Rhodes College would continue to offer an atmosphere rewarding to its student body.

"We must keep on doing what we have found to be effective in keeping students at Rhodes and providing them (with) a good academic experience. We must be vigilant to anticipate genuine academic needs and to provide academic opportunities consistent with our liberal arts and sciences mission."

tant this year, "especially in Memphis. We're not saying you should switch to Memphis, but you should vote." While she is especially interested in raising participation among native Memphians and people who have become residents of the city, Mark Erskine ('03) is gathering information for non-local voters about absentee ballots and the candidates "back home."

"We definitely want this to be huge," Hogue said. "We're not supporting any candidate or any certain issue... but you have to take a stand."

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

## Rhodents avoid religious discussions

Dear Editor, Meg Lawler, and Rhodents,  
 In the August 23, 2000, issue of *The Sou'wester*, Meg Lawler wrote a column entitled "Let there be...a discussion of religion." It was the first title to catch my eye as I was paging through the first newspaper of the year, and I was surprised to see something about religion, so I read it right away. It was fun for me to read the article, amusing, and as soon as I was halfway through the article, I had an answer to Lawler's question concerning the lack of religious discussion at Rhodes College.

My answer: People at Rhodes will never discuss religion because as far as the majority of Rhodents are concerned, religion is *not* something to be discussed; Rhodents who have religion have had it since the day they were born and will most likely have it until the day they're buried six feet below a cross-shaped tombstone.

Another thing I would tell Meg Lawler (if religious discussions weren't illegal at Rhodes) is that in the seven days I've been at Rhodes this year, I've had a religious discussion every single day, for at least an hour or two. Religious discussions are one of my favorite things to do. And almost all of these discussions have been with people whom I like to term "hard-core Christians." I love Jesus Christ as much as any Christian, and yet I am not considered to be a part of the group of Christians because I haven't seen the necessity of Jesus Christ actually being God. And so one of the things I bring up to hard-core and soft-core Christians all the time is the question of: "Why does Jesus have to be God?" And without exception, the answer of every Christian Rhodent boils down to: "The Bible says so." And what that really means is: "My parents or guardians raised me to believe in something and as a part of that system, they incorporated the infallibility of a book, the Bible, and so any time any spiritual question is raised, I do not have to think about it or discuss it with anyone else, because the answer is already set in stone."

Discussions can only take place when two or more people are talking and at least one of them has a "deviant" opinion or philosophy. Two Christians don't ever discuss their religion! Instead, they give each other verbal high-fives and pats-on-the-back, to say, "Hey, I'll see *you* in heaven, but I don't know about *that guy* over there." And the worst thing about it for me is the fact that I have lost a lot of cool friends and have missed out on having friendships with others, simply because I try to have religious discussions with people who so strongly object that they will blacklist me for the duration of their time at Rhodes. I hate to say it, but I think that some people at Rhodes are a bit closed-minded. Wouldn't it be nice every once in a while to be willing to question anything and everything? It sounds scary and impossible, but why not? In fact, Megan and everyone else, a true discussion of religion will never take place until all those wonderful but closed-minded Christians suspend their beliefs for the duration of a serious discussion of what makes someone's beliefs justifiable and worthwhile. As of now that is impossible. Asking most Christians to deny Jesus-as-God for two seconds is like asking Lucky Charms not to taste good.

I'll keep trying to make it happen, but it really makes me sad and a bit nauseous to know that a lot of people at Rhodes who I see smiling all the time on campus will never be able to take the true *leap of faith* to be able to say, "maybe what I think right now about God and life and religion is not *the right way*... maybe there are some valuable ideas that I haven't considered before.... Why don't I discuss this with someone who holds ideas in opposition to mine?"

The odds are that people who take this *leap* will strengthen their faiths and not abandon them. The quickest way to get closer to God is to grab Her by the collar of Her shirt and say, "Look, sometimes I don't know how You could even exist. It just doesn't make sense sometimes," and then see what happens, inside of you, inside your head, your soul, whatever you believe in. If your faith is strong, and not based upon fear, then there is nothing that can shake it. *Be open*. And Christians are supposed to be all about love; God loves everyone. *God is Love*. So why do we so often—we, who are trying to become like God, like Love, turn to our neighbors in disgust, with hate and with condescension, when they assert beliefs different from ours. The least we can do for God is to consider our fellow human beings' unique experiences of the world as manifested in their philosophies and religions. That's what life is all about, isn't it: sharing everything from our trays in the Rat and our desks in our classrooms all the way through to our very different and totally amazing belief systems?

Pat Dugan ('02)

## In defense of British Studies at Oxford

Dear Editor,

In response to Jeremy Boyd's column "Attention all underclassmen..." I would like to express my dismay at the slap British Studies at Oxford received. As a participant and staff assistant for British Studies the past two years I can vouch that the program is definitely *not* "Rhodes in England." Yes, many students from Rhodes participate in the program, and a select number of professors from Rhodes are asked to teach; but the program itself is quite a unique experience. A variety of students from many institutions of higher learning in the United States, as well as a host of professors and lecturers from the U.S., England, and Scotland attend. The program offers a wide array of classes, lectures, and excursions that allow students to immerse themselves in the rich history of Britain while actually studying within the ancient academic buildings where some of that history was created.

I understand that this is not quite the same as spending a primitive semester in Chile, or even France or Italy. British Studies does not force students to grapple with a foreign language or even require the consumption of exotic cuisine, unless you count pub grub as exotic. Nonetheless, there is much to be said for traveling in *any* foreign country. British Studies, I might also add, structures its schedule so that long weekends enable students to travel independently. In fact, the program strongly encourages students to backpack through different foreign countries and participate in local excursions.

So, while I strongly agree that students should pursue any interest in traveling abroad while at Rhodes, I would hate for anyone to discount British Studies as a venue for that endeavor. Contrary to the article, I find both independent study abroad *and* British Studies "valuable" and "challenging" experiences. I think that any participant from past sessions of British Studies would agree with me in saying that the program provides a unique environment where the opportunities for learning the history and culture of Britain are enumerable, not to mention tremendously enjoyable.

Sincerely,  
 Rebecca Beach ('01)

Coming Soon....

# 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 Trey Thacher at THAFB.

"Do you have an opinion? A mind of your own?" -Garbage

Page 2 is open to any student or faculty member who wants to write an opinion piece.

E-mail FRAMW with your ideas.

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Staff meetings are open to the Rhodes community and convene in Buckman every Sunday afternoon at 3 p.m. *The Sou'wester* is a member of the Student Publications Board, a six-publication consortium that includes the editors of all student publications, class representatives and at-large representatives from the student body.

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

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## Run away! That girl's playing with fire

SHAWNA MILLER  
RED HAWK FREE



This summer has not been a happy one for many families in the Western states. Thousands have had to relocate their homes because of a threat that Memphians don't generally have to consider—wildfire. I personally have a vendetta against fires because of the ragged body that they left me with.

I had burns, pinched nerves, puncture wounds, calluses that made people wince during handshakes, and a permanent blackness on certain parts of my body that doesn't seem to ever want to go away. "Why was she so close?" you might ask. No, I am not dense in the head. I was simply doing what I was told to do on a wildland fire-fighting crew, and loving every moment.

Wildland fire-fighting was the most exhilarating, terrifying, surreal experience that I could ever imagine. I was working for Yellowstone National Park on an initial attack crew of 13 people. This means that we were the first people sent in on a certain fire.

We would get dropped in by helicopter and dig a line around the perimeter of the fire as fast as possible. Every two weeks we would get one day off to do our laundry, talk to our mothers, and consume massive quantities of beer. For the first few days all I could do was stand with my mouth open at the huge walls of fire tearing through the mountains.

I can only liken it to being in a war.

There was never silence as huge bombers consistently dropped fire retardant and helicopters continued to lower people using only long lines and harnesses. Even the fire itself was loud. Every tree that exploded would bring down ten other trees, "widow makers," as they are called in fireland. At night the temperatures would drop enough so that the fire smoldered and smoked, making visibility impossible. I have heard stories of firefighters getting lost during fires, a likely enough danger in the blackness. Under these conditions we would just dig for hours into the night, hoping that the crew boss would let us sleep if only for a few hours.

Living conditions were less than optimal. At one time the fire was too close for the helicopter to bring provisions, so we had to eat emergency rations left over from the Korean War. We could never change out of our fireproof clothing which eventually became so stiff

with sweat that it could stand up on its own. On the second night I was there I stepped on a file which went completely through my pinky toe. Our EMT had the audacity to call me a trooper as he simply wrapped my toe in a big Band-Aid and sent me on my way.

Being so personally involved in the fires, one might expect me to advocate immediate suppression of wildfires and to push for the elimination of prescribed

safe later in the season by putting out every wildfire possible. The weather and fire conditions simply made it too dangerous to let them burn.

Both the NPS and the Forest Service use prescribed burns to keep the ecosystem healthy. Fires are natural phenomena that serve many purposes for the land. Fire helps to clear out the thick debris in old growth forests, allowing a greater diversity of both plants and ani-

control in New Mexico. This fire was eventually dubbed the Los Alamos fire, and it was the most public fire because of the huge amount of acreage (including human structures) that it burned through. This incident should not be cause enough to dispense with prescribed fires completely.

Critics, mainly pushed by commercial loggers, contend that a thinning program be undertaken to rid the forests of the debris that causes fires to rage out of control. Logging and thinning of the forests would not replace frequent burning. It would rid the forests of some debris, but it wouldn't have all the positive effects that fires have on the ecosystem.

Accordingly, prescribed fires are a necessity if we are not going to allow natural fires to burn regularly in wilderness areas. New regulations should be in place about where and when fires are lit in order to keep them controlled all of the time. Less than 1% of prescribed fires get out of control, but this is too much when it involves homes and human lives.

Despite my complaints of fire-fighting, I found it to be extremely rewarding. Somebody even asked to take their picture with the firefighters once. Of course, they ran away as soon as they smelled us. Oh well...

*There was never silence as huge bombers consistently dropped fire retardant and helicopters continued to lower people using only long lines and harnesses.*

burns, fires set on purpose for ecological reasons. This debate has never been so important as the fires of this season continue to rage across forests and urban areas alike. The government has been under attack for every burn policy it chooses to adopt.

The "let it burn" policy failed in the eyes of the public with the burning of Yellowstone National Park in 1988. After this incident the National Park Service adopted a new policy that allowed the fires to be contained based upon the individual circumstances.

This year the NPS began to play it

imals to compete and become established. Some species of plants even depend on fire because they have seeds that are only stimulated by the intense heat. The fire also recycles the nutrients that were locked into the dead wood, making them available for new sprouts. Frequent fires keep this debris from building up, which could eventually cause catastrophic fires that could not be contained.

Fire activity cannot be replaced, yet the most serious blunder of this year came when the National Park Service allowed a prescribed burn to get out of

## You're in the Rat, turn off your phone

CATHERINE NEELY  
THE ONE WHO  
DOES BIRD CALLS



You are not so important that you need a cell phone in the Rat, or the coffee shop, or in class for that matter. (I know the cell phone topic has been covered before, but it must be done again—bear with me.)

I hate to be the one to break it to you, but you are not that important. It's nothing personal, but I don't know anyone at Rhodes who is so important that people must be able to get in touch with them twenty-four hours a day, even in the Rat. This is a harsh, harsh statement, but I truly believe it.

Now before I go any further, I must confess that I actually have a cell phone. I considered hiding this fact, but the word would leak out and readers would shout "fraud" at me across campus, so, as embarrassing as it is for me to admit, I will say it before *The Sou'wester* and everyone else: I have a

cell phone. Now I will justify myself by saying that I only get ten free minutes of talking a month, thus my parents ensure that it is indeed only for emergencies and not emergencies in the Rat: "Quick—someone get the phone, we're out of skim milk again!"

Now this editorial seems to have a bitter tone to it. Why is it that I am so bitter? I have never been wronged by a cell phone or abused by a cell phone or threatened by a cell phone, but I don't like what cell phones do to their owners.

For starters, they give their owners this odd air of confidence. I see it

owning one, and no background checks as far as I know.

Secondly, they make their owners rude. Yes, I said rude. Admittedly, I am writing this from the point of view of someone whose family does not have call waiting because my mother thinks it is rude, and I have since taken on her way of thinking; the point I'm making is that I'm overly sensitive to phone rudeness. But I don't think you have to be overly sensitive to phone rudeness to see where I am coming from.

It is very insulting while in a conversation with someone to have their phone ring and for them to answer it, as though

*It is very insulting while in a conversation with someone to have their phone ring and for them to answer it, as though the phone is more important than you.*

when I see people walking with a phone to their ear; why does a phone make them feel confident? Anyone can get one at the booth at Wal-Mart: there are no tough requirements to

the phone is more important than you. How many of you saw the episode of *Blind Date* where the girl talks on her cell phone for the entire date? I'll admit, I saw it, and it was rude, rude, rude. Or

what about in class when someone's phone rings? Who do you respect more—your phone or your professor and classmates?

Maybe all of this anger I have is because I am just as wrapped up in technology as the next person, and I am embarrassed by it. This summer I tried to give up technology. I don't mean the basics like electricity, just the frills. I began to pat myself on the back and planned my first column as a tribute to myself and my anti-technology lifestyle.

I took on a letter writing campaign—at least one hand-written letter a day. No e-mail for me, only the U.S. Postal Service. But then I got busy with things other than letter writing and began to allow myself one day a week not to write letters, a Sabbath of sorts. Then I got busier and I stopped all together. There was a surge at the end of the summer where I wrote five or six letters in only a couple of days thinking that if I worked hard enough maybe I could redeem myself.

Once again I failed, but then I thought I could really redeem myself if I could come to school and hand write

letters and by no means get on Alpha. Alpha is my nemesis. I planned to pledge to the student body that I was done with plan files and senseless hours of fingering people's plans. But then I started to wonder: what was happening in COLBC's life (COLBC being a staple of the alpha world)? I didn't know, and I would just check really fast. My quick Alpha checks began and I was down that slippery slope—back on Alpha for hours.

And while I'm in the confessing stage, I'll keep going. ABCnews.com: I love it. So far I've been able to limit myself to checking only once or twice daily, but I may regress further. What does this say about me—that I can't control myself? I keep turning on my computer. I keep wasting time.

Damn this technology. I can try all day long to hand write letters and to stay off of Alpha. But the truth is, I like the technology. I am embarrassed, but I enjoy it.

Regardless, there is one thing that I can promise. I swear to you, the Rhodes community, that I will never, I repeat never, use a cell phone in the Rat.



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## Campus Safety Log

9/4/00 to 9/10/00



9/4	2:25am	White Hall - Vandalism to Fire Extinguisher cabinet - under investigation
9/5	5:00pm	Stewart Hall - Fire Alarm - Technical Problems, notified maintenance
9/6	1:30pm	North Parkway/Hein Park - Suspicious Person - Notified MPD
	8:00pm	Austin Bldg. Power outage remains
9/7	10:37pm	Tutwiler west of University - Burglary of an auto: Cell phone taken from vehicle, window broken out. (two teens on bicycles seen in the area earlier, but not near victim's vehicle)
9/8	11:32am	Refectory Gate damaged by delivery truck, secured manually
	10:20pm	Robinson, alarm - checked okay, false
	11:35pm	Tutwiler west of University - two teens on bikes in area, identified as neighborhood youths and asked to leave the area
	11:50pm	Library - alarm - checked okay, false
9/9	12:50am	Mallory Gym Parking lot behind Fraternity houses: 3 alcohol violations issued
	4:20am	Glassell Hall - fire alarm pulled - under investigation
9/10	1:05am	Snowden St. west of University - suspicious person in vehicle, Old 4-door Plymouth, MS license SLM260, subject quickly left upon being approached by Campus Safety, MPD notified
	3:05am	Spann Gate: Subjects caught climbing over fence. Identified as Rhodes students

### STATS:

ACCESSES: 120	JUMP STARTS: 7
VISITORS: 1,640	CITATIONS: 137
PROPPED DOORS: 3	ALCOHOL VIOLATIONS: 3
ESCORTS: 16	BOOTS: 4

## Professional actress presents program on sexual assault

By Beth Purves  
Staff Writer

Jessica Weiner, a professional actress, visited Rhodes on Thursday, September 7, to present a program on sexual assault. The event was sponsored by the Panhellenic Council, Rhodes Activities Board, and the Student Counseling Center.

The program was entitled "The Morning After: A program about the complex realities of sexual assault." New sorority members were required by the Panhellenic council to attend.

Jessica Weiner founded an acting troupe called ACT Out, but for a year she has been performing and working solo. Her program on rape

and sexual assault seeks to "[reach] beyond the statistics and stereotypes to get to the human side of a scary issue." She had a variety of ways to accomplish this goal. Weiner first asked the audience [comprised of many women and three or four men] to discuss the common stereotypes and statistics about rape and sexual assault.

After mentioning the various facts and figures that everyone knows about the topic, Ms. Weiner asked the students to play a game. She told them that they had thirty seconds to play "thumb war" with their neighbor and that for every game they won, they could have a wish granted. After thirty seconds, only a few people had won more than one or two games.

## Wyatt-Brown lectures on last Southern duel

By Robert Edgecombe  
Staff Writer

Dr. Bertram Wyatt-Brown knows how to tell a story.

He had a good one to tell on Thursday night in Hardie Auditorium. Dr. Wyatt-Brown, in a lecture sponsored by the Department of History and the American Studies Program, told listeners about "The Cash-Shannon Encounter: Last of the Great Southern Duels."

The conflict between Col. William B. Shannon and Col. E.B.C. Cash began with a controversial lawsuit that led to Cash's publicly denouncing Shannon's law partner. Shannon, after notable deliberation, challenged Cash to the duel, which took place the afternoon July 5, 1880. After taking the agreed fifteen paces, Shannon turned around and fired, missing Cash. Cash retaliated with a shot that pierced Shannon's chest and hit his heart, killing him within minutes.

The lecture, besides recounting the duel itself, concentrated on the historical and cultural context into which the encounter fell. Shannon's death led to a divided public.

Many favored the indictment of Col. Cash for murder and the legislated abolition of dueling. Wyatt-Brown discussed the myriad of editors and journalists who used their publications to call for an end to dueling, noting that even Pope Leo XIII voiced his anti-duel sentiments.

But others, he mentioned, saw the practice of dueling as vital to Southern culture. Some, while perhaps squeamish about the act of dueling itself, admired the nobility of it, recalling great bouts like the Hamilton-Burr encounter in 1804. Others saw it as "a means to defend Southern lady-hood."

As it turned out, Cash was in fact indicted for the murder of Col. Shannon and South Carolina laws were passed

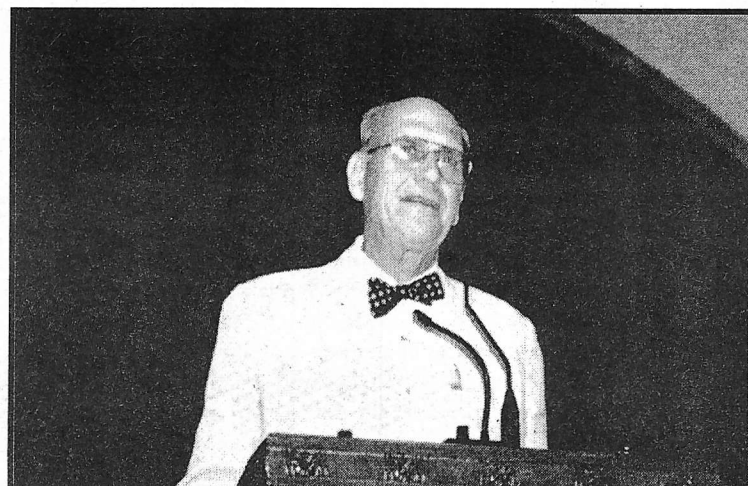


Photo by Miriam Dolin

Professor Wyatt-Brown entertains his audience with the history surrounding the last duel.

shortly thereafter to bring about the end of dueling.

Dr. Wyatt-Brown is the Richard J. Milbauer Professor of History at the University of Florida, a position he has held since 1983. He received his Bachelor's in History from the University of the South and his Master's from King's College in Cambridge, England. He did his doctoral work at Johns Hopkins University, where he studied with the late legendary Southern historian C. Vann Woodward. He taught at Colorado State University, University of Colorado, and the University of Wisconsin before settling at Florida.

Dr. Wyatt-Brown's several acclaimed books include *The House of Percy: Honor, Melancholy, and Imagination in a Southern Family*; *Yankee Saints and Southern Sinners*; and *Southern Honor: Ethics & Behavior in the Old South*. In 1983 he was a finalist for both the Pulitzer Prize and the American Book Award. He has published over

sixty articles in academic journals and is widely regarded as one of the premier Southern historians alive today.

During his visit to Rhodes, Dr. Wyatt-Brown also guest-taught some classes and dined with the members of the American Studies Focus Program.

### Campus News, from page 1

including salary and benefit increases and control over Internet classes. The University offered a 6 percent salary increase the first year and 5 percent increases throughout the next three years. The union rejected the offer, in part because salaries would still be below the Mid-American Conference average.

Harvard University has not yet decided how to respond to a request from an attorney representing rapper Dr. Dre and rock group Metallica urging university officials to ban the music sharing program Napster. Unlike similar efforts last spring, this letter makes no explicit threat of legal action. Instead, it urges Harvard to "recognize the irony of encouraging your students to matriculate in the creative arts, while engaging in behavior which, if unchecked, will make it impossible for those students to earn an income from their future creative efforts."

In a wrongful death suit involving Courtney Cantor, a University of Michigan student who died two years ago after falling from her sixth-floor residence hall window, a judge ruled Friday that the university is not obligated to turn over records of students who have violated its alcohol policy. The judge said that turning over the records would violate the Family Education and Rights of Privacy Act, which bars the release of student records without students' permission.

All stories courtesy of U-Wire.

## Wanda goes to Hollywood

Local film *The Poor and Hungry* honored at LA festival

By Brooke Foster  
A&E Editor

The P&H Café is, as a friend once put it, a "VIP dive." It's a hole-in-the-wall with more character and charm than most Beale Street bastions could ever hope to offer. It has a diverse, faithful clientele of actors, college students, and Midtowners. It has kitschy plastic tablecloths and Elvis murals. And it has Wanda.

Wanda Wilson, the P&H's proprietress, is one of Memphis' favorite glamour-girls. The café's regulars look for her as soon as they walk through the door; their adoration is made evident by the many Wanda-shrines adorning the walls of the P&H. Wanda walks from table to table in her long curly wigs and sequined dresses, calling everyone "darlin'." Memphis loves Wanda. And, as of August 4<sup>th</sup>, Hollywood loves her, too.

Wanda is the co-producer of an impressive independent film called *The Poor and Hungry*. Named after the P&H, the film was made for \$20,000 and premiered last month at the Hollywood Film Festival. Writer-director Craig Brewer, who shot the entire film on a video camera, walked away with the award for best digital feature. *The Poor and Hungry* was also nominated for best feature, an astonishing feat considering the low budget with which it was created.

*The Poor and Hungry's* honors speak well of the film's director and cast. The nominations revive faith in the low-budget independent picture; a film need not have a high price tag in order to be high-quality. Shot entirely in Memphis, *The Poor and Hungry* does not try for false Tinsel Town glamour but instead captures bittersweet reality. Through Craig Brewer's gritty black-and-white gaze, we see panhandling on Beale Street, car theft in Midtown, and brazen, desperate sexuality at the King of Clubs strip bar. Through the outstanding performances of newcomers Eric Tate and Lindsey Roberts, among others, we see the humanity behind the poverty, the beauty and redemption in the seemingly mundane. *The Poor and Hungry* is a drama, a comedy, a quasi-documentary and a Romeo and Juliet story. It strives for a lot and achieves even more.

Brewer's Memphis is not going to make it into a Chamber of Commerce pamphlet any time soon. Strung-out Harper (Lindsey Roberts) makes her living on the streets, selling flowers to tourists and vinyl bustiers to strippers. She stands in the middle of Beale Street and snorts cocaine. And the sweet but misguided Eli (Eric Tate) steals cars for a living and then strips them for parts. The parts are often more valuable than the whole, he says in the film's opening monologue. Throughout the film, this statement becomes true on many levels.

*The Poor and Hungry* is poignant without being preachy, touching without being sentimental. The love story between Eli and one of his car-theft victims, the talented cellist Amanda (Lake Latimer) is realistic, not coated with Hollywood's typical candy shell. And each actor delivers a vital performance, from John Stills' violent, tough-talking business man to T.C. Sharpe's scene-stealing portrayal of the hilariously seedy Cowboy Urles.

And then there's Wanda. She plays herself in the film, the much-loved maven of the P&H Café, offering advice to the troubled Eli and the troubling Harper. She talks to the customers, serves them beer, and makes them feel as if they have always known her. It's not much of a stretch; this is what Wanda has been doing in Midtown for years. The P&H is simple, quirky, and irresistible. And so is the film. With *The Poor and Hungry*, Craig Brewer, Wanda Wilson, and a cast of remarkable actors have created an independent picture that reminds Hollywood what filmmaking should be.

## Last tango in Memphis

By Margie Hall  
News Editor

When I think of sultry Spanish dance music, my mind usually wanders to the scene in *Scent of a Woman* when Al Pacino's character, though blind, is able to lead a lovely, lonely young lady in a precise but sensual tango over the dance floor of a stylish restaurant. (Or perhaps on a more whimsical day, the tango of *The Addams Family Values*, of the mussel-shell castanets, when Morticia and Gomez set the floor on fire. Literally.)

Friday night, I convinced a friend to give up "social time" and accompany me to the performance of Tango Al Sur, a tango band from Belgium. My success in persuading her to do this rested mainly on my assumption that there were going to be dancers, which there weren't. But we had a good time anyway.

As much as I would like to appear cultured, I must admit that I probably wouldn't have ventured out of the Rhodes bubble to hear a tango quartet if it hadn't been an assignment for a music class. However, as with most cultural events, it was well worth missing the Steak-n-Shake and silly movie of my usual Friday nights.

Tango Al Sur performed in the William H. Rose theatre of the Mervin W. Buckman Performing and Fine Arts center, located at St. Mary's Episcopal School.

The quartet, which consisted of two guitars, a violin, a bandoneon, and a guest pianist on some songs, gave an impressive performance.

Playing the guitars were Dirk Van Esbroeck, of Gand, Belgium and Juan Masondo of Cordoba, Argentina. On the bandoneon was Alfredo Marcucci of Buenos Aires, Argentina. The vixen of the group, on the violin, was Daniela Rapan, born in Bucharest, Romania, who joined the group after her music took her to Belgium.

The group performs in Argentina and throughout Europe. (And, of course, in Memphis, Tennessee.)

The quartet's appearance was exactly that which I would picture a tango group to have. The three men in the group were small and dark, and wore all black, save their ties. They were seated, leaving Ms. Rapan standing as the focal point, and a worthy one at that, dressed in a slinky gold and black dress with a fringe, dancing around the stage to the music. (Okay, so there was dancing, but not quite what I'd pictured.)

The music of the band was fan-

tastic, of course, with the traditional tango rhythmic form in regular groups of two that can reduce even the most uninvolved listener to toe-tapping. There were also climactic instances in songs when the violin would suddenly break free and take the melody along an unstructured course, but it always returned to the rhythm. The dramatic pause was also used well, leaving the observer consciously waiting for the next note.

The band used several different musical tactics to transport their songs from longing to contrition to just plain fun. The second-to-last song of the two-hour show was "*La Trampera*," a *milonga candombe* by Anibal Troilo. The song was a triumphant one, a rollicking dance tune that elicited riotous applause and cheers from the audience.

In contrast with the raucous "*La Trampera*" was "*Caf, La Humedad*," a tango by Cacho Castana. It is a song about lost love, sung by a man sitting in a bar. He goes to that particular bar every time he wishes to drink because his lady left him there one rainy night. The song was melancholy, and was performed by the two guitarists, with Van Esbroeck singing. I was constantly impressed by the quartet's ability to quickly switch musical styles and moods.

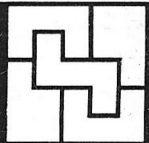
The poignant storytelling of Spanish music is as fun as the wilder dance element. The showmanship of Tango Al Sur was almost as important to the performance as the music.

In conjunction with the sultry nature of the music, the actions of the musicians were sensually fun. The violinist danced as she played, and she shared electrically-charged looks with the members of the band.

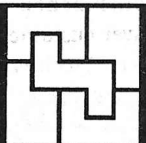
As the instruments often seemed to communicate, so did the group. They genuinely seemed to enjoy their work, often pointing at the other members of the band, giving them credit for the success of the song as the audience clapped.

All in all, Tango Al Sur was quite a show, from the always enjoyable rhythms of the tango to the confident antics of the quartet members.

It is far from being the only act on the roster this season, as Buckman has many events planned, including the Buckman World Tour Concert series (of which Tango Al Sur was a part), a cinema club film series (featuring such movies as *The Parent Trap* and *Cape Fear*), several shows by Ballet Memphis, St. Mary's school student performances, and several art shows in the art gallery.



## Rhodes Puzzler



#2, September 13, 2000  
5 points

Last week's Malco movie pass winner: *Stacy Sidle*

Mr. X, Mr. Y and Mr. Z---an American, an Englishman and a Frenchman, but not necessarily in that order, were seated around a circular table, playing a game of Hearts. Each passed three cards to the person on his right. Mr. X passed three hearts to the American. Mr. Y passed the queen of spades and two diamonds to the person who passed his cards to the Frenchman. Match each person to his nationality.

Note the revised submission instructions!

The Rhodes Puzzler is sponsored by the Math/CS Department of Rhodes College. Send your solution (with name!) to [puzzler@rhodes.edu](mailto:puzzler@rhodes.edu), 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 a local restaurant. For a complete set of rules, see the Rhodes Puzzler homepage at <http://www.mathcs.rhodes.edu/puzzler.html>.

## Sketchy places with good food: a guide Kwik Chek serves up sandwiches (and booze)

By Neel Gupta  
Staff Writer

Many of you are familiar with On Teur, the great place to get gourmet food at reasonable prices over on Madison, but I bet that many of you never knew that in the seedy convenience store next door are the best sandwiches in Memphis, in this reviewer's humble opinion.

After having spent my summer here in Memphis and living on campus, I have hit just about every eating establishment in Midtown. But one that I kept going back to was Kwik Chek #10, the aforementioned sandwich shop very convenient to Rhodents at 2013 Madison across from the Blue Monkey and Molly's

La Casita.

Now a lot of you that know about Kwik Chek are probably cursing me for letting your secret out. But I feel I have to. Their food is too good for only people "in the know" to experience. The menu at Kwik Chek is as fun to read as it is to eat. It (the menu) has an attitude like that of the Soup Nazi from *Seinfeld*, but once you get to know the people behind the counter, they are really nice.

Anyway, back to the subject at hand: the food. Their sandwiches, which include such titles as Yippee Kai Yai Yea MF, The Turk that was Greek, Pecos Bill, Hay Chingada, and Hey! Zeus, are what makes this place incredible. If you like spicy food, watch

out. I love the stuff, and the Pecos Bill had me reaching for the nearest gallon of milk I could find.

For vegetarians, Kwik Chek has something for you too, including My Bleeding Heart, which has hummus and spicy habanero pepper sauce. Again, they're not lying when they say spicy—in fact, they have a disclaimer about blistered tongues on the menu.

Another sandwich, and one of my favorites in general, is the muffaletta, and Kwik Chek takes theirs to another level with their interesting mix of "western" spice and olive paste. I should mention here that the owners of Kwik Chek are Southeast Asian, and I am convinced that that has something to

do with the interesting flair each of their sandwiches has.

Not only does Kwik Chek serve up an awesome sandwich, but also deviled eggs, potato salad, egg salad, and various other deli items. The best part is that everything is very reasonable, with prices ranging from around \$4 to \$7 for the large muffaletta. And if you want Daddy to pay for it, they also take plastic with a \$5 minimum charge.

Although Kwik Chek is a convenience store, they do have a few

tables if you wish to eat-in. To help you wash down your sandwich, you can get a huge fountain drink or sweetened ice tea for only \$0.89. As with any convenience store, you can also buy beer, but that is only for off-premises consumption. You can also buy your favorite "magazine" on your way out.

I highly recommend this place. Try it today. They are open from 10:30 a.m. to 8 p.m. M-F, and noon-6 p.m. on Sunday. They even scored well on their health inspection.

## If CK's, International House Of Pancakes, and Waffle House had a fight, who would win?

By Eve Strain  
Scene Editor

For all you fans of late-night diners, you have a variety of options in Memphis. But to meet your craving for breakfast foods and strong coffee while in the middle of that thirty-page paper, where should you go?

Three strong contenders vying for your spare change are The International House of Pancakes, CK's Coffeeshop, and Waffle House. All share a certain sleazy something that makes them special; however, each has its own character, and knowing this character is an important factor in making your decision.

Waffle Houses, though tiled inoffensively in gray and upholstered in red, seem a bit clinical and cold. However, the food is not bad: you can purchase the usual breakfast items (including, yes, waffles—and mighty fine waffles I might add) for under \$5 including the tip.

The big draw could arguably lie in the Waffle House songs on the jukebox; while they're hardly ever played, they add a certain dormant mystique, which will be irrevocably shattered if anyone ever

happens to play them. So if you go, don't spoil it. Drink your coffee (regular or decaf, both kinds brought in glass coffeepots), talk to your friends, or strike up a conversation with a passing trucker. These restaurants are usually found beside interstates, but there is one handily located on Summer Ave.

Perhaps Waffle House's eerie near-total absence from Memphis proper can be explained by the numerous CK's Coffeeshops found scattered along Poplar and in the most random of places. The atmosphere in a typical CK's is definitely that of a dirtier and/or darker place than Waffle House: the 95¢ coffee is stronger, waffles are served less frequently than grits, and the patrons are diverse—ranging from high school kids dropping by after prom to sanitary workers having some breakfast after work. What bad things can you say about a place that supplies its customers with "coffee whitener," anyway?

CK's is, in my opinion, less a place to eat than a grungy café where life's random conversations come to play. The food prices are just a bit cheaper than Waffle House. Lack of seating is not a problem—if one restaurant's

booths are packed, a short drive will bring you to one of its sisters a few blocks away. Look for the CK's on eastbound Poplar, close to *Videos, Music and More* and East High School.

International House of Pancakes (IHOP) is the most "normal" and restaurant-like of the three establishments. Items bought by braver customers in the other two eateries, such as steak or burgers, are construed as mostly safe to eat here. Not to say that food at the other two restaurants is uneatable, but this is meant to stress that IHOP is just a little more upscale. They have a wide range of foods, such as the mandatory international versions of pancakes, salads, soups, juices, take-out food, and several kinds of breakfast meat. With four kinds of syrup at every table and a variety of seating options, including smoking and non-smoking, IHOP is definitely the classiest of the lot—depending on what you want to eat, your meal can cost from \$4 to \$9 dollars.

Whether you're looking for that All-American greasy spoon, murky and poetic ambience, or Belgian waffles, these three 24-hour diners found around town can suit your mood.

### Featured This Week:

#### Kwik Chek #10

Address: 2013 Madison Ave.  
Phone: 274-9293

#### CK's Coffee Shop

Address: 3139 Poplar Ave.  
(Found in many other locations around Memphis)

#### International House of Pancakes

Address: 2060 Union Ave.  
Phone: 725-4448

#### Waffle House

Address: 5255 Summer Ave.  
Phone: 767-9674

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Memphis, TN 38173-0370  
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## Men's soccer cruises to victory

By Lance Ingwersen  
Staff Writer

The men's soccer team won two important non-conference games this past weekend to improve their record to 3-1. The previous weekend, the Lynx hosted Wilmington College and Ohio Northern University to open up the season. The Lynx lost a hard-fought game 2-1 to then 15<sup>th</sup> ranked Wilmington. Bryan Powell ('04) scored the lone goal for Rhodes.

Sunday September 3<sup>rd</sup>, the Lynx dominated the Polar Bears from Ohio Northern, but a defensive lapse at the end of the first half allowed the Polar Bears to score two quick goals. A Rhodes goal in the second half forced the game into overtime. Bryan Powell ('04) scored his second goal of the weekend in the opening moments of the second overtime to clinch the win for the Lynx, 3-2.

In somewhat ominous weather conditions on Friday afternoon September 8<sup>th</sup>, the team started strong and capitalized early jumping out to a 3-0 lead at halftime over the Maroons from the University of Chicago. Josh Klein ('01) started the



Photo By Scott Holmes

David Wishnew leads attack in 3-1 victory against University of Chicago

scoring on a header off of a well-placed cross from David Wishnew ('01). Jamie Whalen ('03), who entered midway through the half, ignited the offense, scoring on a volley from 20 yards out then assisting on Zach Glaser's ('01) goal in the final minute of the half. The Maroons scored late in the second half off a corner, but their effort proved to be too little, too late, as the Lynx cruised to a decisive 3-1 victory.

On Sunday, the team looked sluggish at times but finished its

opportunities and ended with a 3-0 victory over rival Washington University, the perfect vengeance for last year's 3-0 loss in St. Louis. David Wishnew ('01), Terry Tansill ('01), and Ben McKenzie ('02) each scored goals, but it was McKenzie's goal late in the second half that sealed the victory for the Lynx.

This upcoming weekend, September 16<sup>th</sup> & 17<sup>th</sup>, the Lynx play host to 4<sup>th</sup> ranked Wheaton on Saturday and a strong Wisconsin-Whitewater team on Sunday. Both games start at 12:00

## Football wins second straight game, 26-21

By Stu Johnston  
Staff Writer

Rhodes' second football game conveys the importance of special teams in a football game. The Lynx squeaked by with a 26-21 non-conference victory over the Maryville Tigers (1-1) despite two breakdowns in the return game.

The Lynx offense established itself early. After marching 86 yards in sixteen plays and draining 9:03 from the game clock, Rhodes kicker Andy English ('03) put the Lynx on the board with a chip shot from 23 yards. Then disaster struck. Evans returned the ensuing kickoff 80 yards for a touchdown, and Maryville had a 7-3 lead. Rhodes scored once again before the half. After the teams exchanged punts, outside linebacker C.W. Sheehan ('01) recovered a fumble on the Maryville 35-yard line midway through the second quarter. Eight plays later, tailback Bernard Quinn ('01) scored the first Lynx touchdown with a three yard run. That put Rhodes ahead 10-7 prior to halftime.

Quarterback Gary Rockne ('04) found his groove, and the Lynx offensive performance reflected that of their quarterback. Rockne and Hays Mathis ('02) connected for a 30-yard

touchdown on the first Rhodes possession of the second half, giving the Lynx a more comfortable lead — 17-7. Mathis, one of the fastest players on the team, has a reputation for making big plays from several different positions on the field. He poses a constant threat at receiver (4 catches for 50 yards), and he also had a 45-yard kickoff return.

Rhodes had steady offensive production all afternoon, but most of Maryville's yardage came in big chunks. Aside from the two big kick returns, their only other successful offensive endeavor came in the third quarter — a three play 75-yard scoring drive that lasted just over a minute. Rhodes countered with another field goal by English, setting the stage for the final quarter.

It began with quite a bang. Speedy receiver Robert McCants took a Lynx punt the distance — 54 yards for a touchdown and a one-point Tiger advantage, 21-20. The Lynx scored the decisive touchdown immediately. Mathis got the ball rolling with his long kickoff return, and Kevin Gennusa ('03) took a two-yard dive into the end zone.

"Our offense and defense both showed up to play football," said

middle linebacker Chris Huff ('02) who had six tackles, two for losses. "I have been in several games at Rhodes where the offense played great and the defense barely got by, or vice versa. Saturday, both offense and defense came ready to play hard-nosed football."

As Huff said, the offense and defense both performed admirably. Overall, Rhodes doubled Maryville's offensive output, putting up 407 yards of total offense to the Tigers 211. Bernard Quinn, Kevin Gennusa, and Gary Rockne are a formidable trio on the ground. Quinn and Gennusa gained 99 and 96 yards, respectively, and Rockne showed he could run the ball — which is a weakness for many classic drop-back passers. C.W. Sheehan and Sylvester Chisom ('03) continued to make big plays on defense; both recovered fumbles against Maryville.

Rhodes looks to improve their undefeated record at home Saturday September 16<sup>th</sup> at 1:30 p.m. against the Colonels of Centre College. Huff predicted, "The key to beating Centre is defense. If we stop their running game, we disarm them of their greatest weapon."

## Field hockey sticks it to 'em

By Melanie Telzrow  
Staff Writer

This past weekend the Rhodes field hockey team had three games in three days and won two. Their first match was Sewanee, a nationally ranked team. In a very intense game Rhodes held them to 0-0 until Sewanee scored in overtime. The next day Rhodes challenged Hanover and beat them 1-0, thanks to a great goal by Lee Thomas ('04). To finish up their last game of the weekend, Rhodes played Lindenwood and defeated them 4-1.

These victories left the field hockey hopeful for a better season than last year, thanks to the incredible talent of newcomers Lee Thomas, Katie Walsh ('04), Samantha Weaver ('04) and Jen Brown ('04). The team also added to its roster three other new players, juniors Meghan Bromert ('02), Melanie Telzrow ('02), and sophomore Rachel Chaney ('03). Both Coach Dean and the team expect promising performances by this young team and look forward to their next game against Bellarmine next weekend.

Even before this weekend, the Rhodes field hockey team was off to a great start. They traveled to Richmond,

Indiana where they challenged tournament host Earlham College on Friday and Kenyon College on Saturday. The Earlham game started strongly, thanks to a quick goal by forward Lindsay Bond ('02). Earlham attempted to apply pressure to the Rhodes defense. Despite this setback, the field hockey team united to produce another goal by Lindsay Bond in the second half.

Excited by their first win, the team geared up for the next challenge: Kenyon College. The team began the game in attack mode; but Kenyon scored within the first five minutes, which caused the Rhodes offense to push harder. Towards the end of the first half, forward Lee Thomas scored a goal to tie the game 1-1.

The Rhodes defense held this tie and forced overtime. The team was quite used to the seven-on-seven overtime seeing as how that is how they scrimmage during practice. After only three minutes in overtime, Lee Thomas made a long pass to Lindsay Bond, who swiftly scored against the goalie in a one-on-one situation. This overtime win gives the team momentum heading into the rest of the Lynx's schedule.

## Volleyball has strong showing

By Lauren Ferrera  
Staff Writer

On Friday, September 8<sup>th</sup>, the volleyball team traveled to Millsaps College in Jackson, Mississippi to play in the Millsaps VolleyFest. The Lynx played their first game against Huntingdon, and the match was over in just three games with the Lynx achieving their first win of the tournament with scores of 15-8, 16-14, and 15-13. The first game went by fairly fast, but in the second Huntingdon picked up some speed and put up a fight.

The Lynx defeated Mississippi College that night. Yet again, Rhodes won, only this time the match ended in rally scoring. Rhodes won the first two games 15-1 and 15-6, but Mississippi College came back in the third and fourth games scoring 13-15 and 14-16. Therefore, the best-three-out-of-five had to be won with a rally game. And yes, the Lynx won once again. However, it wasn't over yet. There were games yet to be had, and the Lynx were just getting started.

On Saturday, Rhodes played Loyola University at 12:00 p.m.. Again, the match went to a best-three-out-of-five that ended in a rally game. In the first game of the match, Rhodes beat Loyola 15-5, but lost to them in the second 11-15. In the third game, the Lynx came back and won 15-7, but fell again to Loyola 14-16. However,

in the tie-breaking rally game, Rhodes won the match with a score of 15-10. This win prompted the championship game of the tournament, where Rhodes battled Belhaven. Belhaven took the lead in the first two games 15-6 and 15-10, but Rhodes came back in the third to win 15-8. However, Belhaven won the match in the fourth game with a score of 16-14. Needless to say, the Lynx really know how to keep everyone on their toes.

The tournament was a great success for the team and a dramatic improvement from the previous performance at the Coca-Cola Quaker Classic at Earlham College. Coach Wolinski commented, "I thought that this time around we were able to get the job done...even when we were down we could find the way to come back and win." Also, she said that the team's performance at Millsaps "was the boost we needed as a team to show what we are really capable of, and we are all really excited about playing at home this weekend and hope that it will be a success."

This weekend the Lynx will play September 15<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup> here at home in the Rhodes Classic. The first game starts at 6:00 p.m. on Friday where the Lynx will play Gordon, and the second game starts at 8:00 p.m. against Mississippi College. On Saturday, Rhodes plays Maryville at 1:00 p.m., and another game may follow.