

THE SOU'WESTER

The Weekly Student Newspaper of Rhodes College

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Campus News Celebration of Black History Month clouded by racism

All Stories Courtesy of U-wire

When Harvard University's (Cambridge, MA) presidential search committee chose Lawrence H. Summers—fresh from the ranks of partisan politics—as president last spring, they took a risk they might be inviting politics into Massachusetts Hall. Indeed, the new president has graced many political columns. But in an odd twist for the President Clinton appointee, Summers has found favor—and not disparagement—with columnists from the Right. While Summers was making headlines for his calls for greater patriotism in academia and his spat with Fletcher University professor Cornel West, conservative editorial pages and columnists praised signs that he was the leader who could provide a needed lesson to out-of-touch, politically correct and knee-jerkingly liberal Harvard.

More than 800 faculty members and students from all 22 California State universities attended a demonstration Saturday afternoon against CSU Chancellor Charles Reed at the Marriott Hotel on Fourth Street in San Francisco. Reed was to address the American Council on Education inside the hotel that day. The demonstration, sponsored by the California Faculty Association, was in response to a report recently issued by the California Postsecondary Education Commission, which said CSU faculty have a ten percent salary gap compared to other universities in the public sector. The faculty will hold its own strike if CSU does not meet with them for negotiation.

At least three current or former Massachusetts Institute of Technology (Cambridge, MA) students, including former section editors of *The Tech*, have been subpoenaed to be deposed in the lawsuit against MIT filed by the parents of Elizabeth H. Shin, whose recent death has shaken MIT's campus. DeLuca confirmed that he had subpoenaed James Paris, a student named in the complaint as having alerted MIT authorities of Shin's suicidal nature on several occasions. While questioning journalists under oath regarding unpublished information could have possible First Amendment implications, DeLuca said that the students would be able to decline to answer questions about information they believe to be privileged.

By Wes Harwell
Staff Writer

Black History Month has been in existence since 1926 and, since its inception, has been a forum in which the African-American community celebrates its history and raises awareness of African-American accomplishments, culture, and history. According to J.D. Mitchell ('04), the month also allows for recognition that African-Americans "have our own culture that is distinct because of our experiences." It also helps non-African-Americans "develop a better sense and appreciation of that culture in our current society." This year, however, Black History Month has been fraught with more controversy than any in recent memory. That Rhodes has been dealing with the affects of its internal racial problems for quite some time is fairly well known and documented; however, in recent weeks these tensions have come to a head.

As part of its commitment to raising the awareness of all students at Rhodes College to the importance of Black History Month, the Black Student Association posted fliers reminding the student body of the significance of the month and the prejudice and suffering with which their predecessors have dealt over the years. Many of these fliers contained stark pictures of lynching, torture, and barbarous treat-

ment on the part of whites in the past, as well as, clear examples of the macabre fascination that those events engendered even among the young.

Still more controversial in the opinion of many students was the use of the term "African American Holocaust." These fliers, one part of a larger publicity campaign, have caused many Caucasian students on campus to feel that there is a real bitterness on campus on the part of the African-American community that seeks to hold them culpable for the misdeeds of their ancestors. While this idea is nothing new in itself, this type of discussion quickly grew heated within the Rhodes Community and especially on the Bulletin Board.

Most African-American students feel that the BSA signs were warranted expressions of black history that should not go unrecognized in the celebration of black history. According to Shayla White ('03), BSA's Publicity Chair, "The posters were not really meant to be confrontational. For Black History Month they helped get recognition of the activities and events of the month. The signs were also meant to show people exactly why they were so adamant about changing things at Rhodes, especially its racial climate."

White also thinks that Black History Month should be more about



Photo by Miriam Dolin

The Rhodes Chinese and Asian Studies Program, the Department of Foreign Languages and Literature, All Students Interested in Asia, and Rhodes Multicultural Affairs sponsored a celebration of the Chinese New Year on Saturday, February 9 in the ballroom of the Bryan Campus Life Center.

"giving an accurate description of what African-American History truly is, and that means showing the pleasant and the unpleasant sides of black history.

This sentiment is echoed by numerous other students black and white at Rhodes, and as Lorraine Ward ('05) explained, "While you shouldn't focus only on the negative, you should acknowledge that [oppression of blacks] did happen and in some ways still is happening. They should have incorporated some of the positive events in Black History though in the fliers. They

aren't doing this [for sympathy]; they just want to be treated like people."

The controversy that was sparked by those signs was evident in more ways than just on the bulletin board, however. Many of the fliers were ripped down, almost certainly on account of their content, there have been at least two recent documented cases of vandalism against African-American students vehicles on campus, and there have been several instances of hate mail issued to certain African-American students.

The world today: international news updates

By Frances Rabalais
Executive Assistant

Attorney General John Ashcroft warned Americans on Tuesday about a possible terrorist attack. The FBI acquired information from U.S. forces in Afghanistan and detainees in Guantanamo Bay regarding a Yemeni or Saudi Arabian man and his associates who may be planning the attack. One of the suspects of the threat of attack is Yemeni Fawaz Yahya al-Rabeei.

Former Yugoslav leader Slobodan Milosevic's trial for

crimes against humanity in Croatia and Kosovo and for genocide in Bosnia began Tuesday. This trial, the largest war crimes trial since World War II, is expected to last two years. In a show of contempt for the trial, Milosevic chose not to have a defense counsel and deemed the charges a conspiracy by the West. Milosevic is accused of massacring, deporting, and imprisoning thousands of Bosnian Muslims.

Monday President Bush outlined his health care agenda, which could be an important issue in this year's congressional elections.

Bush wants to renovate the health care system by passing a patients' bill of rights, increasing funds to combat bioterrorism, adopting a prescription drug benefit for the elderly, and opening community health care centers to serve low-income Americans.

Monday marked the 23rd anniversary of the Islamic Revolution, and in commemoration, Iranians rallied all over Iran, protesting President Bush's declaration of Iran as an "axis of evil" in his State of the Union address. Iranians carrying anti-U.S. banners and burning effi-

gies of Uncle Sam objected to U.S. accusations that Iran has smuggled weapons to Palestinians and undermined Afghanistan's new government.

After Palestinians fired a Qassam-2 rocket into Israel on Sunday, Israel responded by launching air strikes and entering the West Bank on Monday. Because the Qassam-2 rockets are powerful enough to hit Israeli cities when launched from the West Bank, Israel sees the missiles as an escalation in fighting between the two groups.

Compiled from CNN.com.

Letter to the editor

Upon reading the article and opinion in last week's *Sou'wester* and hearing several testimonies from witnesses and gossipers regarding the Senator Gramm protests, we, the protestors, find necessity in responding to the assertions presented. Before addressing the claims made by those individuals, we hope to clarify the purpose of the protests. Our approach was not to stifle expression, but rather to generate more diversified expression by presenting views that question the validity of what the senator supports and embodies. He was going to give his speech with or without us, and we had no intention of commandeering the lecture, but instead letting him and the audience know that we believe his attitudes to be reprehensible. See the *New York Times*, the *Washington Post*, and other publications for substantiation.

True, the lecture was meant to be a forum for Senator Phil Gramm to communicate his ideological views, but when confronted with the blatantly pernicious attitudes of such a person, we must be prepared to confront him or her with protests. We do not distinguish him as an "evil" person, just exceptionally objectionable. We contest that protests are a valid form of dissent, especially in this case in which a controversial and unsympathetic character receives the opportunity to express his or her views to several classes and the whole student body. We understand that a critical approach was and continues to be necessary in Gramm's case. He has the right to speak, and we have the right to be vocal in opposition.

The non-profit research group

Public Citizen has reported on the senator and his wife's abundant connections to deregulation of energy futures trading and Enron's manipulation of energy availability that contributed to an increase in rolling blackouts in California one to six months (June to December 2000) before the passage of the Gramm-sponsored bill to 38 in the next six months (until June 2001). The bill's *carte blanche*, *laissez-faire* approach to Enron and similar corporations affected more than the millions of Californians without energy, including businesses that failed. Lauren Glas ('03), a Washington state resident, commented that she believes protests to be a valid form of dissent, and she denounced the fabricated energy crisis for doubling her state's energy costs. The western states bore the burden of the debacle, facing increased cost and their own energy shortages. She elaborated that Senator Gramm's message denied diversity in ways of being in the world, assuming that all should measure up to certain standards, such as having a college degree.

Admittedly, to what most people have objected was the style of protest. Granted, the interruptions were misplaced and presented in a critical tone. The first person, a Rhodes alumnus concerned about who lectures and teaches classes here, initiated the interruption too soon. He was supposed to wait until a more appropriate time. In that respect, and in that respect only, do we recognize a flaw in the protest. However, disruptive protest is meant to confront people with the problems they are unwilling to address. Being critical of the speaker was justified because he has ruined lives and con-

tributed to thousands of deaths worldwide. He voted for the war against Afghanistan, opposes equal rights for African-Americans, condones environmental destruction, supported NAFTA, which has further impoverished already struggling southern and rural Mexicans, and has contributed to the aforementioned energy crisis and Enron scandal. As much disruption as he has facilitated, we believe he should tolerate, or at least withstand, a little reproach. We lament the discomfort of self-evaluation, but we do not apologize for wrestling with the destructive attitudes within our society.

Before and after the lecture protests were calm and direct: holding signs, greeting people as they entered and exited, and distributing information about Senator Gramm's record. In the ballroom, the only actions were to confront the speaker with his own record and his dubious connections to deregulation, the west coast's energy crises, and the scandalous Enron collapse. All measures were intended to question his actions and the fluff and pomp of a speech entitled, "The American System: Nothing Like It in the World."

Allow us to correct some common misconceptions. The three individuals who confronted Senator Gramm's attitudes and actions at the beginning of his speech were not students. They were former students and concerned Memphians who decided to join us in criticizing the senator. Also, distinctions must be made between Campus Green, a diversely oriented environmental group on campus, and College

Greens, the Rhodes chapter of Campus Greens, the national body of Green Party students and faculty. Rhodes Campus Green was not directly involved in the protests. Tim Moreland states, "Campus Green did not advertise, discuss, plan, or participate in the Phil Gramm action." Some of its members are College Greens and sympathetic students, but, as an organization, Campus Green was not involved. To those concerned, Calvert Tooley apologizes for the mistake. Also, College Greens was not the sole organizing group. Concerned citizens and groups from the Memphis area participated and organized the protest, including the Mid-South Peace and Justice Center, Shelby County Greens, and Voices for Peace.

Furthermore, the audience was *not* entirely appreciative of Gramm's speech. Though a minority, they were significant enough to present the senator with the vast majority of questions. All but a few of the 20 or so questions were critical. Also, the senator's speech evidenced a callous, unsympathetic attitude toward the disadvantaged and oppressed in our society and our world. "If you don't have a college degree, today, in this country, there's something wrong with you." "We're not going to run out of anything. . . . There's no such thing as a finite resource."

**See Letter,
Page 7**

Editorial of *The Sou'wester*

The Sou'wester would like to join the administration and most Rhodes students in deploring the recent acts of racism that have been committed on campus. The vandalism to cars owned by African American students, and the use of BSA posters, removed from walls, to send hate mail, are events that simply should not happen, ever.

Inherently, racism is an opinion that stems from ignorance. It is a reaction, based in fear, to surface differences, and is the sign of an unexamined mind. Because racism is a product of ignorance, it is especially injurious at an institution of higher learning. We

come to Rhodes to expand our knowledge of canonized learning, as well as of ourselves. In order for this to happen, we must strive for an environment of open-mindedness and equality. Acts such as the ones committed against our fellow students are insidious to this environment, and thus to our education.

More importantly, these are acts committed against people. The students who were acted upon are members of our community: people who share our love for the college and our experience here. They are our friends, our roommates, and our significant others. They organize campus events, lead campus or-

ganizations, spend sleepless nights studying, search for parking places, and cannot quite fit all of their stuff into a dorm room. In other words, they are Rhodes students.

The aforementioned events demonstrate perfectly the cowardice that characterizes racism. The acts were personally offensive to the students who were victimized by them and were anonymous. The perpetrator's actions focused not on issues but on specific people, which was not only a disservice to the individual, but to Rhodes as an entity. In addition, all involved were unwilling to associate themselves with the actions. This re-

fusal to own up to actions shows a fear of retribution. This fear indicates an understanding of the action as a misdeed. After all, individuals are comprised of their opinions and actions, and our understanding of each other stems from our knowledge of these factors in others. These anonymous actions were committed with malicious intent, and with the design to prevent the association of opinions and actions with those who hold them.

It is the opinion of *The Sou'wester* that these opinions are not well-founded, and that the actions that evidenced them were hateful and cowardly.

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

Staff meetings are open to the Rhodes community and convene in Briggs every Sunday evening at 6 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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 Member, Associated Collegiate Press (ACP)

Can you say the word vagina?

EMILY HOGUE
Vaginal Wonder



Say the word vagina. Come on, say it. Vagina. I bet some of you did not do it. Be honest with yourself: why not? Is it because vagina is usually a word you are not supposed to say? People make up nicknames to avoid the word all of the time, but people tell penis jokes in public without hesitation. This is one reason that I am in *The Vagina Monologues*.

Last year, I helped with the set design for the monologues, but I was not actually in the monologues myself. I guess maybe that

I was afraid to get in front of Rhodes College and say vagina. This year is the second performance of the monologues, and I wanted to help a fellow Bonner Scholar with a project and so I told Jennifer Marshall that I would audition. At the auditions we randomly chose monologues based on the titles. My piece was the Reclaiming Cunt monologue. Saying cunt on stage in front of girls that you have just met is a little nerve racking, but I did it. I am not reading Reclaiming Cunt, instead I am playing an old lady in *The Flood*, which I think is more suited to my own personality.

The other reason I am in *The Vagina Monologues* is to hang out with girls. I usually do not get along with other girls. Throughout my life most of my friends have been guys. Most of the girls

that I do get along with also do not get along with other girls. It is a weird situation to be in because as women we share common experiences but for various reasons we are not friends. I noticed that at the dress rehearsal Sunday night all of the cast members were starting to feel comfortable around each other. I guess *The Vagina Monologues* forces us to feel comfortable with each other. I mean we all have vaginas, but not only that, we laugh, cry, get angry, and moan together.

Last year, I think some people were offended by *The Vagina Monologues*. I am not really sure why. For one thing a vagina is another part of the body. It is not something to be ashamed of. No one makes me feel guilty if I say finger or toe in front of children, but with the word vagina I have to

whisper or make up a stupid name to conceal what I am talking about.

The idea of the monologues is that if we can make women comfortable saying the word vagina, then we are one step closer to making a woman feel comfortable admitting when she has been raped. Right now a woman is still made to believe that somehow it is her fault if she is raped, either because of who she is, what she wore, or who she has slept with in the past. So men and women of Rhodes College, do not be offended by the vagina, embrace the vagina, love the vagina, whether your own or someone else's.

If hearing the word vagina or cunt or poonani is not enough to draw you and your friends to *The Vagina Monologues*, maybe

chocolate vaginas will. Some of the women involved (and their boyfriends) have spent hours slaving in kitchens making chocolate vaginas on a stick. You can buy them for a dollar. This year we are charging a five-dollar admission in order to meet the goal of raising six thousand dollars for a local woman's shelter and for a new group on campus for men against the rape of women.

There will be three shows this week on Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday at 8:00 p.m. in Blount Auditorium (that is in Buckman, the building with all of the computers). You might want to come early to get a seat because last year it filled up fast. And just think about it... if my grandmother can come, so can you.

This article is a piece of tripe

PAT DUGAN
Apathy at Work



...pre-school...kindergarten... elementary school...extracurricular activities... junior high school... extracurricular activities... high school... extracurricular activities... senior week—ah, rest... summer job...summer job...summer job...summer job, going back a coupla years...college or university... extracurricular activities...start a resume...work on the resume...summer job...job during the school year, part-time, full-time, whatever...social activism, a modicum...still in college/university...double-major...meeting with advisor...homework...homework...homework...going back lord-knows-how-long...social life, make friends, at least 7...k.i.t.: keep in touch...keep in touch, going back a few years...steady heterosexual or non-challenging homosexual relationship...part-time job, looking to the future, to the full-time job around the corner, to the pension around the

next...extracurriculars on Tuesday and Thursday...study groups Monday and Wednesday...Friday, Saturday, compartmentalized fun—ah, rest...summer job...applications for medical school, law school...grades not so good, okay, look for alternatives...still try for medlaw school...summer job, now full-time...internship...watch a movie once a month, outside reading—have something to talk about with your contemporary associates at the school and at the work...refined sleeping hours, 2 hopeful, but not likely, 8 ridiculous, absurd, lack of productivity, oppressive...4-6 ideal...the capitalist martini: enlightened self-interest with a splash of socialist/protestant work ethic...enlightened self-interest not being teleological enough...socialism not being enough motivation for the wide power base...summer job beginning to get fun...form a bowling team with coworkers...smoke a joint—ah! don't inhale for too long...spiritual reassurance...go back to the Bible...chapter a day before mock trial...or before student government...help retards or black kids or old people or homeless people...and then forget about them so you can work hard

again...classes, tests, papers...classes, tests, papers...classes, tests, papers, going back more than a few years... the dead white guys know all—listen, regurgitate; no need to inculcate because it's already been...call up an old friend...ask about their summer job, their part-time job, their full-time job, ask how their resume is coming along...ask what their majors are...share an interesting story about your choice of majors, an interesting story about your 2nd, 3rd, or 4th best friend, an interesting story about your summer job or your part-time job or your full-time job...hang up on your old friend and go to work...get measured for your cap and for your gown as well...order invitations...invite people for money...(cough) whore...HAVE A BEAUTIFUL NIGHT FULL OF SNOW AND FUN AND FRIENDS AND WAKE UP. ODDS ARE YOU MIGHT GET OUT OF SCHOOL FOR ONE—BRIEF—DAY—DO NOT BE DISAPPOINTED THAT THE PINNACLE OF BUREACRACY HAS BEEN REACHED AND IT IS THIS: SOMEONE (NAMELESS, FACELESS) IN A DESK SOMEWHERE (TIMELESS, SPACELESS) decided THAT A FEW HOURS IN A

STURDY WOODEN DESK WITH A BORING TEACHER TEN FEET AWAY WHO MIGHT AS WELL BE TEN MILES AWAY—YES, THESE FEW HOURS ARE clearly, empirically, verifiably better FOR YOU AND FOR THE COLLEGE THAN THE TIME YOU MIGHT WHILE AWAY IN THE SNOW...FUN? WHO SAID ANYTHING ABOUT FUN? MORALE? WE DON'T HAVE TIME FOR MORALE... don't pretend to think you know why decisions get made the way they get made and get back to writing your resume...send it off...just in time to get to your last frorority meeting...graduation...valedictorian... magna cum loud, summa cum louder...married or at least looking...moving on to the real world...thank God and the Bible to be out of the fake world...wasn't it annoying and unimportant compared to kids, to family, to church bible study groups and marriage counseling meetings? Being a soccer mom is not a bad thing...watching soap operas or sports is a good way to pass the time and to relieve stress...sex is okay, but not to excess...it might compromise the working relation between you and your spouse...plan for children, be sure you have

enough money...check out good schools, move if you must, your baby's going to be a smart one, an artist maybe...and check their pre-school, their kindergarten, their junior high school, their high school, their college...boy, you've done a good job...take a two-week vacation to the island of your choice...your SUV will be safe in the airport parking lot as long as you apply the club...I'm a hundred words short...does anyone read this crap? I'd be stupid to think there are people reading my opinion when I don't read anyone else's...I'd be vulgar or perform an interpretive dance if the medium allowed for it, but clearly, I am restricted...so if this sucks, as I am ready to admit, just go grab a brownie or some cereal, if you're in the refectory...and if you're not, go hang out with a racist campus safety officer or with an uptight Rhodes bureaucrat...If you can't find one, go look! One place you won't find them—the places where Rhodents are keying racial slurs on cars...no one really goes there.

Editor's note: This article has not been edited at the writer's request.

Student Announcements

Rhodes Quiz Bowl finished fourth at the competitive NAQT Sectionals this past weekend in Chattanooga out of a field of 20 teams. They will be travelling to Virginia Tech this weekend for College Bowl Regionals and a shot at Nationals.

The Kinney areas of Children and Youth and Snowden will sponsor a service plunge on Saturday, February 16. All who are interested will meet behind the mailroom at 1:30 p.m. to go to Knowledge Quest and to one other site.

The MSA (Muslim Students' Association) and RICE (Rhodes Indian Cultural Exchange) will host an Eid Celebration on Tuesday, February 19 at 7:00 p.m. in Rhea Lounge. The celebration will include a discussion about the observance of the Islamic holiday, henna, free food, and gifts.

The week of February 11-14 is Alpha Omicron Pi's Heartthrob week. Vote for heartthrobs in the Rat with spare change. All proceeds benefit arthritis research.

Rhodes Activities Board will host a Valentine's Day dinner in the Rat on the February 14. Gourmet food, candlelight, and live violin music will make the day special for everyone.

Second City Improv troupe will perform on campus on Saturday, February 16 in Hardie Auditorium. The troupe has launched many Saturday Night Live careers; its veterans include Chris Farley, Tim Meadows, Gilda Radner, and Martin Short. Space will be limited for this event, so arrive early to ensure a seat.

The Rhodes College community is invited to the Ash Wednesday service on February 13 at 7:45 p.m. in Rhea Lounge. At 7:45, there will be a "com-pani" gathering with freshly baked breads. At 8:00, there will be an Ash Wednesday service.

The Ash Wednesday service at Rhodes is sponsored by the Rhodes Chaplain's Office, with support from the Catholic Student Association, Rhodes Christian Fellowship, Westminster Fellowship, Episcopal Student Ministry, Pizza Bible Study, and the Servant Leadership Program.

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Campus Safety Log

1/21/02 TO 1/27/02



2/4/02	NO UNUSUAL ACTIVITY REPORTED	
2/5/02	12:25 a.m.	Robb Hall - Fire Alarm pulled: No fire - under investigation
	6:30 a.m.	BCLC - Injury
	7:59 a.m.	East Village Alarm - Candle burning set off alarm
2/6/02	12:00 a.m.	SNOW
	1:01 a.m.	Williford - Noise complaint - people playing in the snow
	1:20 a.m.	Neely - Noise complaint - people playing in the snow
	1:55 a.m.	Williford - Noise complaint - people playing in the snow
	3:10 p.m.	McCoy Lot - Vandalism: Air let out of left rear tire of a student's car
2/7/02	10:27 p.m.	Buckman lawn - Snow Ball fight - no winner declared
	8:30 a.m.	University/Tutwiler - Dog struck and killed by automobile: Shelter called
2/7/02	2:48 p.m.	East Village Alarm - Maintenance set off the alarm
	NO UNUSUAL ACTIVITY REPORTED	
2/8/02		NO UNUSUAL ACTIVITY REPORTED
2/9/02		NO UNUSUAL ACTIVITY REPORTED
2/10/02	1:15 a.m.	Neely Hall - Noise complaint
	3:10 a.m.	Faculty/Staff Parking - Vandalism: two subjects seen throwing bottles
	3:20 p.m.	McCoy lot - three subjects caught climbing fence: escorted from campus
STATS THIS WEEK: PROPPED DOORS: 10 ESCORTS: 28 ACCESSES: 114 VISITORS: 1,049 CITATIONS: 132 JUMP STARTS: 0 CARS TOWED: 0 A.V.: 0 BOOTS: 0		

Monologues back at Rhodes

By Mia Hood
News Editor

Women from the Rhodes community will star in *The Vagina Monologues* on Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday February 13, 14, and 15 at 8:00 p.m. in Blount Auditorium. The tickets this year will be five dollars. The proceeds for this show will benefit the Memphis Sexual Assault Resource Center and the Rhodes Chapter of Men Against Rape.

This production of *Monologues* is

the second one at Rhodes; last year, women from the Rhodes community read the play to two packed Blount Auditoriums. This year, the women involved hope to raise six thousand dollars. They have already raised two thousand dollars through local sponsors and community members.

Rhodes is one of over six hundred colleges internationally that will put on a production of *The Vagina Monologues* as part of the world-wide V-Day movement to stop violence against women.

Meet the candidates for the student officer elections

Stuart Johnson for Honor Council President: One of the reasons I came to Rhodes is the Honor System and the atmosphere of trust I believe it fosters here. I have seen the system at work first hand for three years as a representative on the Council for the Class of 2003, and I still believe it is the single most important part of the college. I feel that serving as President of the Council is the most effective way for me to uphold the spirit of honor and integrity that is so important to the Rhodes Community.

Michael Lamb for Honor Council Vice President: Serving as an Honor Council representative for two years, I have gained invaluable insight and experience that has further fueled my passion for truth and fairness and that will enable me, if elected, to serve you and Rhodes College more effectively next year as Vice President. As Internal Affairs Committee Chairman of the Council, I have worked closely with the President and Vice President on our constitutional review, attaining a true appreciation and understanding of the many responsibilities that characterize this position. With my leadership, knowledge, and experience, I hope to continue the sacred tradition of honor here at Rhodes.

Ben Chastain for RSG President: For the last three years, I have been an active member of RSG. I have tried my best to help the student body, and to be an effective representative as a class Senator and as the Vice-President of RSG. The position of President has been a goal for me since my freshman year, and I am very excited about the chance to realize that goal, and to continuing my involvement with the students of Rhodes College. I have worked hard to become the most experienced candidate for this position, and I would appreciate your support.

Tyler Sanders for RSG President: What I bring to the Rhodes Student Government is more than my three years of experience as part of the Senate—I bring a vision of efficiency on various fronts. As a student government, we do have the power to bring about change. We are in office to advocate for students who elected us, yet we give up too easily too often. The RSG President is charged with maintaining open communication among students, faculty, and administrators, and so as the President, I will address important issues that result in accomplishments not as a student government but as a student body.

Brett Ramsey for RSG President: I am from Martin, TN and a junior Political Science major here at school. Some of you may know me as Bear, but hopefully you will all know of me after this campaign is over. I am going to try to hear from as many people as I can, because if elected, I want you all to know that I will listen to all of your concerns and act on them. I think it is time for a

fresh face in RSG, and I'm ready to be that fresh face. So, vote for me and keep a Ramsey in office for another year.

John Sexton for RSG Vice President: John Sexton is in his second year on RSG as a Sophomore Senator. He is a Physics/Philosophy double major with interests in medical physics. John is an RCC, and does not mind helping people with their computer problems. Seriously. He is a member of Contents Under Pressure, and Society of Physics Students. Mostly, though, John is another student just like you: he loves Rhodes and is paying a lot of money to come here. In order to ensure that everyone gets the most out of their time at Rhodes, John would like to be the RSG Vice-President because it is a position from which he could have a positive influence on the entire campus.

Jon David Willingham for RSG Vice President: Hailing from Owensboro, KY, Jon David Willingham is a candidate for Vice President of Rhodes Student Government. A Senator since his freshman year, Jon David presently chairs Student Life. Voicing student concern to the administration, faculty, and staff, Jon David has helped address issues ranging from campus safety and residence life to deferred rush and student representation on the Dean's Council. Jon David has also been very involved in community service and other campus leadership positions. Outgoing and seeking of student input, Jon David hopes to continue serving students as the Vice President of RSG.

Evan Beth Goss for SRC President: I am running for the position of the SRC president. Over the past three years I have served this campus in several capacities such as AOII, SRC, ResVoice, Rhodes singers, and Rhodes orchestra, as well as serving as a recruitment counselor. During my two and a half years on SRC, I have assisted in rewriting our constitution so students could grasp our purpose more clearly. It is very important that the student body understand what SRC does and why. As president, I would like to continue to improve our communication with the community and visibility on campus.

Ashley Kutz for SRC President: Completing my second year on SRC, I am constantly reminded of what a privilege it is for me to serve the school in such an important capacity. SRC is by far one of the most meaningful organizations of which I have been a part. As a member, I have actively participated in hearings, conducted two investigations, and committed myself fully to the standards that the Code protects. As President, I feel that I would be able to continue to elevate the Council, building up its ability to have a visible presence on campus, by effectively educating students about the Code, and how it works for them, while maintaining its

high level of respect.

Chris Jones for SRC President: It has been my pleasure and my privilege to serve for two years on SRC. In that time, I have come to a greater understanding of the values that drive our community, and have been moved to work harder to uphold those ideals. I have been involved in the constitutional workings of the Council, as well as policy review to improve the Council and the community. I can provide the leadership necessary to make the Council more visible and involved in the community, and will work to ensure that all violations of the trust put in the Code of Student Conduct and in the Social Regulations Council.

Aditya Bagrodia for SRC Vice President: The primary reason that I am qualified as a candidate for the office of SRC vice president is because of my past involvement on the council. I have been a member on the council since my first semester at Rhodes. Furthermore, I have served in numerous different capacities as a member and have a well-rounded understanding of how the Council functions. Along with my previous experience on the SRC, my involvement in other activities, particularly in peace and justice related issues, have also provided me with experiences that would enhance my ability to be an effective vice president.

Brian Waggenspack for Board of Trustees: As a sophomore senator to RSG two years ago, I gained a new perspective for leadership on Rhodes's campus. As the proctor (RA) for the European Studies program last fall, I continued in a position of student leadership, being constantly in contact with the dean of the program. The Board of Trustees position is vital to the progress of the Rhodes community. Critical decisions will be made in the coming years by the board, and the Trustees are ready and willing to hear student opinions. I look forward to championing students' concerns.

Kate Hazelrig for Board of Trustees: Kate Hazelrig can represent the student body well. Through her involvement in ARO, RAB, and as Greek editor of the *Lynx*, she has shown that she loves Rhodes College and its student life. Her experiences in Mock Trial, as VP of the Legal Society, and as Treasurer and Vice President of Chi Omega have proven her ability as a capable leader. Kate is devoted to the student body; vote for her to represent you to the Board of Trustees.

Scott Holmes for Pub Board Commissioner: Scott Holmes seeks the office of Publications Board Commissioner in order to make the world a better place and then perhaps take it over. He has served on the Pub Board for two years, *The Sou'wester* for three years, and on RSG for a year.

Arts & Entertainment

Page 6

THE
SOU'WESTER

Wednesday, February 13, 2002

Idols of the King tackles the role of Elvis

By Dave Hurt
Staff Writer

Memphis is laid back, and while, in the ranks of Memphians, experts abound on everything under the sun, you would be hard-pressed to find anyone willing to take part in a heated discourse/confrontation. I like to think it is less the absence of passion and more the sunny disposition of the city's citizens. That being said,

there are a few topics that invoke a fiery wrath, that one must tip-toe around ever so gently. Barbeque springs to mind. Nashville also comes up. Lastly, and most importantly, one must take the utmost care in handling the King of Rock'n'Roll Elvis Presley. In light of this, you can imagine my skepticism upon going to view *Idols of the King*, a musical based on Presley's music and written by Ronnie Claire Edwards of Walton family fame. Considering the focus of this musical, I do not envy Ms. Edwards or the staff and crew of Playhouse on the Square.

The play centers around the Presleyan experiences of a whole cast of characters, all, impressively enough, played by two actors, Jason Craig and Kim Justis. Although the cast is relatively small, the play's strength lies in its collaboration. Craig and Justis' shining moments come mostly in their interactions

with each other. For example, Kevin (Craig) and Raynelle (Justis), two out-of-gas hitchhikers with a fascinating if not masochistic relationship, bring the audience with them on their dysfunctional desert-crossing to the oasis of an Elvis Vegas concert. Raynelle's castrating jabs and Kevin's laid-back sleaziness bring a nice contrast of attitudes towards life and also towards the King. Another example of this successful collaboration surfaces with the aging couple of Zig (Craig) and Edna (Justis) who have turned their bathroom, once used by the King, in to an Elvis shrine. The interplay of husband and wife not only produces humor but also a real history that can be seen between the two.

At first the structure of the play seems artificial, with a monologue or dialogue followed directly by a song and dance number by an

actor portending to play the role of Elvis (David Valentine Fraccaro). No real connection could be made between the two, and a fear arose in me that the night would be filled with disconnected, caricatured vignettes. But, as the play went on, that fear was allayed by more and more connections not only between the songs and scenes but between the scenes themselves. One such scene involving the character of Ruth (Justis), an aging maid who teaches piano to the neighborhood children and lives with her decrepit and often annoying mother, shows Ruth's desperation at her situation and her longing for something better. She wants, in a word, love—the mysterious yet tender kind that often falls in to the abyss of melodrama—but here finds a sincere punctuation in the King's rendition of "Are You Lonesome Tonight."

My only criticism of this production comes in the casting of the King himself, played by David Valentine Fraccaro. His swiveling hips reminded one more of wet noodles than of Rock'n'Roll, and his nasal, barbershop vibrato tweaked my ears instead of soothing them with Presleyesque balladry. Upon entering the seating aisle to "bond" with the blue hairs in front of me, to my horror, Mr. Fraccaro flirtily said, "Hey you," to a half-dazed sixty something slumped in her seat. What? Is Elvis a lounge singer now? Upon reading the program, I discovered that Mr. Fraccaro is a member of Actor's Equity which is surprising considering he seems more Six Flags material. But in all fairness to Mr. Fraccaro, Elvis rivals Hamlet as one of the toughest parts to play in theatre, and despite Mr. Fraccaro's shortcomings, I enjoyed this play and would recommend it.

Amélie regales viewers with heroine's whimsical tales

By Sarah Clark and Amanda Moshier
Staff Writers

Once upon a time, there were two little girls, Sarah and Amanda who loved to get lost in a great movie. On their weekly movie night out, Sarah and Amanda decided to embark on an adventure, never before attempted—the foreign film! (dum..dum..dum) Rumor of the French film *Amélie* had been spreading through the village for several weeks. Sarah and Amanda thought, "Oh, what fun!" So, the adventure began.

It was a night to remember; the movie showed them the true meaning of life and love (and of course, a little bit of sex). The film begins with a young girl named Amélie, a waitress in Montmartre, Paris. Her story starts with discovery of a young boy's cigar box full of treasures. Amélie decides to find the now middle-aged owner of the box. If the man is touched by her anonymous gift she will continue to touch other people's lives by performing good deeds, and if he is untouched, "Oh well, c'est la vie." The man is indeed touched by Amélie's gift and so she vows to help others. On her quest, Amélie realizes that a simple action can drastically impact a person's life. But, who will impact Amélie's life, and will she let them?

Sarah and Amanda continue their journey to the land of Cordova

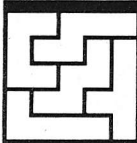
in which they will find the lonely theater. After two hours Sarah and Amanda emerge from the darkened theater, sniffing as usual and reaching into their pockets for Kleenexes while exclaiming: "This is the best movie I have ever seen!" The girls leave the film feeling as though they have been challenged to better the lives of others and themselves.

Amélie transports you to an idealized world full of chance and intrigue, if only for two hours. This

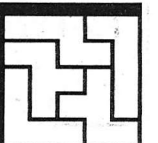
film will move you to examine life and the risks you take and those you do not take. *Amélie* is a montage of whimsical scenes that delight the senses by producing a collection of unforgettable images, full of color and action. The twists and turns of subplots make the audience feel as though they are on a ride.

The film exhibits a sense of movement incorporating cinematography reminiscent of the films of Baz Luhrman (director of *Moulin*

Rouge and *William Shakespeare's Romeo and Juliet*). The music sets a light-hearted tone and makes you feel as if you are sitting in a French café. Amélie's clever nature suspends the audience in the anticipation of her role in the lives of extraordinary characters completely wrapped up in a world of adventure. If you want to laugh, cry, and be highly entertained go see *Amélie*, given two thumbs up by Sarah and Amanda.



Rhodes Puzzler



#29 (February 13, 2002)

Last week's movie pass winner: No one! (wimps!)

Valentine's Day is so confusing! Each of three men (Alan, Brian and Charles) is in love with a different woman (one of Darla, Eve and Fay), and each of the three women is in love with a different man. Sadly, in no case is their love requited. However, it is known that

1. Alan does not love Fay.
2. Brian is loved by the woman who is loved by Charles.
3. Darla is loved by Brian.

Who loves Alan?

The Rhodes Puzzler is sponsored by the Math/CS Department of Rhodes College. Send your solution (with name!) to puzzler@rhodes.edu, or place a Word or text document named "<your name>.doc" in the Puzzler folder located on the Academic Volume, 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 from all correct entries to receive two free movie passes, donated by Malco Theatres. See the Rhodes Puzzler Page at <http://www.mathcs.rhodes.edu/puzzler.html>.

IF YOU'VE HAD UNPROTECTED SEX,
DON'T WAIT FOR A PERIOD
THAT MAY NEVER COME.

ec

EMERGENCY CONTRACEPTION
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72 HOURS AFTER SEX.
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Memphis, Regional Planned Parenthood

901-725-1717

A Letter of Concern to the Rhodes College Community

The celebration of Black History month has had a sobering start. Two of our African-American students have experienced vandalism to their cars; one car was keyed with the word "nigger." In meetings with Bette Ackerman, Dean of Students, 35 African-American students relayed experiences which cause them to question whether or not they are truly valued and accepted within Rhodes' classrooms. Many of these students expressed the desire to transfer.

These events raise disturbing questions: Does the Rhodes community—its students, its faculty, and its staff—have a genuine commitment to addressing the needs of minority students? Do we fully support the social, developmental, and educational experiences of minority students? Are we fully committed to doing all we can to meet the goals that were identified by our own diversity task force? Do we tolerate indifference when inappropriate or discriminatory behavior takes place?

Racial intolerance is inconsistent with the academic mission of the College and is therefore unacceptable. We must treat each other with respect. We need not agree with all that is expressed, however we must ensure that our campus is a place where freedom of inquiry is encouraged, ideas are addressed with care, and each person has value.

We are gravely concerned because our African-American students believe they are not fully valued as members of our community. We believe that any viable academic community must support a wide variety of opinions, traditions, and values. By comparing our perspectives, embracing those of others, and respecting our differences we cultivate the environment we desire. Every day we strive to broaden the minds of students in this community. When intolerance is expressed in ways that violate college codes and the laws we live by, we will move expeditiously to hold violators accountable. It is important to remind students that they have an obligation to report violations of Rhodes' standards.

President Troutt has asked for an update and status of the initiatives outlined in the Diversity Task Force Report issued last fall. Diversity training has been planned for new students and faculty members through orientations and advisor training. A summary of the problems expressed by the African-American students will be presented at the February faculty meeting, and faculty members are urged to hear the concerns of our minority students and to consider ways in which they can facilitate the learning experience of all students.

As Black History Month continues, we have been reminded that the work of building a learning community is never done. Belonging to the Rhodes community has privileges and responsibilities. The privilege of being in a learning community such as Rhodes is accompanied by the responsibility to attend to the evolving needs of those in the community. As we work daily to inform our understanding of the world, we must model in our behavior and expect in students open mindedness, an appreciation for cultural diversity, and concern for others' dignity and welfare.

Bill Troutt, President of Rhodes College
Robert Llewellyn, Dean of the College
Bette Ackerman, Dean of Students
Jessica Anschutz, Community Service Coordinator
Ellen Armour, Associate Professor of Religious Studies
Allen Boone, Dean of Administrative Services
Melissa Butler, Coordinator of Disability and Career Services
Carol Casey, Director of Residence Life
Mike Clary, Director of Athletics
Rob Dove, Director of Counseling Services
Stuart Fallen, Assistant Director of Residence Life
Sally Heinz, Acting Director of Communications
Richard Huddleston, Bursar
Brian Hummer, Associate Director of Institutional Research

Bob Johnson, Dean of Information Services
Marie Lindquist, Director of Student Orientation and Leadership
Mac McWhirter, Associate Dean of Administrative Services
Glenn Munson, Registrar
Julie Murphy, Religious Life Coordinator
Billy Newton, Rhodes Chaplain
John Olsen, Associate Dean of Academic Affairs
Wendy Rotter, Associate Dean for College Advancement
John Sammons, Graduate Assistant, Student Activities & Greek Life
Brian Shaffer, Associate Dean of Academic Affairs
Forrest Stuart, Director of Financial Aid
Sandi Tracy, Director of Career Services
Bridget Truman, Assistant Director of Counseling Services
Jennifer Winstead, Assistant Dir. of Career Services

Upcoming Black History Month Events

**February 15, 2002 -
Unity Program**

Test your knowledge of African American history by representing your organization in this game-show style program, or just come and learn. The winning organization will get a \$100 cash prize. Pizza will be served. (Hardie Auditorium, 7:00 p.m.) For more information, contact Jasmine McNeill at x5552

**February 23, 2002 -
March on Rhodes**

Join the BSA in a march to show campus-wide unity. All organizations are welcome to enjoy the march from Snowden Elementary to the amphitheater. Bring signs representing your organization and join us for a brief program immediately following. (Snowden, 12:00 p.m.) Contact program chair Jennifer Brooks at x5006 for more information.

**February 28, 2002 -
Closing Ceremony**

With guest speaker, City Councilman Joe Brown. Reception immediately following. (Blount Auditorium, 7:00 p.m.) For more information, contact program chair Shane Norman at norse@rhodes.edu.

Letter, from Page 2

(And what of the manufactured energy crisis?) He claimed that we are obligated to "share" (read "impose") with the whole world our neo-liberal economic policies, such as those that are crushing southern Mexico through NAFTA and continuing to demolish the Argentine economy.

Such comments and attitudes deny human heterogeneity, which he first emphasized and, then immediately super-generalized that there are only two kinds of people: those who are happy as long as they are satisfied, indifferent toward others, and those who are happy as long as everyone else is as miserable as they are. What about us, people who are happy to be ourselves, yet miserable to witness the misery of others?

-John Knight ('02)

The second annual senior auction:

February 22 in the Lynx Lair at 6:00 p.m.
Beer (for those 21 and over) and Pizza Specials
Fantastic items on the auction block--
Come and bid!

***This Friday, February 15 at 11:15 a.m.
in the amphitheater, you can speak out.
"Stand up for Positive Changes at
Rhodes" will be organized by several
campus organizations to address
current community issues.***

RHODES COLLEGE RECTREATIONAL SERVICES

Intramural Racquetball and Squash

Registration Deadline: Friday, February 15
Season Begins: Wednesday, February 20
Captains' Meeting: February 19 at 7:00pm

Registration is located in the Recreational Services
Office upstairs in the BCLC.

For more information contact Erin LeBlanc x3779 or Kim Rhodes x3013.

Women's Basketball extends winning ways

By Brain Clark
Athletics Department

The Rhodes women's basketball team (13-8, 10-4 SCAC) defeated rival Hendrix College 56-51 last Saturday afternoon in Conway, Arkansas. With this win, the Lynx have won eight of its last nine games.

This year marks the first time that the women have beaten Hendrix two times in the same season since joining the Southern Collegiate Athletic Conference. The other victory over the Warriors came at home on January 12, when the Lynx were able to hold a narrow margin to win 47-45.

Anna Kizer ('03) led the Lynx with fifteen points on shooting

seven of twelve from the floor. She is averaging 17.5 points a game, which places her third in the conference in scoring. The second leading scorer for the Lynx was Jessie Hunt ('02) with twelve points. She played a complete game and in addition to her points she added six rebounds, three assists, and one steal. Point guard Rosemary Boner ('03) was the floor general again for Rhodes, dishing out a game high six assists and grabbing a team high nine rebounds. She currently is third in the conference in assists, averaging 3.71 per game.

The Lynx had a fifteen-point lead at halftime, but saw it dwindle away in the second half, partly due to poor shooting. Rhodes shot fifty percent from the floor in the first

half, but only 39 percent in the second half.

Abby Mowrey and Maggie Harrington each scored thirteen points for Hendrix to keep them in the game. The Lynx were able to pick up the slack on both ends of the floor and hold on for the five-point victory.

"Hendrix is a very physical team," said head coach Sam Wolinski. "For the first time in three years we overcame their pressure and kept our composure."

The Lynx are still in third place in the conference, one game behind Trinity who lost to DePauw for the second time this season over the weekend. The Lynx are on the road again this weekend as they take on the two weakest teams in the conference, Millsaps and Oglethorpe.

Rhodes lacrosse wins first game of season

By Jack Baber
Staff Writer

The Rhodes club lacrosse team started its season on an impressive note Sunday, January 27 against Mississippi State. The Lynx won the game by a score of 15-10 in front of a large crowd of both Rhodes and Mississippi State fans.

The game got off to a strong start for the home team, with the Lynx up eight goals to three by half-time.

The Bulldogs came back in the beginning of the third quarter, scoring six goals. But, the Lynx finished off the quarter with one goal, bringing the score to a tie at 9-9.

The fourth quarter belonged to the Lynx, who went on another run, scoring six goals.

The Lynx defense held the Bulldog attack back, allowing only one goal in the fourth.

Many Lynx players scored in the game, including Andrew Corey ('02), who lead the team with four goals, Peter Vandermije ('02) and Chip Hartigan ('05), with three goals each, and Mark Lissauer ('02),

with two. Nadeem Malik ('02), Nat Smith ('03), and Phil Hartigan ('03) also contributed one goal each.

The game was an overall success for the team, and players felt it was a strong beginning to what they hope will be an impressive season.

"I was pleased with the way the team looked. We have a lot of experienced seniors and a lot of talented freshmen and sophomores coming in this year, and I really think we have a chance at winning our conference this year," said Smith.

The team is trying to learn from this game, and prepare for its next matches.

"We have a lot of room for improvement, and we've started running some new plays to use in our next games," Smith said.

They were also appreciative of the fans that came out to support the team during the game.

"We had a really good turnout of fans at the game, and we really appreciate all the support," Smith said.

The Lynx's next games will be at a tournament at Mississippi State in Starkville, Mississippi this Saturday.

Resounding thud for dunk contest

By Stu Johnston
Staff Writer

The slam dunk contest epitomizes all star weekend—all about the hype. However, this year the contest lacked a lot of its usual luster because the game's renowned high flyers opted not to participate. The contest may never again achieve the mythical status that it did when Michael Jordan and Dominique Wilkins were in their heyday, but it still has a few good years left. This was not one of them.

For an event like this to succeed, the league's marquee players must be participating. A Kobe Bryant versus Vince Carter showdown would have electrified the Philadelphia crowd much more than finalists Gerald Wallace and Jason Richardson could manage. The two are talented athletes, make no mistake, but only a seasoned basketball fan would recognize Wallace's name—he virtually jumped from high school to the pros, after one year as sixth man for Alabama. Richardson, although he is definitely a future star, does not have significant name recognition either.

Another problem is that we are twenty-five years removed from the dawn of the modern dunking era. The renegade ABA held dunk contests in the late seventies, but not until Julius Erving came along did the NBA catch the fever. The early days of the dunk contest featured the likes of Dr. J, Larry Nance, and the pint-sized Spud Webb. As the NBA picked up speed in the mid-80s, the dunk contest followed suit, and it reached its peak in excitement and popularity with the Dominique Wilkins/Michael Jordan duels of 1986-1988. It did not hurt that Air Jordan and the Human Highlight Film were two of the league's premier players at the time.

Part of what made the dunk contest

great was the creativity and athleticism of the participants. The new formatting for the contest squelched the players' ability to be creative. In fact, one of the dunks was specifically designed to be an imitation. After spinning the "wheel," a player was shown a video of a former contest winner and asked to imitate one of his dunks. That completely destroyed the shock value of the dunks, and the shock value is clearly what makes a great dunk—fans looking at one another saying *did he really just do that?*

If the event is to be saved, a return to the original format is crucial. Three rounds with eight dunks apiece and eight participants, some of whom are recognizable all stars, are absolutely necessary. Steve Francis is a good player, but he plays for a losing team in a mid-sized media market, and his face is not instantly recognizable like Kobe and Carter. Restricting the players with too many rules and obstacles is a recipe for failure as well. Allowing one "replacement dunk" is also a good idea, so players will be more likely to pursue a higher degree of difficulty.

A year off is also not a bad idea. Replacing the contest with an eight man one-on-one tournament is certainly a palatable solution. Most NBA offenses outside of Los Angeles thrive on isolation plays anyway, and fans love to see players engage in one-on-one battles within the framework of a game. Attracting the best players would be a challenge, but given the right incentive, it would be a great thing for the league. It would give fans an extra year to work up an appetite for the dunk contest and give players an extra year to come up with something creative. There are new dunks yet to be invented, but unfortunately, due to a combination of new rules and a lack of big names, none were revealed this year.

Editor's note: Michelle Eacret ('03) was inadvertently omitted from the article on the crew team in last week's issue. She competed in the coxswain group.

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The Chicago Tribune

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