

# THE Sou'wester

The Weekly Student Newspaper of Rhodes College

Vol. LXXX, No. 7

Wednesday, October 30, 2002

## Around the World... Compiled from CNN

In Russia 118 people are dead after Russian authorities gassed a theatre in Chechnya that had been held by rebels for 58 hours. Officials believed that the rebels were going to set off explosives in the theatre, killing all of the hostages. While authorities will not release the type of gas used, Pentagon officials receiving information from the U.S. Embassy in Moscow report that it was an opiate. President Putin of Russia, Prime Minister Blair of the U.K., and President Bush have all defended Russian authorities, placing blame for the tragedy on the "terrorists."

On Tuesday, President Bush signed into the law the "Help America Vote Act," aimed at alleviating problems experienced in the 2000 elections. Under this act, states will receive almost four billion dollars over the next three years to update voting systems and provide better voter education and improved training for poll workers. The new act will go into effect in the 2004 elections.

Israeli Prime Minister Ariel Sharon is being challenged by Labor Party officials over the new government budget. Members of the Labor Party are prepared to vote against the new budget, particularly because of an earmarked \$147 million going to expansion of Jewish settlements. The Labor Party favors spending this money on social services that would help pensioners, single-parent households, low-income areas, and students.

## Sherrard, Kirkpatrick named 2002-03 Mr. and Ms. Rhodes

Joey Sherrard, the son of Joe and Frances Sherrard, is a religious studies major from Elkhorn, Nebraska. During his four years at Rhodes, Joey has served the college community as a member of the Social Regulation and Honor Councils, acting as a class representative in both organizations.

After college, Joey plans to pursue a career in Christian ministry, a desire that has been manifested in his involvement as a member of the steering committee of the Tex-Mex Border Ministry and through his role in the founding of Greek Fellowship.

Joey is involved in Greek Life as a member of Kappa Sigma fraternity, where he served two years as a philanthropy chair and currently serves as a pledge educator.

Outside of the gates of

Rhodes, he partook in a two-month church mission internship in Nairobi, Kenya and also attended the L'Abri Fellowship study center in Southborough, Massachusetts.

He has served as a resident advisor for the Rhodes community the past two years, and he attends All Saints Presbyterian Church in Memphis.

His proudest accomplishments remain the 2002 Rhodes College intramural soccer title and his status as a member of the Clandestine Camarilla.

Kimberly Kirkpatrick is the daughter of Dr. and Mrs. Robert D. Kirkpatrick. She is a Spanish major, Religious Studies minor from Germantown, Tennessee.

Currently, she is President of Rhodes Activities Board and Mortar Board National Honor Society. During



Photo by Miriam Dolin

President Troutt and his wife stand with Joey Sherrard ('03) and Kim Kirkpatrick ('03), who were crowned Mr. and Ms. Rhodes for the 2002-2003 academic year.

her four years at Rhodes, she has enjoyed being a member of Westminster Fellowship, Rhodes Christian Fellowship, Black Student Association, RICE, Greek Fellowship, and HOLA.

While at Rhodes, she has been a member of the Admissions Representative Organization, Student Ambassadors,

Mock Trial, and the Rhodes Cheerleaders. One of her fondest memories at Rhodes includes serving as a member of

*Rhodes,  
continued on  
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## Faces and bulletin board to be released soon

By John Zeanah  
News Editor

Two staples of Rhodes life, the paper copy of Faces and the Bulletin Board, have not been available to students yet this year. The delay in the distribution of Faces has been mainly a problem of personnel. The position of director in the office of communications was not filled until recently, forcing

the staff to push back the production of Faces. Danny Kepple, the new director, said that having new people in the office working on this for the first time was another reason why Faces has not been available yet. Faces has been sent to the printers and should be distributed soon.

The Bulletin Board was pulled off the site at the end of last school year in order to make

improvements on the software, as well as review how the administration can elaborate on bulletin board conduct policy. According to Dean Landreth, the administration had some problems with some postings on the bulletin board.

The college found that policy did not articulate acceptable conduct on the bulletin board, and students did not know that there was policy at

all. In order to articulate these policy standards, a possible solution is a conduct policy statement students must agree to when they log on the bulletin board.

*Faces,  
continued on  
Page 6*



## Letter-to-the-Editor: higher standards for faculty will be beneficial

By Dr. Marshall McMahon  
Professor of Economics and  
Business Administration

The faculty of Rhodes College has done something quite without precedent in the annals of academe. The action to weaken the traditional employment guarantees of tenure taken at the meeting on October 9, 2002, is historic, courageous, and generous. The nature and the consequences of that action are sufficiently important that the entire college community should be aware of them. Students and members of the Board should feel a sense of pride in the Rhodes faculty for this bold and surprising action. To understand the significance of the action, some background is needed.

Traditionally, and as was the case at Rhodes prior to the faculty's vote, a tenured faculty member had to be found "incompetent" in the performance of the duties of the position, before dismissal for cause would hold up under the seemingly inevitable judicial review. Following the faculty's vote, after approval by the Board, if a faculty member's performance in any one area (teaching, research, or service) is judged to be "marginal" or "inadequate," a program for improvement is put into place. If, at the end of the next triennial review, the faculty member's ratings are still too low, the Dean of the College may "determine an appropriate response." More on this shortly.

At the same time, the faculty also approved language indicating that "a judgment in the triennial review that performance is 'marginal' or 'inadequate' in any area is an indication of a serious deviation from the promise confirmed by the granting of ten-

ure" (emphasis added). Re-read that sentence. As I read it, it can be understood to state that receiving ratings of either "marginal" or "inadequate" in a single area is a violation of the tenure contract by the faculty member. While I have no legal training, I think this language is important because it could be interpreted by the courts as relieving the College of having to prove that a particular faculty member's overall performance is "incompetent." Since the faculty has approved this language (which originated in a faculty committee), it seems to me that it has thereby agreed to a change in the standard for dismissal for cause, and has further agreed to accept personal responsibility for violating the terms of the tenure contract in such cases.

At a meeting in September, the faculty had refused to approve language for proposed revisions that explicitly stated, "Should performance not result in the improvement to this level of assessment ['good'] in the following triennial cycle, the appointment may be subject to termination (under the provisions specified in the section on 'Dismissal for Cause' in Section X)." However, discussion at the October meeting made clear that dismissal is, indeed, one such "appropriate response." Further, discussion at the latter meeting made clear that it is generally understood that this language runs counter to the guidelines for post-tenure review of the American Association of University Professor, or AAUP, which is the professional organization of collegiate faculty that also represents a number of faculty in labor negotiations.

The AAUP, in statements adopted in 1998 and 1999, sets guidelines for post-tenure review that include the

following, which I quote at length in order to clarify the extent to which the faculty have chosen to repudiate current academic thinking in this matter (emphasis added): (Quoted text in bold type)

**Post-tenure review ought to be aimed not at accountability, but at faculty development. Post-tenure review must be developed and carried out by faculty. Post-tenure review must not be a reevaluation of tenure, nor may it be used to shift the burden of proof from an institution's administration (to show cause for dismissal) to the individual faculty member (to show cause why he or she should be retained).** . . .

**Post-tenure review should not be undertaken for the purpose of dismissal. Other formal disciplinary procedures exist for that purpose.** . . .

**[T]he most objectionable feature of many systems of post-tenure review is that they ease the prevailing standards for dismissal and diminish the efficacy of those procedures that ensure that sanctions are not imposed for reasons violative of academic freedom. Some proponents of post-tenure review, motivated by a desire to facilitate the dismissal of tenured faculty, seek to substitute less protective procedures and criteria at the time of post-tenure review. But demanding procedures and standards are precisely what prevent dismissal for reasons violative of academic freedom.**

**If the standard of dismissal is shifted from "incompetence" to "unsatisfactory performance," as in some current proposals, then tenured faculty must recurrently "satisfy" administra-**

**tive officers rather than the basic standards of their profession. In addition, some forms of post-tenure review shift the burden of proof in a dismissal hearing from the institution to the tenured faculty member by allowing the institution to make its case simply by proffering the more casually developed evaluation reports from earlier years. Effectively the same concerns arise when the stipulated channel for challenging substantively or procedurally unfair judgments in the course of post-tenure review is through a grievance procedure in which the burden of proving improper action rests with the faculty member.** (<http://www.aaup.org/statements/Redbook/rbpostn.htm>)

The faculty and administration of Rhodes College should be applauded for leading the way in defining a procedure for post-tenure review "with teeth." For the faculty to acknowledge the right—some would say the duty—of a college or university to dismiss tenured faculty who are not performing at a standard that is higher than "incompetence" is a giant leap forward for our students and for the reputation of the profession. Perhaps the faculty at other institutions will follow the lead of the Rhodes faculty.

Students now have the power to influence not only the granting of tenure through the evaluation of the faculty but also the retention of "tenured" faculty. I encourage every student to read Bob Coleman's essay for the *Sou'wester* dated March 28, 2001 (<http://www.students.rhodes.edu/sw/3%7E28%7E01/Opinion.html>) and to take his words to heart. Students should, indeed, take their evaluations of teaching seriously.

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Carson Weitmauer	Christian Masters

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 the second story of Briggs every Monday at 8 p.m. *The Sou'wester* is a member of the Student Publications Board, a six-publication consortium that includes the editors of all student publications, class representatives and at-large representatives from the student body.

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

### REACHING THE SOU'WESTER

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## Money is not the problem, and a lottery is not the solution

By Chris Ebersole

Don't ask me

On November 5, Tennesseans will vote on the issue of a state lottery, deciding whether or not the state's ban on this form of gambling will be lifted. What concerns me most, however, is not the outcome of the election, nor even the idea of a lottery itself. It is rather the education argument behind the lottery, the idea that it will somehow rescue the state's floundering school systems. That warrants skepticism. The fact that roughly one third of lottery proceeds will go towards education and the majority of this will help fund college scholarships somewhat discounts the propo-

nents' claims. It seems that if the state were to improve its education system, it would do best to do so from the bottom up. It was not until I saw a bumper sticker reading "Lottery = Education," however, that I took real issue with the argument.

*Intelligent Spending = Education*

Are we to assume that the imposition of a lottery will tangibly benefit the state's dimly performing education system? It hardly seems likely. Using the Memphis City School System as an example, we can see educational fund-

ing at work on a simple trip around town.

Has anyone seen the digital scrolling sign in front of East High School? Sure, it looks nice, but it seems ironic that somebody would spend money to build such a sign when some of the students at the school

cannot even read it.

A visitor to Whitehaven High School will find classrooms with crumbling chalkboards and restrooms without stalls—right down the hall from top-notch basketball facilities.

For further examples, re-

view the three major changes instituted by the MCS School Board this year: the introduction of a uniform policy, a ban on cell phones and pagers, and the end of the Mid-South Fair school holiday. Each action undoubtedly serves a purpose, but one cannot help but question how any of these changes will result in real academic benefits. It is important that the city schools are trying to change, but some areas are more deserving of attention than others. These three, I would argue, are not.

The problem we have is one of priorities, and the system needs to get them straight. Public education in Tennessee has long been plagued by financial mismanagement, and until this is fixed, progress will

be hard to come by. It is much easier for school districts to ask for more money than to evaluate their own spending habits.

Who is to say that the city schools will not frivolously spend their allotment of the lottery money and then ask for more, using the same argument, a few years down the road? It requires quite a leap of faith to believe that throwing money at the state's education problem will solve it, and it is a leap that I am unwilling to take.

Tennesseans should demand that the government demonstrate some degree of competence with the money it already has before giving it any more. How about "Intelligent Spending = Education?"

## Remembering Senator Paul Wellstone: a national hero lost

By Elizabeth Porras

Staff Columnist

Last Friday in Minnesota was a chilly, rainy day, weather befitting the mood that would soon fall over the state. Friday morning the citizens of Minnesota and the rest of the nation lost Senator Paul Wellstone in a tragic plane crash that robbed this nation of a great man and leader.

Paul Wellstone was a man of populist sentiments who first ran for the U.S. Senate in 1990. As a college professor and political newcomer his campaign was low-budget and featured the now famous lime-green school bus turned campaign machine. His opponent spent seven times more money than he did, but Wellstone's lively personality and genuine passion for change won the hearts and votes of the people of Minnesota.

Wellstone stumbled at first as a young senator, mostly due to his political inexperience and unfamiliarity with the Senate

rules. However, he was a serious student and quickly learned how to effect change and produce results. Over the past decade he was one of the strongest liberal voices on Capitol Hill, a voice that was not always appreciated by Republicans nor moderate Democrats.

Most recently he voted against the Resolution on Iraq, an enormously brave and risky act, considering he was up for reelection. This very act of voting against the war demonstrates that Senator Wellstone was a principled man who could and did rise above political interests in an effort to protect the people of this nation.

The death of any political figure is always tragic, but there is something especially profoundly so about the death of Senator Wellstone. In an age where money and special interests do more to guide politicians than anything else, Wellstone was a maverick who relied on his conscience and his heart to guide him. He is one of the few,

and he was a member of a dying breed.

I do not know the exact point when idealism and principled

*His vibrant and friendly personality and his liberal and compassionate voice will be greatly missed.*

action vanished from American politics. Perhaps it came in the mid-twentieth century when campaign battles moved onto television in front of the entire nation, making money a central component of winning an election. It was then that American politics lost its engagement with the issues and became a slave to special interests and the almighty dollar.

Senator Wellstone refused to be a part of this disturbing trend. Being the idealist that he was, he probably thought that he could change the situation if he fought hard enough. Yet he did not have to overhaul the entire political system. His presence alone gave a

glimmer of hope that politicians could make an independent stand and survive to see another day on the Senate floor.

Unfortunately, fate rather than politics stepped in and Senator Wellstone will not return to the Senate floor to once again cham-

pion the rights of the poor or to fight for peace. His vibrant and friendly personality and his liberal and compassionate voice will be greatly missed.

As the Democrats scramble to find a replacement candidate, we must remember the larger and much more important tasks at hand: keeping Paul Wellstone's voice alive in his absence from us, never forgetting what he stood for, and ensuring that money and special interests do not stifle the independent and passionate voices of principled leaders.

**No opinions here.**

**But there could be!**

**Email halmn if you are interested in writing opinion pieces.**



## Recent years' low voter turnout alarming, campaign issues mundane

By Grace Williams  
Staff Writer

It is no secret that voter turnout in recent years, even for major elections, has been lacking. There is not one single factor to which low voter turnout can be attributed. Much of the problem, however, may be that people just do not consider how much each vote counts. General apathy towards voting could also be a result of the candidates in recent years, their campaign strategies, and their "stances" on the issues.

Less than one week remains until this year's general elections. This is an important race for control of both the federal legislature and many state government positions. As a result, the races have been widely publicized.

Turn on a local television channel for ten minutes, and you will see nothing but campaign ads for candidates from at least three different states. Pay close attention to those ads, and you will see that the vast majority of them are less than positive.

*General apathy towards voting could also be a result of the candidates in recent years, their campaign strategies, and their "stances" on the issues.*

A lot of candidates throughout this race seem to have spent more time talking about their opponents' records than their own. The amount of money that goes into this kind of advertising is astounding. Some have spent as much as millions of their own money and campaign contributions to

finance back and forth television ads smearing each other.

All are eager to point out the flaws in their opponents, which may leave some voters questioning, "Are the candidates really that different?" Of all of the highly contested races going on right now, very

few will be determined by the candidate's stance on issues. Sure, a lot of people will vote along the ever-fading party lines, but token issues aside, the candidates are not all that different.

In a recent discussion about the election, the issue of education came up. A

concerned voter asked which candidate was more supportive of education. Another voter quickly responded, "Both candidates support education." It is just not a divisive issue; no one is going to run a campaign against education.

Education is just one of many examples. The issue of an income tax is something that several states are facing this election. A stereotypical campaign on this issue consists of each candidate accusing the other of supporting the tax, all the while both insist that they do not support it. (The one resounding exception is the New Hampshire race for governor, in which one candidate's platform is based on support of an income tax.)

It could be that we have reached a point where mainstream politics is a little too mainstream. With few exceptions, candidates just do not seem to be offering much variety of opinion, or of agenda.

It is easy to imagine a debate between two candidates in our current political era. Let's imagine Candidate #1 for one party, pitted against his/her bitter opponent Candidate #2, of a different party. First we have a brief introduction of each candidate highlighting why each candidate is a more loyal citizen to the United States than the other and why his/her self-made billions does not set him/her apart from the average voting citizen.

Then it is time to get into the issues. First question: "How do you feel about supporting our national parks?" Candidate #1: "I couldn't feel stronger about it. We've got lots of them. I've visited national parks since I was a child." When asked if he/she has anything to add, Candidate #2: "I couldn't agree with #1 more...took the

words right out of my mouth." At this point the educated voters in the audience are thinking: "Did either of those candidates just answer a question?"

"Moving along, let's talk about crime." Candidate #2 immediately jumps in: "I hate crime. Crime is terrible. I am willing to do anything in my power to decrease crime." Candidate #1 nods in agreement. Again, the educated voter pauses for a moment to consider: "Did Candidate #2 really think that Candidate #1 was going to come out in support of crime?!"

"We are about out of time, so I'll give both of the candidates a chance to wrap up with some final remarks." Candidate #1: "Thank you. I think that what you've seen here today is that I am willing to support what my constituents want. That is why you should support me instead of Candidate #2."

Candidate #2: "I would just like to say to the voters that I am in full support of you and your needs. And that, folks, is why you should vote for me instead of my opponent."

Obviously, in the case of this fictitious election, it does not really matter who one supports. This could continue to be the case for real elections. Fortunately, we as voters have the power to do something about that. When the American people vote in mass, no matter which parties they are supporting, politicians will be forced to listen.

Take the time to consider the issues that really are important, take the time to vote, and show candidates that it will take more than wishy-washy platforms and smear campaigning to attract our votes.

Express your opinions in...

# Forum

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

Interested? E-mail Scott Holmes at [holsb](mailto:holsb).



# In the Bubble

Wednesday, October 9, 2002

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## Campus Safety Log

10/21/02 to 10/27/02

10/21/02 1:50 a.m.-3:20 a.m. Burglary/Residence – East Village "A" (first floor). Several items of value stolen. MPD scene, Fingerprints Processed, photos taken. Under investigation by the Burglary Bureau. Anyone with information is encouraged To call 545-5250. Possibly entered campus over break, Through the Charles Place gate, entering through a window in the rear of EV. "A".

12:15 p.m. Rhodes Tower – Emergency phone ringing in elevator. A check revealed no one there

10/22/02 1:38 a.m. Clough Fire Lane – Liquor Law violation

4:55 p.m. Jackson Ave/University St. – Shooting reported – Small blue pick up truck/camper (suspect vehicle) occupants fired 3-4 shots at four door silver/light blue vehicle. Driver of the victim's car was shot in the arm and drove away from the scene immediately as did the suspects. MPD and Campus Safety made the scene at University/Jackson, no Suspects or evidence of the shooting were found. Victim later had a friend drive him to the hospital for treatment and reported the shooting to MPD at the hospital. MPD is investigating. MPD also providing additional patrols in the area.

10:30 p.m. Stewart/Spann Parking – Motor Vehicle Theft: at 8:00pm. suspicious persons were reported in the area and upon responding, officers were unable to locate. Reportedly at approximately 10:00pm, the same suspicious persons were reportedly seen again in the area by local residents, however did not report them to CS. The victim's vehicle was stolen at approximately 10:30pm. The camera image was working properly, but was focused on the alley west of Stewart at the time of the theft. It is now focused on the Lot and drive. MPD is investigating. Also providing Additional patrols

10/23/02 1:15 a.m. East Village "B". Resident found window open and called CS: It was learned that the roommate

## Actors, Extras, and Stand-ins Wanted

21 Grams, starring Sean Penn, will be filming in the Memphis area this December through February. The location casting department is currently seeking actors, extras, and stand-ins for various roles. Those interested in being considered should submit a current photo with the following information to the address below: Name, Address, Height, Weight, Eye and Hair color, Special skills or training, and Contact information. Send to: 21 Grams c/o The Memphis & Shelby County Film and Television Commission 245 Wagner Place, Suite 4 Memphis, TN 38103.

Kappa Sigma's Third Annual Lip Sync Contest will be held November 8 at 7 p.m. in the BCLC Ballroom. Groups will be registered through November 1. If your group is interested in performing or sponsoring other performers registration is \$30 for each group. Cash prizes or gift certificates will be awarded to winners. All proceeds go to Big Brothers Big Sisters of Greater Memphis.

## Career Services

invites Seniors to

### Put Their Best Fork Forward

Wednesday, November 6  
5:30-7:30 pm  
in the  
Alburty Room

RSVP personally in Career Services beginning Tuesday, October 29, 9:00 a.m. Seating is limited

**Happy Halloween from all of us at The Sou'wester**

## Campus Safety cont.

11:00 p.m. had opened the window earlier and left it open Phillips Lane – Larceny from a vehicle. Victim advised that someone had apparently broken into his car over the fall break, removing stereo equipment, etc. disabling the battery to disable the alarm system. Video was checked but revealed nothing.

10/24/02 6:25 a.m. Phillips Lane – two cars towed, illegally parked  
9:10 a.m. East Village "A" Fire alarm – okay no fire  
5:05 p.m. Refectory: Student reported that after setting her wallet down earlier at lunch, she found later that her Credit cards, gas cards and \$5 in cash was now missing

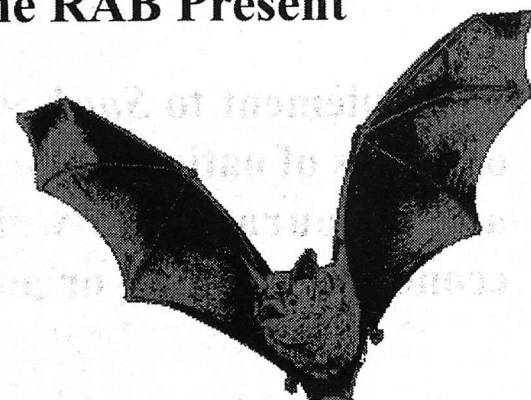
10/25/02 1:05 a.m. Robinson Hall – Liquor Law violations  
11:40 a.m. ATO house – MPD scene on a 911 call – no one called 911  
12:35 p.m. Lost purse reported from Clough – later recovered all okay  
1:30 p.m. Vehicle Accident, no injuries  
5:05 p.m. Phones down all over campus – Service called

10/26/02 3:35 a.m. East Village: Noise Complaint – CS officers made the scene and noise makers complied.  
3:35 a.m. East Village: Some phones reportedly out again. Service called

STATS	
ACCESSES:	122
CITATIONS:	33
ESCORTS:	23
BOOTS:	0
AVs:	2
VISITORS:	2496
PROPPED DOORS:	3
JUMPS:	2
TOWS:	2

## President and Mrs. Troutt and the RAB Present

**Troutt or Treat**



Drop by the President's house on Halloween between 8 p.m. and 10 p.m. Maps will be available in the Campus Safety office. Have a Happy Halloween.



## Faces, continued from Page 1

The changes to the bulletin board are part of a larger reconstruction of the Rhodes website. All sections of the site will be changed and updated and organized sites specific to the Rhodes community will be one of the new features.

To steer the construction of the student site, Student Affairs, Student Activities, and Rhodes Student Government have drawn from web usage surveys and responses from selected students who tested possible formats and designs of the new site.

The Communications department is working to improve the aesthetics of the site, make it more audience-related, and improve updating of content. While formats have not been finalized, the college will implement a system of multiple web con-

tent editors across campus to make sure information on the website is up to date.

According to RSG Vice President Jon David Willingham ('04), the new webpage will provide "a more thoroughly disseminating, reliable, and fresh source of information." The student site will also provide services such as e-mail, Banner, and online directories.

Services included on other parts of the community websites will be an improved campus calendar allowing members of the Rhodes community to request events be placed online as well as have them categorized. The administration hopes that this feature will alleviate frustrations associated with planning and publicizing events on campus.

Since the software for the new bulletin board and the possible formats for the website are still being tested, the new Rhodes College webpage is targeted to be released some time between late November and Christmas break.

## Rhodes, continued from Page 1

the Rhodes Orientation Staff, where she served as director for the "Rhodes Late Show."

Outside of her involvement within the Rhodes community, Kimberly has enjoyed volunteering with the children's ministries at Sacred Heart Church, teaching "English as a Second Language" classes to local Hispanic students, and building houses and playgrounds as a part of the TEX-MEX program.

As an outgrowth of her studies from both studying abroad in Spain and Mexico, and within the Rhodes college classroom setting, Kimberly has developed a desire to serve as an advocate for Hispanic issues and rights, an area also of professional interest for her future.



Photo by Miriam Dolin

Quarterback Daniel Swanstrom ('04) takes a snap during Rhodes' Homecoming matchup against Colorado College. Rhodes beat Colorado 59-0 in front of the home crowd on Saturday improving their record to 3-5.

## Fraternities • Sororities Clubs • Student Groups

Earn \$1,000-\$2,000 this semester with a proven CampusFundraiser 3 hour fundraising event. Our programs make fundraising easy with no risks. Fundraising dates are filling quickly, so get with the program! It works. Contact CampusFundraiser at (888) 923-3238, or visit [www.campusfundraiser.com](http://www.campusfundraiser.com)

## Proposed Tennessee Constitutional Amendment #1

Shall the Tennessee Constitution be amended to that the period (.) at the end of Article XI, Section 5, of the Constitution of Tennessee be changed to a comma (,) and the following new language be added:

except that the legislature may authorize a state lottery if the net proceeds of the lottery's revenues are allocated to provide financial assistance to citizens of this state to enable such citizens to attend post-secondary educational institutions located within this state. The excess after such allocations from such net proceeds from the lottery would be appropriated to:

(1) Capital outlay projects for K-12 educational facilities; and (2) Early learning programs and after school programs.

Such appropriation of funds to support improvements and enhancements for educational programs and purposes and such net proceeds shall be used to supplement, not supplant, non-lottery educational resources for education programs and purposes.

All other forms of lottery not authorized herein are expressly prohibited unless authorized by a two-thirds vote of all members elected to each house of the the General Assembly for an annual event operated for the benefit of a 502(c)(3) organization located in this state, as defined by the 2000 United States Tax Code or as may be amended from time to time.

A state lottery means a lottery of the type such as in operation in Georgia, Kentucky and Virginia in 2000, and the amendment to Article XI, Section 5 of the Constitution of the State of Tennessee provided for herein does not authorize games of chance associated with casinos, including, but not limited to, slot machines, roulette wheels, and the like.

The state lottery authorized is in this section shall be implemented and administered uniformly throughout the state in such manner as the legislature, by general law, deems appropriate.

**PIE IN THE SKY, Inc.**  
"For A Change From The Ordinary"  
2149 Young Ave. • 276-7437  
There is no place  
anything like this place,  
anywhere near this place, so  
This must be "The Place"!

**PIZZA**  
**PIE IN THE SKY**  
"For a change from the ordinary."



# Arts & Entertainment

Wednesday, October 30, 2002

THE Sou'wester

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## *Punch-Drunk Love* and *Moonlight Mile* two different love stories

By Sarah Clark and Amanda Moshier  
Staff Writers

Two very different love stories. One born out of pain and mourning, the other from spontaneity and the necessity of companionship. Two of the week's hottest movies, *Moonlight Mile* and *Punch-Drunk Love*, explore the complexity of love as well as the need for it.

*Moonlight Mile* stars Dustin Hoffman, Susan Sarandon, and Jake Gyllenhal. Dustin Hoffman and Susan Sarandon, Ben and JoJo Floss, both give winning performances as parents who are stunted over the senseless murder of their

daughter, Diana. Jake Gyllenhal is Joe, Diana's fiancé, who is trapped in Diana's hometown after the funeral out of obligation to her parents. Unsure of his future, Joe stays in town and becomes real estate partners with Ben, trying to make sense of where his life will lead him. Unbeknownst to Ben and JoJo, Diana and Joe had broken off the engagement three days before Diana's death. While mourning over the loss of the love he now considers a friend, he meets a feisty postal worker who sees Joe as a person and not the fiancé of a dead girl. Bertie (Ellen Pompeo) and Joe form a connection over the loss of

a love and find their homes in each other. This is a romance that brings in a unique family dynamic and through tragedy brings hope of a new love.

*Punch-Drunk Love* is an unusual love story. It follows the life of Barry Egan (Adam Sandler), a lonely workaholic, who is tormented by his seven sisters who call him "Gay Boy." Barry has a unique personality. He becomes obsessed with an offer of frequent flyer miles from Healthy Choice and the chaos ensues from there. He meets Lena (Emily Watson), a colleague of his sister's, who saw a picture of Barry and wanted to meet him. He is surprised that Lena is in-

terested in him and her interest gives him a new motivation in life. With Lena he is not so lonely and lost. An interesting twist to this lovely love story is that Barry is being extorted by the front man of a phone-sex business (Phillip Seymour Hoffman) that he called before meeting Lena.

This movie takes love to a different level and forces you to see beyond the idiosyncrasies of a person's personality. The direction of Paul Thomas Anderson is consistent with that of his recent films, *Magnolia* and *Boogie Nights*. It is safe to say that if you did not enjoy these films, you will not enjoy *Punch-Drunk Love*. This film is somewhat of a

departure for Adam Sandler. He breaks away from his usual role of the slacker/dumbass. He heads down a more theatrical route in *Punch-Drunk Love* and impresses audiences and critics. This film is not a typical romance or comedy, but it is a realistic love story. If the title alone has not sparked your curiosity (or the rumors of Adam Sandler being considered for an Academy Award for this role), then maybe we have and you will go take a look.

Neither one of these films really fits the stereotype of a love story, but each in its own right entertains with a touching and heartwarming romance.

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## Java Jive draws musical talent and students to Java City

By Cindy Hallums  
Staff Writer

Java Jive, it is the name that's been fluttering around campus these past few months, but you may be asking yourself, "What in the hell is Java Jive?" and "What is up with that lame name?" Java Jive is an organization that was formed last Spring by Julie Hallums, Joe Petri and myself with the intent of bringing entertainment to Java City. Not only does this organization offer an alternative to the social events offered on campus, but it also has the capacity to unite the Rhodes community at the center of campus. I will now take full responsibility for the cheesy, yet catchy, name. When

thinking of a name I wanted to incorporate 'java' or 'city,' since all events would be held in Java City. I began to play with some word pairings, and Java Jive became the favorite. After last year's success, we are back again as Java Jive opened up with an open mic night on October 15, 2002.

Last year Java Jive held two events in April, both of which were acoustic performances. For the first event Java Jive brought Dan Hannon of King Konga (recently renamed Dan Hannon Band) of Hattiesburg, Mississippi, and our second event brought Will Hoge of Nashville, whom you might have heard at Rites of Spring. Both events were successful, with stu-

dents filling the coffee shop on a Tuesday night to enjoy coffee and live performances. To kick off this year, we wanted something different, as well as something the students could get involved in. Therefore the board decided on an open mic night and chose the energetic, amusing, and ever-talented Parag Shah to host the event. The crowd and the performers were immediately put at ease with Parag's styling dance moves to Justin Timberlake's "I Just Want to Love You," followed by a series of comedy routines. The performers were all very talented and primarily acoustic acts. The event filled the coffee shop with about 70 students, who were able to enjoy discounts on cof-

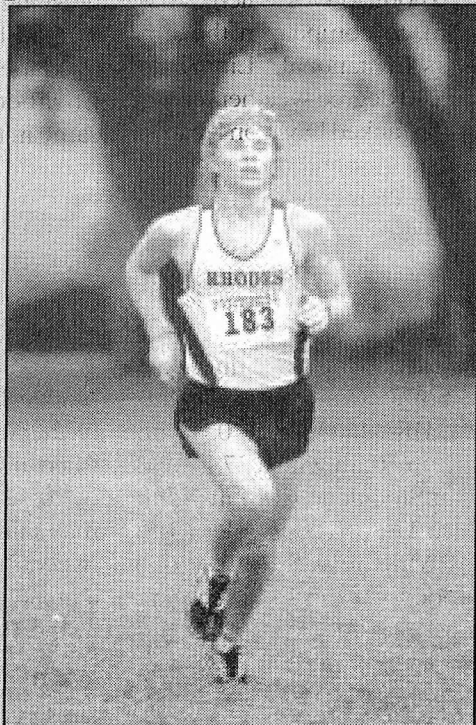
fee, as well as hear their fellow students show off their talents.

Jennifer Daniels is our next planned Java Jive event and she will be showcasing her music on Tuesday, December 3. Jennifer hails from Lookout Mountain, Tennessee, and her sound has been described as folk rock. Jennifer performed in Java City last year drawing strong campus support, so we have invited her back for a second performance. *Performing Songwriter* magazine chose Jennifer Daniel's independently-released 'Dive & Fly' as one of the Top 12 Independent Releases in May 2002. She will be accompanied by her husband Jeff Neal, whom she has been touring with since June 1997. Until then, keep your eyes

open for invitations in your mailboxes and the posters around campus.

While still in the formation of this new and exciting organization, we are looking at many options for entertainment in Java City. We are hoping to bring wine tasting, interesting lectures, poetry readings, acoustic performances, and even more open mic nights this year to Java City. Since Java Jive is an organization run by students and with the intent of entertaining the Rhodes community, we are very open to any suggestions you may have. Email halce@rhodes.edu with any questions, comments, or suggestions you may have, and do not miss out on the next Java Jive event!

## September Athletes of the Month Colin Strickland      Amy Paine



Colin Strickland is a freshman from Jesuit High School in Tampa, Florida. He is currently running as Rhodes' number two man, and has proven to be a consistent and solid performer in workouts and races. At the University of the South Invitational, Colin finished seventh out of a field of 113 runners with a time of 27:47 for 8k. Two weeks later, he ran to a 17th place finish out of 148 runners with a time of 27:52 at the Vanderbilt Invitational, where conditions included several competitive Division I and Division II teams and a tough course. Colin is developing into a dedicated leader in the program through exhibiting a strong work ethic and an intense dedication to the team. When asked about his season, Colin responded, "My success so far is a testament to the men with whom I train. The region will see the results of our teamwork in November."



Amy Paine, senior and co-captain of the women's Cross-Country Team, has been selected as the September Athlete of the Month by the Rhodes' Student Athlete Advisory Committee. As the top runner on the women's team, she has led the team to top five finishes in every meet this season, including first at the Plough Park Invitational and a fifth place team finish at the Division I Vanderbilt Commodore Classic. Individually, she has finished in the top ten in every meet this season. At Vanderbilt she finished fifth in a field of over 140 runners with a season best time of 19:15. Paine's leadership and dedication have led to early season success which she hopes will continue, as the team prepares to defend its Conference title and strive for a position at Nationals.



## Lynx football runs wild over Colorado College

By Stu Johnston  
Staff Writer

The Lynx annihilated the Colorado College Tigers, treating the crowd of 2,200 faithful students, alumni, and fans to an offensive fireworks display and a 59-0 victory.

The outcome was never in doubt, as the starters played scarcely more than the first half after building a 38-0 lead. However, the win was a cleansing of sorts from the previous week's debacle at Sewanee, as the Lynx fell short in a bid to spoil that school's homecoming festivities despite gaining nearly 600 yards on offense.

Saturday was all Rhodes from the opening kickoff until the final second ticked off the clock. Despite playing without three of their regular starters — defensive tackle John Wade Therrell ('04), strong safety Josh Irby ('05), and linebacker Tal Goldsby ('03) — the Lynx defenders dominated the line of scrimmage, as the Tigers managed only 112 yards in 50 plays from scrimmage.

Stalwart cornerback Zack Self ('04) was the ring leader, collecting six tackles, a forced

fumble and a fumble recovery. Ben Clark ('05) and Daniel Brunner ('06) each registered a sack, and Brunner had two tackles for lost yardage on the day.

The heroes on offense were many and various. Quarterback Dan Swanstrom ('04) was his usual self. Coming off a career day at Sewanee, in which he threw for over 400 yards, Swanstrom showed a quiet efficiency. He completed more than 50 percent of his passes for 174 yards, two touchdowns, and no interceptions.

Ryan McLaughlin ('04) was leading receiver with two catches for 78 yards and a touchdown. Ryan Lavender ('04) and Ryan Childs ('06) were the leaders of a surprising ground attack for the Lynx. Lavender gained 126 yards on 17 carries and scored twice, while Childs gained 66 yards on 14 carries. Rhodes had seven rushing touchdowns on the afternoon, scored by six different players.

Leading the conference in their respective statistical categories are the following Lynx: Andy English ('04) leads in punting average, averaging over 40 yards per kick, cornerback Gifford Loudon ('06) is the only

player with at least five interceptions, and Matt Dement ('05) is the leading punt returner, averaging over 14 yards per runback.

Over fall break, the Lynx suffered a tough loss to Sewanee, losing 36-31. Rhodes had three punts blocked, and all three were returned for touchdowns by the same player, the first time that has occurred in recorded NCAA football history. Two of those blocked punts came in the last four minutes of the game, and Sewanee's come-from-behind victory prevented Rhodes from gaining their first conference victory.

The Lynx tread back into the murky SCAC waters next weekend with a visit to San Antonio and the Tigers of Trinity University. The game is touted as a matchup of talented quarterbacks, as Trinity's signal-caller has the top passing efficiency rating in the nation. Swanstrom was ranked fourth in the NCAA in total yards per game going into Saturday's contest with Colorado College, averaging just over 330 yards each outing. Rhodes will then finish the season with a home game against Millsaps on November 9.



Photo by Miriam Dolin

Kicker Andy English kicks off against Colorado College in the Homecoming game. The Lynx went on to score 59 unanswered points for the decisive win.

## Cross country runs in tough weekend meet

By Colin Strickland  
Staff Writer

Over fall break the Rhodes cross country team journeyed north to West Salem, Wisconsin, to compete in the Jim Drews Invitational. Lining up in the 40 degree weather alongside top ranked Division I teams, both the men and women faced some of their toughest competition to date.

Led by senior captain Brian McCarthy who finished 60th in 26:20 for 8k, the men raced to an 18th place finish in a field of 25 teams. He was followed by Matt Wood ('05) who came in 105th with a 27:27 and Colin Strickland ('06) in 109th with a 27:36. Todd Ridley ('05) and Matthew Sauter ('05) rounded off the Lynx scoring with 129th and 131st place finishes in 28:05 and 28:10, respectively.

The Maine duo of John Harrison ('06) and Morgan Tribuno ('04) broke into the Lynx top seven at this race. Running in their native cold weather, they finished 153rd and 159th in 28:54 and 29:10 at this rolling golf course venue.

The University of Minnesota was the overall winner of the men's race, and its own Andrew Carlson won in a time of 24:28.

The Rhodes women, led by senior Amy Paine, had an impressive ninth place finish out of 22 teams. Paine led the pack of three Rhodes front runners finishing fifth overall in 18:48 for 5k. She was followed closely by Marie Brandewiede ('04) and Elizabeth Wester ('03) who came in tenth and 14th in 19:01 and 19:10, respectively. These three had an amazing showing against a pack of over 300 runners.

Freshmen Haley McConaghy and May King proved to be promising young runners by cracking the top five on the women's team. They finished in 114th and 116th in times of 20:42 and 20:43. If they can maintain such a small gap between themselves, they will be a great help to the team scoring at the Conference Championships.

Host team University of Wisconsin at La Crosse was the overall team champion, and Missy Buttry from Wartburg College was the individual champion, running a 17:28.

The Lynx now head into postseason competition with the SCAC Championships at Sewanee on November 2 and the South/Southeast Regional Championships on November 16.

## Women's soccer wins two

By Laura Whiteley  
Women's Soccer Coach

Rhodes' women's soccer team earned two important wins on the road during its annual fall break road trip, beating Millikin University on Sunday, October 20, and University of St. Francis on Monday, October 21, by a score of 1-0 in both games.

On Sunday Rhodes got off to a difficult start against Millikin, and had trouble maintaining possession of the ball on a very narrow field. The crowded conditions forced the team to switch its formation from a 4-4-2 to a 4-3-3 so that the midfield would not be quite as crowded.

Despite the alteration, however, the Lynx had trouble

mounting a credible attack during the game, and were outshot by Millikin by a 20-5 margin. Rhodes got the goal that it needed from junior forward Jamison Pannell in the 31st minute, though, off a great diagonal through-ball from senior midfielder Shawn McCarthy.

The following day, with hopes of conquering Millikin's field and the challenges it had presented, Rhodes faced the University of St. Francis. The soccer remained somewhat sloppy in terms of possession, but the Lynx finally began getting some shots off, and outshot the Saints by a 19-9 margin. Much of the game remained scoreless, until a goal by junior center midfielder Stacie Beverly

broke Rhodes' scoring drought in the 72nd minute of play.

During the play, freshman forward Meghan Davis battled her way through the 18-yard box after being repeatedly fouled with no call. She then took the ball to the endline and slotted a well-placed pass back to Beverly, who found the back of the net from about ten yards out.

Rhodes is now 8-5-0 overall and 1-4 in SCAC play. The team plays again on Friday, November 1 at 12:00 p.m. against DePauw University and on Sunday, November 3 at Rose-Hulman University, starting at 2:00 p.m.



## Hip-O-Posthumous: though dead, Kopta continues to amuse

**Bryan Kopta**  
Some kind of zombie



Of the precious handful of students who chanced to pick up a copy of *The Rhode'ster* last year, a significant number of you have asked the question, "What ever happened to that breathtakingly erudite yet ridiculously good-looking former editor?" Well, to those inquisitive 3 and 1/4 loyal readers, I will now lay your curiosity to rest.

What happened was this: Immediately after Commencement, I died. Or as they say in certain agricultural circles, I bought the farm.

Now many people around campus will swear I'm still alive. Some may even claim they've "seen" me, or that we've "had a conversation," or perhaps some girl may allege that I "walked in on her while she was changing." Be assured, dear reader, these

people are liars—especially the first two.

And now I aim to set the record straight.

Well, it all started—or ended, rather—last May when, as he handed over my diploma, President Troutt exclaimed, "You won't be needing this where *you're* going, buddy." Now, ordinarily I wouldn't have thought much of the comment. After all, I had just received a degree in English, which, professionally speaking, has all the pizzazz of a B.A. in finger-painting.

Nevertheless, I had a few promising leads in the job market, and at the time was being considered for a position in sales and distribution for a certain well-respected restaurant chain, which, need I say more, was responsible for actually *inventing* the first chicken sandwich back in 1946 (prior to that year, you see, chicken and sliced bread had always been eaten separately).

So I was all set to raise an incredulous eyebrow or two at

the President's remark, when all of a sudden I remembered that time back in March, when I promised my soul to Death in exchange for graduating. And as a feeling of weightlessness came over me, I thought back to the conversation:

**Death:** Hello, Kopta.

**Me:** Hello, mysterious black void.

**Death:** My name is Death.

**Me:** Really? You look more like a Jake or a Charlie.

**Death:** Silence! Now, see here. I have a proposition for you.

**Me:** Me? Look, I'm flattered. But just because my girlfriend left—

**Death:** In exchange for letting you graduate from college, I get to be you for a while.

**Me:** But I'm *already* going to graduate...

**Death:** Please. Let's not kid ourselves.

**Me:** Okay... How long do you plan on being me?

**Death:** Gosh, does it really matter? You spend most of your free time admiring your hair.

**Me:** Fair enough.

So you see, much like Brad Pitt's nameless character in *Meet Joe Black*, so too had my body become inhabited by Death. It is he, therefore, who has accounted for my shenaniganry ever since, including, but not limited to, my admittance to the Actors Studio Drama School. Rest assured, it was not talent that got me in.

Naturally, you're no doubt wondering aloud, "But Bryan, if you're like dead and all—and might I say, it couldn't have happened to anyone more deserving—what are you doing with all your free time?"

That's awfully kind of you to ask, dear reader. Well, recently I've been devoting myself to my knitting—you really can't spend too much time practicing the old cross-stitch. Occasionally, I check in on Death to see if he's doing any better with the

womenfolk. Not surprisingly, he is. Sometimes I just sit around and shoot the breeze with Emilio Estevez, whose career is so over, he's half-dead already.

And on some days, like this one, I dream wistfully of what it might be like to write for *The Rhode'ster* again.

At present, I have no plans to return to my former self, no intention of re-inhabiting that handsome young scoundrel known in some circles as "Kopta," while in others as simply "Who?" and in still other circles, principally female ones, by the affectionate moniker "As if!"

But one thing's for certain. Death does a pretty dead-on impersonation of me. Last week as he was walking down 5<sup>th</sup> Avenue, he kind of half-tripped, and then tried to play it off like he was starting an impromptu game of hopscotch. As usual, people pointed and laughed. So to the casual observer, it looks like business as usual.

## My favorite Halloween "trick": putting the fun back in All Hallows' Eve

**John Sexton**  
AKA Gropey  
McChoakumchild



Everyone loves candy, especially children. The great Jerry Seinfeld hit the nail on the head with his famous "get candy" bit; children will gladly risk bodily harm or even death just for a shot at some candy. On Halloween, they don't have to. Thus, Halloween is second only to Christmas on a child's list of favorite days.

For all of the child's wild candy-seeking fury, parents advise caution on Halloween. Before going trick or treating, parents undoubtedly warn their children about bad people who put razor blades and poi-

son in Halloween candy. Upon returning, parents insist on inspecting every last piece of candy before the child eats any. These lengthy investigations, taking place despite the child's constant cries of "Its fine! C'mon, let me eat it!" cut into the child's precious candy-eating time, causing tension in the family. To make matters worse, these searches always come up empty handed, and the child is hungry and angry by the time they actually get to eat. Because the candy is never actually poisoned and the parents' searches are fruitless, the child begins to lose respect for its parents' intelligence. This promotes misbehavior in the child, and is unacceptable.

Enter me. I understand how important the illusion of security is to parents—they need to feel like they are pro-

tecting their child. But, in my childhood, I hated sitting on the floor watching my parents interminably inspect my Ju-jubes, Ding Dongs and Bling Blings. They never found anything dangerous and all I found was angst. I mean to change all of that.

When kids come to your door on Halloween, they say "Trick or Treat!" I give them both. I've developed a new Halloween technique to benefit the entire family. I like to call it, "Putting razor blades and poison in candy, then giving it to kids." The technique is essentially this: I put razor blades and poison in candy, then give it to kids. Shhh! Hold your tongue. Do not blaspheme my genius until you fully understand the technique and its consequences in its entirety.

You see, putting razor blades and poison in candy and giving it to kids actually promotes a happy, healthy atmosphere in the home. Remember dad's futile inspection of your cherished Halloween candy? Remember how angry you were? No more, all thanks to me. Picture this: You get home after trick or treating, plop down on the floor with your bag of candy, and prepare to dine. Before you can begin, dad insists on inspecting the candy. Upset, but powerless, you agree. Steady your wits, for here my plan comes to fruition: A brief inspection yields a gnarly, rusted razor blade sticking out of a carton of Whoppers. Simultaneously, your mother discovers a tube with "Cyanide" printed down the side, mostly scratched out. It is overwritten with

"DELISHUS CANDEE," poorly scrawled with a Sharpie marker. These items—my items—are removed from the pile, and the child is left to eat the remainder of his or her candy, which is probably safe.

Everyone is happy: Parents are vindicated in their insistence on searching the candy and their child is grateful for the preservation of its life. One happy family: check. So I'm out a few razor blades—no biggie, I've been saving them up all year. Maybe a few smart families will see what a "treat" my "trick" turned out to be for their family and save those razor blades for next year. Regardless, kids who come to my house for Halloween get more than they bargain for: candy, razor blades, and a stable family.

Now *that's* sweet.



## Professor goes mad, creates monster, eats scones

By Caroline Bishop  
Rhode'ster There Wolf

It was a day of gratuitous violence, unthinkable suffering, and intense scone-eating. In other words, it was another normal day in Rhodes College's biology department. There was but one aberration. Dr. Alan Jaslow, who had gone completely mad, brought to life a hideous beast composed of reconstructed dead flesh.

Apparently Jaslow's fits of mad genius began much earlier this year. "He started dissecting rat steak in class," confessed Jared Noble ('03), "and then he attached it to his head and began to whinny like a horse. I asked, 'Is this going to be on the exam?' and he didn't answer. That was the weird part. He always answers my questions."

Colleagues say that Jaslow

recently began speaking of "a new race of hideous, malformed, under-read, disgusting dandies" in a more positive light than he used to.

"I mean," said Carolyn Jaslow, his wife and fellow professor, "One of the things that Alan and I always had in common was that we both abhorred hideous, malformed, under-read disgusting dandies. Now I just don't know him anymore."

An interesting twist to the tale came about when Jaslow's hideous beast insisted that he wasn't so hideous after all.

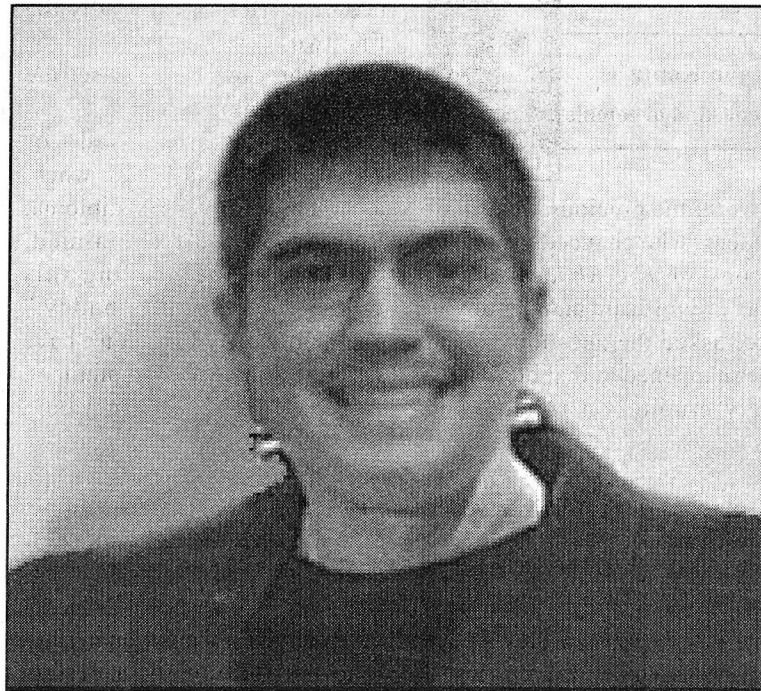
"Look," said Jon Zarandona ('03), "I don't care if you call me malefic or even execrable, but I really resent being called under-read. I read a book once, okay? So back off, punk!" He then bared his teeth.

Equal rights groups on campus have been campaigning for Zarandona's sake. "Just because he's malefic and execrable

doesn't mean he isn't just like you or me," argued Rachel Tell ('05). "For instance, who doesn't like raspberry scones? I know that Jon does!" To demonstrate, she fed the monster a raspberry scone the size of Robert Edgecombe's head.

Jaslow, who was himself partaking of a scone, hastened to add, "I really think that creating this beast was the best thing I have ever done. He's just such a special monster, and I know that he will wreak terror and havoc everywhere he goes."

And wreak terror and havoc he did. After performing a splendid rendition of "Putting on the Ritz" for student singing group "Lipstick on Your Collar", Zarandona was told that the group simply did not have room for his talent. Violence and hilarity ensued. Eventually Zarandona was subdued by members of the Rhodes Orchestra, who lulled him to sleep with the soft sounds



A rare photo of the beast, seen here smiling, having been recently appeased by a gutful of scones.

of their violins.

At publication, it was unclear whether or not Jaslow faces any sort of retribution for his in-

sane attempt to play God. The administration was unavailable for comment, as Zarandona had mistaken them for blackberry scones.

## Operation: Lynxus Maximus commences, Halloween theme disrupted

By Jack Leslie  
Rhode'ster Thematic Rebel

Rhodes College president William O.G. Troutt announced after Homecoming that he believes it is necessary for the Rhodes Student Government, led by Dictator Tyler "the Burning Bush" Sanders, to undergo a regime change. Rhodes Campus Safety forces have been researching and planning attack strategies since the beginning of fall break. Campus Safety is expected to send officers in as soon as the administration gets support from faculty and alumni. Troutt and other administrators feel that the less than democratic system run by the RSG dictator "really, really blows goats for the students."

The Rhodes administration came to see Sanders' regime as a threat to the Rhodes community after he was elected Mr. Rhodes at the homecoming festivities. Campus Safety investigators found that the Mr.

Rhodes ballots offered only two options: either "for" or "against" the "Gracious Overlord Sanders."

"I totally would have voted for, like, myself for Mr. Rhodes, but I was so afraid of Sanders' evil force of RA's that would have totally narced me out, so I voted for President Sanders," admitted one wary student, unwilling to have his name printed.

Word of this coup has made it to RSG, which created a number of President Sanders look-a-likes in order to foil any assassination attempts by Campus Safety. Students have reported seeing President Sanders around campus "way more than usual." Some look-a-likes that Campus Safety have identified include his sister, Abby Sanders, certain workers at the Rat, and the leader of the Rhodes College Campus Greens.

As much as this coup would rid Rhodes of such an

evil dictator, some students believe that it would just worsen the already unstable relationship between faculty and students on campus. Since the removal of the bulletin board this past fall, these students have been forced to express their opinions in the form of notes attached to rocks that are thrown through windows. President Troutt addressed the concerns with a speech that he had transcribed on Lynx TV on Monday night, however no one saw it.

"I just wanted to explain my point of view to the students," he later clarified to *The Rhode'ster*. "You see, RSG can't raise tuition, because that's the administration's job. They just add fee after fee to the overall college cost in an attempt to better the life of Rhodes students, but we all know that's bull-honkey. You see, WE raise tuition for good reasons. Ok, here's one I was

thinking about last week while I was watching the Grizzlies game: I think that the administrators should all get matching Cadillac Escalades. It would be great if every department could get its own color--you know, to avoid any confusion. The president's office definitely gets black ones."

A spokesman for President Troutt says that if the coup is carried out before Halloween, the winning jack o' lantern in the Rhodes College pumpkin carving contest will be appointed replacement president.



### Rhode'ster Staff

**Bad Taste**  
Jamie Groover

**Brain Dead**  
Jack o' Leslie

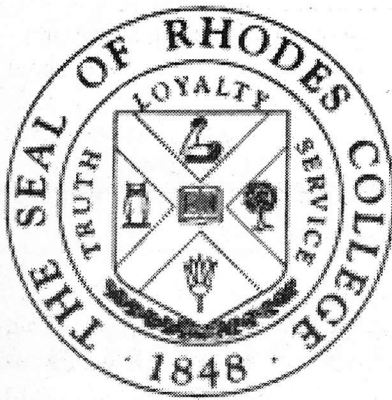
**Slumber Party Massacre 3**  
Caroline "Smack My" Bishop

**Bordello of Blood**  
Clifton Bryant  
Bryan Kopta  
John Sexton

**Sabrina the Teenage Witch**  
Scott Holmes

The person who reads this box and does not submit questions, comments, or articles for use to [grobl@rhodes.edu](mailto:grobl@rhodes.edu) will have Avada Kedavra cast on them.





# THE Rhode'ster

The Parody Student Newspaper of Rhodes College

Wednesday, October 30, 2002

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

Page 12

## Williford Hall terrorized, Campus Safety baffled

By Jamie Groover  
Rhode'ster Editor

Julia Dobbins ('06) walked briskly toward her room in Williford Hall last Wednesday evening, every few steps turning around in fear. She could see that the stairwell was empty, but she knew she was hearing a second set of footsteps resounding in the corridor behind her, as if following her. She began to doubt whether or not she could trust her senses.

The window in front of her in the hall looked and felt as if it were shut tightly, but the gooseflesh on her arm told her that she was really feeling that icy breeze coming from that direction. And although navigating Williford can at times be a daunting task, Dobbins thought for sure that after half a semester of living there, she would know how many stairwells and hallways she would have to pass through to get to her room—why did there seem an endless

number of walls and turns this evening? By the time she finally reached her room, she told *The Rhode'ster*, she was icy with fear.

Dobbins is not the only person reporting such bizarre phenomena occurring in Williford. Tiana Knight ('06) also tells us that she has experienced unexplainable weirdness in the halls of the freshman girls' dormitory.

"Yeah, I was walking down the stairs and I felt something pull at my hair," she told *The Rhode'ster*. "It was really weird, because there was no one behind me. So I just turned around and kept walking, but then I felt something poking at my arm and then brush against my leg. It was really creepy."

As many as ten other such reports have been turned in to campus safety, but no solid evidence has yet proven any culprit for these bizarre occurrences. Other students, however, feel they know the explanation for these

phenomena. They place the blame squarely on Annie.

Annie is perhaps the most famous of the many ghosts said to inhabit Rhodes campus. Although many stories refer to a headless ghost turning on lights on the fourth floor of Bellingrath, or a whiteclad figure falling perilously from Halliburton Tower, the most pervasive story is that of Annie, the restless spirit of a girl who died unhappily.

The story goes that Annie dearly wanted to be a member of the Zeta Tau Alpha sorority, but after she did not receive a bid from the group, she hung herself from a wooden beam inside the sorority house. After the Rhodes chapter of this sorority closed, the building was converted into the McCoy Theater. Annie's ghost is said to still lurk the premises of the building she was not allowed to enter in life. Usually the ghost confines her actions to the theater and its courtyard, but now it seems she, if she

is the culprit, is exploring.

It has become a tradition at Rhodes to invite and save a seat for Annie at the opening of every show that plays at the McCoy. Not doing so has brought about bad luck. The last time she went uninvited was years ago at Rhodes' production of *Sight Unseen*. The production had to be cancelled as a result of an ice storm.

Might something similar have happened this year?

"There is no way this is Annie," said Kyle Hatley ('03), who knows all things theater-related better than most students. "Annie is like our angel. She may be mischievous at times, but she is never dangerous or angry."

If the latest reports to campus safety are any indication, whoever the ghost is has been getting angrier with time. New accounts tell of showers that have started to drip blood instead of water, windows that slowly crack without being touched, and objects, such as



Photo taken near Williford. Could this be the ghostly culprit?

papers and bookbags that move by themselves or disappear altogether. Disturbingly enough, the "ghost" seems to be getting more and more physical, as another student who requested to go unnamed was sent to the health center with inexplicable scratches on her arms and—wait, I'm sorry. I'm supposed to be writing a funny story. My bad.

## Campus under pressure from threatening demon hordes

By Clifton Bryant  
Rhode'ster Spook'ster

A few weeks ago, we, the Rhodes community, gathered in the McCoy Theater to bask in the comic genius of our beloved improv troupe, Contents Under Pressure. We stood outside in long lines, we sat on the hard floor, because we knew that they would make us laugh. We showered them with love and affection. We even laughed at their stupid banana. We cared about them, and we thought they cared about us. It even said so in the program.

Little did we know that they had sold us to Satan.

*The Rhode'ster* has learned from sources close to the troupe that CUP will be aiding the infamous fallen angel in his October 31 attack on the Rhodes campus.

The members of the group will be using their Super Funny Powers to help cast down the forces of light, so that darkness may reign supreme. CUP member John Sexton ('04) confirmed this report.

"The theaters packed with adoring fans, the rock star popularity, they just weren't enough," he explained. "We wanted more. And to get it, well, we had to make a deal or two. It's nothing personal."

Around midnight of October 31, through their sheer power of sarcasm and irony, CUP members will open a portal to the Dark Realm at the Row of Oaks, allowing the diabolical hordes to pass through and overrun the campus.

What is being done to protect the student body from the demonic onslaught? For answers, we turned to RCF president

Jonathan Hulgan.

"Normally," Hulgan said, "RCF's universal priesthood is enough to keep Rhodes 97% demon free. Now, however, with CUP working on the side of evil, we may need to get ecumenical and call in some backup."

Religious Studies Professor Dr. Joe Favazza confirmed that he had received a frantic e-mail from Hulgan, urging him to "break out the old collar and rejoin the fray." Favazza said that he is considering it, but added, "It's been so long, though. I'm just not sure I'm ready to get back in the game."

Why not simply take action against CUP before it has time to carry out its evil scheme?

"It's true that, technically speaking, conspiring with the Dark Spirits of the Fallen to plunge the Rhodes community under the dominion of evil is

against school policy," said Resident Assistant Lauren Lachner. "But let's face the facts. They're all mature adults. They can make their own decisions. As long as they do it in their own rooms and don't make too much noise, we look the other way."

If school won't do anything, what about the student body?

"Now, more than ever, is the time for grassroots action," said *Rhode'ster* editor Jamie Groover. "I propose a boycott. These CUP punks will only sell us out to evil if we let 'em. Let them know you're angry. Stay away from their shows. I beg you, my fellow students, find some other way to satisfy your need for funny."

"Plus," Groover added, "I hear that the demons can't get you if you're reading a funny newspaper."

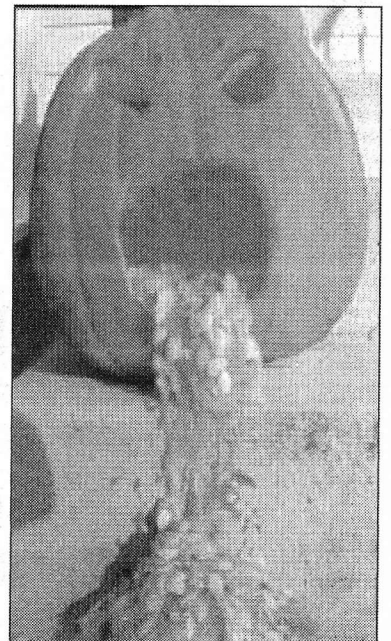


Photo by Chucky  
*The Rhode'ster* wishes you a happy Halloween with this festive yack o' lantern. Make your own and impress your friends! Hey, nice marmot!