

# THE SOU' WESTER

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4.2.03

## Politics

*Ted Stonbely critiques American foreign and domestic policy.*

See **Opinion**



## Around town

*New columnist Maggie Goodman recommends a variety of Memphis events occurring this week.*

See **Scene**

## RSG proposal to RAB raises questions of autonomy on campus

By Amber Shaw and Julie Clary

Rhodes Student Government (RSG) recently proposed that the autonomous Rhodes Activity Board (RAB) reunite with RSG to become a semi-autonomous body under their governance. The proposal offered "to Rhodes Activities Board the responsibility for the implementation of a new major campus speaker/lecturer series, to provide Rhodes Activities Board with ample funding for such, to increase the autonomy of Rhodes Activities Board, and to reincorporate Rhodes Activities Board with Rhodes Student Government."

The proposal centered on the newly created Lecture Board and its incorporation into RAB. RSG claims that "the skill sets and experience necessary to effectively implement a successful, large-scale speaker series are primarily housed in the membership of an existing organization, RAB. Furthermore, such a task seems fundamentally aligned with the mission of RAB. RSG is not a programming organization, and while the involvement of faculty expertise is wanted still, the bulk of the workload involved in such an undertaking would fall to students even if an independent Lecture Board, involving Faculty members, was established." To accompany the offer of control over the Lecture Board, RAB was offered "ample funding from the Student Activity Fund for this initiative." However, the ample funding would be separate from their funding from the Alloca-

tions Board, and accepting the offer of additional funds would mean that additional governance would be exerted: "The Allocations Board will not take into account such additional funding in its consideration of any requested budget by RAB...With RAB's taking on of this initiative and given the expected increase in other major programming budget allocations such as Rites of Spring, the existence of a more direct check on the use of such monies will be necessary." In short, RAB would gain control of the Lecture Board and the means by which to draw lecturers to the College. The \$50,000 would be guaranteed to RAB for this project, while the organization would still be required to submit a budget proposal to the Allocations Board for events such as Rites of Spring. Furthermore, in exchange for the Lecture Board, Rhodes Activities Board would become a semi-autonomous organization under the Rhodes Student Government.

The additional fund would be "a set figure (as with the minimum allocations currently guaranteed to the Publications Board and RSG)" that could "be established through an amendment of the By-Laws of the Allocations Board. In any event, however, a rough figure of \$50,000 annually is expected."

An ultimate proposal "to better the communication between and coordination of the appropriating, governing, and programming entities of the Student Body," included that "RAB and RSG would amend their consti-

tutions such that RAB would again be a semi-autonomous body of the Executive Branch of Rhodes Student Government." RAB declined the proposal.

When asked about the proposal and their decision not to accept the money or return to RSG, RAB issued a statement: "The Rhodes Activities Board respectively opposed the proposal submitted by the Rhodes Student Government and is content serving the Student Body as an independent organization."

While the RSG proposal and its rejection confirms that the relationship between RAB and RSG was hoped to change from what it currently is, many RSG senators were unaware that there was such a proposal or that the relationship between the two student organizations was to amend. In the minutes of the RSG meeting of February 27, 2003, little was said about the Lecture Board and RAB's involvement was not mentioned: "Jason Wagenmaker ('03), RSG Treasurer & Chair of the Allocations Board, reported that the allocations work group met this week and discussed forming the Lecture Board and how to choose members." In the same meeting Jon David Willingham ('04), President-Elect of RSG, noted that "the work group is also looking at how the new Lecture Board can work with the endowed lecture series that already exist."

RSG, continued on Page 4

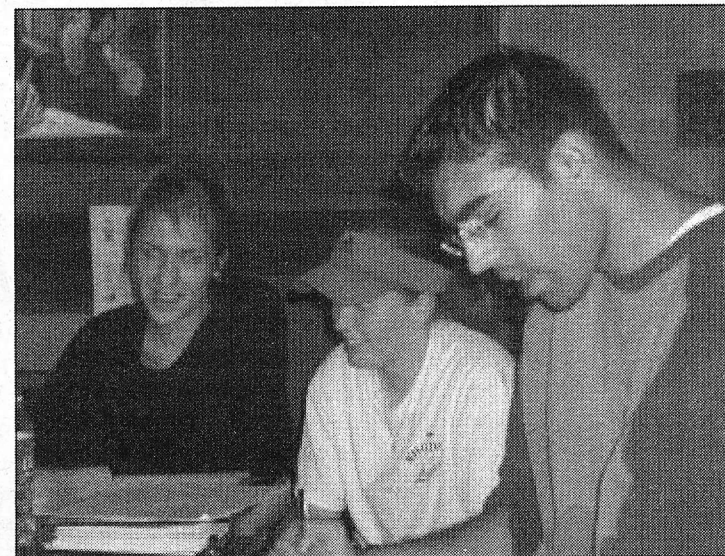


Photo by Frances Rabalais

### EXAM CRAM

*Liz Umstot ('03), Leah Speaker ('04), and Sharad Patel ('03) study in Java City Tuesday night. Students work diligently throughout the week in anticipation of Rites of Spring this weekend.*

## Class length in question

By Frances Rabalais

The debate over the reduction of class time continued this week as students received an email from Rhodes Student Government president-elect Jon David Willingham ('04) urging students to verbalize their opinions to professors and to encourage their parents to write to Dean Robert Llewellyn, President William Troutt, and Chairman of the Board Spence Wilson.

In recent weeks discussion about reducing the time spent in class has occurred between the Curriculum Committee, the Faculty, and RSG. The Curriculum Committee, chaired by Professor Mark Muesse, proposed a revision of the daily class schedule which would make Monday, Wednesday, and Friday classes 50 min-

utes and Tuesday and Thursday classes 75 minutes, reducing the classes by ten and 15 minutes, respectively. The Committee hopes that shortening class time would allow for the creation of an extra class period and for professors and students to meet more often outside of class.

RSG responded to this proposal with reasons which countered the aforementioned benefits and offered alternate solutions to scheduling problems. According to the email sent to the student body, one such solution would be for department chairs "require that courses in their department be more evenly distributed across the various class periods." While RSG

Classes, continued on Page 5



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 founded 1848

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*Layout designed by Amber Shaw and Frances Rabalais*

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**SCOTT HOLMES** OUTGOING EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

## Fare thee well

I have spent the last four years writing for *The Sou'wester*, the last three as an editor, and the last one as Editor-in-Chief. I know right now the thought going through most people's heads is, "Wow, that is so amazing, I wish I were Scott Holmes," but settle down for a couple hundred words and read my closing words of advice and (ha) wisdom. It is nice to have the chance my senior year to write a letter of goodbye to campus; unfortunately, due to technology, there will be not be a tear-stained letter but simply a beer-stained keyboard.

Alright, I will now start my rambling. I think Heaven will be like earth, except we will be able to turn invisible and have the power of flight. I think Hell will be like now, except every time you go to a restaurant, they will be out of the first two things you order so you will be forced to eat something that will simply keep your mouth

moving and your body nourished. On a lighter note, I suggest you take the country fried steak in the Rat and stick it...between two pieces of toast with a little slice of cheese; the result is a sandwich that is not only delicious but also filling. I suggest that Rhodes students bring back streaking; in fact, that is a challenge. I am sure Campus Safety would find it a refreshing break from the normal garbage they have to deal with. I also challenge you to park in actual parking spaces and would like to inform you that if you are parked in a handicapped space with your blinkers on, you are still parked in a handicapped space. The administration is concerned that people might climb on the large mound of dirt by the football field. I say go ahead; hurt yourselves, it will be fun. Do stupid stuff to gather years of stories, because life might get really boring

*See Farewell, Page 2*

## Letters to the Editor

To the Editor,

Rhodes College is an institution made up of an intelligent and opinionated student body. Rhodes sells itself as a "Premier Liberal Arts College" that, due to the small size of its student body, allows for greater student participation within the functioning College, as well as for each voice to be heard and considered on an equal basis. Rhodes is a college that prides itself on its progressive attempts toward diversity. I am wondering why then a college that strives toward such integrity, involvement, and a diverse voice within the institution would allow the figurehead of the student body, namely the Rhodes Student Government (RSG), to act in ways contradictory to everything the College prides itself upon. We are being represented by an elected council that makes decisions based not on the wants and needs of the entire student body but instead on the individual needs and wants of those sitting on the Senate. Article I, Section 4 of the RSG Constitution states that "the power and authority vested in the Rhodes Student Government are derived directly from the Students of Rhodes College." Without the majority consent of the student body, the Rhodes Student Government should not, both ethically and according to the standards set by their Constitution, be drafting and presenting proposals without consulting the student body for whom they are

speaking. The lack of discussion between the student government and the student body is appalling, especially considering how opinionated Rhodes students are in simple classroom discussion. Why is this eagerness for discussion and participation not also taken into a realm that truly affects each individual student?

It surprises me that there was more discussion about the deferred Recruitment issue than the new class schedule proposal. The issue of the change in class scheduling affects everyone on campus, yet there has been only minimal discussion, none of which has been initiated by our Student Government. It is not the faculty's responsibility to interrupt class time (as they did) to initiate discussion on the issue. If there had been any substantial discussion on the subject prior to the day of the faculty vote, our professors would have had a better understanding of where the Student Body actually stood on the proposal. I am surprised that the Student Government—representatives of the Student Body—would oppose such a large issue without taking a Student Body consensus.

Although I recognize the recent attempt to inform the Student Body of the controversy concerning the change in class scheduling, I am not satisfied with the communication between the Student Government and the student body. Are not our representatives supposed to

keep us informed of the issues discussed within the Student Government meetings? I am disappointed with the behavior of our Student Government and their blatant disregard for the opinions and wants of the greater student body. The failure of the Student Government to meet the needs of the Student Body reflects the failure of the mission of the institution as a whole. The governing body of the Senate was created to meet the needs of the students and to create a working bridge of communication between the Student Body, faculty, and administration, as stated in Article I, Section 1 of the RSG Constitution. The Rhodes Student Government has become an institution of individual prerogatives more concerned about building their personal resumes than living up to the stated mission of the body in its Constitution. The Rhodes Student Government, as it presently stands, is not the voice of the students; instead, it is the voice of a select few that act not as representatives, but as individuals.

I would like to acknowledge the hard work of many individuals of the Senate, but there is still so much more work to be done. Are the problems within our Student Government actually communication difficulties between active members of the Council? Are there individuals

*See Letter, Page 6*

To the Editor,

As a current undergraduate student I see a trend that I am sure is not a phenomenon peculiar to my school. It saddens me that there is largely no debate in our colleges about the war. Students seem to be subjected to only one viewpoint, that the war in Iraq is politically and morally unjustifiable.

It seems to be taken as a given by the majority of faculty members and students alike that everyone is opposed to the current military campaign. That is not true. Rather, those in favor of the war are discouraged from speaking out for fear of ridicule or castigation.

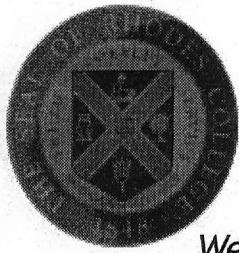
I do not wish to suggest that those opposed to war are unequivocally wrong and should not be allowed to speak their minds, rather I wish only to request that those in favor of the current action in Iraq should be allowed to engage in dialogue without being immediately labeled as a

warmonger, a knee-jerk republican, or someone who doesn't fully understand the situation.

Not everyone has to agree or even pretend to agree with the current administration; that is the advantage of living in a free country. It is important, however, to remember that all who live in this country are free to voice their opinions, even if they differ from those who run the classrooms, schools, and universities. In fact, I should think that such institutions would encourage dialogue between the supporters and protesters of the war instead of treating military supporters in a patronizing manner at best and a demeaning manner at worst. Shouldn't we be able to put egos aside and open the discussion to those with dissenting opinions?

-Alex Hornaday '05

*This letter was originally published in the Commercial Appeal on Friday, March 28*



Wednesday, April 2, 2003

PAGE 3  
**OPINION**

**TED STONBELY** STAFF COLUMNIST

## Focus on war abroad ignores problems at home

I find it hard to swallow when I hear fellow classmates in support of this war. I do not know if anyone here has the right to deal out human lives as loosely as the bureaucrats waging videogame warfare. I also find appalling several opinions I have heard that revolve around the US "learning a lesson" through either another quagmire or nuclear bombs being used. Let's not lose any more lives than we already have and are going to if this war continues. On the other hand, there is a growing sentiment in the media that our military's effort to minimize collateral damage is our Achilles' heel. That seems like a scary thought. That the 8,000 and counting munitions we have dropped on Iraq are not enough; that we aren't relentless enough in our pursuit of "victory." The resistance we have met shouldn't surprise us, because their memories are shaped by the US's allowing Saddam to massacre Shi'ites and Kurds in the midst of the Gulf War. Plus, we have completely underestimated Iraqi nationalism.

How could any of us talk about human lives so carelessly? I know it is tempting to sit in front of your TV and watch precision-guided bombs hit what appear to be specific targets, but this is real war; real people are dying. How could we feel so at ease talking about "bunker-busters" and MOABs? Our consumer culture that builds a façade of safety around the destruction of war will be shattered when we learn the final result of our devastation. Just think for a moment before advocating more use of force. "War," as Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff Richard Myers put it, "is chaotic by its very nature." I still do not understand how anyone could advocate its use.

Another interesting phenomenon is the tactic of "embedding" the journalists. It forces the reporter into the

same perspective as the soldier because they are being shot at like regular combatants, and it skews the correspondent's ability to be objective from the very moment they report. This is not to mention the fact that the Pentagon once had an Office of Strategic Influence, designed to spread misinformation to the media. Though it is officially disbanded, there is no reason to think this is not still happening. There is historical precedent for censorship in times of war.

Iraq is now facing an unparalleled humanitarian crisis after an 8-year war with Iran, the Gulf War, 12 years of sanctions, and now another war that could take more than the few days or weeks that we were sold on. It is truly reprehensible that government officials, including the president, claim they did not sell this war as a cakewalk. Millions of Iraqi men, women, and children are starving, and this illegal war will only enhance the tragedy. Have you seen the pictures of people on the verge of rioting trying to score some of the insufficient aid our military brings?

The democracy promised to the people of Iraq will not be a true democracy either, nor does the administration have any intention of making it so. They know that the majority populations are the Shi'a Muslims, and they follow the stricter version of Islam that is feared by Israel and the West and was the reason Arab leaders and the US approved of Iraq's war with Iran. It would also leave much of the country unstable, with Iran looking for territory and the Kurds vying for their own state. Iraq cannot and should not become a democracy as we know it. Self-determination of a people becomes null and void when those imposing military occupation discard certain options.

I just hope that some people will hear those who

want peace and heal the wounds of the Arab world before we think about inflicting more. Let's first work to give the people of Palestine and Israel a peaceful and just solution. I think it is fair to say that both peoples would rather live in peace than continue to live in the terror of bombings and bulldozers. Perhaps if Israel used the bulldozers to raise something up instead of smashing things down, they might find a more willing partner, and Palestinians would not have to feel so hopeless and angry, abating the animosity that has polluted a whole generation of young minds on both sides. Perhaps America will see that investing in this partnership could stop more terrorism at its root than we could battle in Iraq. We would not have to be the Great Satan anymore.

Of course, that would mean stopping this war, and President Bush has no intentions of looking like a military failure after scorning the international community and worldwide public opinion. In fact, those countries in the "Coalition of the Willing" joined against their own majority anti-war sentiments, and I am sure their leaders will be paid handsomely for their loyalty. Rumsfeld and Powell both have warned Syria and Iran to stop meddling with our affair in Iraq, or they will face "serious consequences." Judging from this administration's past use of that phrase, unless they stop, they can expect the US to advocate and pursue a regime change in their country as well.

There needs to be a complete revision of how the world deals with dictators. As I see it, there are two main strategies employed to destabilize authoritarian regimes: military and economic. Both methods would seem to achieve victory only at the expense of the people they are meant to aid. The bombings we have contin-

ued since after the Gulf War have not displaced Saddam's leadership, and the sanctions only starve the people.

My final point is this: the worth or value of American lives is no more than those of Iraqis; we're all humans, so let's stop killing each other. Ask yourself if you would go to Iraq and fight.

Meanwhile, here at home, things are slipping down the slope. Unemployment still rises, and a budget just passed that will leave with this country with an incalculable debt that you and I, our generation, will have to deal with. Equality and democracy seem to be things of the past as this administration works to undermine not only affirmative action but also Title IX, two of the only real programs I know about that challenge the social and economic dominance of the white male.

The Justice Dept. is waging its own battle against a fundamental principle of the legal system of this country: judicial review, established in *Marbury v. Madison*. The Patriot Act, passed in October of 2001, threw the normal monkey wrench into our civil liberties during times of crisis and emergency. It is an atrocious act not only designed not only to impede on our liberties and freedoms but also to protect certain ones from any drastic reform, namely gun legislation. There have been reports about a sequel to that Act, dubbed "Patriot Act II." Officially the Draft Security Enhancement Act, it would allow for the government to revoke naturalized citizenship among other powers. Any citizen, even those born in this country like you and I, can be deemed an "enemy combatant" and can be held without review, without charges, without evidence, and without legal counsel indefinitely. Jose Padilla is a re-

cent example of a citizen who did not commit a crime but is being held without charge or bail in a federal prison until the president or his administration grant his release.

The courts have skirted the issue of jurisdiction at Guantánamo, claiming that their power does not extend past the boundaries of the United States and that leased land from another government does not count. But this court should not be expected to speak against anything this administration does, since they put him there. This week, the Court did strike down a Texas law criminalizing sodomy, the solid protest coming from the same man who, for all intents and purposes, appointed our president, Justice Antonin Scalia, responsible for 23 of the 35 questions.

Women I know are becoming fearful of the government institutions they believe are hijacking their reproductive rights, along with the undercutting of their advancement through attacks on Title IX. Congress has passed a ban on Partial Birth Abortions, those that are performed past the first trimester, seriously eroding the *Roe v. Wade* decision and a citizen's right to privacy, a skillful victory for the Right-wing Christian lobby. Also, the Supreme Court ruled in February that Pro-Lifers could continue their harassment of private citizens and places of business. I wonder what would happen if anti-globalization protesters used similar tactics where the WTO was meeting?

Something just doesn't seem right with my idea of America right now.



## Week in Review

### International

**FRANCE** "Spiderman," a semi-renowned building climber whose feats include the Eiffel Tower and the Empire State Building, scaled the 47-story skyscraper of major French oil company TotalFina Elf in protest of the war on Iraq. At the end of his climb, which he accomplished in less than an hour without any climbing gear, "Spiderman" (civilian name Alain Robert) planted a flag reading "No War" before his prompt arrest by Paris police.

**INDONESIA** Mudslides resulting from severe floods on the island of Flores may have resulted in the deaths of at least 32, according to Indonesian officials. Though only five bodies thus far have been recovered, many more islanders are missing. Mudslides are a regular occurrence in the region for at least half the year, but mass loss of life due to the phenomenon is less commonplace on the island.

**JORDAN** Five journalists who had been taken prisoner by the Iraqi government for nearly a week were finally released from Iraq and allowed to contact their families. Their captors apparently suspected them of espionage for the United States and, though the journalists worried they "were going to be killed at any moment," physical conditions were not entirely insufferable. Before being released to Ruwasheid, Jordan, the victims—three prominent U.S. journalists, a peace activist and a Danish photographer—underwent thorough interrogation.

**SPAIN** Police performed emergency raids resulting in the arrest of nine members of the ETA, a political faction of the Basque seeking their own autonomy. The armed organization is blamed for no fewer

than 830 deaths since 1968, when the group began to fight for a Basque nation.

**SOUTH AFRICA** In Johannesburg, Health Minister Manto Tshabalala-Msimang voiced her feeling that the AIDS crisis might be a sign from God that the nation should better care for its people and better focus on issues of sin and morality. Her opponents accuse her of being too soft on the issue and avoiding making available medicine to combat the disease. Tshabalala-Msimang contends that such an effort would be financially impractical and does not fully assert such drugs' effectiveness.

**SOUTH KOREA** Despite the insistence of the South Korean government that no missiles were tested in rival nation North Korea on Tuesday, April 1, both Japanese and United States intelligence sources confirm a missile test in the Communist nation. Earlier missile tests have been confirmed on February 24 and March 10. The weapons being tested by North Korea are considered short-range, firing only about 60 kilometers. United States influence on the Korean peninsula has greatly increased in the past few weeks.

### National

**WASHINGTON** Project Legacy, begun in 1998 with the help of volunteers, is a major effort to catalog soldier-to-home correspondence in every US conflict from the Civil War to the current Iraqi war. The ongoing collection includes old photos, V-mail from World War II, and even e-mail from recent years. Project Legacy notes that most letters attempt to reassure loved ones that nothing is wrong; by far, the most common phrase in all the letters is "I love you."

*All news compiled from CNN.com*

## RSG offers Lecture Board to RAB

*Continued from Page 1*

A Senator of RSG, who wished to remain anonymous, reported: "Although I'm an RSG senator, I was completely unaware of the proposal RSG made to RAB about asking them to come under RSG in exchange for the \$50,000 for the lecture board until it was brought up at a meeting *after the fact* and would have been completely against it had I known earlier. Thank goodness RAB turned it down."

Senator Jay Sulzmann ('04) stated that he was unaware of a proposal, but he did know that the relationship between the two was questioned because of the newly created Lecture Board. Sulzmann says, "My understanding with regard to the recent RSG/RAB issues is that during discussion of the creation of the Lecture Board, RSG offered to place the Lecture Board under RAB's control as a semi-autonomous organization but officially part of RAB. Some people on RAB misinterpreted this as an attempt by RSG to extend control over RAB; consequently, RAB rejected the proposal, and the Lecture Board has been placed under the Allocations Board, which in turn is loosely connected with RSG. Again, I have no personal knowledge of any of these negotiations, but this is what Jon David told us at the RSG meeting two weeks ago."

The conflicting knowledge of the proposal questions the grounds on which it was made. While Logan Wheeler ('05) was aware of the proposal, he serves the Allocations Work Group, which directly dealt with the Lecture Board. Wheeler stated, "A proposition was created that, if accepted, would affiliate RAB and RSG in a similar fashion that the Pub Board is presently affiliated with RSG." In RSG minutes from March 20, the proposal is not mentioned; however, references to the Lecture Board were made.

While other campus organizations have not been extended similar proposals to the one recently

submitted to RAB, sources from SRC claim that verbal suggestions to unite the Honor Council, SRC, and RSG have existed for over one year. A member of SRC claims that last year an outgoing member of SRC was approached with the idea of uniting the three organizations under the control of RSG. Since the initial proposal, the idea has been revisited about once a month, according to a member of SRC who declined to be named.

Ashley Kutz ('04), president of SRC, issued the following statement about the possible merger: "Unification of the Social Regulations Council, the Honor Council, and the Rhodes Activities Board, with RSG is an entirely undesirable and inappropriate idea. Separation and independence of each of the Councils is essential to maintain their individual roles and functions on campus. Neither organization is superior to another—rather, a balance, unique to the Rhodes community, is manifested in their co-existence as separate organizations working to benefit students. The difference in purpose and logistical organization, in and of itself, is more than enough to prevent synthesis."

While the Honor Council declined to discuss any such proposal, Honor Council President Stu Johnston ('03) issued a similar statement to that of SRC: "The Honor Council is a student judiciary body that serves a unique purpose on the Rhodes campus. That purpose would not be served by any such proposal to consolidate with RSG. Furthermore, each of the student organizations in question serves its own, equally unique purpose for the Rhodes campus, and any consolidation among them would serve to dilute or eliminate distinctive qualities of the combined groups. As President of the Honor Council, I do not support any consolidation of the organizations mentioned in this article."

Jon David Willingham ('04), RSG President-Elect, denied any discussions between SRC and/or the Honor Council have taken place: "No proposal to incorporate

RSG and/or the Honor Council and/or the SRC exists; no discussion to any such extent has been pursued. Each of the organizations has a long, independent history and there are no plans to move away from that tradition."

On the new RSG student page of the Rhodes website, the Honor Council and SRC are included under the RSG heading. Their constitutions are imbedded in between those organizations still under the control of RSG (The Publications Board and the Allocations Board) and the RSG constitution. After clicking the "Student Leadership" link, RSG presents a welcome statement and various organizations that can be explored. Most notably, the constitutions of the Honor Council and SRC are listed under the "Student Government documents" headline, making a distinct connection between the Honor Council, SRC, and RSG. However, under the headline "About RSG," the website does include the statement, "The Student Body Judiciaries, the Honor Council and the Social Regulations Council operate independently of Rhodes Student Government." The website, which is predominantly focused toward RSG, also includes links to Student Organizations, Community Service, Honor Societies, and Greek Life, whose links are aligned with the RSG emblem. The website, which was designed by Jon David Willingham and funded by the Allocations Board, clearly emphasizes a connection between the autonomous bodies of the College, particularly the Honor Council, the Social Regulations Commission, and the Rhodes Student Government.

The discussions and proposals of RSG to RAB, SRC, and the Honor Council bring into question the necessity of other organizations to remain semi-autonomous under RSG, including the Publications Board and the Allocations Board.

*RSG, continued on Page 5*



Wednesday, April 2, 2003

PAGE 5

# NEWS

## Campus Safety

3.24.03-3.30.03

3/24		NOTHING UNUSUAL REPORTED
3/25		NOTHING UNUSUAL REPORTED
3/26	1:15am	Suspicious Persons reported in Williford Social room: Three (3) subjected located 2 <sup>nd</sup> floor Williford, guest of a student - escorted from campus
	2:40pm	Buckman Lot - Library area: Emergency Commitment. MPD transported to The Med for further evaluation
3/27	3:30am	East Campus to Phillips Lane: Reckless Driving - running stop signs and speeding. Driver and two other subject fled Campus Safety officers after parking car. Later identified with help of Camera network et al.
3/28	10:50pm	Glassell Hall: Dorm Damage found - Vandalism
3/29		NOTHING UNUSUAL REPORTED
3/30	12:55am	Construction Site "pit": Two subject found inside the construction pit area, crossing the property. Located and counseled about trespassing into the signed area. No entry is allowed into this area.

### STATS:

ACCESSES:	98	VISITORS:	1,266
CITATIONS:	146	PROPPED DOORS:	8
ESCORTS:	38	JUMPS:	2
BOOTS:	2	TOWS:	1
AVs:	0		

Classes, continued from Page 1

acknowledges that the concerns of the Curriculum Committee are valid, it suggests that the issues could be resolved in other ways which would not shorten class periods.

The email also recommended that students participate in a poll, attached to Tuesday's student election ballot, about the proposed class time shortenings. The poll was designed as an opportunity for students to

voice their opinions on the matter. The proposal will be voted on by the Faculty at the April 9 faculty meeting. To read the proposal and RSG response in full, visit <http://vote.rhodes.edu/oppoll/modprop.htm> and <http://vote.rhodes.edu/oppoll/faclet.htm>.

### We want you!

apply for the executive assistant position. email shaan for details.

1. What was the last thing you bought at Walgreen's?

Fiber tablets.

2. What was the last thing you bought at the Midtown Mini-Mart?

Everclear. (ed. note - they don't sell liquor there) Well I don't drink?

3. Can exes be friends?

Yes . . . if they never, ever see each other.

4. But seriously, you're a psychology major. What do you think a cognitive psychologist would say about George W. Bush?

He has a megalomania complex. That means believing you are God.

5. What would Freud say?

He's insecure that other people have bigger missiles than he does.

6. If Rhodes were burning to a crisp, what would you risk your life to save, and why?

The Lynx, because it's the only thing I'm riding.

7. Is it okay for a guy to wear pink?

Only if it highlights his eyes and it's after Easter.

8. Mac or PC?

Depends on whether you're a dork. I mean, come on, all Mac junkies are dorks.

Hey!

Look, if you got offended by that, you're a dork.

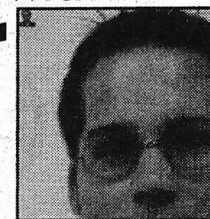
9. How far have you gone?

Djibouti.

10. Have any quick solutions for peace in the Middle East?

Pave it. If we don't turn it into a 7/11, it might become a 9/11.

## Q&A with



Logan Pool

Farewell, continued from Page 2

really soon. Put stuff in the trash, especially when the cans are only a few feet away. Take a good look at the first-year girls, because in a few years you will not be allowed. If you are a freshman, study now while it is easy; it is really hard to bring up your GPA when your classes get tougher. I am out of room, so I will leave you now with the words of the great Bob Dylan: "Goodbye's too good a word, gal / So I'll just say fare thee well."

RSG, continued from Page 4

Scott Holmes ('03), outgoing Publications Board Commissioner, suggested that perhaps this body should become autonomous as well: "I have thought for a long time that the Publications Board should be independent; the fact that the governing body on campus directly controls the campus press is absurd and completely against the American ideal of a free press." The Allocations Board, also a semi-autonomous body of RSG, consists of a group of ten students elected at large from the student body and chaired by the Treasurer of RSG. RSG must then

approve the budgets proposed by the Allocations Board.

While the Rhodes Student Government, as stated in their constitution, serves as the "representative voice of the students of Rhodes College," RSG, RAB, SRC, and the Honor Council each function as organizations for the betterment of the student body. According to members of each of these organizations, this merger would represent a decline in the autonomy of the most prominent organizations on campus.



## REVIEW

*Versatility and fecundity: Camper Van Beethoven's latest release*

By Jamie Eubanks

I saw *Camper Van Beethoven is dead. Long live Camper Van Beethoven.* (released in 2000) sitting on the "used" rack at Turtle's Saturday and decided to give it a shot.

I had not thought about the band since my sophomore year in high school, when I heard "Take the Skinheads Bowling" (from *Telephone Free Landslide Victory*, 1987) on the local college radio station. I remember very little about the song, save that its beat was bouncy, its vocals apathetic, and it was the most original thing I had ever heard. I looked for the CD at Best Buy the next day and, coming up dry, proceeded to forget about Camper Van Beethoven altogether. Having been reminded of the existence of the band, I bought the CD for nostalgia's sake.

I put it in my CD player as soon as I got home, psyched for some palatable old-school art rock. I heard beeping. Rhythmic beeping, yes, nigh-melodic beeping, sure, but beeping nonetheless. And it just kept going.

I skipped to the next song: Mediterranean dance music. No joke. Violin and all.

I looked up Camper Van Beethoven on the internet to make sure I was remembering the same band, and indeed, it was the same Camper Van Beethoven I had naively enjoyed back in the dizzay. Disappointed, I turned the CD off.

The next night, as I lay in bed trying desperately to sleep, I decided to give the CD another go; chances were, I figured, I would get used to it and be able to drop the name when I wanted to sound underground. The more I listened to the album, though, the fonder I grew of it.

Here's the thing about Camper Van Beethoven: if I had to listen to eleven tracks of beeping and traditional ethnic dance music, I would get tongue-bitingly bored; but I don't. The CD drifts, sometimes picking up bits of electronica, sometimes honky-tonk, sometimes folksy emo. It's not what I would call seamless, but it isn't choppy, either. It's stream-of-consciousness: Camper Van Beethoven's, not

yours. It's kind of like talking to an articulate drunk.

With titles like "Tom Flower's 1500 Valves" (referring to both the man who co-built the first electronic computer and the design of that invention) and "L'Aguardiente" (the dance song which, by now, I imagine I have mentioned enough), I suppose the band did some maturing between 1987 and 2000. The lyrics, with the notable exception of "We're wasted, and we're wasting all your time", sound like poems that have been set to music. As for the quality of the poems, they are ambitious and novel, if occasionally cryptic, and that more than fulfills the criteria for good lyrics. Plus, you have to give credit to a band that can use "fecundity" in a song without making you groan.

So it's not a new CD, and I'm not so bold as to presume that you, clever reader, have not heard of it, but I will predict that most of you have not given Camper Van Beethoven much thought. If you're looking for something bittersweet and mellow, this album's got it wrapped up.

between the Executive Branch and the Representatives. Where there is smoke, there is usually fire. It is our responsibility as responsible members of this campus community to identify this in order to avoid even greater problems in the future.

I challenge my peers to demand that their voices be heard and demand that their representatives work for their needs; after all, that is the job of a representative. I know we have the technology to poll the Student Body, and such polls should be implemented before the Student Government writes a document that is supposed to express the wants and needs of the entire Student Body.

I challenge the Student Government to work towards a fluid discussion and communication between the Senate and the Student Body, more than the newly established website links, which I am sure came at no small price. I challenge the students of Rhodes College to speak up and demand a truer form of representation and more accountability from those who are elected by the Student Body. I also challenge the Rhodes Student Government to act in a manner that is truly indicative of the mission of the institution. I look forward to further discussion on this issue.

-Kathlene Caldwell '04

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## Rhodes bands deliver at Reedmeister's

By Krysten Ivy

This weekend was a great one for Rhodes students who are a part of the local music scene. Around a hundred people turned out Friday night at Reedmeister's to hear the bands Devoted and Midnight 30. The members of both of these bands are Rhodes students, alumni, and University of Memphis students. The evening of music lasted for almost four hours, from the time Devoted stepped on stage to when Midnight 30 finished their set.

Some students may recognize Devoted from last year's Rites of Spring. Devoted participated in Rites of Spring last year with band members Marissa Foshee, Sam Weigle, and Eric Sefton. The band has now added a drummer, John Hutto, a student at the University of Memphis. The band is a Christian band that knows how to put on a good show. Their lyrics are all written by Foshee, and both she and Weigle compose the music.

The band only performs their original work. For this show, they performed old favorites from Rites '02, such as "Everyday Bliss" and "Unrequited Love," alternating them with newer songs like "Pierced" and "When the Wind Speaks." The crowd of Rhodes students, University of Memphis students, friends, and family all enjoyed the show that Devoted put on for them.

After Devoted played, Midnight 30 took the stage. Midnight 30 is made up of some band

members from Angry Puppeteers, who participated in Rites of Spring in 2001. Midnight 30 has many of the same members but with some new additions. The members of Midnight 30 are Kyle Hatley, Jeremy Howard, John Hutto, Matt Reed, Eric Sefton, Joe Vescovo, Sam Weigle, and Charles White. The band played some original works as well as covered such favorites as "Brown Eyed Girl" and "Change Your Mind."

The lyrics for most of the original songs are by Hatley. While the rest of the band took a break in the middle of their set, Hatley and Reed performed for the crowd. Hatley played acoustic guitar and sang along with Reed. The songs they sang were amazing ballads that kept the whole crowd attentive. The group started the second half of their set with "Magic Carpet Ride," which got the whole crowd off their feet, to the front, and dancing. As the band said, "We're fogging up the windows!" The second half of the show included the "Party Song" and "Famous," two songs which show off the fun-loving personality of the whole band. The band ended with their own rendition of "All Along the Watchtower."

Each member of the band got the chance to show off their respective instruments. Midnight 30 is a great show to see, and they must have as much fun playing as their crowds have watching and dancing along. You can catch Midnight 30 this weekend at Rites, on Saturday at 7 pm. If you miss this show, you will be missing out on one of the best shows of the weekend.

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acting under the name of the Student Government without the support and consent of the entire representative body? These are questions I need answered, and I have yet to find a reasonable and comprehensive response.

I do not wish to disregard the hard work of RSG and the individual members within that institution; instead, I would like to create a campus-wide discussion of the identifiable problems so that, together, we can work towards a solution.

With this solution comes better communication, both between the Representatives and the student body and



Wednesday, April 2, 2003

Maggie's Rhodes R&R

## RITES OF SPRING WEEK OFFERS ACTIVITIES FOR A VARIETY OF INTERESTS

It's that time again at Rhodes College...those incredible first few weeks of spring! Yes, the long, cold days are behind us! No more rushing into Palmer and busting 'what-your-mama-gave-ya' on the freshly polished college seal and preceding to lie there nearly unconscious on top of the names of our illustrious founders. No more contemplating whether you're suffering from seasonal depression just because you haven't seen sunlight in sixteen days and because every friggin' Gothic building on this campus (especially during Memphis's monsoon/ice storm season) doesn't exactly provide the warmest and most comforting of environments. NO! NO! The equinox has arrived, the azaleas are in bloom, and there is an inviting row of daffodils paving the way from the visitors' parking lot to the admissions office for every little pro-stud to stop and admire.

It is official—spring is here, Rhodes College!

To usher in the beginning of it all, here are some suggestions on how to avoid doing anything that remotely resembles academia and how to enjoy those first, few precious days of sunshine and spring green. Here are this week's suggestions for all those Rhodents wanting a little relaxation:

First, we offer a little something for the eyes... Showing from now until May 4<sup>th</sup> at the Brooks Museum of Art is the "Georgia O'Keefe and the Calla Lily in American Art: 1860-1940" exhibit. For more information on this wonderful exhibit, call the Brooks office at 544-6200. If that doesn't suit your fancy, perhaps heading downtown for a little more excitement will. There is nothing like the view from the cheap seats, kids! There is, especially, nothing like the view from the bluff outside AutoZone Park.

Pack a picnic, invite some friends, and grab a glove, because the Memphis Redbirds season opener is this weekend. Take yourself out to the ballgame this **Saturday** night to see the **Redbirds take on Albuquerque at 7:05**. An added bonus is a post-game fireworks display. For tickets (beginning at \$5.50 for the bluff), call 721-6000.

We recommend for the ears, obviously, **Rites of Spring**. This weekend-long music festival has been a college tradition for years. The line-up this year proves to be, once again, a little something for everyone. **Friday** night offers **The Phil Had Twins** at 7:00. **Soul Blossom** takes the stage at 9:00, and headliner **Better than Ezra**, making the evening "extra-ordinary," plays at 11:00. **Saturday** opens with **Midnight 30** at 7:00, **Hero Lab** beginning at 9:00 and **Dr. Dre and DJ Kut** finishing out the evening at 11:00. Finally, **Sunday** afternoon

ends the packed weekend with **JAH-MEK-I** at 1:00, and **Pat Green** finishes it all off by taking us out to the dancehall at 3:00.

This week in Memphis also offers up a lot for the soul. This **Friday**, April 4, commemorates the **35<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.'s death**. This tragic day will forever be etched into the hearts of us all. Memphians have a very special opportunity to honor Dr. King at a **Candlelight Vigil, April 4 at 5:30 p.m.** in the courtyard of the National Civil Rights Museum. For more information you can call 521-9699 or visit [www.civilrightsmuseum.org](http://www.civilrightsmuseum.org). Similarly, showing in movie theatres throughout Memphis is the Academy award-winning movie **The Pianist**. A heart-wrenching tale about one Jewish man's survival in World War II Warsaw, **The Pianist** proves to be a life-altering film very relevant to the history of Dr. King's legacy and to the issues of today.

That wraps up a few things that are out there for the eyes, ears, and soul. We offer the following for the rest:

~ Now at Playhouse on the Square is **Neil Simon's Dinner Party**. Call 726-4656 for the box office.

~ Don't forget a fun day with the community kiddies! **Rhodes Rites to Play** begins at **noon on Saturday**.

~ Fisher Garden in bloom is a gorgeous place to study/nap after a crazy weekend of Rites. Get yourself out of those cement cages we call dorm rooms and into the open air following a weekend of procrastination. At least you can catch up on the rays while catching up on all that reading!

And remember, as always, to enjoy and relax!

## Dan McGuinness offers above-average food at reasonable prices

By Ann Young

If you slip inside the street entrance of the Peabody Place pub Dan McGuinness, it is easy to forget this enchanting Irish pub is adjoined to the mall. The inside of the pub has a jovial atmosphere that my well-traveled friends declare is "very Dublin." Indeed, we read that "everything--the wood bar, trim work, floor tiles, tables, chairs, even light fixtures--were imported from Ireland and assembled by Irish craftsmen." It is the closest Memphis can come to the cozy and cheerful pubs of Ireland.

The bar and menu options further emphasize the Irish theme. The beer selections are excellent, if slightly limited. The 20-ounce pints are between \$4-5, and Monday night is \$2 pint night. Draft choices include Guinness, Harp, Bass, New Castle Brown, Tennet's, Boddinton's, and Woodchuck cider. Without a doubt, Dan McGuinness offers the best atmosphere and prices for a Monday night out. As would be expected, Dan McGuinness has a fully stocked

bar and an exceptional selection of Scotch and Irish whiskeys, including Jameson Gold, Bushmills, Dalwhinnie, and Glenkinchie.

To tout Dan McGuinness as merely an appealing location for imbibing would be a disservice. The menu contains a wide range of authentic Irish cuisine, at affordable prices and enormous portions. Dan McGuinness offers unique selections of appetizers, soups, salads, dinner entrées, and sandwiches. One of the most unusual menu items is the appetizer Scotch Eggs. Though hardly for the light eater, Scotch Eggs are hard-boiled eggs wrapped in sausage, pan fried, and served with dijon mustard for \$7. Some excellent soup and salad choices include the Beer Cheese Soup (\$5), which is onions, celery, and carrots in Harp-infused creamy cheese base, and the Smoked Chicken Caesar (\$8), which is oak-smoked chicken over romaine lettuce and Dan McGuinness's original Caesar dressing. Sandwich selections include standards such as Corned Beef on Rye (\$7),

Roast Beef Au Jus (\$7), and the Char-Broiled Chicken Sandwich (\$7). The sandwiches are served on thick homemade bread and come with a side of fries, which are delightfully seasoned. It should be repeated that the portions are very substantial and can easily be spilt by two or more. For example, the chicken sandwich is two tender chicken breasts served on 1½-inch thick bread. For a table of four, the Pub Combo (\$8) is an appealing option, which is the choice of two of the following items: baked potato, Pub salad, potato soup, beer cheese soup, or mashed potatoes.

The dinner entrées at Dan McGuinness more closely reflect traditional Irish cuisine. The Bangers and Mash (\$11), Shepherd's Pie (\$10), Fish and Chips (\$9), Irish Stew (\$10), and Corned Beef and Cabbage (\$11) are all authentic and excellent choices. Bangers and Mash are grilled Irish sausages and mashed potato with onion gravy and come with house vegetables and soda bread. The Shepherd's Pie is the

traditional ground beef, carrots, and peas mixed with thick brown gravy, topped with mashed potato, and served with the house vegetables. The Fish and Chips is a familiar choice and consists of Harp-battered and fried cod with fries and lemon dill tartar sauce. The Irish Stew is lamb and potato in the thick brown gravy, and it comes with red cabbage and soda bread. Corned Beef and Cabbage is another more unusual choice, and is marinated corned beef served with cabbage, mashed potatoes, and house vegetables as sides.

Dan McGuinness Pub offers Rhodes students a unique opportunity to relax and enjoy a traditional Irish pub in the Memphis downtown area. Its atmosphere is astounding, particularly if you use the street entrance, and offers a relaxing alternative to the traditional Monday night out. Dan McGuinness is located in Peabody Place on Second Street. The kitchen is open 10:30-midnight all week long, and the bar is open Sunday-Thursday 10:30 am-1 am, and Friday-Saturday until 3 am.

### How to Reach Our Authors and Us

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. The newspaper 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 floor of Briggs Student Center every Monday evening 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.

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Wednesday, April 2, 2003

# Tennis team travels to W&L Crew team on the rise

By James Roach

This past weekend, the men's tennis team traveled to Virginia to face some of the top teams in the nation, such as Washington and Lee, Washington College, and Mary Washington College. Led by seniors Andy Campbell, Duncan Howell, and Eddy Blanton, Rhodes hoped this trip would be a major step forward in their quest to qualify for the NCAA tournament in May for a second consecutive season.

The weekend began with a match against the 14<sup>th</sup> ranked Washington and Lee Generals. The match began with a fight for the important doubles point. The doubles team of Campbell and Howell, ranked 20<sup>th</sup> in the nation cruised to an easy 8-5 win. Rhodes clinched the doubles point when the team of Blanton and Logan Stevens ('04) pulled out a nerve-racking win in a tie-breaker. Down 1-0 in the match, the Generals fought back in the singles matches, and in the end, it was the strength of the Generals in singles which resulted in their 4-3 defeat of Rhodes College.

This loss snapped Rhodes College's eight match winning streak.

Rhodes came out fired up Saturday, hoping to avenge the heart-breaking loss to Washington and Lee with a win against the ninth-ranked Washington College Shoremen. But would they have the stamina to pull out the win, after the physically and mentally draining match the previous day? With assistant coach Tom Wride shouting encouragement from the sidelines, Rhodes once again pulled out the all-important doubles point when the team of Adam Dietz ('04) and Kyle Kamrath ('05) stormed back from an early deficit to win the set. By once again winning the doubles point, Rhodes was in a good position to pull out the upset. Rhodes seemed to be cruising in many of their singles matches when a patch of clouds appeared in the sky.

Concerned that this development could lead to rain, Washington College moved the match to indoor courts. This strategic move led to a 30 minute delay in the action, during which Washington College regrouped and

Rhodes cooled off. Unable to regain the fire they possessed on the outdoor courts, Rhodes College once again suffered a 4-3 defeat at the hands of the Shoremen.

After experiencing two losses in a row for the first time this season, it was unclear how Rhodes would respond to this adversity in their match against the toughest team they faced all weekend the eighth-ranked Mary Washington Eagles. This match would provide the highlight of the weekend, when Andy Campbell defeated the Spanish-speaking Conor Smith, ranked 16<sup>th</sup> in the nation in singles. Campbell and Howell also posted an impressive win in doubles, as they defeated the fifth-ranked doubles team in the nation. Unfortunately, these wins were not enough, as Rhodes was simply overpowered by the Eagles. Despite these tough losses, overall Rhodes played very well. Nevertheless, these losses mean that the upcoming trip to Sewanee this weekend will be crucial if Rhodes hopes to qualify for the NCAA tournament.

By Brice Blanton

This spring season, the Rhodes Crew Club will compete in races against schools such as Virginia, Duke, UNC and Florida. This past fall, the crew team handily defeated Vanderbilt on the Chattanooga River. Since the beginning of the semester, the team has been practicing in the mornings and afternoons in preparation for competitions with these Division 1 varsity level programs. In these next few years, the team plans to expand and develop into a respected program. It is likely that the team will be getting a new racing shell next semester which will improve the team's ability to win and an extra boat that will help the team accommodate new rowers. With a growing program, the team plans to do heavy recruiting next fall.

The focus for the team right now is its Varsity men's boat. In this boat there are four rowers and one coxswain, the person who steers the boat and tells the rowers what to do. Shannon Keeling, a junior from Jackson, MS, who is an active member of the AOPi sorority,

fills this role. The rowers are a very diverse group of young men. The oldest member of the boat is Mills Ramsay, who is a junior from North Carolina. Ramsay is a member of the Pi Kappa Alpha fraternity and has been leading the team for the last few years. Sophomore Calvert Tooley, a native of Sherman, Texas, is a second-year member of the team. Andrew Romeo, a freshman, hailing from Birmingham, Alabama, is making an important contribution to the team in his novice season. Brice Blanton, a freshman from Princeton, New Jersey, is also a team member.

In the next month, the team will be competing in regattas in Oak Ridge, Tennessee and Greenville, Kentucky. The team would appreciate any support from the student body. So if you are an athlete looking to compete against Division 1 level opposition, Rhodes Crew Club is the place for you. Next fall, look to see the crew team at the club and organization fair. If you have any immediate interest, contact president Shannon Keeling.

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