

THE SOU'WESTER

The Weekly Student Newspaper of Rhodes College

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Wednesday, February 6, 2002

Campus News

All Stories Courtesy of U-wire

The Aggie Bonfire will not burn next fall, Texas A&M University (College Station, TX) President Dr. Ray M. Bowen announced Monday, revealing that preparations for Bonfire 2002, 18 months in the making, came unraveled in the past week. Turner Construction, the New York-based firm that was serving as the safety consultant for the bonfire, withdrew from the project Wednesday because it was unable to obtain insurance to cover the firm's liability for its work with the A&M students. "Without an acceptable safety plan, the limited role that has been preserved for students still carries a danger above what we can tolerate," Bowen said. Even with a safety consultant, revised estimates of the cost of the bonfire make it unlikely the 90-year-old tradition could continue.

The American Civil Liberties Union filed a lawsuit Monday against the Montana University System, accusing it of violating the state constitution by refusing health and other benefits to same-sex partners of lesbian and gay employees. Two UM faculty members and their partners are plaintiffs in the case, along with PRIDE, a homosexual activist group. The lawsuit was filed after the issue was brought to the Board of Regents last May, and the attempt to change the policy was denied. Employees can receive health insurance, disability coverage and other benefits for their spouses. Unmarried heterosexual couples can provide their partners with benefits if they sign an affidavit of common law marriage, which the plaintiffs said they would be willing to do.

The University of California (Berkeley, CA) may have to find new lawyers to fight for the millions of dollars it lost in Enron's collapse because the high-powered law firm UC hired is suing the state. Dean Andal, a member of the State Board of Equalization, sent a letter last week to UC President Richard Atkinson pointing out what he says is a conflict of interest on the part of the firm. Milberg Weiss Bershad Hynes & Lerach is suing California, claiming the state owes fees from a 1997 case in which the firm defended the California Department of Motor Vehicles. But UC is using the firm in the class action lawsuit it joined against Enron executives.

Senator Gramm speaks, protestors speak out

By Scott Holmes
Associate Editor

Monday, February 4 marked the twenty-fifth anniversary of the M.L. Seidman Town Hall Lecture series. The speaker at this semester's lecture was noted Republican Senator Phil Gramm from Texas. Sen. Gramm delivered his lecture entitled, "The American System: Nothing Like It in the World," to a crowded McCallum Ballroom in the Bryan Campus Life Center.

Sen. Gramm's lectures focused on the American economic system's ability to weather changes and outlast temporary slumps. Of our current economic downturn Sen. Gramm said that he not only expects the U.S. to overcome the hardships, but to come out better than we went into them. Gramm also focused on envy as the enemy of economic growth. A crowd member asked Sen. Gramm whether or not he thought that envy could at times be helpful, but Sen. Gramm maintained that envy is never helpful.

The beginning of the evening provided some ill-received excitement in the form of protestors in front of the BCLC as well as inside the Ballroom. The protestors in front of the BCLC held picket signs bearing such slogans as, "Gramm opposes affirma-

tive action," and "Gramm favors black gold," written inside an outline of the state of Alaska. If the protestors before the entrance did not receive a warm welcome, it was nothing to compare to the boo's that issued from the audience at the protestors inside.

"Senator Gramm, This is a letter from the American people..." started one protester that stood up just as Gramm started his lecture. At first the crowd was shocked, many believing that the man was staged. Sen. Gramm responded composed, "What did Reagan say? 'This is my Microphone,'" then the audience began its tirade of boo's highlighted by people yelling at the protestor to sit down. When the second protestor stood up to interrupt Gramm he was barely able to start his interjection before another loud chorus erupted from the audience.

Prof. Cullen took control of the microphone from Gramm and encouraged the audience to respect Sen. Gramm and save their questions and comments for the question and answer period. When Sen. Gramm began once more he was interrupted yet again by another protestor. Gramm handled the interruption gently asking the audience to let him have his time and they would get theirs; he even

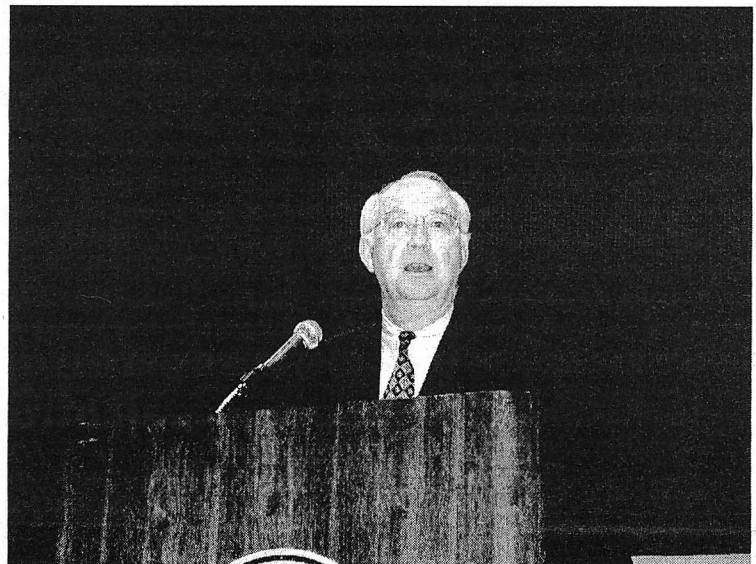


Photo by Miriam Dolin

Senator Phil Gramm spoke as part of M.L. Seidman Town Hall Lecture series on Monday, February 4 in the Ballroom of the BCLC. Sen. Gramm's speech evoked a variety of reactions from the Rhodes community, including protests both inside and outside the Ballroom.

offered the last protestor to interrupt the first chance to ask a question when the floor was opened.

The general student consensus was that the protestors were disrespectful of Sen. Gramm. "I thought a lot of people were very rude," said

Gaby Asmar ('04). Chris Ebersole ('04) agreed, "I was very impressed with the way the Senator handled the situation; he spoke bluntly and answered questions directly while affording his agitators the respect they failed to show him."

Work continues with President's Planning Initiatives

By Margie Hall
Editor-in-Chief

True to the goals stated in his inaugural speech, President Troutt and the President's Planning Initiatives Committees have been hard at work, researching and coordinating in order to make those goals a reality. The committees, which are made up of faculty, administration, and students, recently communicated their work with the Board of Trustees in Orlando, FL. The initiatives with which the committees are working are briefly explained in the following excerpts, which were taken from the reports made by each committee:

Initiative 1: Undergraduate Research (Chair: Gary Lindquister, Associate Professor of Biology): the goal is "to foster additional emphasis on student projects undertaken with the guid-

ance of a faculty mentor or collaborator that contribute in appropriate ways to the scholarly or creative body of work in a discipline."

Initiative 2: Faculty Committee on Post-graduate Scholarships (Chair: Mike LaRosa, Assistant Professor of History): "This committee directs the process through which students apply for post-graduate scholarships. The committee does not deal with law school, graduate school or medical school applicants; rather, it works to promote, publicize and encourage students to apply for scholarships such as the Rhodes, Marshall, Truman, Fulbright, Mellon, Rotary and Watson."

Initiative 3: Curriculum Reform (Chair: Gail Streete, Associate Professor of Religious Studies): "While the current curriculum has served us well and is not perceived as being in crisis, the faculty

agree with the president that a regular, coherent reconsideration of the curriculum should be undertaken. Rather, they think that the curriculum should be...reconfigured by incorporating existing courses and departments"

Initiative 4: Efforts to Recruit and Retain the Best Faculty (Chair: Ellen Armour, Associate Professor of Religious Studies): "Rhodes should create a work environment that supports and nurtures teacher-scholars throughout their careers. Such an environment allows teaching, research, and service to flow together in each faculty member's professional life. Rhodes should establish administrative structures that support the work environment described above and that develop strong faculty leaders who can ably mentor younger faculty and keep College governance structures strong."

Initiative 5: Enhancing the Residen-

tial Experience (Chair: John Hilgart, Assistant Professor of English): "The Task Force has sought to address two broad and closely related problems: the lack of a collective student community and the fragmentation of student life: the lack of meaningful connections between what happens inside the classroom and what happens outside of the classroom." This includes rethinking the role of the Greek system, encouraging more co-curricular, college-sponsored activities, and bridging the gap between in-class and out-of-class experience.

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Interruptions prevent exchange of ideas

By Calvert Tooley
Guest Columnist

Senator Phil Gramm's talk on Monday night convinced me that the Campus Greens and College Greens need to rethink their strategy. Members from both groups attended the talk about freedoms in America with the intention of disrupting it entirely.

From the moment Senator Gramm started speaking, agitators repeatedly interrupted him with hostile questions and personal attacks related mainly to the Enron collapse and campaign finance reform.

When it became clear that they had no intention of letting him finish his speech, the Senator agreed that if they would allow him to continue, he would answer their questions first after his talk was over. They finally stopped talking, and he was able to proceed.

I was shocked at this disruption, for it directly opposes the principles on which this college is founded. Any college must operate in a way that promotes the free exchange of differing

ideas and points of view. A college that prevents this free exchange—for religious, political, or other reasons—cannot be taken seriously as a true institution of higher learning.

When radical minorities try to silence all viewpoints opposed to their own ideologies, it is difficult to have any real discussion.

In an environment where radical minorities try to silence all viewpoints opposed to their ideology, it is more difficult to have any real discussion between these viewpoints. But such discussion is vital in order to truly understand any position or philosophy. By trying to prevent this free exchange of ideas, the members of Campus Greens and College Greens have shown themselves to be either scared of the truth, or extremely ignorant.

Their conduct also displayed an amazing arrogance and contempt for the intelligence of the college community. The vast majority of the audience came to hear Phil Gramm give a talk on the American

economy and political system.

The members of Campus Greens and College Greens, however, thought that we are not responsible enough to make our own decisions about what talks we attend.

They thought it was necessary to act as censors and prevent us from being exposed to the Senator's harmful ideas. Of course, their numbers are so small that they had to resort to radical agitators from around the Memphis area. But since their numbers are so small, what justifies these organizations trying to prevent the majority from listening to whatever lectures they want?

Their attempt to censor the entire Rhodes community is beyond belief, and represents the height of arrogance.

I must also address the issue of common courtesy, for the actions of the Campus Greens and

the College Greens showed contempt for all politeness and convention. Phil Gramm, one of the most influential senators of his generation, was generous enough to come to Rhodes and give this talk free of charge. The talk was set up to allow a significant time for people to ask questions.

Rather than waiting for the appropriate time, however, the agitators disregarded all rules of conduct and propriety, and constantly bombarded the Senator with rude and insulting questions. Their lack of manners and decency reflected very poorly on the college.

There are undoubtedly many people in this community who disagree with Senator Gramm's message. You are perfectly free to do so, not only in conversations, but also through publications such as this newspaper. I am stating my views in editorial form, and you are perfectly free to respond in kind.

I will not try to discredit you with personal attacks; I will not abandon convention and courtesy in debates; I will not try to silence your opinion.

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

Staff meetings are open to the Rhodes community and convene in Briggs every Sunday evening at 6 p.m. *The Sou'wester* is a member of the Student Publications Board, a six-publication consortium that includes the editors of all student publications, class representatives and at-large representatives from the student body.

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

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Do not get swallowed by the rift

By Emily McDonald
Columnist

We are approaching a rift. The signifier and signified have been extricated from one another and a gap resides between the two. This gap presents the individual with an issue that can be viewed as one concerning energy. In a reality where the word and meaning have become extrapolated from one another and we are left to reside between the two, we can either create energy to re-form a connection or yearn for a time when there was no rift.

The discomfort that has arisen from the rift is apparent in our post-modern culture of today. This discomfort is illustrated by one Patrick LaRochelle in an opinion piece in last week's *Sou'wester*. LaRochelle claims that he has begun to doubt that "education [is] all about seeking the truth" and hints that this is negative as he asks, "have we sold out?" Can we expect

one institution to spoon-feed us the TRUTH semester after semester until our bellies are full of it by graduation and we emerge into society bearing our truth like a badge that gains us acceptance into jargon laced discussions? I am going to say, no. College provides one with the pieces and he is left to put them together to form his own concept of truth, he simply must put the energy into it.

The rift has left a distance between the individual and his language and, in turn, his bible. Our society has learned to compartmentalize religion and, to many, this is a problematic step.

LaRochelle frets that God has descended into anecdotal status and remains real only on currency and bumper stickers. Religion is no longer the buttress that stabilizes Western culture but is the opposite necessarily true of our society? Rather than the individual having a relationship with his religion, he is more likely to have a relationship

with God. This personal relationship with God gives the individual more of this freedom LaRochelle speaks of and leaves room for change. This space is, to many, a danger zone where unorthodox views can bloom.

I, however, watch this place as one from whence the story of different perspectives that have remained silent can grow. My unorthodox conception of religion would be labeled as "rebellion" by many, as it goes directly against the foundations of established religion to claim that the individual may make her own religion and forge her own relationship with God.

I see it as liberation from societal constraints that are constantly forcing our roles upon us. It is this moment that the space is still potential energy and can be seized by the voices of the other!

If one has found the strength to rebel in a society that wants to remain airtight in its own roles and mores, more power to him! I guarantee the decision to rebel was not

an easy one, as with rebellion a stigma is incurred. We are literally free to make our own decisions in our country, yet this fact does not prevent us from being ridiculed for them by other members of society.

The bravery lies, not in the final outcome of believing or not in one savior, but in the process. The individual can easily be funneled into an organized religion and have himself implanted with an impeccable code of morals.

A brave individual will delve within or without to find his own conception of morality and spirituality, a pure ore that belongs to the individual and not to society. Again, the outcome may be the same as the former, but the process is where the bravery lies.

Yes, we are in an era where faith has been quarantined and we have been distanced from our signifying counterpart, but we can either watch this as a problem or see it as a progression.

Sometimes we all need a break

JENN MORRIS
Simple Pleasures



I am typing this article as I watch the Super Bowl. I happen to enjoy football, more, I would guess, than most girls. This game, however, I really could not care less about. I do not follow either team, and I am not planning on being a fair weather fan.

The Super Bowl, I decided early on, was just going to be an excuse to gorge myself on cheese dip, venison sausage, and hamburgers. As the game continues though, I am starting to realize that it will be completely impossible for me to enjoy the Super Bowl experience as I had hoped to do and as I have done so many years before.

The people who have planned the event, those in charge of the

customarily entertaining advertisements, and the good people at Fox have completely littered the broadcast with subtle and not-so-subtle references to September 11. They have a correspondent in Kandahar, their graphics are sprinkled with saluting "men in uniform," players give personal thanks to the troops, normally clever and original commercials remind us of the tragedy, and the half time show is utterly dominated by a "tribute" to the victims of "Nine Eleven." Can I please just watch football, enjoy a few commercials (which have been very lack-luster, by the way) and get indigestion in peace? Enough is enough.

Do not misunderstand me. I do not claim to understand the grief that so many Americans have experienced in the last four months, but I do realize that the life that we have known for decades, a life relatively free of the political turmoil of the rest of the world, will never return. I remember that men and women of our

armed forces are risking their lives right now to secure what remains of our collective peace of mind. I understand that no American will ever be able to get on a plane, or perform many other everyday tasks without remembering the tragedy of the World Trade Center and Pentagon attacks.

I realize all of this, and I cannot possibly help but realize this. This is true with or without the constant reminders that the good people of the NFL and Fox seem to think I and the rest of their viewing audience need.

In all fairness, I take issue, not just with the people who have brought us the Super Bowl, but with all of the people in the media that have made these references, not only commonplace, but expected. I am not saying that we should live our lives trying to ignore the tragedy and the events that the initial attack precipitated, but I do have a problem with the fact that I cannot seem to avoid the constant reminders in the media.

If I want to find out about the

developments here and abroad, I will read the newspaper or watch the news. When I see Tom Brokaw, I expect to hear about the troops in Afghanistan and the survivors in New York. When I see Tom Brokaw, I do so willingly. I am asking to be informed, asking to be reminded. I do not, however, want to be reminded every time I watch the television, listen to the radio, or read a magazine.

As I see it, the entertainment industry is designed to be just that—entertainment, an escape from reality, a way to divert thinking and energy from the issues that color the rest of our day.

I start to wonder, with all of these references, if the media is really trying to honor the victims and the troops, or if they are trying to prove their own compassion so that they can feel better about getting on with their own lives. I fear that the repeated gestures are becoming hackneyed and what may have begun as sincere and heartfelt

tributes are merely self-aggrandizing. What worries me more is that my sentiments may be looked upon as unpatriotic or callous, that I lack compassion for the survivors. Quite the contrary. I know that America has been injured, but I am also willing to admit that no graphic with models dressed as Marines cueing a commercial is going to heal us.

I do not have a solution or an answer to my complaint. I am just making an observation, and expressing my concern for what seems to be token sentimentality, where a less theatrical gesture, or perhaps no mention at all might be more appropriate.

If I am willing and able to be an informed and responsible citizen during the day, let me come home at night to a viewer-friendly experience. Let me leave the world's issues at the door, just for a few hours. Let me breathe.

The game is over. I have said my peace.

Congratulations, Patriots.

Either let it go or turn it off, please

MELANIE TELZROW
The Natural



I will be the first to admit that there is trash on television. *Jerry Springer*, *Crossing Over*, and *Jenny Jones* are practically unbearable to watch. However, my favorite channels are MTV, Comedy Central, and UPN so I do not have much space to complain. I know many people who think that television is the source of all evil, and while I can understand their view, I highly doubt that watching TV ever sent anyone to hell.

In a recent discussion with a friend of mine, we talked about how the morality of the shows on TV has decreased drastically since the '80s. The amount of family centered shows on prime time has changed to shows fo-

cused on the lives of rich twentysomethings that live sexually promiscuous lives. What ever happened to *The Cosby Show*, *Family Ties*, and *Growing Pains*? They have been replaced by such shows as *Friends*, *Sex and the City*, and *Elimidate*. Then there is the aspect of the openly gay shows on television now, such as *Will and Grace*. The question I want to ask is: what is the big deal?

So maybe on *Friends*, Rachel and Phoebe have sex with the men they date. This is not exactly moral and right, but I do not believe that *Friends* promotes such behavior. Such things do happen in real life, so why blanket reality? (I am not saying that *Friends* is pure reality. Living in a huge apartment in New York where no one really seems to work is not real at all). As viewers we do not have to aspire to live like these people.

We can simply sit back, let our minds turn to mush after a long day, take in the humor, and not be so analytical. However, this is a hard pill for some to swallow.

Also, I have heard the comments from people about how *Will and Grace* is just flaunting the homosexuality on the show, making it seem "ok" for kids to be gay. HELLO? Of course it is ok to be gay. Let us get into the new millenium people! (I am going to catch some flack for this one.)

And another thing: I do not believe that they are "flaunting" homosexuality anymore than any other sitcom flaunts heterosexuality. It just seems out of the ordinary for people who have issues with the REALITY that people are gay. Think about how many sitcoms talk about heterosexual relations and make jokes regarding them. Do we find this disturbing? No, because we have been told that being heterosexual is "normal." It says so in the Bible, right? Flaunting sexuality should be the moral bottom line, not which sexuality it may be.

For those people who feel that time is wasted watching these shows, then turn to the Learning

Channel or CNN if you want. No one is stopping you. I consider myself to be a fairly intelligent person, but I still find cheap pleasure in watching sitcoms. I do not find them to be incredibly valuable in terms of educating me or stimulating my brain, but is that the purpose of television's existence? I think not.

If you feel that there is crap on television, do not bitch about it; turn the TV off! The only reason that stations show these programs is because people watch them, especially the 18-24 age group. We are the ones who decide what is shown on television. The ratings from these shows prove that it is not television that is changing, but society is changing in the fact that nothing really shocks us anymore. It takes more and more for us to react to a show.

For example, in *Fear Factor*, contestants are subjected to jumping from a car to a train, sitting in a coffin full of rats, etc. Yes, this show bases its whole premise on shocking viewers, and guess

what? Clearly we love it or else it would not be on television. *Temptation Island* is a truly horrible show. I agree to that. Creating a show in which couples are tempted to cheat and hurt their loved ones is perhaps the stupidest thing that a network executive could agree to. But, what is everyone rushing to watch? The show full of scantily clad men and women cheating on each other. Wonderful. The ratings soar!

I do not know if it is possible to get our society back to a place where we value honest, moral, family-based humor. *My Wife and Kids* with Damon Wayans is trying, and let us not forget the sugar-sweet *Seventh Heaven*. That show is so uncool, it is cool.

But until we make the choice to take the shows for what they are as entertainment and not place moral blame on them, the only chance we have as a society to change the trash on television is to press the power button on our remotes to "off."

Student Announcements

The Society for Creative Anachronism (SCA) will host a Valentine's Mixer on Tuesday, February 12 at 7:30 p.m. in Hyde Hall. All are welcome to attend.

On Friday, February 8 from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. in the Lynx Lair, Kinney will host the Special Hearts Dance. This dance will include many of the agencies with which Kinney works. Food and door prizes will be available. All are welcome to attend.

Rhodes Activities Board (RAB) will host the Fourth Annual Faculty/Staff Cook-off in Hyde Hall on Thursday, February 7 from 5:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. The event will include free desserts.

Shanon Eubank from the Stirring at Hope Presbyterian will be talking about relativism at RCF at 8:30 p.m. in Hardie Wednesday, February 6. All are welcome.

A web cast and discussion with international leaders in the field of sustainability, entitled "Sustainability in the Built Environment," will take place on February 6 at 6:00 p.m. in 201 Kennedy.

Campus Green will have a meeting on February 7 at 6:00 p.m. in Java City. A representative from MATA will speak on public transit in Memphis.

The Vagina Monologues will show in Blount Auditorium on February 13, 14, and 15 at 8:00 p.m. Tickets are \$5.00, and proceeds will benefit the Memphis Sexual Assault Resource Center.

To celebrate the coming of the Year of Horse, a grand Chinese New Year Celebration will be held in the ballroom in the Bryan Campus Life Center on Saturday, February 9.

The celebration starts at 2:00 p.m. with Chinese food and drinks. The performance starts at 3:00 p.m. The program features Chinese songs, Chinese folk dances, Peking opera, skits, talent shows, Chinese musical instruments, a variety of Chinese martial arts, and many other performances by Rhodes students, the Chinese School at Memphis, the Memphis Zoo, the Peabody Museum, the Greater Memphis Wushu and Taiji School, and Local Chinese Communities. After the performance, there will be a dance.

This event is sponsored by the Rhodes Chinese and Asian Studies Program, the Department of Foreign Languages and Literature, A.S.I.A., and Rhodes Multicultural Affairs. All are welcome, and it is free.

Want to experience a Germany-style Mardi Gras? The German Club will hold a Fasching Celebration on Thursday, February 7 from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. in the Lynx Lair. There will be free food and music. German beer can be purchased at the Lair with ID.

The Memphis RiverKings will play the Indianapolis Ice on Friday, February 15 at 7:05 p.m. Tickets can be purchased in advance by Tuesday, February 12 at the Activities Office in the Lynx Lair.

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Rotary Ambassadorial Scholarships

Applications are now available for 2003-2004 Rotary Ambassadorial Scholarships. Each year Rotary International offers generous Ambassadorial Scholarships for study abroad. For the 2003-2004 academic year, the scholarship is worth up to \$25,000, which covers expenses such as roundtrip travel, tuition, and reasonable living expenses. The application deadline is April 1, 2002.

The purpose of these scholarships is to further international understanding. Along with courses taken abroad, the recipient is expected to speak at Rotary club functions in the host country and give several presentations about his/her experience upon return to the U.S.

General Eligibility:

- * Applicants must have completed at least 2 years of university/college coursework when the scholarship begins.
- * They must be able to speak the primary language of the country in which he/she will study.
- * Persons with disabilities are eligible and encouraged to apply.
- * They cannot be the spouse, child, or grandchild of a Rotarian.

Rotary looks for students with strong GPA, leadership & community service experience, public speaking skills. Rhodes students have a good track record for winning this prestigious award. Instructions and applications can be downloaded from the Rotary Foundation website at www.rotary.org. For more information, please call extension 3596.

Campus Safety Log

1/28/02 Thru 2/03/02



1/28/02		NO UNUSUAL ACTIVITY REPORTED
1/29/02	1:00 p.m.	University/Snowden - 5 car accident: MPD on scene
	1:15 p.m.	University south of Phillips Lane - Larceny from a vehicle: MPD notified
1/30/02	6:10 a.m.	Rhodes Tower - Wallet/Property found: turned over to owner
	11:47 p.m.	East Village parking alarm: Okay - students in perimeter
1/31/02	12:00 p.m.	Briggs - Java City: Larceny of camera
	9:50 p.m.	BCLC - Larceny reported - No larceny: property located
2/01/02	4:40 a.m.	East Village: Fire Alarm - False: checked okay MFD scene
2/02/02	12:55 a.m.	Williford - Fire Alarm - False: Checked okay
	3:37 a.m.	University Street/Tutwiler - Accident: MPD investigating
2/03/02	2:30 a.m.	Bellingrath Hall - Noise complaint: Complied, noise reduced
	11:15 a.m.	BCLC: Suspicious Persons: Located and evicted from campus. Tutwiler west of University: Larceny from vehicle, MPD has evidence
	11:10 p.m.	Williford - Smoke detected: Okay - Lighting ballast

STATS THIS WEEK:

PROPPED DOORS: 13
 ACCESSES: 130
 CITATIONS: 273
 CARS TOWED: 0
 BOOTS: 1

ESCORTS: 25
 VISITORS: 2,888
 JUMP STARTS: 5
 A.V.: 1

Nominations for Clarence Day Awards due February 8

The Clarence Day Award for Outstanding Teaching

Full-time faculty members who have taught at least three years at Rhodes and who have not previously been awarded this prize are eligible for nomination.

Selection criteria are: The award recipient demonstrates excellent teaching over the past three years as reflected in student course evaluations. The award recipient's teaching demonstrates imaginative and creative pedagogy and currency in the subjects taught. The award recipient has a strong record in motivating students toward advanced study in the award recipient's discipline.

The nominator should provide a written statement that describes how the nominee's teaching meets the criteria stated.

The Clarence Day Dean's Award for Research and Creative Activity

Full-time faculty members who have taught at least three years at Rhodes and who have not previously been awarded this prize are eligible for nomination.

Selection criteria are: The award recipient has accomplished unusually significant professional work in the past three years. This work consists of scholarly or research publication, artistic production or performance. This work is judged to be an important contribution to the award recipient's discipline or related disciplines. This work must be demonstrated to have had an important effect on the award recipient's teaching, directly benefiting Rhodes students by its influence on course content or pedagogy.

Department chairs should assume a special responsibility for nominating department members who are likely to be strong candidates. The nomination should clearly identify the work that provides the basis for the nomination. If possible, the nominator should provide evidence that the work is of unusual significance and that it has influenced the nominee's teaching.

From Initiatives, Page 1

Initiative 6: Intensifying Rhodes' Thought-Provoking Atmosphere (Chair: Dan Cullen, Associate Professor of Political Science): "In general, the college should work to enhance intellectual vitality in the context of building community. We need new structures for intellectual engagement outside the classroom. We also should multiply informal teacher-student, student-student, and community-college connections."

Initiatives 7 & 8: Integration of Technology, Improving Library Resources (Chair: Steve Ceccoli, Assistant Professor of International Studies): "...the campus must be poised and willing to take advantage of innovative tech-

nology that enhances the educational mission." And later, "The College seeks to raise the ability of students, faculty, and staff members to a level of expertise in and critical reflection of information services."

"The recent gift by the Paul Barret, Jr. Trust for construction of a new Paul Barret, Jr. Library has given Rhodes a striking opportunity to improve information services on our campus."

Initiative 9: Connecting Students with Memphis (Chair: Russell Wigginton, Assistant Professor of History) "Despite the College's impressive list of service projects, student volunteers, etc., the intimate relationship between Rhodes and Memphis often goes unnoticed or unappreciated both on and off campus. The reason may be partially explained by two interconnected issues: inefficiency and perception."

Initiative 10: Expanding Opportunities for Study Outside of Memphis (Chair: Susan Kus, Associate Professor of Anthropology and Steve McKenzie, Associate Professor of Religious Studies): "Rhodes should articulate and adopt a coherent vision and philosophy of participation in a multicultural world as part of the college's academic mission. Such a mission statement would not only integrate off-campus study into the expectations and educational goals of the college but also underpin, fundamentally shape, and continue to guide the liberal arts curriculum of the college that is concerned with the intercultural competence of our students and their understanding of the global systems in which they increasingly participate."

For full-text versions of the committees' reports, see the "Initiatives" folder in the Academic Volume.

The world today: international news updates

By Frances Rabalais
 Executive Assistant

U.S. Secretary of State Colin Powell stated Tuesday that Iraq must first prove that it is not constructing weapons of mass destruction before Iraq can have a discussion with the United Nations. While the U.S. is keeping its eye the Iraqi regime, it does not have any plans to attack the country.

John Walker Lindh was indicted by a grand jury Tuesday on charges of being an al Qaeda terrorist who conspired with the Taliban against Americans. Six additional charges

were added to the original four with which Walker Lindh was indicted, including those pertaining to conspiracy to contribute and services to al Qaeda and the Taliban, the use of firearms during crimes of violence, and conspiracy to kill U.S. citizens abroad. John Ashcroft said that if convicted, Walker Lindh could receive numerous life sentences or even the death penalty.

Republican Congressman Dick Armey stated his opposition to Bush's push for additional spending geared toward AmeriCorps, a program which awards stipends to

young adults involved in certain charitable services. Armey does not support the program because the government pays the young adults, but Bush claims that AmeriCorps is a way to increase volunteerism and public service in America.

Senate Majority Leader Tom Daschle said Tuesday that Bush's economic stimulus bill does not have enough support to pass in the Senate. Neither Democrats nor Republicans have enough votes for their competing measures, but both claim that the other party did not work to compromise on the bill.

Templeton honored at reception

By Amber Shaw
 Copy/Layout Editor

Long-time employee and alumnus Loyd Templeton was honored with a retirement party January 30 in the McCallum Ballroom. The event included tributes from former presidents David Alexander and James Daughdrill and a poem composed by Mrs. Troutt. Chairman of the board Spence Wilson also announced that the "Loyd Templeton Endowment for Choral Performance" had been established by the Board of Trustees to honor Mr. Templeton's 33-year service to Rhodes and his dedication to the Rhodes Sing-

ers, Rhodes Master Singers Chorale, and other musical endeavors.

A portrait of Templeton by Memphis artist Tom Donahue was unveiled. The portrait will become a permanent part of the Rhodes art collection.

Templeton's commitment to Rhodes has ensured that the campus buildings erected today reflect the signature grandeur and elegance that have characterized this campus for decades.

He also coined the Rhodes' phrase, "Rhodes' ivy is in a league by itself." At their October board meeting, the trustees proclaimed "Loyd Templeton is in a league by himself."

Arts & Entertainment

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THE
SOU'WESTER

Wednesday, February 6, 2002

No Doubt "rocks" listeners

By Elizabeth Muller
Staff Writer

There is no doubt that No Doubt's fourth release *Rock Steady* is going to be a critical and commercial success. The band's lead singer, Gwen Stefani, found acclaim for her collaborative efforts in 2001 when she teamed up with Moby on his electronic ballad "Southside" and with Eve on the recently Grammy nominated hit "Let Me Blow Your Mind." In fact, Stefani's work on these tunes was a very unlike No Doubt's signature ska sound; nevertheless, this band has always been innovative, and so it comes with no surprise that they incorporate hip-hop, electronic, and reggae beats into their funky style on their new album. Now, for all you rock junkies out there, do not be too alarmed—No Doubt definitely has not gone full blown pop. However, do not go and buy *Rock Steady* and expect "Just a Girl" either. If Beck and Bob Marley could have collaborated, No Doubt's new release would be the fruits of their labor. The song's title track, as well as a few other songs, has a very distinct reggae sound, while other tracks such as "Hey Baby" and "Making Out" have a sound that is a hybrid of Madonna's "Music" but without the club vibe. Unlike past albums, *Rock Steady* has a more eclectic feel because it assembles the talents of

many edgy producers: Ric Ocasek (a former Cars member), Nellee Hooper (Romeo + Juliet soundtrack), and Prince (who needs no justification). However, even though *Rock Steady* is by far No Doubt's most daring and creative venture, somehow the music remains distinguishably their own.

The year 2001 may have been an amazing year for Stefani, but 2002 is sure to be a success for the whole band. The album debuted at number one on Billboard's Top 200 and the album's first single "Hey Baby" is steadily climbing the American Top 40 chart. However, the band's drummer, Adrian Young, tries to keep their

success in perspective by stating that his goals are further reaching these days. "Numbers and selling a lot of records, that stuff is pretty important still. I would be a liar if I said it wasn't," he says. "We want to sell a lot of records and we want to play big places around the world. On a personal level though, I'm having a baby in February and at this point that's more important than lots of records. Hopefully I get to have both." And, with the additional good news of Stefani's recent engagement to Bush's front man, Gavin Rossdale, there is no doubt that things are rock steady for the band. (the quote was courtesy of Launch.com)

CALL FOR ART:

FEMALE performance artists, visual artists, poets, musicians, etc. needed!

Contact venusenvytn@yahoo.com to find out how to be considered for an art show opening in Memphis on March 30th.

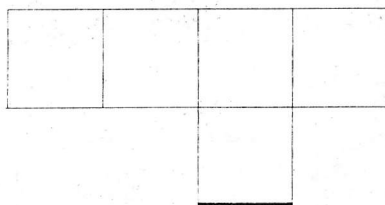
Performers are needed for the opening night. A catalog will be printed and possible national publicity- this is a wonderful opportunity.

Rhodes Puzzler

#28 (February 6, 2002)

Last week's movie pass winner: Adam Richardson

Mr. Bumble has been hired to tile the floor of a kitchen. Unfortunately, his employer only has tiles of the shape below. What is the minimum number of tiles he needs to cover a rectangular floor? (He can turn the tiles over and rotate them as much as he wants, but cannot break the tiles or overlap them.)



The Rhodes Puzzler is sponsored by the Math/CS Department of Rhodes College. Send your solution (with name!) to puzzler@rhodes.edu, or place a Word or text document named "<your name>.doc" in the Puzzler folder located on the Academic Volume, or turn in a hard copy to Kennan Shelton, 318 Ohlendorf. All solutions must be received by 5:00 p.m. Saturday. A weekly winner will be randomly chosen from all correct entries to receive two free movie passes, donated by Malco Theatres. See the Rhodes Puzzler Page at <http://www.mathcs.rhodes.edu/puzzler.html>.



Random Students in the Briggs Student Center's Picks of the Week

Meet the Students in Briggs: You, the student body, tell us your favorites as you tackle homework over a nice hot cup of java.

Favorite Restaurant: Ashley McCallen ('05). Lulu's Grille. Lulu has incredible desserts. Her caramel chocolate brownie is my favorite, and the way she makes it is divine. So if any guy wants to take me out, that's where we're going!

Favorite Dill Pickle Spears: Daniel Dunnavant ('04). Vlassic brand pickles. I know you Claussen fans think you have the crispest pickle, but do you have a stork?.

Favorite Recent Movie: Catherine Harris ('04). *I Am Sam*. It is really sad, but it is really good. The acting is amazing, but be prepared to cry.

Favorite Java City Item: Michelle Eacret ('03). Marbled pound cake. It is filling enough for a meal, but tastes like a dessert!

Favorite Book: Alex Hornaday ('05). *Lord of the Flies*. At first it made me almost sick, but once I began pondering the implications of man's inhumanity toward man, I realized it is a very poignant and relevant work.

Favorite City: Jeremy Clark ('05). San Diego, California. The weather is perfect! It is beautiful and sunny ten months out of the year, has a great nightlife, and one of the most beautiful spots on the Sunset Cliffs at Point Loma.

Kathie and the Hippopotamus

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Fencing: not just for French people anymore

By Dave Hurt
Staff Writer

You might associate the sport of fencing with a bunch of young dandies prancing around with narrow swords in white knickers. But please, reserve your judgments and snickers until the end of this article. Mental associations aside, the sport of Fencing presents a compelling case for being one of the most interesting and peculiar pastimes on the sports landscape. It seems the peculiarities of fencing, its distinguishing features that set it apart from lesser sports, lie both in its history and its main point of focus.

The evolution of fencing in many ways corresponds to the evolution of warfare. Envision a prehistoric campfire. A conflict arises over the last Woolly Mammoth burger. Someone gets all crazy and starts swinging a stick. Fencing is born. From there fencing advanced to the wielding of the biblical jawbones of asses and finally settled into the more recognizable brandishing of swords. Modern fencing started to take shape in fifteenth century Europe where it served the purpose of both swordplay practice and as a forum to settle blood feuds. Different schools developed to instruct in fencing's finer points such as the sixteenth century Spanish school under masters like Narvaez and Thibault, who refined their theories to the point of mysticism, demanding of their pupils knowledge of geometry and physical coordination almost impossible to master. Italian masters such as Agrippa and Ferro developed a more pragmatic school in the seventeenth century. By the mid-nineteenth century, dueling was in decline as a means of settling disputes due to more stringent legal penalties (manslaughter, etc.), and, thus, emphasis shifted from killing the opponent to merely humiliating him in public. Out of this new practice of humiliation, the sport of fencing was devel-

oped, new rules were created and boundaries were set up.

Aside from its history, the rule book of fencing also has many distinguishing features. In most other sports, the points of concentration center on a ball and a goal. Most simply and literally, the main target in fencing lies upon your opponent's body. To be a proficient fencer, one must know the enemy, his fears, his weaknesses, his habits, what he had for breakfast that morning. All of these factors play into devising an effective defensive/counter-offensive strategy. For example, if an opponent has a tendency to parry (a defensive move to divert an attack) in one direction, then this repetition presents an opening for a lunge (offensive thrust) in the opposite direction.

Skill in fencing also encompasses many intangibles, especially in grueling matches with two equally matched competitors. In such matches, certain pregnant moments arise where the detection of only a hint of fatigue, a drop of sweat, the subtle, sweet smell of fear, can decide victory or defeat. The ability to seize these moments makes an average fencer a champion.

My only criticism of modern fencing centers on the conspicuous absence of witty repartee. In the days of old, boastful or threatening verbiage always accompanied blood feuds as a one-two punch of martial spectacle. Although his duels were theatricalized and predetermined, the swordplay of Shakespeare provides a suitable example. Shakespeare was the professional wrestler of his time. There was trash talk, there were threats, there were oaths on graves, but if you have seen the play before, you know that the outcome is fixed. Benvolio invariably loses to Tybalt. This is why Shakespeare can never be a sport. For these reasons, I propose a new professional league of fencing that preserves the indeterminacy of the sport but also reintroduces

Shakespearean banter between the two competitors. This reintroduction of banter would bring "the McEnroe Factor," to the world of fencing, making it more psychological and probably more popular.

The question arises, "If fencing is sooo great Dave, then why is it sooo not popular?" While it is true that exposure to the sport of fencing has been limited to the select few, certain considerations must be taken into account when pondering fencing's limited popularity. Participation requires not only expensive equipment, bird-cage helmet, padded jacket, rapier, etc., but also an opponent to fence, which, believe it or not, can be hard to come by. But despair not, fencing hopefuls. Starter sets, complete with all of the pre-requisite equipment, have become more affordable, and fencing clubs are springing up in previously deemed "fencing wastelands." Why even Rhodes, the most backwards and glorified of all vocational schools, has one. Please contact instructor Brad Kroeker for more info.



Photo by: Miriam Dolin

Students joined the half time show at last Friday night's game against Centre College. Pictured is Shaunna Torrance ('04) laughing it up with the Lynx at the game. Both the men's and women's teams were victorious; the women won 69-64, while the men won 104-102 in double overtime.

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Women's Basketball records sweep over weekend

By Brain Clark
Athletics Department

The Rhodes women's basketball team (12-8, 9-4 SCAC) won two big games last weekend against rivals Centre College and the University of the South. On Friday night the Lynx avenged an earlier five-point road loss to the Colonels, winning 69-64. They kept the momentum rolling and defeated Sewanee on Sunday afternoon by a score of 71-68, overcoming a sixteen-point deficit with only seven and half minutes to play.

The Centre game on Friday night was an up and down battle. Rhodes started the game on fire and jumped to a quick 18-2 lead, and took a nine-point lead into the locker room at halftime. In the second half the Lynx lost the lead, falling behind by five points before Coach Sam Wolinski called a crucial timeout.

"I told this team to stop worrying about the score and just play basketball," said Wolinski. "They had played well the whole game, but I wanted to challenge them to play even better."

The challenge paid off and

the Lynx went on to claim the five-point victory. Anna Kizer ('03) led the charge again for the Lynx scoring a game and season high of 27 points. She shot perfectly from the free throw line and sank three of six from the three-point line. She is averaging 15.4 points a game this season, and is fifth in the SCAC conference in scoring.

The second leading scorer for the Lynx this season is Kerry Wingo ('02), averaging 13.4 points a game. Wingo had a solid game as well against Centre, scoring 21 points, grabbing eleven rebounds, and making four steals. She ranks eighth in the conference in scoring.

Sunday's game against Sewanee proved to be a very tough test for the Lynx. After being down by three points at half, 34-31, the Lynx started off cold in the second half and were down 54-38 with 7:42 left.

"The team just wasn't executing and so we decided to change up our lineup," said coach Wolinski. "We needed to get a quicker offense on the floor and once we did, it paid off."

Rhodes went on to outscore the Tigers 33-14 to finish the

game on top, thanks to the defense stepping up down the stretch. This time it was Wingo who lead the team, shooting 75 percent from the floor (9-of-12) and totaling 22 points. For her performances in both games over the weekend she was named SCAC co-player-of-the-week.

Lora Filsinger ('04) played sixteen minutes in the game, most of them coming in the second half when the Lynx went to the faster lineup. Rosemary Boner ('03) moved over to the four spot, giving the team a quick front line with Boner and Wingo. However, this was clearly a team victory and it took a team effort to get it.

"I'm proud of the effort of this whole team," said Wolinski. "They are starting to gel together as a team and starting to believe they can beat anybody."

With the win over Sewanee, the Lynx are alone in third place in the conference standings. In second place is Trinity, who the Lynx will play in the last game of the regular season at home. Before that the Lynx must get by a scrappy Hendrix team this weekend when they travel to Conway, Arkansas for the 3 p.m. tip-off.



Photo by Miriam Dolin

Austin Lutz ('04) moves toward the hoop in the Lynx' double overtime rout over the Centre Colonels on Friday night. Lutz sank a critical three-pointer in the second overtime to secure the win for Rhodes.

Swim team posts top finishes, optimistic about conference finals

By Melanie Telzrow
Staff Writer

Last weekend the Rhodes swim team traveled to Sewanee for a dual meet. Rhodes came out of the meet with an astounding eight first place wins, an impressive outcome due to the sheer difference in size of swim teams. Sewanee had forty-seven swimmers compared to Rhodes' twenty.

Diver Mary Johnston ('03) stole first place in both the one and three meter diving, while Daniel Head ('04) received second place in both diving events. The other first place wins for the women went to Kelley Savage ('03) in the 200 yard butterfly, Julie Mediamolle ('02) in the 100 yard freestyle, and Anne Kathryn Rice ('03) in the 1,000 yard swim. For

the men's team, Chad Jones ('03) received first place in the 1,000 yard, 200 yard individual medley, and 500 yard freestyle. In the 200 yard backstroke competition, J.R. Tarabocchia ('03) and Kyle Russ ('04) received second and third, respectively.

For the next two weeks, the Rhodes swim team will begin their taper, which includes more rest and easier workouts to prepare their bodies for the strenuous three-day championship meet at Sewanee February 15-17. Seniors Julie Mediamolle, Melanie Telzrow, and Jon Wood hope to make the most of their last conference competition. Rhodes hopes to achieve fourth place overall, behind powerhouses Sewanee, Trinity, and DePauw.

Crew rows strong in first meet

By John Zeanah
Sports Editor

The fledgling Rhodes crew team took to competition last weekend, traveling to Chattanooga, Tennessee to match their skills with a number of state school teams and organized crew clubs.

Four Rhodes students posted top ten times, competing in the "never-ever" division, which is what the name suggests--participants are rowing competitively for the first time. Whitney Garman ('04) and Kristy Kummerow ('04) finished fifth and sixth, respectively, earning times that would have placed them in competition for the top spots in the novice division, one level higher than the "never-ever" division.

Following Garman and Kummerow were Lucy Waechter ('05),

finishing seventh, and Megan Pollock ('04), finishing eighth.

The team went up against the host school, the University of Tennessee at Chattanooga, as well as Georgia State University, The Citadel, the University of Alabama at Birmingham, and a number of club teams from the surrounding area.

Team member Shannon Keeling ('04) said of the meet, "For our first competition, I think we performed very strongly, especially against teams that were much larger and more organized." The team has tentative plans to travel to Missouri for an upcoming meet hosted by the University of Saint Louis.

Also contributed: Michelle Eacret and Shannon Keeling

Double overtime thriller highlights weekend

Men's Basketball extends home winning streak to four

By Matthew Pate
Staff Writer

Last weekend the Rhodes Lynx men's basketball team played host to conference foes Centre College and University of the South. The last time the Lynx faced off with these two teams they found themselves on the short end of the scoreboard and looked to come out on top this time.

The Lynx were also looking forward to getting back to the familiar surroundings of Mallory-Hyde Gymnasium after having traveled to Indiana the weekend before.

The Lynx's opponent on Friday night was the Centre Colonels, who themselves were riding a three game win streak in which they had outscored their opponents by an average of 22.6 points a game. However, it was the Lynx who raced out to the early advantage, shooting 57.1 percent from the field including seven out of eleven three-pointers, taking a 47-30 lead at the half.

The Colonels fought back in the second half, mainly behind the record effort of Colonel guard Matt Mooney, who set a school record for three-pointers made and tied the SCAC record for three-pointers attempted, shooting eleven of sixteen from beyond the arc. Thanks in large part to Mooney, the Colonels recovered from their halftime deficit to send the game into overtime.

After each team scored only five points apiece in the first overtime period, the teams went into a second overtime session. In the second overtime, the Lynx exploded for eighteen points, capped off by two important three-point shots made by Austin Lutz ('04) and Stephen Russell ('05) that sealed the Colonels' fate.

In the 104-102 win, the Lynx placed five different players in double figures, led by Wes Cain ('05) with 23 points and Russell with twenty points and ten rebounds.

After the 50-minute game, the Lynx entered their Sunday match

with the Sewanee Tigers tired, but ready to make up for a last-second defeat earlier in the year. The Lynx did show some signs of fatigue in the first moments of the game, allowing the Tigers to take an early advantage.

After taking a timeout to regroup, the Lynx were able to battle back to within four points at the half. The tough play continued in the second half as the Lynx held Sewanee to only 28 second-half points en route to a 65-62 win. The Lynx were led in scoring by Russell with eighteen points and Austin Lutz ('04) with twelve points.

For his efforts over the weekend, Lutz was named Co-SCAC Player of the Week, having averaged fourteen points for the two games (five more than his previous season-average) and having secured the Lynx victories with important free throws down the stretch.

This weekend, the Lynx travel to Conway, Arkansas to face off with the Hendrix Warriors (3-15, 2-11 SCAC).