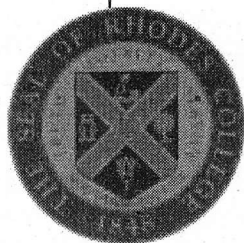


The Weekly Student Newspaper of
Rhodes College

THE SOU' WESTER

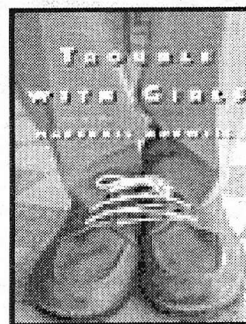


VOL. LXXXX, No. 18 20

4.23.03

Review

Scott Holmes reviews
Professor Marshall
Boswell's newly-re-
leased novel *Trouble
with Girls*.



See **A&E**

Opinion

Rhodes Student Gov-
ernment clarifies the
role of student organi-
zations' and their au-
tonomy on campus.

See **Opinion**

Faculty votes to reduce class time

By Caitlin Goodrich

Tensions were high when faculty members met Wednesday, April 9 to vote on the curriculum committee's proposal that would reduce class time from sixty to fifty minutes for Monday, Wednesday, and Friday classes and from ninety to seventy-five minutes for Tuesday and Thursday classes. This reduction allows for the creation of an additional class period each day, and the proposal will be put into place in January of 2004. Proponents of the change believe that this decrease in class time will allow for more flexibility in scheduling, increase students' interaction with professors as well as their time spent individually preparing for class, and foster an environment more conducive to learning than the current schedule permits.

The proposal has received much attention within the campus community over past weeks, and, ironically, it is the students who seem to oppose this change. A recent survey conducted by the Rhodes Student Government revealed that the student body "overwhelming (more than 2 to 1) opposes the proposal." In a letter of opposition distributed to the faculty prior to their vote, RSG argued that the proposal "provides no substantive gain in time for faculty [or students]"; rather, the institution of such a schedule would drastically decrease the amount of time students spend in class each semes-

ter (by over seven hours per course per semester). In addition, RSG believes that class length is not to blame for current scheduling conflicts; instead, the "congestion is a product of the inordinate use of a few popular class periods." Finally, many students contend that the notion that by decreasing class time, professors and students will be more likely to better utilize their time in and outside of the classroom is unfounded. It is a matter of personal habit and discipline, they say, not scheduling.

Many faculty members feel similarly. Dr. Marshall McMahon, Professor of Economics, believes that the implementation of this proposal would be "morally wrong to current students and parents" and would represent a "breach of trust" between the college and those who pay faculty salaries. Refusing to allow students and parents to participate in the decision-making process, McMahon says, is "shameful"; he maintains it will only foster a feeling of resentment on behalf of the students toward the faculty. McMahon feels so strongly about the issue at hand that he recently contacted *The Commercial Appeal* in an effort to "stop the college from committing this breach of faith." McMahon is not alone in his opposition. Dr. Carolyn Jaslow, Associate Professor of Biology, refutes the committee's argument that the proposal would alleviate congestion in scheduling.

"When the new library is built, there'll be more space," she says. "This problem may be gone in a couple of years." Still others question why faculty members who wish to shorten classes simply do not release their students from class ten minutes early. One professor even went so far as to plead with the faculty present at the April 9 meeting; "I desperately need those ten minutes," he said. "Please don't take them away from me."

However, many faculty members support the committee's proposal. Associate Professor of Religious Studies Joe Favazza believes that the change would "set an educational vision" for the college. "We're at a moment where we're beginning to create a new culture of learning," he says. Other professors argue that the reduction of class time will motivate instructors to use time more effectively. "Ten more minutes of my wisdom won't help," one professor stated. "This is to the students' advantage." In addition, many professors believe that the change would make Rhodes more competitive with other colleges and universities of its size, the majority of which operate on the proposed schedule. "It's not a question of equating time with dollars and cents," one professor told his colleagues during the meeting. "If we do that, we're missing the point. Rather,

Faculty, continued on Page 6

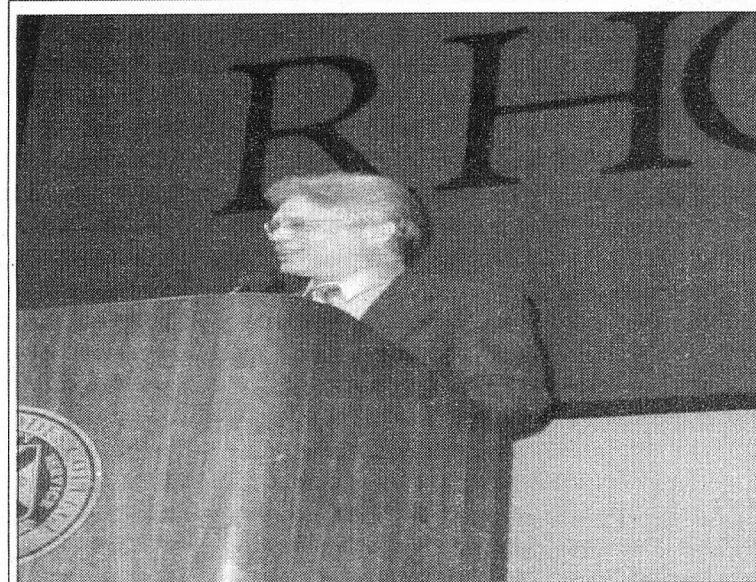


Photo by Ashley Kutz

SEIDMAN LECTURE

Joshua Muravchik spoke Monday night on the Bush administration's preemptive approach to U.S. foreign policy.

Bush's evolving foreign policy: Muravchik's breakdown and analysis of the change

By Ashley Kutz

Joshua Muravchik, a current Scholar at the American Enterprise Institute, wrapped up the 2002-2003 Seidman Lecture Series Monday night. His lecture, entitled "The Bush Doctrine: Preemption, Spreading Democracy and the Uses of American Power," focused primarily on U.S. foreign policy issues post-September 11.

Muravchik argued that September 11 changed the Bush administration's view on foreign policy, forcing it to become proactive in nature. This terrorist attack was new only in the scale of the attack, not on the actual act of terrorist attacks, which have occurred throughout history. Realizing that terrorists are not satisfied with their feats has caused a change in the tra-

ditionally unilateralist U.S. approach to foreign policy.

Bush's response, according to Muravchik, is a threefold process of preemption, alteration in national security strategy, and the political transformation of the Middle East. This vision marks a move away from the foreign policy platform on which he was elected.

The doctrine of preemption, the most controversial element of Bush's response, is a preventative solution directed toward antagonist states. Muravchik claims the right to preemptive military action to disarm will work to eliminate world-wide threats. Criticisms of this tactic include the lack of defined characteristics and standards to at-

Muravchik, continued on Page 6



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 founded 1848

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Letters, continued

Letters to the Editor

To the Editor,

Kathlene Caldwell's April 2nd letter to the editor, while both thoughtful *and* thought-provoking, attempted to explain and treat the *symptoms* of a disease, rather than focus on the disease itself.

Miss Caldwell states that our student Senate is one in which the elected 'act not as representatives, but as individuals' more concerned with 'building their personals resumes' than abiding by those standards set forth in the constitution of Rhodes Student Government. I disagree--the sheer fact that Miss Caldwell has misgivings and doubts about her representation is a wonderful sign, I think, that our senate is filled with capable, thinking, *caring* beings instead of plastic mongoloid automatons seeking to pad a grad school application.

Furthermore, for one to think that student representatives could realistically keep constituents informed of every detail on every subject means that one would have both no idea of how real representative governments work and a lighter work load that the average Rhodes student. When I elect someone, it is in good faith that I trust I can no longer worry - my chosen candidate will make sure my ideas are represented - not *voiced in particular*. (Note: this does not mean that con-

cerned students shouldn't question their class representatives or that specific concerns by a student in the electorate would be ignored simply because he or she is not a senator.)

Unfortunately, the real problem lies in a type of apathy that I find upsetting and bewildering. How can one expect elected representatives to behave in any way at all if there are no representatives to elect? In the recent election, there were only four candidates to fill five seats as senior representatives on RSG. If Miss Caldwell had taken the time to fill out a petition and vote for herself, she would be on RSG today. I, for one, don't know where I stand in the senate--I was neither elected nor appointed, but 'approved' like grade-A beef.

I want to believe that Rhodes Student Government can work and that the Rhodes student body wants to both cheer them on and fight them tooth and nail. I challenge more students to step up, take a stand--if you don't, think of how boring campus will be. But please trust that everyone elected or appointed or even approved is working as hard as they can for the benefit of a school they love as much as you.

Anders Reynolds
 Senator-Elect, Class of '04

To the Editor,

In a letter published in the April 2 issue of the Sou'wester, Kathlene Caldwell questioned the opposition of Rhodes Student Government (RSG) to the faculty proposal to shorten classes. As one of the leaders of that opposition, I feel compelled to respond and explain why RSG acted the way it did.

I and other members of RSG share Kathlene's frustration with regard to the lack of communication between the student government and the student body. There are a number of reasons why communication may be less open than in the past, none of which is completely under RSG's control. First, we are no longer allowed to use the College's e-mail distribution list to communicate with the student body. When we finally did send out a campus-wide e-mail the day before the faculty vote, we manually typed in every student's e-mail address. Even so, we still caught some flak for "cluttering people's mailboxes." Another avenue of communication between RSG and the student body in past years was the electronic bulletin board. That service was removed by the administration last May and is still unavailable, although the Information Services Department plans to have it back online in the very near future. Additionally, when RSG sent in an announcement about the class shortening proposal to the eWeekly almost a week before the faculty

vote, that announcement was inadvertently omitted.

These circumstances prevented us from initiating mass communication with the entire student body. I and other members of the student government spoke with hundreds of students about the class shortening proposal between last November, when it was first introduced, and this March. We came away from these conversations with the distinct impression that a majority of students, like us, had severe reservations about the proposal. With that knowledge, we felt justified in drafting a letter to the faculty expressing our opposition -- a statement that was approved unanimously by the Senate. The outcome of last Tuesday's online poll confirmed our beliefs about student opinion on this issue; those who were opposed outnumbered those who were in favor by 61%-28%.

Kathlene and others have questioned why the student body was not polled earlier, before RSG voted to oppose the proposal. We felt that it would not be appropriate to bring the issue before either RSG or the student body while the proposal was still being considered at the committee level, especially since we were given the impression that there would be a substantial time interval between approval of the proposal by the faculty's Curriculum Committee and its consideration by the entire faculty. Instead, the Curriculum Committee passed the proposal on February 26, and the faculty considered it just a week later on March 5. The last RSG meeting before the March 5 faculty meeting was on February 27, a mere day after the Curriculum Committee sent the proposal to the faculty. There was simply not sufficient time to set up, publicize, administer, and act in response to an online poll.

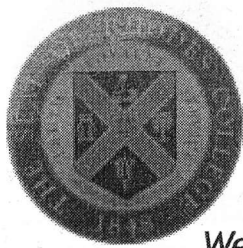
Finally, I would like to take a moment to respond to the suggestion that "polls should be implemented before the Student Government writes a document that is supposed to express the wants and needs of the entire Student

Body." With all due respect for this position, I feel that it is entirely incompatible with the purpose of Rhodes Student Government. RSG is an elected representative body, much like the U.S. Congress or a state legislature. While we expect our representatives in Congress to take our opinions and interests into account, we do not expect them to poll us before every vote. If the only valid resolutions are those supported by a majority of students in an opinion poll, then we might as well function as a direct democracy and vote as an entire student body on every issue that confronts us. But this is not a very efficient or practical way to operate.

As students, when you elect representatives to RSG, you are commissioning them to act in the interests of the student body: "to strive for the highest quality of Student life, both inside and outside of the classroom at Rhodes," in the words of the RSG Constitution. That involves leadership as well as pure representation; it means that senators must actively and honestly strive to determine in their own minds what is best. Polls are useful and even desirable on some major issues, but a policy of binding referenda on every question that comes before RSG cannot be sustained in light of the RSG mission or of the lack of general interest on many issues.

Having said that, I reiterate that communication between senators and their constituents is absolutely essential, and that communication this year has been far short of where it ideally should be. I hope that the return of the electronic bulletin board will help alleviate this problem. In the meantime, I welcome any discussion or suggestions on how RSG can better communicate with you, our constituents. This is an issue of concern to everyone on the student government, and we would most certainly value your input on it.

Jay Sulzmann '04
 RSG Senator and Chair
 of Academic Affairs
 Committee



Wednesday, April 23, 2003

PAGE 3
OPINION

JESSICA PAZGETTIN' IT TOGETHA'

The bench revisited: a senior develops morals

Same Time: 10:00am, MWF
Same Place: Bench outside of Palmer; Sunny, Breezy Day
Same Action: College Senior Inner Monologue, Female

Oh god. I have a week of class left. I cannot believe it. Where did it all go? Somewhere between paper deadlines, glass nights, date parties, and meetings, I lived a college life. I remember late night talks with my friends and the delirium from staying up late to finish that seven page paper I did not start until 11pm. I remember watching the *Golden Girls*, drinking cosmopolitans, and talking about stupid people but I do not remember the flips of the calendar. I do not remember where the years went. Just yesterday, I was a freshman giggling about boys and weekend parties. Now, I giggle about

freshman. Nothing condescending, though. Just recalling a simpler time when the best days of your life were ahead of you. Everything was possible to achieve in four years.

Things were simpler then, but I am sure all old jaded seniors say that. The innocence and naivete is beautiful. It did not seem like it at the time. My biggest worry was whether or not I had missed more than five days of my 11:30 MWF or would I finish those arduous six pages for English 151. Six pages can be done properly in at least three hours now. Maybe less if I know the subject matter well enough. Funny.

I can't believe it. Here comes that same girl who was in my class last semester. She still has not learned to dress. Good god, chica; throw a cardigan over those ta-tas. I know its spring and

you want a little freedom from those itchy wool sweaters, but come on. That's it. I am finally going to say something.

"Excuse me. Hi. Sorry to flag you down but I was in a class with you last semester."

"Yeah, I remember you. You are the know-it-all senior in my history class. You never shut up."

"Well, sorry about that. That class was my favorite and I get really excited about the subject matter. Anyway, I was going to mention something. Please don't take this the wrong way. I am only saying something for your own good."

"What could you possibly say to me 'for my own good?'"

"Listen, I do not appreciate your tone, Missy. Fine (hesitate). You dress like a Summer Ave. hooker. I have seen more class on a crack whore than the way you parade around campus

with little more than duck tape strategically located on your body so not to completely offend people. Do you have any respect for yourself? Do you realize the messages you are sending to others who see the way you are dressed? You are a walking 'give it to me' billboard. I can see how that type of apparel is necessary on a weekend, but in the broad daylight? Please dress like you attend a prestigious liberal arts college instead of a liberal body arts college."

"Are you finished?"

"No. I have a plethora of verbal abuses left because I have been rehearsing this moment all year. But if I am offending you, I'll stop."

Oh no. That is it. I had no idea. That is where all the time went. I was judging people all four years, constantly preoccupied with trivial things. I con-

cerned myself with how people presented themselves, what the rumors said without really getting to know people. I made assumptions. I criticized. I'm a hypocrite. Looking at the floozy, I realized I no longer want to live my life this way. I no longer want to waste the years in bitterness, grudges, and judgment. I guess in my four years, I learned compassion, forgiveness, and tolerance. I've matured...somewhat.

"You know, I am sorry I said those things. I did not mean it. I...I am just being judgmental. Please accept my apology."

"Sure."

"Can I just point out one thing?"

"Yeah?"

"Your thong is hanging out. You might want to fix that."

"I know. It's intentional!"

Letters, continued

Rhodes Student Government (RSG) writes to correct and supplement information presented in the front page April 2, 2003 *Sou'wester* article by Amber Shaw and Julie Clary, entitled "RSG proposal to RAB raises questions of autonomy on campus." The article leads one to believe RSG is attempting to exact inappropriate control over campus organizations. This is patently untrue. The very "proposal" around which the article's suggestive elements hinge was actually the starting point of an informal discussion between some members of a work group of RSG and some members of Rhodes Activities Board (RAB) to increase the independence of the latter organization. We will also address other suggestive elements of the article, though secondary, as they too lack significant facts.

Recognized organizations fall into one of two categories. Those that are *autonomous* of RSG (groups such as HOLA, Crew, RAB, and innumerable others)

are independent organizations. Such recognition qualifies organizations to apply for money from the Student Activity Fund during the allocations processes. These organizations submit budgets to the Allocations Board, and send representatives to discuss the specific requests with the members of the Allocations Board. Approved budgets are then submitted to the Senate for final endorsement. If an organization wishes to use appropriated funding for a new purpose, approval of the RSG Treasurer and/or the entire Allocations Board must be sought, depending on the amount of money in question.

The second category, organizations that are *semi-autonomous*, are technically an element of RSG. But semi-autonomous bodies of RSG should not be perceived as puppets of the student government. Such is clearly supported by the fact that this newspaper's governing

See Letter, page 4

CARSON WEITNAUER PERIPATETIC GADFLY

Celebrating the college experience

It is hard to write a final column for the *Sou'wester* as a senior and yet avoid two inexcusable extremes, each of which is very easy to fall into. The first type of final column I wish to refrain from is the one that is full of sappy, mawkish advice that pretends to be important but is instead well-worn and trivial. Who really wants to read the overused encouragements to "be all you can be" and "life is short, play hard?" The other type of writing I hope to sidestep is an attempt at humor in order to evade the responsibility of giving clear, substantive words of wisdom that have been apprehended only after doing it the wrong way for far too long. It is my hope that the past four years have taught me something worth passing onto my peers.

To my peers who are anticipating graduation, I encourage you to seek careers, volunteer activities, and hobbies that take you beyond the mundane pur-

poses of making money, traveling extensively, driving nice cars, having the right friends, and living in safe neighborhoods. Never forget that we live in a world caught up in classism, racism, sexism, poverty, violence and deep suffering. Spend the best years of your life working for the sake of people made in the very image of God. I don't mean to suggest that we must all become case workers, but that whatever our occupation there is something more to life than the accumulation of nice things and pleasant experiences.

To those who have a few years left at Rhodes, I encourage you to take full advantage of the opportunities you have at this place. Since many of you seem to be taking advantage of *too* many opportunities, and are failing to get much sleep, I hope my encouragement is not taken the wrong way. Given that you cannot do it all, it makes sense to choose a few opportunities that you really enjoy

and pursue them to the fullest. Make a few particularly deep and strong friendships. Take great classes and give yourself time to enjoy them. Serve in one or two organizations where you can offer your own unique and special gifts for the betterment of the Rhodes or Memphis community. But whatever you choose to do, try not to waste your time attempting to do it all and finding that you have not really experienced much of anything.

To everyone, I want to briefly share what I daily recognize to be at the very center of reality.

Whether you are a freshman struggling to find community and deep friendships (just like every other first-year at every college), a sophomore wrestling with choosing a major and trying to fit in somewhere,

See Celebrating, page 8



When does living start to matter?

By Nicole Templet

Sports can be a life-altering experience. For some, sports teach them solely skills and tactics, but many athletes also learn respect, ethics, responsibility, and leadership through sports. The lessons athletes can learn from sports can be applied to almost all aspects of life. Now, I know we may not all play sports or even enjoy watching them, but the world of sports does offer some lessons that are important for everyone, and the following is one such example.

About a month ago, 23-year-old Steve Bechler, pitcher for the Baltimore Orioles, died 24 hours after complaining of dizziness during a spring training workout session. After finding Xenadrine RFA-1 in his locker, a Florida medical examiner believed Bechler's death to be the result of the ephedrine in these diet pills. Admittedly, stories of athletes abusing drugs have sadly become quite common. As I am a runner and soccer player, however, the death of baseball player Bechler caught my attention because I had never realized before how ephedra use has become so commonplace. This has become a serious problem in need of attention, and not just on the playing fields.

His death has brought national awareness and pressure to ban this drug. Like me, others are beginning to realize how serious this problem has become. Although The NFL, NCAA, and the International Olympic Committee have

banned the use of ephedra supplements, and just recently, it has been thrown out of Major League Baseball, the FDA has not yet banned ephedra. Despite this, they have demanded that stronger warning labels be placed on ephedra-based products to warn that the pills can cause heart attacks, strokes, and even death. The government stopped short of an immediate ban. However, many sports organizations and medical experts are taking great steps to get ephedra banned. They have brought their case to Congress. Lawmakers are currently in the process of gathering research and data and hearing testimonies by group organizations like the American Medical Association. Individual states are also now taking a strong stance against makers of ephedra. Several weeks ago, the state of Missouri lashed out against makers of the popular weight loss supplement. Missouri's Attorney General filed a lawsuit at the end of March against the producers of "Hydroxycut." This pill contains ephedra, and the Attorney General is arguing that the manufacturer did not unveil the safety risks that accompany the supplement. While the company claims that "Hydroxycut" has been clinically proven to be a fat burner, the lawsuit argues that those statements are entirely false.

Despite all of this, regardless of the medical warnings that have been released and the intense warning labels on bottles, people continue to use ephedra. One would think that the risks involved would scare people and deter them from

using such products, *but they haven't!* So, the question is, *why the hell not?* Advertisements of ephedra products tell consumers that they can lose many pounds and take off inches, *but* what they won't tell consumers is that you can also lose you life.

We live in a nation engrossed with weight and food. Everywhere you turn, there are advertisements luring you in with low fat or fat free foods, new breakthrough diets, weight loss pills, and the like. One cannot flip through a magazine without encountering numerous ads soliciting magical pills that are promoted as useful in losing weight and enhancing athletic performance. People are so preoccupied with image and weight that they are willing to take the risk--even if the ultimate result is a deathbed. It amazes me the chances that people are willing to take and how far they will go to lose weight. This is what happens when people place looks above health--the possibility of losing their life becomes irrelevant.

letter, continued from page 3

body, the Publications Board, is itself a *semi-autonomous* organization. While observance of common standards of responsible journalism is required of all student publications, RSG does not control the campus press.

The primary difference between the two types of organizations lies in a *semi-autonomous* organization's ability to shift funding from one line-item expense to another, without seeking the approval of the RSG Treasurer and/or the Allocations Board. *Semi-autonomous* organizations are few in number and

are extended such budgetary independence for a number of potential reasons: an unusually high number of expenditures necessary for the functioning of the organization; the frequency of contact between the leadership of the Allocations Board and the leadership of the organization; and constitutional checks above and beyond the norm, providing sustainable, substantive prevention of funding misuse, among others. As an example, what is now RAB was formerly the Social Commission and was a semi-autonomous body of RSG six years ago. However, the membership of the former Social Commission requested to become an *autonomous* student organization and such was granted.

The proposal that the April 2 article references was a starting point of organized discussion between some members of a work group of RSG and some members of RAB. The "proposal" was never a formal proposition put to RAB by RSG. The proposal roughly outlined some details of RAB potentially returning to a *semi-autonomous* status. The article's implication of underhanded scheming by quoting a Senator who was uninformed of the full content and beneficial implications of the proposal (and who was consequently opposed to elements of it), is utterly unfounded. The work group had been formally charged by the Senate to examine the sufficiency of the Student Activity Fund and to then review the efficiency of the allocations process. The membership of the work group was open to all members of the Rhodes community and meetings of the work group were widely advertised to the leaders of student organizations, and even featured in the *e-Weekly*.

To presumably further support a theme of RSG's pursuing campus domination, the April 2 article gives attention to unnamed, uncorroborated "SRC sources" who purport-

edly claim "verbal suggestions to unite the Honor Council, SRC, and RSG have existed for over one year." However, as Jon David Willingham, RSG President-elect was quoted, "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." Such sentiment has been echoed by the leadership of both the Honor and Social Regulations Councils.

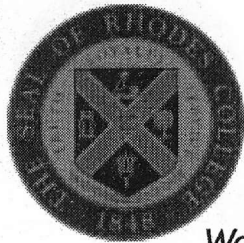
Finally, the April 2 article discusses the structure of the new website's Student Leadership section, submitting such as further evidence of a wanted RSG-centered conglomerate. Unfortunately for such a premise, RSG's input, provided to the site designers as to an appropriate structuring of the section, detailed the need for equal, separate sections for the various campus governance and judicial bodies. Over the course of the site's development, however, editing of that requested structure took place and went live without the involvement of any of the campus governance or judicial bodies, including RSG. This issue was recognized by RSG and the other bodies immediately at the time of the site's launch and a collaborative request for the section's structural alteration was submitted. Structural changes, reflecting such post-launch input will be implemented; however, due to limited manpower and other higher priority site issues, suggesting a specific timeline is impractical.

We hope this response clears any confusion regarding these matters. If you have further concerns, please contact your RSG representatives.

On behalf of Rhodes Student Government,

Tyler H. Sanders
 President & Student Trustee

This is the last Sou'wester for the semester. Look for us again in the Fall.



Campus Safety

3.31.03-4.06.03

3/31	12:26pm	Bellingrath: Larceny from a Building - Fire extinguisher removed from it's cabinet. Had to be replaced by Campus Safety
	10:10pm	Bellingrath: 1 st floor - Suspicious person; African American male, wearing light colored blue jeans, gray shirt, knocking on a door on the first floor - not recognized by any one. Possibly driving a green car. Campus Safety responded to call, but he had left
	10:25pm	Glassell Parking lot: Hit and run vehicle accident
4/1	6:20am	Bellingrath Alarm: Smoke in hallway - Officers located a burned out AC motor in attic. Replaced, all okay
	7:05pm	BCLC; Suspicious person - Located subject and removed him from campus, with threat of arrest if returned
	9:15pm	Upper east Phillips Lane; Vehicle driving on grass and slate. Located and cited student
4/2	12:05am	Tutwiler west of University: Burglary of a Vehicle. Vehicle's vinyl top was slashed to gain access, stereo stolen. MPD called
	8:31am	Ellett Hall; vandalism - Fire extinguisher shot off in hallway
4/3	2:50pm	Ellett Hall; Burglary of a room - lap top computer stolen from un-locked room
	6:50pm	Ellett Hall; Burglary of a room - Play Station 2 stolen from un-locked room
	10:02pm	Fraternity Row; Noise complaint from neighborhood
4/4	12:10am	Phillips Lane - Complaint of glass breaking; nothing found
	1:30am	Mallory Lot - Construction fence damaged when cars attempted to exit lot
	10:44pm	Robb 3 rd floor: Vandalism - sink ripped from the wall of bathroom
4/5	1:40am	East Village: Illness - Ambulance called, no transport
	9:08pm	BCLC: Bomb Threat - call was made from the main lobby of the Bryan Campus Life Center, from the red emergency phone. Caller, identified as a young male said "Rhodes was going to blow". As the country is under "code Orange" for terrorism and this statement indicated a possible bomb, the building was evacuated and a search made by CS, MPD and the MPD "Bomb Dog" team. Building was cleared and everyone allowed back in at 11:15pm.
4/6	NOTHING UNUSUAL REPORTED	

The Rhodes College Chapter of Phi Beta Kappa (Gamma of Tennessee) is pleased to announce that the following students from the class of 2003 have been invited to join the Society as Members-in-Course:

Tavishi Agrawala
Adam Becker
Lauren Blalock
Aaron Broadwell
Richard Campbell
Katie Cox
Stephanie Cox
Robert Davis
Miriam Dillard
Latham Fink
Lindsey Greer
Christine Grimm
Benjamin Groover
Margie Hall
Jessica Hoback
Timothy Hoggard
Jessica Hubbs
Lance Ingwersen

Stuart Johnson
Nicole Lindner
Margaret Love
Laura Marks
Brooke Molpus
James Mueller
Tom O'Hara
Charles Patrick
Melinda Phillips
Carolyn Pinkerton
Emily Ramsey
Jennifer Riem
Eric Santiago
Sandra Scott
Joey Sherrard
Elizabeth Smith
Alison Stohr
Allison Terry

Aaron Tucker
Jason Wagenmaker
Caki Wilkenson
Grace Williams
Jiazhen Zhang

Three other members of the class of 2003, **Whitney Bryant**, **Anna Lunsford**, and **Karyn Spence** accepted membership in 2002 during their junior year.

The chapter is also pleased to announce the invitation to Membership-in-Course of the members of the class of 2004, **Christopher France** and **Michael Roach**.

Election to Membership-in-Course in Phi Beta Kappa is based upon a record of excellence in the study of liberal subjects. The chapter congratulates all the membership elect for their exceptional academic accomplishments.

New members of Phi Beta Kappa will be inducted in a ceremony, which will be held at 11:30 on Friday, May 16 in the Blount Auditorium of Buckman Hall. A musical contribution under the direction of Professor Tom Bryant is planned during the ceremony.

The annual luncheon will follow the induction ceremony at approximately 12:15 in the West Dining Hall of the Burrow Refectory. The speaker at the luncheon will be announced.

Members of the Rhodes College community are invited to attend both of these events. Persons wishing to make luncheon reservations should contact Dr. Terry Hill for details.

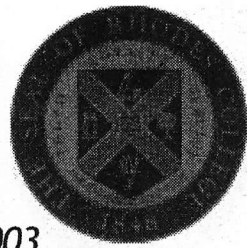


MEMPHIS PANDAS

Le Le (pictured) and Ya Ya are the new pandas at the Memphis Zoo. Le Le is a four year-old male giant panda from the Chongqing Zoo in China. He enjoys eating bamboo. Zoo officials claim that Le Le lives up to his name, which means "happy, happy."

The pandas arrived from China via a special FedEx airplane on April 7. They will be on view for the public beginning April 25. Rhodes students are able to visit the Memphis Zoo free of charge on Tuesday afternoons from 2 to 5 p.m.

Photo courtesy of Memphis Zoo



Week in Review

Faculty, continued from Page 1

Muravchik, continued from Page 1

Pandas arrive at Memphis Zoo

By Margie Hall

On April 7th, FedEx delivered long-awaited giant pandas to the Memphis Zoo. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife service recently issued a permit approving the loan of the pandas, marking the final step in a three-year process which began when Chinese officials sent the Memphis Zoo a letter of intent in 1999.

Le Le, a four-year-old male, and Ya Ya, a two-year-old female, will be housed in the \$16 million CHINA exhibit, which opened last July and includes a number of other Chinese animals. They are one of four pairs of giant pandas that reside in the United States and nine pairs that are showcased worldwide. There are estimated to be less than 1000 giant pandas left in the world, making the pair members of an endangered species.

The pair will make their public debut on Friday, April 25th after a mandatory acclimation period. According to Brian Carter, the Communications Specialist of the Memphis Zoo, "they're in our backyard right now." Carter indicated that the pandas are successfully adjusting to their new habitat and to their three zookeepers.

On April 24th, ABC plans to air a documentary during Prime Time hours on the pandas. It will focus on their arrival, their acclimation to their new home, and a day in the life of their keepers. Visitors to the CHINA exhibit will pay a \$3 panda conservation fee that will be donated to giant panda conservation projects in China. Ticket sales on Friday and Saturday will be first come, first serve. The zoo expects large crowds. Carter suggested that those interested can reserve tickets starting Monday at www.memphiszoo.org.

International

KENYA In a nightmare come true, four preteen girls from Northern Kenya suffered injuries and severe fright from being attacked by baboons attempting to obtain some of the water the girls had drawn from a well more than seven miles from their village. The thirty thirsty primates assaulted the girls during a time of drought in the region; wild animals and humans currently draw their water from the same sites. Due to the incident, which resulted only in mild physical injury for the girls, women traversing extremely long distances to waterholes must be escorted by males for protection.

SPAIN Blunt Spanish foreign minister Ana Palacio stated at a press conference that Spain would not support an Islamic government's being installed in Iraq. Realizing the implications of the statement, Palacio refined her statement to explain that she was referring not to an Islamic government in the general sense but to an extremist Islamic government, which she felt would not benefit the Iraqi people. Clarifying that she did not oppose Islamic countries, Palacio references Spain's strong relationship with Turkey, a largely Muslim yet democratic nation.

SERBIA The Serbian government ended a "state of emergency" for the nation which was installed just over a month ago in the wake of Prime Minister Zoran Djindjic's assassination. The emergency state was initiated to aid in arresting allies of the former President Milosevic, whose cohorts are highly suspected in the assassination. Around 10000 citizens were detained in the investigation, and two secret service officials have been accused of direct involvement in the assassination.

National

WASHINGTON FBI officials say they recovered some of the artwork recently stolen from Iraqi museums and are investigating the path the pieces followed in getting to the United States, where the biggest illegal market is expected for such artwork. Two U.S. citizens, at least one of whom is a journalist, were detained for possession of the contraband but are not currently accused of illegal activity. No official information has yet been released about the nature of the artwork recovered at customs.

WASHINGTON AND FLORIDA A Tacoma mail facility and a Fort Myers airport cargo station both experienced biological weapons scares when workers discovered powdery substances. The powder in Tacoma has been deemed non-toxic, and those exposed to the powders in both locations have shown no signs of sickness.

CALIFORNIA In an all-too-familiar scenario, the nation's oldest human passed away. Dorothy Christian, aged 113 at the time of her death from pneumonia, lived on her own until the age of 102, when she reluctantly agreed to enter a care facility. The new oldest person in the nation, also 113, is Elana Slough of New Jersey.

KANSAS Professors need not worry about the financial implications of showing explicit material in their courses after Governor Kathleen Sibelius' veto of legislation which would terminate all funding such departments at state universities. The bill was proposed after a University of Kansas professor in Human Sexuality used obscene language, blatantly sexual speech, and unorthodox measures in a class. The legislature is currently engaged in the debates which precede a revote to override Sibelius' veto.

this discussion raises serious questions about what learning is truly about."

Dean Robert Llewellyn halted the faculty's debate. Citing recent communications in which current parents and students have expressed discontent with the debate, he suggested an amendment to the initial proposal. "We have not been successful in making our rationale clear," he told his colleagues. He called the college catalogue a "contract" in which it states that a minimum of twelve months notice must be given before any substantial change is enacted. "Therefore," he said, "we ought to give ourselves a full year to make our rationale clear. This is not just about time spent in class, it is about engaged learning. But, we need to take the time to explain." Apparently, the majority of the faculty agrees. This amended proposal narrowly passed (49 to 55); if all goes as planned, this revised schedule will take effect in the fall of the 2004-2005 academic year.

Student response to the faculty vote has been mixed. While some wonder what exactly the big deal is, others have expressed frustration. Jon David Willingham, incoming student body president, spoke on behalf of RSG: "Clearly, RSG is disappointed with the faculty's ultimate decision. An overwhelming majority of the student body --and 47% of the faculty who voted--opposed the proposal. Such opposition stemmed not from a lack of understanding of the proposal's rationale but from a substantive disagreement with the rationale's foundations. Nevertheless, in keeping with the mission of RSG, we were very pleased with the active dialoguing among all sectors of the college." This dialogue will undoubtedly continue over the next year as the curriculum committee and the faculty work to clarify the basis for their decision to the college community.

tack, as well as the role of international law and nation's inherent right of self-defense, each of which are not substantive.

Strategic national security by maintaining military strength is the second pillar of the revised Bush foreign policy. Muravchik argues that there is no feasible challenge to US power and that superpower confrontation is a thing of the past, viewing this as an inconsequential element of the strategy to prevent the rise of an adversarial superpower.

Bush's work to transform the political state of Middle Eastern nations stresses the application of freedom and democracy. The root cause of terrorism, which Muravchik referred to as the "poisonous political culture," is characterized by tyranny, violence, extremism, and the complete absence of freedom. Implementation of Bush's policies will work toward the dissolution of this system by turning attention not to the actual terrorist events but rather the states that support these groups by providing weapons, funds, security, and a cover.

Muravchik concluded his prepared analysis by citing that terrorist threats can no longer be faced with a policy of deterrence. The amorphous nature of terrorism prevents knowledge of their origin and the actual source of the attack, evident clearly through the Anthrax attack that followed September 11.

Evolving proactive foreign policy in the Bush administration is the primary result of the terrorist attacks, the success and effects of which is Muravchik believes are entirely unpredictable.



Get your mind out of a finals funk: spring is here!

by Autumn Brice

Finals are just around the corner. Research papers, exams, presentations, and projects are hanging over our heads, and a mere week and a half remains in the semester. In the spirit of procrastination, however, here are some events around town sure to keep you distracted until Memphis in May rolls around... or, depending on your view of things, finals:

Critically acclaimed Louisiana poet **Yusef Komunyakaa** reads April 23 from his recent collections, entitled *Talking Dirty to the Gods* (Farrar Straus & Giroux, 2001) and *Pleasure Dome: New and Collected Poems* (Wesleyan University Press, 2001). Komunyakaa last visited Rhodes in 2000. The reading begins at 7:30 in the Bryan Campus Life Center Ballroom and is followed by a reception. Be sure to arrive early!

For poetry in a slightly different setting, check out **Java Cabana** Thursdays and Sundays at 8:00 p.m. Hear the New Century Beatniks present their poetic efforts to the tune of finger-snapping and coffee-grinding -- it's an experience you'll never forget. Call Java Cabana at 272-7210 for directions.

Don't miss the show Tim DiChiara calls a "toe-tapping, pulse-pounding, voice-belting, heart-stopping chronicle of African-American history." *Bring in 'Da Noise, Bring in 'Da Funk*, the unlikely Broadway hit that garnered four Tony awards in 1996, graces the Orpheum stage April 23-24 at 7:30 p.m., April 25-26 at 8:00 p.m., and April 27 at 1:30 p.m. and 7:00 p.m. Tickets are \$25-\$55 at all Ticketmaster locations. Call the Orpheum at 525-3000 for more information.

In the mood for comedy? The Memphis theater scene offers two shows guaranteed to have you rolling. *Dearly Departed*, in all

its dysfunctional, clichéd Southern glory, runs this week, April 23-27, at the Germantown Community Theater. Call 754-2680 for ticket information. The national sensation *Fully Committed*, a one-man show chronicling a day in the life of a "reservationist" at a trendy restaurant, is featured April 24 through May 25 at the Circuit Playhouse. Tickets are \$16 for students. Call Circuit at 726-5523 for details.

In other, less reverent comedy news, **George Carlin** will appear at Sam's Town April 25 at 8:00 p.m. In addition to his particularly offensive brand of humor (including the "Seven Dirty Words You Can't Say on Radio or Television," which became the center of a debate over censorship and FCC legislation over profanity), Bill Edwards observes that Carlin's "never-before seen style of observational comedy" emerged "at a time when Seinfeld was still living at home reading Superman comic books." Tickets range from \$34-\$44. Sam's Town ticket information can be found by calling 662-363-0711. Stick around the next night for *Sinbad* at 8:00 p.m.!

If you're itching to see how Rhodes performances compare to other Memphis productions, you're in luck. Both *Hamlet* and *Gianni Schicchi* (the opera performed by Rhodes students last semester) continue to draw audiences in Memphis. Giacomo Puccini's *Gianni Schicchi* and

Suor Angelica premiere April 24 at the University of Memphis's Harris Auditorium. Tickets are \$10, and the box office can be reached at 678-3766. *Hamlet's* run at Theatre Memphis's Little Theater continues this weekend. Catch the show April 24 at 7:30 p.m., and April 25-26 at 8:00 p.m. \$10 student tickets can be purchased in advance by calling 682-8323. Rhodes continues to capture audiences' imagination this week, as well. Shows run April 23-26 at 7:30 p.m., concluding with a matinee on Sunday, April 27 at 2:30 p.m. Don't miss this incredible show!

Finally, if you just want to relax before finals in a contemplative setting, visit the **Georgia O'Keeffe exhibit** at the Brooks Museum, located in Overton Park, across the street from the zoo. The exhibit, entitled "Georgia O'Keeffe and the Calla Lily in American Art: 1860-1940," presents fifty works by more than thirty American painters and photographers. These rich images focus on the calla lily, an exotic South African flower imported by America beginning in the mid-1900s. The exhibit runs until Sunday, May 4. Contact the Brooks Museum at 544-6200.

Don't let finals interrupt your fun...take the time to relax and broaden your mind this spring!

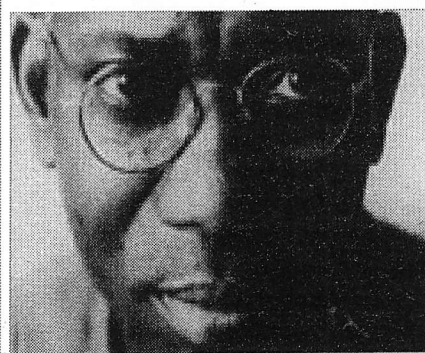


Photo courtesy of the Rhodes English Department

YUSEF KOMUNYAKAA

Pulitzer Prize-winning poet Yusef Komunyakaa will read from his collected works on April 23 in the McCallum Ballroom of the Bryan Campus Life Center at 7:30 p.m. Come early, and support this acclaimed American writer! Admission is free, and a reception will follow. Mr. Komunyakaa's visit is sponsored by the Rhodes Creative Writing Department and the Office of the Dean of the College.

Memphis in May festival promises something for everyone

by Autumn Brice

Memphis has always been a city of music: the Birthplace of the Blues, home of Sun Studios and Stax, Elvis's stomping grounds. This May 2-4, the Beale Street Music Festival presents its annual offering to Memphis's cultural heritage. For three days, more than sixty bands, ranging from top international recording artists to local favorites, populate the thirty-three acre Tom Lee Park, overlooking the Mississippi River. Beer and food vendors provide much needed refreshment, and people with musical tastes ranging from funk to mainstream pop have their fill of fantastic music for three days.

The crowds may be rude, smelly, and tough to navigate; finals may come the day after it ends, and tickets may be expensive, but if you haven't had at least one Memphis in May experience, you're seriously missing out.

This year, the four stages will accommodate old staples as well as new sensations. Wilco promises to be the highlight of Friday night; John Mayer (a crowd-pleaser last year), Jonny Lee, Joe Cocker, India.Arie, and Nappy Roots will also appear Friday, a lineup that promises entertainment for fans of various musical styles.

Saturday brings former Rites of Spring bands (and local favorites) Graham Colton and Ingram Hill to the stage, as well as Southern legends Willie Nelson and Jerry Lee Lewis. Successful modern artists Sheryl Crow and 3 Doors Down complete the Saturday lineup.

On Sunday, Billy Lee Riley, the Bar-Kays, Evanescence, the B 52s, the North Mississippi Allstars, LL Cool J, and ZZ Top are the acts to see.

Tickets have been on sale since mid-March at all Ticketmaster locations. A 3-day pass, which gives you access to all four stages Friday, Saturday, and Sunday, costs \$44 if you order before April 30. Order now; tickets sell out fast, and the deal goes away in May! Single day advance tickets are \$19.50 each; tickets the day of the event cost \$22.50. Ticketmaster purchases are available at Cat's Music locations in Memphis.

The Beale Street Festival has something for everyone -- blues, rock, gospel, R&B, alternative, and soul. If you don't mind a little crowding (and don't mind losing your chance to study for finals), you will not want to miss this incredible musical event.

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 23, 2003

The Difficulty of Being Male in Boswell's Trouble with Girls

by Scott Holmes

Prof. Boswell once opened his critique of one of my stories with the line, "Holmes, this reads like the rush job that it is." As you can imagine, the rest of his critique was not too positive, but he was right. My review will not contain sharp yet true criticism (I couldn't find any anyway); instead, it is my honor to review such a wonderful book by a man who taught me so much.

Trouble with Girls is a collection of stories about growing up -- not just the growing up that is done as a child, but the kind that continues through life and never stops. It is a book of the nagging problems that face boys, then men, and never seem to go away. But it goes beyond the simple explanation I have given. It becomes one of those books that you read and think, "Why the hell didn't I write this?"

The adventures of Boswell's protagonist Parker Hayes range from ridiculous to eerily familiar, but always maintain believability, from the little league Parker stuck in right field with an erection in

"Ready Position" to the amazingly boyish way he deals with women in "Grub Worm" and beyond. In "Born Again," one of the stories that centers on Parker's adolescence, the narrator writes, "I was thirteen years old. I knew next to nothing about sex, death, or God and absolutely everything about progressive rock. I was a happy boy, the last happy boy on earth." Only thirty pages into the book, this is where Parker Hayes discovers the mystery of girls.

Parker constantly manages to find himself overwhelmingly obsessed with whichever girl he is thinking about at the time. He thinks about them constantly, has imaginary conversations with them in which he tells them off, arranges every possible chance meeting for them in his head, and usually tries to remind himself why he broke whichever relationship off to begin with. In "Grub Worm," he finally runs into Joyce Askew, with whom he has broken up over a month before and has never stopped arguing with though he had not had any contact with her since that time. The chance meet-

ing in Walgreens where she is simply buying cigarettes and a twelve pack of beer sends him on one of his rants: "It seemed inconceivable to me that this woman, this beguiling creature who had made herself the source of so much distress, could be found on so banal an errand as buying cigarettes." Little moments like this throughout the book make Parker a truly memorable character, part sympathetic, part tragic, and completely problematic.

The collection itself is wonderful; in fact, I could only find one thing wrong with it, and it is so small and picky I feel as though I am in a fiction writing workshop. In "Between Things" the narrator describes a scent that cuts through smoke, etc., and eventually reaches Parker. The only problem with this description is the fact that two times prior in the book, a scent cut through some sort of smoke. Though not really a big deal, I was giddy to find some semblance of imperfection. Maybe it will get a me a dust jacket quote.

An unexpected journey for *Hamlet* participants

by Nicole Lobdell

When we started out seven months ago, we knew that what we were doing was different. A new look at *Hamlet*? Was it even possible to look at the play, which is arguably Shakespeare's greatest work, in a new way? *Hamlet* has been etched into people's minds as serious, morose, and tragic.

From the beginning, we believed that in times of crisis, our relief is laughter, that we can see ourselves and laugh. Our mantra is "FUN!" We wanted to show people the humor in *Hamlet*. We have guided this production to be directed at the Rhodes community. Yes, the rumors are true; there is music in the show, performed both vocally and on guitar and flute. All the music is original and live; most of it is pre-written, but the show opens with a "jam," a musical session that is improvised on the spot and is different every night. We have kept the traditional text but have set the play in a timeless period.

The set, designed by Professor Laura Canon, consists

solely of three ramps, each of which is smoothly curved, but which comes to a sharp point, like the point of a dagger. The colors of the set are those of a bruise: purple, green, blue, and yellow, emphasizing the ugly and troublesome story.

Director Cookie Ewing poses this question to the audience: "If you kill someone I love, may I kill someone you love?" *Hamlet* is a play about revenge, about violence, and about war, so what role does theater play in our play in our present society? Horatio's line says it all: "The purpose of playing, both at the first and now, is to hold the mirror up to nature." The purpose of theater is not only to show us our own humanity, our own vulnerability, but also to show us who we are and who we can be.

The show runs Wednesday, April 23 through Saturday, April 26 at 7:30pm, and Sunday, April 27 at 2:00pm. Call McCoy Box Office for reservations at 843-3839. This is one Rhodes production you will never forget.

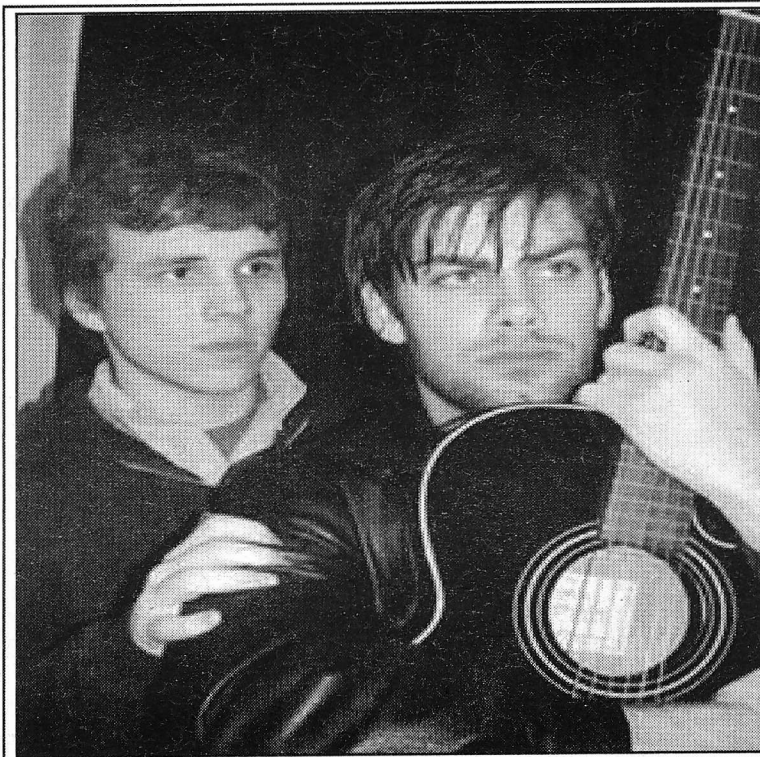
Jesus, continued from Page 3

junior striving to be a leader on campus or to have a few more good parties before responsibility inevitably comes, or a senior preparing to take the final step into adulthood in three weeks, we all need to know that even though God knows every last detail of our messiness, He wants to accept and love us.

We need to surrender. Our fight to make it on our own is futile. The choice is ours: will we go to Jesus, give Him our heavy burdens, ask Him for forgiveness, and find a relationship of intimacy, abundance and security or continue trying to prove to ourselves and everyone else that we are strong enough to go it alone? I am not talking about satisfying the desires of wishful thinking,

but recognizing that your heart's deepest desires point to the God who lovingly formed you. If committing to a relationship with God seems impossible because you do not think He exists, I encourage you to read some accessible, thoughtful books like Mere Christianity and The Case for Christ. I feel compelled to share this good news because, even in my own many happy moments of earthly pleasure, I have found nothing comparable to the joy, contentment and friendship that is in the love which Jesus of Nazareth offers. He is pursuing you-I encourage you to let yourself be caught up in His love and to follow Him.

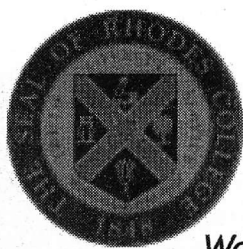
This has been a wonderful college experience. The future is good. Let's get ready to celebrate!



HAMLET REBORN

Kyle Hatley '03 and Anders Reynolds '04 give nuanced performances as Hamlet and Horatio in the Rhodes production of *Hamlet*, running through Sunday at the McCoy Theatre. The talented cast and brilliant behind-the-scenes effort make this version of the classic Shakespearean tragedy both hilarious and touching -- not an easy task to undertake. Reserve your tickets today for this stunning production of Shakespeare's enduring tale of revenge and family loyalty. Call the McCoy Box Office at 843-3839 for details. *Hamlet* runs from Wednesday, April 23 until Sunday, April 27. Tickets are \$10 for the general public, \$7 for senior citizens, and \$5 for students.

Photo courtesy of McCoy Theatre



Wednesday, April 23, 2003

Rhodes track & field dominates at Vanderbilt Invitational

By Colin Strickland

While most of Rhodes went home to relax over the Easter break, the men's and women's track and field teams traveled to Nashville to dominate the Vanderbilt Invitational. The women set five new school records and four NCAA Division III national qualifying times. The men also turned in one school record broken and many seasonal bests recorded.

Senior captain Amy Paine was one of the women's standout of the weekend. She was a part of three record setting performances, the first being her victory in the 3000m. Her time of 9:48.27 obliterated the old school record and is a mere ten seconds off the top-ten all time NCAA Division III list. Her 800m time of 2:12.05 also broke a school record and is a provisional qualifying time for nationals, ranking her third in the nation in this event. Finally, she joined up with Marie Brandewiede ('04), Corletra Mance ('05), and Raven Scott ('06) to run a 3:58.13 4X400 time, which is also

a new school record and only .13 seconds off a national qualifying time.

Along with breaking the 4x400 record, Mance also shattered the school records in the 100m and 200m, running 12.09 and 25.09 respectively. These were both provisionally qualifying times for the national meet, and she is now ranked third and eighth in the nation in these events.

Brandewiede continued her trek to become the best 1500m runner in Rhodes history by running her all time best of 4:37.11, which is a provisionally qualifying time and the sixth best in the nation.

A large number of women athletes also set seasonal best marks in their respective events, including Rosemary Boner ('03) in the javelin, Cheryl Finster ('04) in the 3000m steeplechase and the 400m intermediate hurdles, Haley McConaghy ('06) in the 1500, and Lundy Plash ('05) in the high jump.

On the men's side, freshman Colin Strickland ('06) set a new school record in the 3000m run

with a 8:48.99, a five second improvement on the old Rhodes mark. Senior Brian McCarthy also got under the old school record with an 8:50.75.

Pole-valuter Greg Matthews recorded a season best by clearing 12 feet 9.5 inches in his event. He also cleared five feet ten inches in the high jump.

Fellow senior captain Bill Harrison doubled in the 1500m and 800m runs. His time of 4:03.23 in the 1500m was a lifetime best, followed by a seasonal best of 1:56.94 in the 800m. Freshman Casey Conley ran a personal best of 2:01.41 in the 800m.

A collection of male athletes who turned in personal best performances includes Daniel Mack ('06) in the shotput, Matt Capitanio ('03) in the 100m and 200m, Matt Sauter ('05) in the 3000m, Heath Henderson ('06) in the 5k, and John Mowrey ('06) in the 1500m.

Both the men's and women's teams will travel to Terre Haute, Indiana, for the SCAC championships next weekend.

Rhodes crew rows in regional regatta

By Mills Ramsay

Over Easter Break, the Rhodes crew team traveled to Oak Ridge Tennessee for the Southern Intercollegiate Rowing Association's Championship Regatta. Teams from schools all over the southeast participated in this rowing event. These races consist of 2000 meters of full sprint.

Rhodes entered one four-man boat in the novice category. On Friday afternoon, the team defeated Sewanee, Georgia State, and Cincinnati to qualify for the semifinal to be held on Saturday morning. Back on the water at 6:30 in the morning, the team raced again

and landed in the final event. Rhodes took fifth place in the final heat and conquered such schools as University of North Carolina, Emory, College of Charleston, Delaware, North Carolina State, Tulane, Ohio University, and others.

The Rhodes boat, *Genesis*, was coxed by Shannon Keeling ('04) and rowed by Andrew Romeo ('06), Calvert Tooley ('05), Brice Blanton ('06), and Mills Ramsay ('04) at stroke. Sarah Perilli ('04) also played an important role at the regatta coordinating logistics and making sure everyone had all of their equipment in the right place at the right time. Other members of the Crew

Team include Amy Croom ('06) and Nicole Vasquez ('06).

In its first year of competition, Rhodes crew has entered four regattas and competed against many division one schools. The team has competed on a level with schools that have much larger programs with significantly more resources. Crew involves year-round training and requires time and personal commitments. The team hopes to continue the rowing tradition next year. They would like to thank everyone who has expressed support for the program and they hope to gain even more fans as they go on stroking.

Classes, continued from Page 11

college. After all, students should be able to enjoy an afternoon of community service and an evening of relaxing on the East Village patio without the pressure of unfinished homework detracting from their college experience."

Rhodes Activities Board also supports the measure. RAB Chair Kim Kirkpatrick ('03) was unable to be reached for an interview because she was studying, but stalwart senior member J.R. Tarabocchia ('03) was found, incidentally, relaxing on the East Village patio. Speaking for RAB, J.R. said, "I think it's a great idea. There is so much more to life than class." When asked if classes might have contributed just a teeny bit to his Rhodes experience, he merely chortled and blew PBR fumes and cheap cigar smoke into this reporter's face.

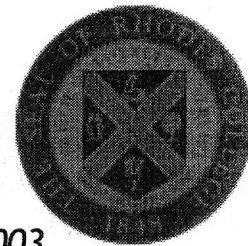
Another key supporter of the proposal is Dean of the College Bob Llewellyn. He told The Rhodes'ter, "I think that this inventive idea will bring the college closer to the ideal learning environment that we've been striving towards. After all, students should be able to read and reflect upon Nietzsche under a tree on a beautiful spring day without having to interrupt the learning process with that pesky 12:40 Statistics class."

Though the proposal does enjoy significant support, it faces its most difficult challenge in the upcoming faculty vote. Many wonder whether the faculty will actually pass the resolution, since its adoption will leave them searching for jobs. However, one can only hope that they will unselfishly make their decision, keeping the best interests of the college in their minds and hearts. Some professors do seem reluctant to leave the ivory tower; Dr. Brian Shaffer of the English department exclaimed at a forum last week, "I demand re-

spect! I have a Ph.D! That, along with three dollars, will get you a cappuccino or something!

The "homeless professor" issue does seem to pose a bit of a problem, but Kinney Special Projects woman Amanda Abrams ('03) is ready to step up to the plate. According to Abrams and Habitat for Humanity chairman Michael Lamb ('04), Habitat for Humanity and soup kitchens are coordinating projects that will provide housing and nourishment to the newly-indigent (a word that I learned in class) professors and their helpless families. Abrams also told The Rhodes'ter that committees are being formed to look into the possibility of creating internships for the former professors. She said, "Ex-professors will have the exciting opportunity to follow students who work as servers, bartenders, office assistants, and sales representatives while they work. It is hoped that through these internships, professors will learn the practical skills necessary to reintegrate into the working world." Outgoing Sou'wester Editor-in-Chief Scott Holmes ('03) is excited about the internship program. During an interview at the P&H, Holmes who works as an office assistant, growled, "Throw 'em to the dogs!" He then followed with a decidedly evil grin, "Hey, the bathroom looks kind of dirty."

This resolution is certainly ripe with exciting opportunities for the students and faculty of Rhodes College. The Rhode'ster promises all of the latest updates in our upcoming issues. And remember, fantasy is always way more fun than facts. See you in the funny papers!



JACK LESLIE RHODE'STER COCONUT FASCIST

Ding dong, the editor's dead

There is a certain point in one's life when one must sit back and think to oneself about all the crap that one has done throughout one's life: the lies that have been told, the drugs that have been done, and the tricks that have been turned, the unfunny joke newspapers that have been worked upon. You know, all the stuff that you try to avoid saying to your grandmother at family get-togethers when she asks, "what have you been doing in college?" Well, gentle reader, for me, this time of self-reflection is now, on the eve of my reign over *The Rhode'ster*.

I would love to get into all the details of my many, and often hilarious, escapades here at Rhodes College; however, due to space constraints and the current Hitler-esque editor, Jamie Groover (your time is nigh Groover, very nigh indeed), I will share with you only my thoughts on this joke newspaper.

First of all, I would like to thank Mr. Groover for making me apart of this *Rhode'ster* team and teaching me what it means to pretend to be funny. If I were not part of his staff, I surely would never understand all the inside jokes that he includes in each issue about TV's *Hercules*, *The Big Lebowski* and www.random-and-obscure-websites.com. But hilarity is not the only thing that Dr. Groove has given *The Rhode'ster*; he has also revolutionized the way joke newspapers around the world use clip art and Faces pictures to create unflattering and often unintelligible images to go along with the stories. He single-handedly turned *The Rhode'ster* from something which he wrote single-handedly into a conglomerate of submissions from other unfunny people

around campus. He would get submissions out of others by any means necessary. If you know what I mean by "by any means necessary." Yeah, I think you do.

Now that I think about it, *The Rhode'ster* under Jamie was weak, weak like Jamie. His wannabe funny articles, his obscure references, his grade school drawing ability, and his shameless begging for submissions are what brought this newspaper to its knees. What *The Rhode'ster* needs now is to be ruled with an iron fist, a fist with a tight grip on what is and what isn't considered "funny" in the Rhodes community. But who could possibly take on the great responsibility of righting all the wrongs of that tramp Jamie Groover? Who could possibly have the strength, the funniness and the chic clothing?

It would be nice if you were to have a say in the matter; to help decide who should rock *The Rhode'ster* next year. Well, you don't, and that leader, in all of my trendiness, is none other than me. Next year you'll see none of this wishy-washy, commie, hippy, Mr. Niceguy crap. I own you, just like I own this newspaper, and that means three things: mandatory submission from all students, faculty and staff; salary increases for all joke newspaper editors and associate editors; and the complete and utter dissolution of RSG.

Yeah that's right, I killed Jamie. I killed Jamie, I stole his editorship from him and now I even have his girlfriend as my right hand woman. So, what're you going to do about it? Together, Caroline and I will dominate the printed page, spreading our seed to all the readers of *The Rhode'ster* and maybe even a few *Sou'wester* readers too. Those 14 readers will laugh, or die.

JAMIE GROOVER RHODE'STER INFORMATION MINISTER

Great Editor great, not dead

Gentle readers of *The Rhode'ster*, let me begin by quelling the fears I am sure are arising due to certain propaganda being issued by the opposition. There are no Underclass infidels in the Pub Office! Never!

These Underclass dogs Leslie and Bishop are all about lies! All they tell is lies, lies, and more lies! They claim they are coming for the office of the Great Editor Jamie Groover. They claim they will steal his place of honor and bring about great regime change in the state of *The Rhode'ster*. They claim they will come in their tanks and topple his mighty statues of might and power.

Lies! I'm going to drag the drunken junkie nose of Leslie through *Rhode'ster's* desert, him and his follower dog Bishop. There are 26 million Great Editor Jamie Groovers in the Pub Office. Why would you believe the fetid stench of their lies, when you can breathe in the refreshingly minty truth of the Great Editor Jamie Groover?

Will you forsake what he has done for you? Without Great Editor Jamie Groover, who would know that the smell of Glassell (that hide-out of Underclass infidel dogs who will burn in a pit of stomachs and tires) is the smell of hot urine? Without Great Editor Jamie Groover, who would know there was a restless spirit in the Burrow Library that was not a restless spirit at all, but instead a misguided infidel president? Who would know that there was a restless spirit in Williford (that labyrinthine hell of decadent

perfuming and halter tops) that really was a restless spirit who was killing young girls relentlessly? Who but Great Editor Jamie Groover told them they would no longer face the wrath of that restless spirit if they would not dress so shamelessly in their beds and baths! Wear some clothes, underclass strumpets!

Build statues, infidels! Build statues for the still-living and continuously-in-power Great Editor Jamie Groover! Build statues next to the statues that already exist in your homes and in your rooms and on your stores and cars and on other statues! The Underclass infidel Leslie will say that he has toppled the statues of Great Editor Jamie Groover, that he has toppled his statues and found his secret love shack apartment of love and shag carpet. Infidel Jack Leslie says that he has found "incriminating pictures" in this love shack of love and Fritos. Infidel Bishop claims to have been to this love shack of love and saltine crackers, and to have partaken of his bounteous Fritos and "incriminating pictures." Our initial assessment is that they will all die. God will roast their stomachs in hell at the hands of Great Editor Jamie Groover.

Great Editor Jamie Groover's regime will stand forever, like his statues. He will not be replaced. Leslie and Bishop do not come to usurp the power of Great Editor. They're coming to surrender or be burned in their tanks. They will claim otherwise, with their altered photos and fake video footage. Do not believe any-

thing! We will chase those rascals back to East Village.

We are not afraid of the Underclasspersons. Allah has condemned them. They are stupid. They are stupid.

And they are condemned.

Let the Underclass infidels bask in their illusion. We will welcome them with bullets and shoes. We have placed them in a quagmire from which they can never emerge except dead. They are like a snake and we are going to cut it in pieces.

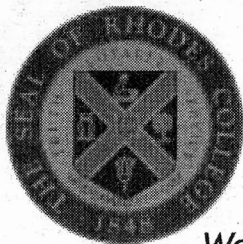
Leslie and Bishop are committing suicide by the hundreds by the doors of the Pub Office. Be assured, *The Rhode'ster* is safe, protected. They will never even reach the doors of the Pub Office. But if they did, they would commit suicide by the hundreds.

There are those who have called me a liar, retarded. It is they who are the liars--it is they who are the retarded liar ones! Do not fear, gentle readers.

There is no impending regime change. Great Editor Jamie Groover will be Great Editor forever, until the twilight of the gods and comedy.

Now I must cease this information, for I must briefly go on administrative leave. Great Editor forever!

I bet now that the year is over and you're about to graduate, you have some really hilarious idea for an article to submit to *The Rhode'ster*. Something that's been building up in your very soul for four years. That makes me shed a single tear for you, my friend, because this is the last issue and the submissions box is closed.



Wednesday, April 23, 2003

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RHODE'STER

THE RHODE'STER

founded BC 753

THE NEW HOTNESS

Jack "Me" Leslie
Caroline "Lynxtacular" Bishop

OLD AND BUSTED

Jamie "RIP" Groover

STILL HERE AFTER ALL THESE YEARS

Jamie Eubanks

ONE LAST LAUGH

Carson Weitnauer

ONE NIGHT STAND

Margie Hall

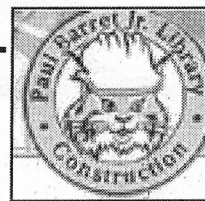
SHORT END OF THE LOG

John "2Cool4Skool" Sexton

THE COLOR OF YOUR ENERGY

Amber Shaw

Dear Max



I think it's time to lose your ****ing religion already. I mean, I don't have any balls and I still know this kind of ****. How dumb can you be? God, I hate my job. Who came up with the idea for me to write this piece of **** advice column anyway?

There's a hole in my campus, dear Liza

By J.D. Willingham*
Rhode'ster Peripatetic

At Rhodes College everyone is aware of the construction for the brand-new building that has been conveniently named the "Paul Barrett, Jr. Library." Such a specific name, attached to the supposed donation of one "Paul Barrett, Jr." provides a nice cover for the *real* work going on in front of our beloved BCLC. Before digging into the heart of this tell-all exposé, I have to confess that I have interviewed neither Mr. Paul Barrett, Jr. nor the current administration. I did not interview Paul to confirm his supposed gift of forty million dollars because he apparently died four years ago. And I did not interview the administration because they keep referring to a stuffed animal, one "Lynx Maximus," to answer the most inane questions from students. (As a side note: I do hope the students asking sophisticated questions like "would we get a share of the profits if they discover oil?" attend Sewanee).

After a painstaking analysis of the construction site conducted late one night, under the cover of the monsoon rains that recently covered campus, I discovered a number of helpful clues that indicate that President Troutt has ordered that we attempt to dig our way to China. These include: a big hole, big digging things, big trucks for carting away dirt, and big machines that look like they might be helpful in building a tunnel to China. Need I say more? Also, I have taken the effort to apply the insights of Freudian psychoanalysis to the man. According to Freud, all of our desires can be grouped as either sexual (eros) or aggressive (thanatos). To refresh your memory, it is the id that wills our own personal satisfaction, no matter the cost, and it is our superego that centers our moral desires. The ego tries to negoti-

ate between these two parts of our personality. Freud speaks of all kinds of ego defenses that help shield the ego from the tension it feels between its good side and its bad side. In Troutt, while it is a psychologically complex case, I believe we can note a number of ego defense mechanisms at work.

Foremost among these is the obvious regression involved. It appears that, as a young child, President Troutt was never allowed to dig in the sandbox like he wanted to. My best conjecture is that no matter how much he protested, Mom and Dad would still not allow him to attempt the Big Dig to China. Now that he has his own parking space, a cool title ("El Presidente," as he is known around the home), and an unleashed thanatological desire, he is finally expressing his secret dream to build the first tunnel through the core of the earth. There is also a clear case for Freudian displacement of anger. While speculative, it seems eminently reasonable to assume that as a child Bill was alternatively called "Troutty" and "Fish-face" during his formative childhood years, developing an anger with which he has never fully come to terms. As a result, Fish-face is taking his anger out on the hard-working students of Rhodes College by frivolously spending our money on his childhood fantasy. The final and clearest example, however, is Troutty's denial that such latent desires are bubbling upon inside of him. In a way, this is what happens with Freudian reaction formation: instead of dealing with the fact that he does not want a new library, but a tunnel to China, Bill is instead pretending to be very enthusiastic about how well the construction on 'the library' is going (evidence: every press release).

In this dark hour, I have two suggestions. The first comes from

observing the obvious success of the anti-war demonstrators in changing campus opinion so dramatically. With over 95% of the student body now against war, thanks to the sheer intellectualism and courage of these brave protestors, who fought rain and sleet and storm and angry Sou'wester editorials to express their point so poignantly. For instance, I'm sure you remember when they cleverly said, and I'm paraphrasing, "Bush is a big fathead who stole the election, so this war, like, sucks." May they rise up again to protest *this* president and *his* evil policies! Also, I want to urge RSG to pass a unanimous resolution condemning the use of College funds for the sake of Bill's Tunnel To China project. Send it to the faculty, sit back, and just wait for the college to respect our opinion. On second thought, maybe we'd better just hope those anti-war protestors have something up their sleeve.

**This article was not, in actual fact, written by Jon David. Carson "Candyman" Weitnauer thought he'd pull one last prank before they made him leave. That impish scamp.*

CAMPUS SAFETY LOG

by John Sexton



Dear Max,

I don't know if you've been asked this before, but why is there a big hole in the middle of campus? Are we tunneling to the center of the earth for a mystical journey? That's what my friend told me the other day. Can I jump in the hole? What's it there for?

-Dazed and Confused

Dear Dazed,

Pull your ****ing head out of your ****ing ass. I assume your asinine "pseudonym" is in reference to the stoner movie of the same title. I must also assume that you are constantly in a chemically altered state, due to the incredible stupidity of the question you have asked me. I'm so sick of this ****. How dumb do you have to be to think that the hole in the middle of campus is anything other than what it has been announced to be, a way for us to spy on the Germans? I mean, haven't they already blared this out on megaphones all over campus? Look, you ****ing midnight toker, I'm Lynx ****ing Maximus. I know all and tell all. In the words of John McCrea, shut the *** up unless you have something worthwhile to say.

Dear Max,

I've been having problems with my boyfriend lately. We recently agreed that we would abstain from all sexual or even somewhat-sexual practices. This is in accordance with our conversion to the Church of Canfield, which teaches that any sexual acts are wrong unless performed on a pirate ship. But I've noticed that my boyfriend hasn't been paying as much attention to me lately. Actually, he's been looking at other girls, especially those RCF girls, who don't have these kinds of rules. Do you know why?

-Pieta

Dear Pieta,

Of course I know the ****ing reason. You're not giving it up anymore. Who would still be ****ing interested in you if you won't do that kind of ****?

Dear Max,

Recently I noticed that I wrote an excellent poem about you, a John Keats parody entitled "Ode on a Bronzy Lynx", published in the last edition of the Rhode'ster. Did you enjoy this stunning paean to the drunkenness you have to deal with everyday? How did it make you feel?

-Caroline Bishop

Dear "Smack My" Bishop, Why the hell do you have to ask me a question like that? Of course your piece was a ****ing brilliant existential portrait of a soul so tormented by inebriation he had nowhere else to turn but to spying for the Germans. Next time ask me a ****ing question about the ****ing Barrett Library. I've got a ****ing tear in my eye, for ****'s sake.

-Max

Rhodes to do away with classes?

By Margie Hall
Editor Emeritus

In an effort to provide students with the best liberal arts education possible, Rhodes Student Government has drafted a proposal which, if adopted, will eliminate classes entirely from the day of the overextended Rhodes student. The potential resolution as drafted by RSG reads, "RSG proposes the riddance of all classes from the Rhodes campus, thereby allowing students more time for self-enlightenment and to explore the Memphis beyond the gates. A lot more time."

Outgoing RSG President Tyler Sanders ('03) says of the progressive idea, "I think it's a fantastic idea, and I'd be proud to leave this legacy to the col-

Classes, continued on page9

The Parody Student Newspaper of
Rhodes College

THE RHODE STER

VOL. LXXX

NO. 47

Campus News

God confused by Religious
Studies, changes major to
Art



Faculty

Cosmo Kramer belatedly hon-
ored with faculty portrait



More Faculty

Faculty claims class time "too long,"
demands naptimes and juice boxes



Spring cleaning for *The Rhode'ster*

Time to take out the trash

By Peter, Paul, and Mary
Rhode'ster Triumvirate

Chaos reigned supreme in the Publications Office Monday night when two horsepeople of the apocalypse, identified as Jack Leslie and Caroline Bishop, wreaked havoc. The two horsepeople, both embodied as Death, blazed a trail of fire through Briggs Student Center hoping to obtain the offices for themselves.

Speaking via cell phone from the Oprah set, Religious Studies Professor Joseph Favazza questioned their motivations. "Didn't there use to be four horsemen?"

"First of all, it's horsepeople," responded Bishop, widely regarded by history professors as a closet lesbian. "Second of all, Famine and Pestilence were busy in India."

"Yeah, and I was originally War," Leslie butted in, "but when we got to campus and saw all the antiwar protesters, I decided to follow suit and join Death over here. After all, you don't see any anti-death protesters, do you?"

Taken by surprise by this rampage upon the Pub Office was *Rhode'ster* editor Jamie Groover, who seemed to be enjoying himself with Captain Planet erotic fiction. At the time of his demise, he was reported as saying, "By our powers combined, Linka, I'll tap that planet." But before he even reached "heart" in the Planetears' procession, his own beating heart was ripped out and trampled upon by Leslie's trusty steed, Buttercup.

Speaking from beyond the grave in a special interview

granted only to Fox, Groover complained, "My death was so totally out of context. I was writing a research paper for Professor Cohen's Preachy Cartoons in Cultural Context class. I swear." Groover was then attacked by vicious cudgel-wielding demons, who tore his tongue out as a penalty for lying.

Second in a line of ironic deaths was Scott Holmes, late *Sou'wester* editor, who perished when the two horsepeople caused his head to grow so large that it collapsed under its own weight. He was reported as proclaiming in his loudest voice before the explosion, "Alas! I think I am becoming a god." Sadly, he was then banished to hell to join Groover as one of Satan's "special" cabana boys.

Also slaughtered were Margie Hall, Emily Ramsey, Nicole Temple, and John Zeanah when the horsepeople sadistically ordered them to reformat *The Sou'wester* every day until they died of exhaustion. The final straw for them was when they were told by the computer that they had committed a "fatal error." Fatal it proved indeed.

After a brief mourning period, the two horsepeople appointed lieutenants-in-destruction Amber "PhoeniXXX" Shaw, Frances "MLAttitude" Rabelais, Chris "The Rookie Cookie" Ebersole, Jack "NCAAttitude" Baber, Autumn "In The Hizzy" Brice, Amy "No-Nicknamey" Barnette, and Miriam "El Guapo" Dolin. The reasoning for this was succinctly summed up by Leslie, "They're kewl!"

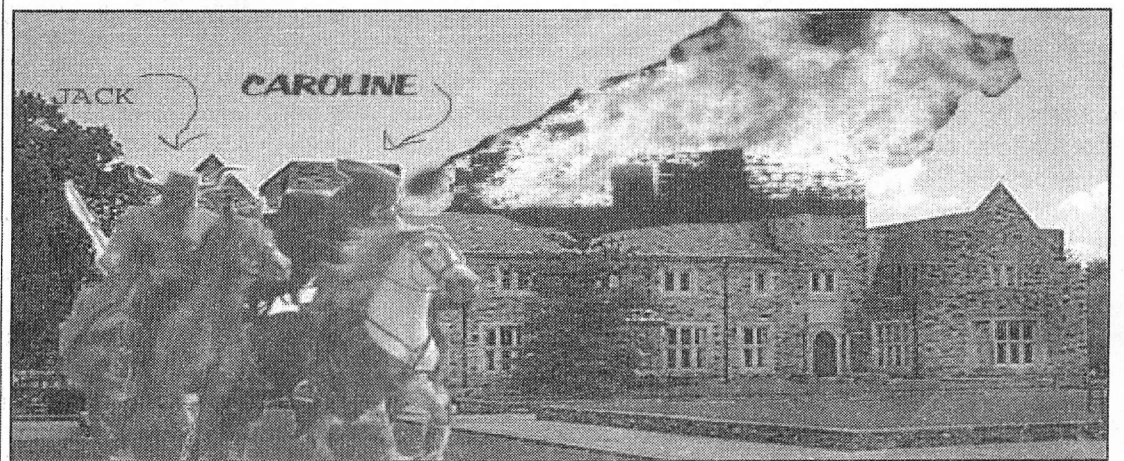


Photo by R. Mageddon

EDITORS RIDE WHILE BRIGGS BURNS

Forthcoming *Rhode'ster* editors Jack Leslie and Caroline Bishop begin their reign (of terror) with the bringing down of fire and brimstone on the Pub Center. Witnesses report coffee beans in Java City finally "roasted to perfection."

It's Ar-mail-geddon

By Jamie Eubanks
Rhode'ster Girl of Summer

Neither rain, nor sleet, nor snow, nor the promise of eternal damnation will stop the United States Postal Service from delivering the mail. Despite the Rapture last Friday, it's business as usual for God's forsaken mail carriers, and they're letting everyone know it with an increase in the price of stamps. The postmaster general has announced that stamp prices will go up from 37 cents to 41 cents in these our last days. According to a recent Gallup poll, this has the majority of American infidels hopping mad.

Postal officials claim that the price increase had already been planned, and that the Apocalypse offered no valid reason to renege on that plan. Further, they claim that the price hike has proved necessary after the steep drop in business due to God's reckoning. "It looks like most of the people still using the mail system were those whom the Lord favored. If we want to pay our employees, we're

going to have to get the money somewhere," the Postmaster General said Monday. But these explanations didn't seem to satisfy ADAPT, Apostates and Derelicts Against Postal Tyranny, a group of outraged Memphians who, undaunted by their impending doom, have committed themselves to fighting stamp price inflation.

ADAPT braved plagues of scorpions and sulfur rain to gather in Overton Park Sunday for a round of speeches almost as vehement as God's wrath. The chairman of the group, noted asshole Jamal Sheikh, asserted that ADAPT would boycott the U.S. Post Office until either the price change was revoked or until the members were given their terrible comeuppance. The antichrist was scheduled to show, reportedly to announce the entry of hell's armies into the fight. To the shock and dismay of many in attendance, however, the evil one turned out to be rather unimpressive rocker Don Henley. Amidst a chorus of boos and ironically accurate imprecations, Henley tried to assert the potency of Satan despite the dark lord's poor choice of earthly ambassadors. Few were convinced, and Henley was finally forced to admit that Hell's soothsayers had wrongly predicted that

Armageddon would occur at the height of Henley's influence: the release date of his single "Boys of Summer."

After discovering the embarrassing impotence of hell, many members of ADAPT fell into woe-filled despair. A small faction, however, went off to loot Memphis post offices, in search of lewd pictures, incriminating letters, and puppies for kickin'. Postal workers were unable to defend their posts due to a drop in numbers. According to one mail carrier, "[the post office] was always a real holy organization. After the rapture, there weren't but a handful of us left to take the reins, and most of us are just the meek, waitin' to inherit the earth. Weren't nothin' we could do but wait [the looters] out."

Some ascended souls returned to earth briefly in an attempt to assuage the riots and protect their postal comrades. One of these Chosen, Sarah Hall, succeeded in carrying three postal workers to safety on her gold-plated heaven-jet. When asked if all God's people were granted golden aircrafts upon entry into Heavenly glory, Hall could say only, "Armageddon? It was unreal." Perhaps it's better that we not know.