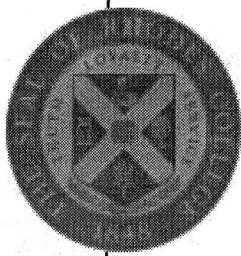


THE SOU' WESTER



VOL. LXXX, No. 13

2.5.03

Herenton forces school consolidation onto ballot

By Mary Knauer

Surprise: public education needs more funding and can't find it anywhere. The debt has risen, largely due to school construction, to \$1.4 billion. Recently politicians have been looking at the setup of the school system in Memphis and Shelby County to see what improvements can be made. This process has proved exceedingly hard.

Just a quick look at the government setup shows the stark division between county and city. The city has its own mayor, Willie Herenton, its own city council, and its own city school board and school district. The county has its own mayor, A.C. Wharton, as well as six other suburban mayors. It also has its own school board and school district.

One of the main contention points between the city and county is annexation. As new areas are brought into the city proper, the city budget takes on added costs for repairing and maintaining those schools. Located closer to the city, those schools tend to be older and more in need of repair.

The projected costs for building new schools and maintaining old ones in the annexed territories is around \$256 million. This extra at-

tention to the newly annexed schools draws drastically from all other city schools. The city argues that through annexation it acquires only more debt, while the county frees up spending.

The county argues, however, that the current funding policy sends more money to city schools anyway. That policy is based on attendance. Because the city has three times as many students as the county, the city gets \$3 for every \$1 the county receives. Recognizing the interdependence of the city and county, Mayor Willie Herenton has developed a plan to consolidate city and county schools.

His plan faced immediate problems when he approached the city council. The school board was offended, feeling that it should have been consulted. Much confusion arose; no one knew who was allowed to call a referendum on such an issue.

Herenton's plan also faced opposition from all six of the suburban mayors who readily opposed it.

Shelby County Mayor A. C. Wharton has recently come up with a school funding plan to aid the budget. His plan would dissolve the attendance-based funding policy, reverting instead to a need-based policy. His

Education

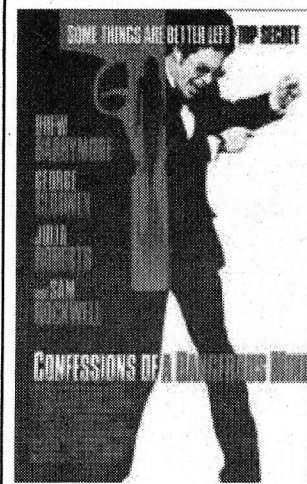
Should a high school teacher have the right to teach his students sex ed. using music, mood-lighting, and a banana?

See **Opinion**

Review

Sarah Clark and Amanda Moshier review George Clooney's directoral debut, Confessions of a Dangerous Mind.

See **A&E**



plan calls for a needs assessment committee. The committee would decide which schools in the city and county need the most attention, forming the budget to send more aid to those schools.

Downsides to this plan include paying \$37 million for four county schools recently annexed and spending \$49 million to build a new (county) Arlington High and expanding Houston High. The Memphis school board approved the plan on January 27, 2003.

Some facts compiled from "Wharton plan wins support of city schools" and "Summit sought on unifying school systems" from The Commercial Appeal.

V-week raises awareness about violence against women

By Laura Dallas and Erin Hoekstra

The Campus Safety Log from Wednesday, November 15, 2002 reveals a few mishaps: one noise complaint, one student reported driving too fast, and one item that stands out from the rest. At 4:05 p.m., the "MPD Crime Scene [was] on campus to collect evidence in earlier reported assault complaint." This sexual assault occurred three days earlier in a residence hall.

Somewhere in America a woman is sexually assaulted every two minutes, according to the U.S. Department of Justice, and one woman in three will experience violence dur-



Photo by John Zeanah

CITY SCHOOL PROBLEMS

To add to the ongoing consolidation plans, many of Memphis city schools face financial needs for building improvements. East High School, located on Poplar Avenue, is replacing the ceilings, which were found to be covered with mold.

ing her lifetime, most often at the hands of someone she knows. These daunting statistics are among the reasons that Eve Ensler began the V-Day movement, and they are some of the reasons that the movement has become so widespread. Within just four years, the V-Day phenomenon has spread worldwide, including over 650 college chapters. The V-Day Rhodes chapter began this fall by Jennifer Marshall ('03) and Lauren Bell ('05).

Bell stated, "I had a lot of personal experience with friends and violence against women through high school and college, which really touched me. You hear about it and people won't admit that it happens. We just want people to hear it and acknowledge it."

The V-Day Rhodes chapter is hosting the performances of *The Vagina Monologues* as the

culmination of V-week, which is February 11-15. The week will begin with a special Java Jive in Java City from 8:00 to 10:00 p.m., which will feature a love poetry reading by English department faculty and Sigma Tau Delta members. Then Lipstick on Your Collar will sing, and some women will recite some of the monologues from both *The Vagina Monologues* and *The Memphis Monologues*.

On Wednesday there will be a self-defense workshop at 6:30 p.m., beginning with a speaker from the Memphis Sexual Assault Resource Center, an organization which provides education and medical attention to women who are victims of violence and is the recipient of the profits from *The Vagina Monologues*. The Residence Life office and staff are providing refreshments.



THE SOU'WESTER
 founded 1848

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CHRIS EBERSOLE DON'T ASK ME

Activism is cool, education not so much

With all that is going on in the current events arena, it seems that we have a surprising number of experts in our midst. Or do we? Does being able to quote publicized figures or bumper sticker-style slogans really make one an authority? Instead of learned debates and discussions, we are running into more and more propaganda; something may seem convincingly wrong or right when communicated with the proper slant, but this does not necessarily make it so.

"AN INTELLIGENT DEBATE WILL ALMOST ALWAYS YIELD MORE UNDERSTANDABLE AND DESIRABLE RESULTS THAN SHOUTING AT A LECTURER OR POSTING FLYERS."

Some people hear only a simplified version of a story, and generate their opinion based solely upon that. People wonder why others cannot agree with them, because things appear black and white; their argument is obviously the right one. In actuality, however, things can be much more gray. Like it or not, there is a reason that certain issues become so controversial. This is often because there is no clear-cut solution.

Many think that studying political writings or propaganda pamphlets will make them experts on certain issues. Unfortunately, it does not. Neither does watching the news on television. As any economics professor will tell you, statistics can lie. There is always more to a story than you initially hear, and if information does not suit a particular cause, then it will most likely not be disseminated, at least not voluntarily.

In order to generate an informed opinion, one that can be defended, one must do a little research on his or her own. There is background information to study and a context to be understood before one should begin spouting off opinions.

The problem with such quick and occasionally irrational reasoning is that it often leads to confrontation rather than debate. When people generate an opinion founded upon what largely amounts to hearsay and limited information, they will have a difficult time both defending their argument and attacking someone else's. Instead, people typically result to trite diatribes and name-calling because they are not really sure how else to get their message across. Many times they may not even know the grounds for their own argument.

It is mutually beneficial for individuals to educate themselves on the issues, formulate opinions, and then discuss them. An intelligent debate will almost always yield more understandable and desirable results than shouting at a lecturer or posting flyers. It has become somewhat trendy to be an activist, but activism is a waste if one cannot understand exactly what he or she is arguing for or against.

We all have opinions, and many of them differ to a degree, some more than others. A diversity of ideas is a good thing; it is the most important kind of diversity there is. This variety has very little value, however, if the opinions are uneducated and the conclusions are unfounded. Before deciding that they are right, it would behoove people to try and understand why someone else might be instead. Their decision may not change, but this consideration will make it a better and stronger one.

There is a lot going on in the world today. Read up on it.

JESS PAZ GETTIN' IT TOGETHA'

Pretention and unimportance: today's marketable skills

Dear Miss Paz,

After carefully reviewing all of the candidates, the firm of Shameless, Heartless, Malicious, and Konning has decided it will not to extend you ment.

Basically, you were the most awful candidate we interviewed and we are not going to sugar coat our stance for you. Here at S.H.M.K. we feel that you are worthless. Any other employer would have looked at your resume, passed it around the office for a hearty laugh, and cut your linen resume sheet into rolling papers for after-work recreational purposes. Make no mistake, we followed rejection protocol by executing the preceding list in order to professionally and properly humiliate you.

In fact your personal pathetic subsistence has given way to much-needed changes in our recruiting program. Our Human Resources Director cannot believe that your resume ascended to the interview process. He has since been fired for his lackadaisical mistake. In light of his termination, we have purchased a computer program to replace his duties; therefore, applicants like yourself will not tarnish our interview schedule, and we will not have to add another oxygen-sucking life form to our payroll. S.H.M.K., how-

ever, feels compassion for a bumbling, inept idiot such as yourself; thus we have taken the liberty of enumerating your screw-ups during the interview process.

1. **We did not feel that you kissed our asses enough.** We are a prestigious agency - at least we like to pretend, chanting "We are number one" amongst ourselves at company gatherings. Hence, there is a certain level of theatrical respect prospective candidates must perform (i.e. paying homage to the feudal lord, the donation of the first born, et cetera). You failed to bow and kiss our feet upon being introduced to your interview panel, which is affectionately known around the office as the firing squad. Naturally, you started things off on the wrong foot.

2. **You acted like yourself.** You did not tell us what we wanted to hear, nor did you create a persona that we would want to hire. Shame on you for displaying such a lack of innovation and motivation.

3. **You exuded a secure level of self-confidence.** Where was your humility? We are S.H.M.K., for goodness' sake. You think we want to hire a self-confident employee? How are we possibly going to manipulate you into being a patsy, gofer, and monkey if you are secure in your self-worth? We'd be wasting our precious dollars and your....well,

we would not be wasting anything of yours.

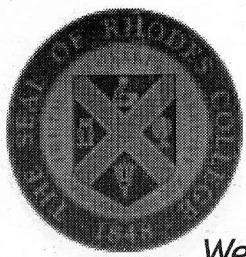
4. **You did not offer bribes, kickbacks, or an attached Benjamin to your resume and application.** A little racketeering goes a long way. Just ask the Mob and the Clintons.

5. **You are a history major.** Come on, Miss Paz. Did you really think we would hire a dates and facts regurgitator? You do not have any skills relevant to our business. Try finding a position in historical reenactment troupes. I hear Colonial Williamsburg is looking for a new town wench.

6. **You have no connections.** Everyone in the business world knows you cannot get anywhere unless your mommy and daddy know someone. We do not know your mommy and daddy, so they must be dreadful people. Consequently, their offspring must be an unpleasant person too.

We hope that these tips will assist you in your further employment ventures, but we doubt that you will comprehend them. You are hopeless as a productive citizen, yet we are certain you have a great future ahead of you as a wino. If S.H.M.K. were you, we would drink ourselves into a self-destructive oblivion.

Job, continued on Page 3



Wednesday, February 5, 2003

PAGE 3
OPINION

MARGIE HALL OPINION EDITOR

There is no place for sexuality or bananas in the classroom

Colin Nicholas, a high school teacher, was fired last week in Naples, Florida for providing ninth-graders with a condom demonstration that, according to CNN.com, included "mood lighting, music, and a banana." His termination was a result of an investigation begun in mid-December by officials after parents of the 14 to 15-year olds who told them about the demonstration complained.

Oh, my. I promised myself I wouldn't write about this. It is far too easy to dash out a few lines on a phallic fruit demonstration. "That's fluff journalism," I said. However, I had some space to fill on my page (a weekly problem, incidentally), so here I am, writing about the poor schmuck who possessed the incredibly poor judgment that it would take to put on that kind of show in a barely-high school classroom, and who was not present when he was fired because his wife was in labor. (Ouch.) And, you know, there are some deeper issues behind this media spectacle. So per-

Job, continued from Page 2

Miss Paz, try to be a good person and jump off the face of the earth, saving your fellow man from the pain and suffering of acknowledging your existence. We would like to wish you good luck in your job search, but we will not waste our expensive printer ink on frivolous and insincere requests of miracles. Please do not apply for any respectable position at our firm again. On second thought, just crawl in a hole after graduation and die.

Jack Assboss
CEO of Shameless, Heartless, Malicious, and Konning
An Affiliate of the Association of Pretentious and Unimportant Employers

haps I should write about it. This is a good thing, because I am writing about it.

This incident is the latest in an ongoing debate about how far to take sex education in the schools. More conservative individuals maintain that sex education should take place solely in the home, but the alarming presence of a significant number of unwanted teen pregnancies each year in our nation cannot be

ers should be armed with information about sex and its surrounding pitfalls, but sexuality should be left out of the classroom. The character of sexual encounters (like mood lighting and music) should not be taught. Practical education forearms teenagers, hopefully allowing them to make the best decisions in sexual situations. One would hope that someone in a position of authority, like Mr.

individual character, among other things. It is a part of sex, of course; indeed, it is the driving force behind it. However, it is also very personal, and I think, very private. Call me repressed, but I think that that aspect of sex education should be self-taught. I think that the reason that sexuality is so often expressed in forms of art is because it is one of the most complex and un-quantifiable of human emotions. After all, art can express that which we cannot easily communicate in simple language. Sexuality, then, is not something that can be taught through a creepy lesson. It is tricky, and there is no correct attitude towards sexuality that can be taught in the same manner as facts on STD's. Because of this, it needs to be left out of classroom lectures. Teachers should stick to facts and leave out the more complicated issues.

Teaching on sexuality, whether in a liberal manner (think Mr. Nicholas) or even, on the other hand, in too strongly promoting abstinence, encourages moral didacticism on the part of the teachers, which Americans like to keep out of schools. The spirit of American public education (correct me if I'm wrong) encourages free thinking in children by provid-

ing them with concrete facts and allowing them to draw their own conclusions. This should, even considering the emotional impact of sex, be the standard in sex education courses as well as in history and English classes.

Another truth, one that I'm sure is difficult for parents of ninth-graders, is that humans are generally trial-and-error creatures. We grow and learn from our mistakes. Of course, when bringing up a child, we try to impart as much knowledge as possible, but that child will make mistakes. Another unfortunate truth is that many individuals make sexuality-related mistakes. The least that we can do is make sure that if a young teenager does make a misguided decision involving sex, they will be able to learn from it without a baby or a life-threatening disease in addition to any emotional pain that may result. We hope to keep children from any pain that they may suffer, but this, most unfortunately, isn't possible.

And as for the banana thing, most boxes (including those that hold condoms) come with instructions these days. Enough said.

"THE SPIRIT OF AMERICAN PUBLIC EDUCATION...ENCOURAGES FREE THINKING IN CHILDREN BY PROVIDING THEM WITH CONCRETE FACTS AND ALLOWING THEM TO DRAW THEIR OWN CONCLUSIONS. THIS SHOULD...BE THE STANDARD IN SEX EDUCATION COURSES AS WELL AS IN HISTORY AND ENGLISH CLASSES."

ignored. It seems clear that some sort of sex education is necessary in schools these days.

It is important that children who are struggling with the rigors of their emerging sexuality be equipped with proper information on STD's, contraception, and sexual harassment issues, even if they don't use them until later. Which, let's face it, they shouldn't. Individuals who are not old enough to legally put a key in the ignition of a car and drive it down the road without a parental unit in it are not old enough to be sexually active. Call me un-politically correct, but say it ain't so. Maturity is a gift that comes with age.

It is easy to assert that sex education is necessary. The manner in which to educate blossoming youngsters, however, is extremely tricky. (Though Mr. Nicholas, I believe, is an excellent example of a roaring don't.) I think that the trick is to educate without encouraging. Teenag-

Nicholas, might have realized the value of forearming teenagers, and that actually enacting the situation would distract from the import of the lesson. I'd have giggled through it, anyway.

Though quoting Freud is not something I like to do frequently, he made a valid point in *Three Essays on the Theory of Sexuality*. Basically, he said that repression of sexuality is a maxim of civilization because we can't achieve anything of the higher human nature if our sexuality is allowed to run rampant. Perhaps it causes problems, but it's how we get things done. I agree with him, there. So, perhaps the key to teaching a successful sex education course is to leave sexuality out of it. I'm guessing that the children in that classroom went home thinking "mood lighting and banana," not "syphilis is bad."

The truth is, sexuality is not something that can be taught. It is something that develops, and should be tempered according to religious beliefs and

Thank you from *The Sou'wester* to all who responded to last week's survey. Because there was a delay in distributing last week's papers around campus, we will not run the results of the poll until next week. Keep submitting!

Please send any opinion pieces or responses to last week's survey to halmn. Thanks!



Wednesday, February 5, 2003

An affirmation of national pride

By Samantha Scott

On Tuesday, January 28, President Bush spoke to the nation, giving his annual State of the Union Address. I sat with my classmates in the East Village Lodge and watched it unfold, noting a few things along the way. In a time of stress, chaos, and fear of imminent war, the President had a very calm and collected composure but still had an air of determination. That is something the nation needs to see right now: our leader standing before us assuring everyone that we will come out on top. Another thing I noticed was how he focused on domestic issues before turning his attention to international matters. Since September 11 many people have become caught up in the war on terrorism and relations with other countries. It was time that the President made us aware that domestic issues were still in the forefront of his mind and a major concern for everyone. I believe that his delivery of the speech was one of the most powerful I have ever seen.

How ironic is it that a mere four days after his inspirational address that the nation would need to be consoled and uplifted? Saturday morning I woke up to see news broadcasts on all the TV stations about the explosion of the Columbia space shuttle. I would be lying if I did not say that at first it did not bother me. I was not directly affected, no one I knew was harmed, so what is the big deal? How naïve I am! About an hour later I headed over to the gym to work out only to come face to face with more broadcasts. This time pictures of the shuttle team and their families were being flashed in front of me, and for one brief moment I

was taken back to my childhood.

"Ms. Jackie, why did the Challenger blow up? Does that mean that her kids are orphans now? Are they going to have to go to a new home?"

I began to remember the innocence I had as a child when the Challenger exploded and how my concern for the crewmembers and their families had bothered me. That is when I realized that, while the Columbia explosion did not directly affect me, it did affect me, and the rest of the nation, emotionally. Less than a week before, we had been told by the president that better days were ahead and what a promising future the nation had. Yet, what I was witnessing on TV completely contradicted that.

I understand that the Columbia explosion was an accident. Death is senseless and unpredictable. It was a freak catastrophe that claimed the life of those involved. Neither the president nor NASA nor the crewmembers could have foreseen such an accident. And once again the nation bonded over a tragic event. But this made me think: why is it that we as a nation only seem to come together during controversial or tragic events? September 11th made a new sense of nationalism emerge. The Columbia explosion once again brought people together to mourn the lives of our fellow Americans. Why can we not come together like that all the time? Why is it that we use tragedy as an excuse instead of always having a strong sense of nationalism and pride?

My challenge to everyone is to remember where you are from and how proud that makes you everyday. Never forget the life-altering tragedies in our past, but look to the future and all the prom-

ises that it holds. Celebrate every opportunity you get. Do not wait around till September 11 or July 4 to honor our nation. Make your own national holidays and embrace them. Most importantly, tell everyone you care about them while you have the chance because that chance is all too fleeting. You never know what's in front of you, so don't waste a moment only to look back and wish you had done something differently. And if all this is too much for you, just smile at someone today. I promise it will make a difference!



Photo By Frances Rabalais

FOSTER GATHERING

Foster members Brenna Ragghianti '05, Erin Hoekstra '04, Will Corvey '06, Casey Blalock '03, Laura Anderson '04 gathered in Rhea Lounge Tuesday evening to discuss upcoming events. Foster is a campus organization that facilitates dialogue about sexuality and gender issues.

Budget woes plague the nation

By Scott Holmes

For lack of better options I plan on rambling about things that I do not think quite add up. These issues will cover global and local problems that I feel might be avoided if we could just figure out how to spend our money a touch more responsibly. If you find any major flaws with my reasoning (a very realistic possibility) please send us a letter, we will be more than happy to print it.

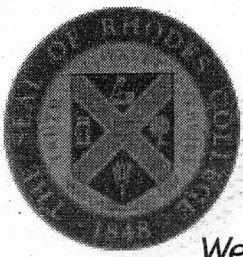
The first major money management problem I see is in the United States' military spending policies. The U.S. is expected to run into major budget deficits next year based on President Bush's proposed \$2.23 trillion budget. If each one of us had a copy of the budget we could find several billion dollars worth of things with which we do not agree, but to me the most glaring example of overspending is the money the U.S. spends on the military.

The U.S. military budget for 2003 was \$396.1 billion. This number does not mean much to most people including myself until it is compared to other numbers. Russia, the world's largest spender behind the U.S., spends \$60 billion per year, and China is just below Russia with a budget of \$42 billion for military spending. It is obvious that the U.S. is spending much more than everyone else, but when you combine other countries by category, the difference becomes even more apparent. The "Allies," which include the NATO countries, Australia, Japan, and South Korea, spend a combined \$198 billion; the "Rogue" states, which include Cuba, Iran, Iraq, Libya, North Korea, Sudan, and Syria spend a combined \$16 billion. The new budget for 2004 has increased spending on education, a good thing by nearly everyone's standards, but this increase only brings the United States' education

spending up to \$53.1 billion. I am not saying that more money equals better education; I am simply providing food for thought.

On the idea of more educational spending equaling more education let us examine the local education problem. A look at the latest state issued report card shows that the Shelby County school system spends \$6,024 per student. Personally I expected this to be high, knowing what I do about the general quality of education in the Shelby County school system, but the statistics for the state and national per student expenditures are both higher at \$6,349 and \$7,899, respectively. Apparently Shelby County is doing something right with the small amount of money they are spending. The Memphis school system has been discussed lately for many reasons, such as the mold found in several schools, the lack of properly functioning heating and cooling systems, and the poor educational performances of the students. One would expect the per student expenditure for Memphis to be low, but at \$7,368, it is over \$1,000 higher than Shelby County. This seems baffling; obviously Memphis is doing something wrong with its educational budget. As pointed out by Chris Ebersole (*The Sou'wester*, Vol. LXXX, No. 7), the flashing sign in front of East High School is a good example of this poor use of money by the Memphis school system.

The only thing I ask of you is that you do not jump to conclusions about what I mean by these figures. I do not think the U.S. should stop spending money on the military and transfer it all to education. However, I do think we should examine what things are working and what things are not working and adjust them as logic dictates.



Wednesday, February 5, 2003

Campus Safety

1.27.03-2.02.03

1/27/03	NOTHING UNUSUAL REPORTED	
1/28/03	1:30 p.m.	Mallory Gym Lot - Vehicle Accident
1/29/03	NOTHING UNUSUAL REPORTED	
1/30/03	8:39 p.m.	Lynx Lair - Larceny from a Building - Jacket stolen
1/31/03	NOTHING UNUSUAL REPORTED	
2/1/03	NOTHING UNUSUAL REPORTED	
2/2/03	4:40 a.m.	Robb Hall - Exterior Noise Complaint - found six students outside, requested they move inside.
	6:45 p.m.	Fraternity House - "911" call, police arrive. No call made, suspected that it is a technical error with the phone system

STATS	
ACCESSES:	109
CITATIONS:	149
ESCORTS:	27
BOOTS:	0
AVs:	0
VISITORS:	1,113
PROPPED DOORS:	2
JUMPS:	3
TOWS :	1

Rites of Spring Preview
Friday night's Headliner
Better Than Ezra
More information on additional headliners coming soon.

Campus Events

A Movable Feast: Five Tuesday Nights; Five Churches; Five Lectures and Dialogues
Biblical Reflections of Discipleship in Hard Times: Preparations for the Lenten Journey.

February 4 "Confronting the history of one's people: Jesus on a wilderness vision quest." Gift of Life Ministries, 1542 Jackson Avenue.

February 11 "The first temptation: The economics of affluenza and addiction." St. Mary's Episcopal Cathedral, 700 Poplar.

February 18 "Seventy times seven: Strategies for intervention in the spiral of violence." Immaculate Conception Catholic Church, 1695 Central Avenue.

February 25 "The second temptation: The politics of domination." Grace-St. Luke's Episcopal Church, 1720 Peabody Avenue.

March 4 "The third temptation: Who is 'testing' whom?" Idlewild Presbyterian Church, 1750 Union Avenue.

Speakers Ched Myers, Biblical scholar and author of *Blinding the Strong Man* and Elaine Enns, mediator, consultant, educator, and trainer in the field of Restorative justice and conflict transformation since 1989

Sponsored in part by Rhodes College Chaplain's Office.

Q&A

with



Corrie Kumbalek

1. So, did you drive all the way here from Washington, or did you just mail your license plate and put it on a random car?

Actually, my car was shipped here. The license plate came here on the car.

2. Who are your favorite customers every Tuesday night?

My roommates. (It should be noted that *The Sou'wester* staff is very offended that we are not Corrie's favorite customers.

3. What is your favorite dessert in the little case there?

The marble loaf bread.

4. Do you like the normal coffee or the free trade coffee better?

Normal.

5. Are you super sexy?

Hell yeah!

6. Is there anyone that comes in here and just really annoys you?

Um, yeah...Scott Holmes.

(Editor's note: *The Sou'wester* is not responsible for any accidents that happen after answering the Q&A).

7. Do you feel superior to everyone since you work for Aramark?

No.

8. Do you get bored standing in here watching everyone study?

No.

9. Shaken or stirred?

Stirred. Nah, put shaken.

10. Is coffee shop working your preferred line of work?

Yes, being from Seattle and all.

Corrie Kumbalek ('03) works in Java City.

The Sou'wester and Aramark present...

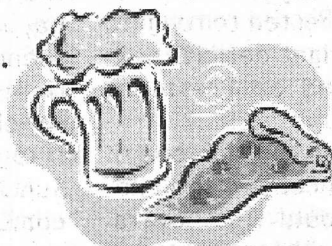
Thirsty Thursday



Thursday, February 5, 8 p.m.

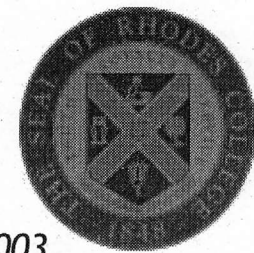
The Lynx Lair

\$1 Beer \$9.99 pizza



All within walking distance of your room

If you would like to ask Ten Questions for next week's Sou'wester, contact Scott Holmes at holsb.



Week in Review

International

SERBIA Dissolving the existence of a state named Yugoslavia, Belgrade lawmakers voted to call the political union Serbia and Montenegro. Though the name seems to preserve the identity of both republics, most citizens and many politicians favor separate states for the regions. Yugoslavia's stability over the past two decades had weakened greatly thanks to secessions from Bosnia, Slovenia, Macedonia, and Croatia; Montenegro still seeks to follow suit. The new political union is slated for re-evaluation after three years.

FRANCE President Chirac, after talks with British Prime Minister Blair, maintained his country's strong anti-war status in regard to Iraq. While he agreed to consider evidence presented by Colin Powell, Chirac will not consider changing France's position on the issue until after U.N. weapons inspectors deliver their next report on February 14. Though even Blair's support for the U.S. wavers in the face of strong U.N. opposition, the U.S. currently holds written backing from eight European governments.

National

NEW YORK The United Nations Security Council will hear concerns from U.S. Secretary of State Colin Powell about Iraq's concealed illegal arms, which Powell and other U.S. officials insist still exist in large numbers. Powell's evidence includes intercepted Iraqi transmissions indicating the presence of multiple arms programs and insider information. German Security Council ambassadors, with a reputation for opposing the U.S. on issues of the Middle East, plan a strong rebuttal and control the format for the meeting.

TEXAS Dual U.S.-British citizen John Elliott was executed via lethal injection more than 16 years after the crime for which he was convicted but of which he maintained his innocence. Elliott was imprisoned in 1982 for murder in a bar fight, and while on probation in 1986, he allegedly raped and subsequently struck a woman to death with a motorcycle chain. Though British politicians vied for clemency for Elliott, he is not the first British citizen to face execution in the U.S.

NORTH CAROLINA The explosion of a medical-supply plant in Kinston rocked the town within

a 15-mile radius and caused the deaths of four and the injury of 36. Though still investigating the situation, feds suggest synthetic rubber dust as a possible explanation of the explosion which flung acidic smoke and fireballs into the town.

WASHINGTON, D.C. Chemical companies won their battle to manufacture methyl bromide, an ozone-unfriendly pesticide, when the Bush administration agreed to help by providing a loophole on the chemical's ban for the corporations. Because companies could find no equally efficient pesticide, officials insist the loophole is necessary; environmental lobbyists beg to differ.

WASHINGTON, D.C. The Bush administration has included in the proposed budget to increase the number of audits of taxpayers who could be hiding income. Although the Internal Revenue Service will receive a 5.25 percent budget increase, Charles Rossotti, former I.R.S. commissioner, claims that to undertake the law enforcement changes, an overall increase of seven percent is needed. Rossotti said the I.R.S. only has money to pursue a fifth of individuals cheating taxes.

All news compiled from nytimes.com

V-week, continued from Page 1

On Friday the productions of *The Vagina Monologues* begin with a show at 7:00 p.m. in Blount Auditorium. The shows on Saturday are at 7:00 p.m. and 10:00 p.m. Tickets will be sold at the door and are limited, so arrive early to be ensured a seat.

Roommates Catherine Birdwell ('06) and Becky Saleska ('06) are both performing in *The Vagina Monologues*. They said that they feel that their performances "take a stand against violence and point to the need to talk about violence against women."

This movement actually affects everyone. It affects women directly, but it also indirectly affects men who have sisters, mothers, and girlfriends victimized by violence.

Rhodes athletes raise money for Special Olympian

By David Hicks

This summer Memphian Harry Fox will take a two-week vacation from his job at the Schnuck's on Quince to participate in the Special Olympic World Games in Dublin, Ireland. When Fox, a swimmer, jumps into the water, he will not only represent the United States and Memphis, but he will also have ties to Rhodes College.

A portion of Fox's trip to the World Games, held June 16-29, will be funded by the Rhodes chapter of the NCAA Student-Athlete Advisory Committee (SAAC). To raise money for Fox, the SAAC will sponsor a Sexy Legs contest this winter, where members of the Rhodes community will have the opportunity to vote for the varsity team with the sexiest legs.

During the week of February 10, SAAC members will be in the refectory displaying pictures of Rhodes' athletic teams showing off their legs. In exchange for a donation to the SAAC, students, faculty, and staff will cast their vote for the team they feel has

the sexiest legs. All proceeds from the contest will go straight to Special Olympics to help fund Fox's trip to Ireland.

According to 2002-2003 SAAC President Marie Brandeweide ('04), "One of the goals of the Sexy Legs Contest will help the SAAC committee build ties with the Memphis community and promote athletics both on and off campus."

At halftime of the men's basketball game against Sewanee on Friday, February 14, the winners will be announced, giving all in attendance the opportunity to see the team with the sexiest legs. At that time a check will

be presented to Special Olympics for Fox's trip to Ireland.

The Student-Athlete Advisory Committee consists of one representative from each varsity athletic team, with officers elected each year by the committee members. The SAAC serves as a liaison between the Athletic Director and student-athletes, serving to enhance the overall experience for student-athletes. In addition to community outreach activities, the SAAC also nominates the Student-Athlete of the Month and offers input on NCAA legislation and other issues to the Director of Athletics.

V-DAY

UNTIL THE VIOLENCE STOPS

3rd Annual V-DAY at Rhodes College 2003 A BENEFIT PRODUCTION OF EVE ÉNSLER'S *THE VAGINA MONOLOGUES*

AS PART OF THE V-DAY 2003 COLLEGE CAMPAIGN

At Blount Auditorium
On February 14 and 15
7 p.m. Friday

7 p.m. and 10 p.m. Saturday

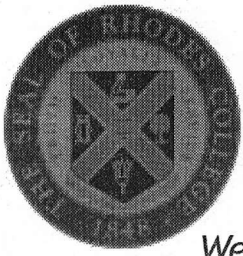
Tickets \$5.00 for Rhodes students, faculty, and staff
\$7.00 regular tickets

The New York Times called the 1998 New York benefit performance of *The Vagina Monologues* the "hottest ticket in town."

[*The Vagina Monologues* is] a work in which is inescapably universal for women, and manages to be feminist without being man-hating, entertaining without being trite, and political without being earnest.
The London Telegraph, May 11, 2001

V-Day is a worldwide movement to stop sexual violence against women and girls and to proclaim Valentine's Day as the day to celebrate women and demand the end of abuse. For the fifth year in a row, the V-Day College Campaign is coming to hundreds of college and university campuses around the world. Join us for a V-Day benefit performance of Eve Ensler's Obie Award-winning play, *The Vagina Monologues*. Round-the-clock and up-to-the-minute information about V-Day and violence against women can be found at the event's global web site at www.vday.org.

All proceeds to benefit Memphis Sexual Assault Resource Center



Wednesday, February 5, 2003

Fino's: Midtown's little jewel on Madison

By Emily Ramsey

Fino's. It is the little Italian deli that has been a Rhodes favorite for probably as many years as it has been around. Whether or not it has gotten press before in our magnificent missive, I thought it was high time that Fino's get at least a(nother) mention in the good ole' *Sou'wester*.

This tiny piece of heaven speaks with the voice of Midtown Memphis—the charm and eclectic personality that such establishments in this area undoubtedly possess. Located on the corner of McLean and Madison and taking up a small part of the lower level of the Gilmore apartment complex, Fino's atmosphere immediately screams New York corner deli. A step inside confirms such an exterior impression. The tables are small—enough for four if you do not mind sitting close to your neighbor. Lining the wall closest to Madison are travel posters of the Italian countryside and its major cities.

Following more on the theme of its atmosphere, not more than five minutes into enjoying your thick Italian sub and people-watching do you realize the importance of this deli within the community. Many of the patrons are known by name; repeat customers come frequently enough that histories, family members, and recent life events are discussed; conversation is not reduced to merely a demand from a surly and overly hurried staff for one's order and a short reply as to the price of one's goods. As great as the food is, so the atmosphere is.

Well, you may ask, since the atmosphere is so great, how is that food? (This such question might exist in the minds of those of you who might not have ventured out

to this gem of an establishment.) The food is superb. Not only are the sandwiches a break from the subs in the Lair, but they truly are fantastic. There are a wide range of sandwiches available, half for a regular appetite, and a whole if your eyes are bigger than your stomach (or more reasonably, if you want to take part home).

Fino's, continued on page 8

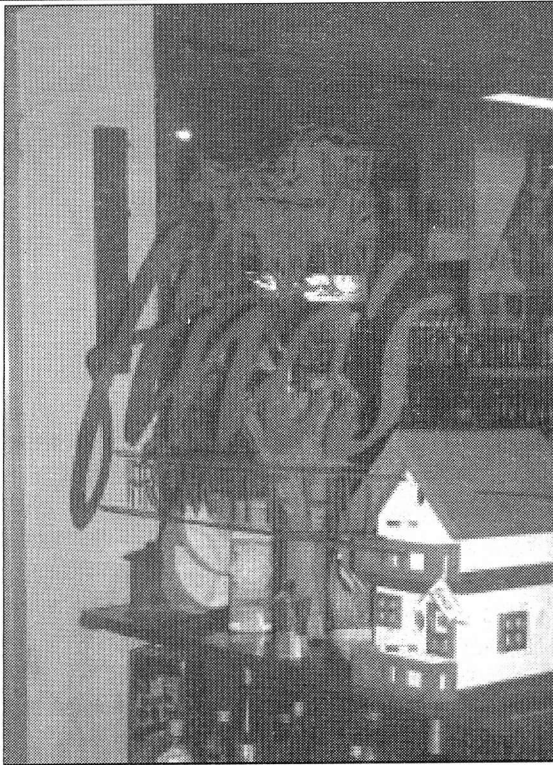


photo by Amber Shaw

Above: A peek inside the front window of Fino's. Not only does this deli serve a large variety of Italian subs and sandwiches, Fino's also offers a distinctive array of meats, cheeses, olive oils, pastas, and sauces available for the customer with a culinary inclination and the will to experiment in the kitchen.

Aramark makes environmentally friendly changes to food service at Rhodes

By Jennifer Riem

You probably noticed when you came back from summer vacation last fall that the Rat moved its napkins. They are not at their former location next to the trays but are now in little baskets on the tables. The move has reduced the number of paper napkins that the Rat uses, says Aramark director Mary Kingery. The paper napkin relocation is not only a smart business move, but it is also an environmentally sound decision. It lowers the number of paper napkins that Rat patrons pick up but do not use, thereby reducing the amount of paper that ultimately goes to a landfill.

There are other recent environmental improvements to dining at Rhodes. There are more vegetarian options in the Rat. You can find them on the sidebar and as entrees, both in

Servery A. The sidebar offerings include hummus, pasta salad, and vegetable sources of protein such as tofu, garbanzo beans, and kidney beans. The entrees include vegetable lasagna and vegetarian chili. Mary Kingery has been open and responsive to input from students concerning vegetarian items. She has also started purchasing some organic produce and products. Organic popcorn made a debut at Java City last fall, as did some organic vegetables in the Rat's salad bar.

Java City also began serving fair trade coffee last September. Certified fair trade coffee is bought from coffee farmers who earn a living wage for their crops. Buying fair trade coffee is an environmentally responsible decision because the farmers who are paid a living wage are also encouraged

Aramark, continued on page 8

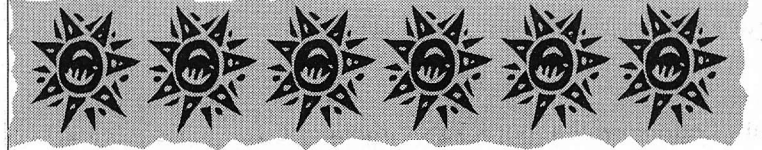
Junior Recital

Daniel Anglin, bass
Brian Ray, piano

Payne Recital Hall, Hassell Hall

Thursday, February 6, 2003
8:00 p.m.

reception to follow



Do you have...

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- Time management skills?
- A 2.8 GPA?

Do you want...

- Your own room?
- A pay check every two weeks?
- A chance to develop leadership skills?

Apply to be an RA!

Applications available in Residence Life
Due Friday, February 7, 2003

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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REVIEW

Confess Your Sins: The Life Story of Chuck Barris

By Sarah Clark and Amanda Moshier

Ever wonder if your favorite professor is really in the CIA? Are they always disappearing for a week off to another "seminar?" Sound highly unlikely? Well, Chuck Barris, known to the world as the creator of *The Dating Game* and *The Newlywed Game* and the creator and host of *The Gong Show*, did just that. The movie, *Confessions of a Dangerous Mind*, explores Chuck Barris' questionable double life. Was he the host of a game show by day and CIA operative by night? Though Chuck Barris will never tell, he disclosed an unauthorized autobiography chronicling a series of events in his life throughout 1960s and 1970s hinting at this mystery. George Clooney took on the story for his directorial debut, and, being a first time director, he was lucky to acquire an A-list cast, including Julia Roberts, Sam Rockwell, and Drew Barrymore, along with well-placed cameos by Brad Pitt and Matt Damon.

Sam Rockwell plays the part of Chuck Barris to an eerie likeness. In the film the audience gets to see more of Sam Rockwell than expected. We should all write thank-you notes to George Clooney for the chance to see Rockwell's assets several times throughout the movie. Clooney turns the life story of Chuck Barris into a documentary in color, with tales from people who once knew him in his heyday, as well as letting us in on a whirlwind of conspiracy and assassinations. The direction by George Clooney is reminiscent of that of Steven Soderbergh, the director of films like *Ocean's Eleven* and *Out of Sight*, and his production

partner for *Confessions of a Dangerous Mind*. All in all Clooney shows great promise as a director. The pace of the film moves quickly, showing the creativeness of Barris and his imagination of game shows as well as his "profile" as a CIA agent. The film is true to how haphazard and chaotic a double life might be. The movie also includes the personal life of Chuck Barris, following his complicated and off and on again relationship with his wife, Penny, and his years striving to be a game show producer.

The movie is rife with star power and full of small, but not insignificant performances by George Clooney, Drew Barrymore, and Julia Roberts, which perfectly support and shape the extraordinary talent of Sam Rockwell. George Clooney steps out from behind the camera to play shadow to Sam Rockwell as the man behind Chuck Barris, or as Chuck was known in the secret agent world, Sunny Sixkiller. Drew Barrymore plays Penny, whose relationship with Chuck Barris is dually affected by the strange and unusual events in his life. Julia Roberts plays a sexy and enigmatic CIA agent with sharp instincts who is partner to Barris. All of these well-scripted parts come together to display the intriguing and still unanswered life of the mysterious Chuck Barris.

The movie leaves you with the same question in which it starts off: Was Chuck Barris a secret agent on the side? *Confessions of A Dangerous Mind* exits with the question unanswered, forcing you to form your own conclusions about the true story of Chuck Barris.

Fino's, continued from Page 7

Truly, as their slogan says, "Fino's, where you always get nine inches."

Cold sub sandwiches include such favorites as the New Yorker sub, with turkey, prosciutto, provolone, and russian dressing; the Turkey Club, with turkey, provolone, and topped with a tomato-onion dressing; and a Vegetarian sandwich as well. Fino's serves a wide array of hot subs as well, including a standard yet scrumptious meatball sub, and a hot roast beef sub, topped with melted cheese and daily homemade tomato sauce with meat. Truly in the Italian tradition, Fino's offers a panini, with prosciutto cotto, provolone, and olive oil on this sandwich. Each sandwich is served on delicious fresh Italian-style bread.

Adding to the already incredible flavor from each sandwich, one has the option of adding a homemade olive relish with on-

ion or dipping one's sandwich in balsamic vinaigrette, available at the counter.

Fino's also offers two daily pasta specials, one of which is a vegetarian dish. Daily soups can tease the palate, offering such tasty options as the favorite tomato artichoke. Turnovers are also a popular choice. Little known are the made-to-order pizzas, which, although they take an extra ten minutes, are well worth the wait. Probably one of the most popular dishes Fino's offers is their creamy pasta salad. Says Melinda Phillips, ('03), "I could go to Fino's just for the pasta salad. It is that good!"

What about desserts? Daily, Fino's offers tiramisu, tortes (the almond and hazelnut is said to be particularly good), canolis with the filling of the day, and a berry cream cake. If you have any room after gorging yourself on a sandwich, try these!

Not only does Fino's serve fantastic cuisine, but they also offer a wide array of products to the budding cuisinier. Next to the menu, one finds an extensive list of meats and cheeses available from a 1/4 pound up, many of which are imported from Italy. Facing the counter are shelves of pastas, olive oils, vinegars, fresh frozen pastas, tomato sauces, and other Italian rarities you will never find on the aisles of Kroger. Truly, the selection here is amazing, and offers just a little slice of Italy within Midtown.

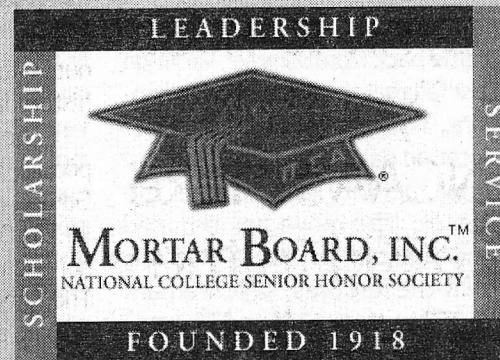
With the variety of fare, comfortable atmosphere, and fine selection of Italian foods, Fino's offers the customer the utmost in dining at a cheap price. As Ann Young, ('03) put it, "It is the best quality food for the cheapest price of any place in Memphis. You can get more food than you can eat for \$3.00. Mmm good!"

Aramark, continued from Page 7

to use sustainable farming practices. Last week the fair trade was moved out with the other coffee so that it is more visible. Prior to last week, Java City did not sell all of the fair trade coffee that it brewed daily. Last Wednesday Campus

Green gave a dime (the price difference between fair trade and regular coffee) to Java City patrons willing to try the fair trade brew. Java City sold out of fair trade coffee before the end of the day. In addition, all of the espresso brewed Wednesday was made with fair trade beans.

This semester the Aramark director also hopes to reduce styrofoam usage in the Lynx Lair by providing reusable baskets in which French fries will be served. This was attempted last fall, but the baskets were not returned to the Lair staff, and the project was discontinued.



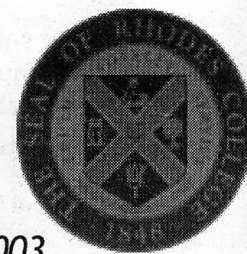
COMING UP FOR MORTAR BOARD

FEBRUARY 10-14: NATIONAL MORTAR BOARD WEEK

FEBRUARY 11: President Troutt will discuss "Reflective Leadership: Learning How to Lead as a Lifetime Journey" at 7 p.m. in the Orgill Room. All are invited to attend!

FEBRUARY 17-21: Tapping of new members into Mortar Board

*Mortar Board, Inc. is a national honor society that recognizes college seniors for distinguished ability and achievement in scholarship, leadership, and service.



Wednesday, February 5, 2003

Lady Lynx basketball splits weekend games

By Lane Young

The Rhodes College women's basketball team moved to 10-7 on the season and 6-3 in the Southwest Collegiate Athletic Conference following a pair of tough games over the weekend. The team lost by a score of 88-55 on Friday, January 31 against conference opponent Trinity University, but won a hard-fought 70-67 victory Sunday, February 2 against Southwestern University.

On Friday Trinity jumped out to an early lead starting the game off with an 18-4 run in the first eight minutes of play and ending up with a 38-23 lead at the half. During the first half the Lynx battled back strongly, however, outscoring Trinity 15-3 to get within two points at 21-19 with just under five minutes to go in the half. Unfortunately, Rhodes would score just four more points over the final 4:50 and were down by 15 as the half came to a close.

The Lynx put up a great effort in the second half but never got closer than 12 points, as the Tigers pulled away down the stretch. Freshman Taylor Cook led Rhodes with 12 points, while sophomore Jayna Kelly finished with ten points, four rebounds, and three assists. Senior Rosemary Boner narrowly missed a triple-double, scoring eight points and collecting nine steals to go with ten rebounds. Boner also finished the game with five assists for the Lynx.

Sunday's game at Southwestern would prove to be pivotal in Rhodes' season, as the Lynx entered the game with a 5-3 record in conference play and Southwestern entered at 4-3. Rhodes jumped out to an early 9-2 lead; however, Southwestern responded, and a back-and-forth first half ended with Rhodes leading by a narrow 31-29 margin.

The Lynx opened the second half with an 11-0 run to take a 42-29 lead with 16:20 to go in the game, and it would prove to be a lead that would not change. The

Pirates battled back several times in the second half, getting as close as one point several times down the stretch. With just ten seconds left in the game, Southwestern's Erika Dunkman sank her fourth 3-pointer of the game to cut the Lynx lead to just one point at 68-67. Boner sank two free-throws for Rhodes with four seconds remaining to secure the Lynx win.

Rhodes' senior shooting guard Anna Kizer led all scorers with 21 points, and was 8-15 from the field. Cook had another strong game, finishing with 19 points, going seven for 12 from the field, and Boner added ten points and nine steals to help lead the Lynx to its sixth conference win of the season and tenth overall.

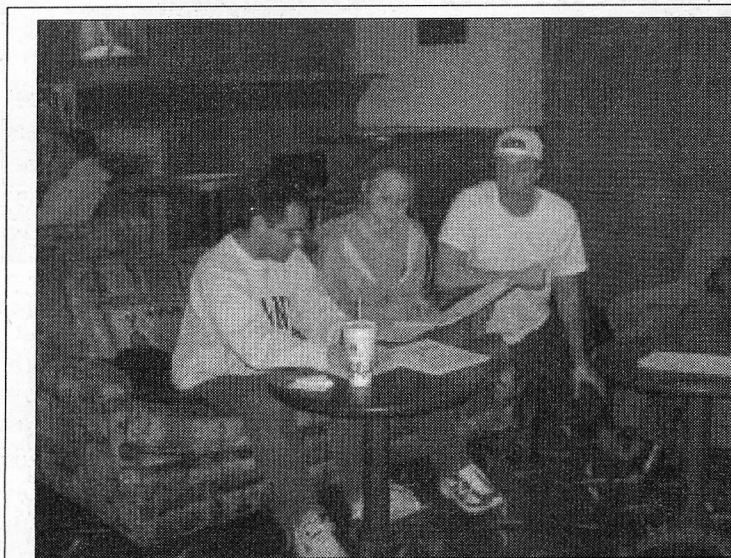
The women's basketball team will be on the road again for a pair of conference games on Friday, February 7 at DePauw University. That game starts at 6:00 p.m. in Greencastle, Indiana. The team then plays Rose-Hulman on Sunday, February 9 at 3:00 p.m. in Terre Haute, Indiana.

Lynx to host youth in NCAA's "Take a Kid to the Game" day

By Camelia Trahan

Mallory Hyde Gymnasium sets the stage for the Take A Kid To The Game program for Men's and Women's NCAA Basketball on February 16, 2003 for the Lynx vs. Colonels men's and women's basketball games.

Area youngsters will have an opportunity to experience the college game-day atmosphere when Rhodes hosts NCAA Basketball's annual Take a Kid to



CREW TEAM HOLDS WEEKLY MEETING

Photo by Frances Rabalais

Rhodes crew team members Shannon Keeling (center) and Mills Ramsay (right) hold an executive committee meeting with their coach, Ben Cavazos (left). The committee discussed future race locations, dates, and potential competitors for the upcoming season.

the Game (TAKG) program. "We are very excited to be participating in the NCAA Take a Kid to the Game initiative," said head men's basketball coach Herb Hilgeman.

The Lynx would like to invite kids ages 14 and under to attend the game. Admission for kids is free as long as they are accompanied by a student-athlete of Rhodes, or if the child is accompanied by an adult, the child will enter the game free, and the parent will pay half price. The Take a Kid to the Game program for NCAA Basketball will be hosted in over 175 arenas this season. You can help the Lynx fill out Mallory Hyde and be a part of history in the making.

The Lynx will host one of the popular NCAA "Take a Kid to the Game" days on Sunday, February 16, 2003, which is the Lynx's last home game of the regular season. The Rhodes men's game begins at 1 p.m. and the women's contest begins at 3 p.m., both against conference foe the Colonels of Centre.

This one-of-a-kind initiative will be promoted at more than 500 men's and women's collegiate basketball games across the country during the 2002-2003 season. The Take a Kid to the Game program is a coordinated effort between NCAA Basketball, HOST Communications, and the National Association of Basketball Coaches.

"Rhodes is excited to take part in the NCAA basketball Take

a Kid to the Game program," said Athletic Director Mike Clary. "The Lynx want young children to experience what it is like to participate in college athletics and the rewards of playing."

Last year 112 institutions took part in the Take a Kid to the Game promotion. "Our wish is that all of the young kids in our immediate area will have the opportunity to experience the one-of-a-kind atmosphere that is NCAA Basketball," said head women's basketball coach Matt Dean.

The Take a Kid to the Game program is entering its eighth year in the promotion of NCAA athletics. The campaign is focused on attracting more of the nation's youths to college games.

Free inkless ID kits will also be issued to all children as they enter the game.

For more information contact Camelia Trahan at 901-843-3945.

Crew club preps for new season

By Calvert Tooley

While many Rhodes students may have looked forward to the spring semester as a break from family routine, members of the Rhodes crew

club, view it as a chance for their recent months of hard work to finally pay off. While crew teams train and participate in headraces during the fall, the action really heats up with the spring sprint races, which are shorter and faster. These races are always 2000 meters, and take anywhere from six to eight minutes to complete.

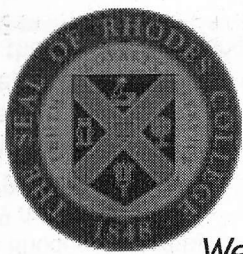
The club completed a successful racing season last semester, when the men's four came in first place in a St. Louis invitational race. Aside from the strong showing during that particular race, the team proved itself in their other events in both St. Louis and Chattanooga.

This season the team is going to participate in races in New Orleans, Tuscaloosa, and Oak Ridge, Tennessee. They will be racing experienced club and varsity teams from colleges all over the south, but they are optimistic about their chances. "We pity the fools who compete against us," said team captain Shannon Keeling ('04).

Even in the middle of racing season, however, the crew club still has to spend time fundraising to help pay for the large amount of equipment that they still need. The biggest of these requirements is another boat, which would allow two boat crews to practice together and to race each other.

"We really have a high level of interest in the crew team right now," said team officer Mills Ramsay ('04), "but we aren't able to meet the demand because we can't get enough people out on the water at one time."

Fundraising efforts this semester include another erg-a-thon (where team members pull on rowing machines for a combined 24 hours,) as well as a drive to find sponsors. Members hope that a combination of these efforts will yield the much-needed money and put the Rhodes crew club in a position to have many more successful seasons.



Wednesday, February 5, 2003

PAGE 10

RHODE'STER

The Rhode'ster
founded BC 726

Travoltus
"Lumber" Jack Leslie

Althea
Jamie Eubanks

HER-CU-LES

Jamie Groover

Widow Twanky
Caroline Bishop

Asterius
John Sexton
Henchman
Scott Holmes

Dolphins* accept Christ, finally

By Caroline Bishop
Rhode'ster Just Kidding

It was a dark evening. The sky with its mass of stars was twinkling happily, reminding them of the beauty of God's creation. About 20 young people from one of America's premier liberal arts colleges, which we will call "Rhodes", were on a Young Life* retreat. They were staying the night on a houseboat off the Florida coast dedicated by a wealthy parishioner.

After a few songs, "Pastor Jack" (as he would like to be called) began his final discussion for the evening. During the time of worship, several of the young people had noticed a handful of dolphins* swim up close to the boat. When the talk began, the students watching the dolphins reported that they began to nod their heads to Pastor Jack's sermon.

Perhaps, gentle reader, you need a bit of background on dolphins. You may ask, "Is it possible for dolphins to nod their heads intently, as if listening to Pastor Jack's sermon?" Well, due to my extensive research in the topic of dolphinology, I feel I can answer this question. The answer is yes.

Pastor Jack truly took the dolphin theme and ran with it. He began to discuss the majesty of God's creation and the wonder of all the creatures in it. He reported that the dolphins did not provide a distraction—rather, they fit perfectly into the theme of his sermon.

And then the bizarre truly took flight. At the end of his sermon, Jack had prepared what Protestants like to refer to as an "altar call," an invitation for those present to give their lives to Christ. Yet, by the time he had gotten to said altar call, at least eight to ten dolphins had quietly

placed their bills on the deck of the boat.

"At first, I thought it was too crazy to be true," Jack admitted. "But then I realized, 'Maybe God is calling me to minister to these dolphins. God works in mysterious ways, but I've never heard of dolphins being part of the divine plan before. Still, who knows?'"

Who indeed? At this point Jack was sure that he was being called to extend the invitation to the dolphins to know Jesus Christ as their personal Lord and Savior. His speech was thus transcribed: "Beautiful creatures of the fathomless deep, you have heard tell of our redeemer. And now, if you would like to ask him into your heart, please make your desire known by making some sort of affirmative sound."

And as he did so, four or five of the dolphins began to nod their heads emphatically. "They emitted the most beautiful, angelic squeaks I have ever heard," Jonathan Hulgán*, RCF president, reported.

Amidst tears of laughter and joy, the students and Jack celebrated the dolphins' acceptance of Christ. Scientists have confirmed that the dolphins, indeed, did make a positive affirmation of Christ's saving power in their life. "This proves that dolphins are much more intelligent than we ever believed them to be," Chilton Simmons*, resident dolphinologist, announced. He then resumed his usual drinking binge.

However, just before publication it was discovered that the dolphins had been accepted to Rhodes and were planning a major in Religious Studies. Perhaps they aren't as intelligent as we thought.

*Names have been changed to protect the innocent.

Campus Safety Log 01/01/01 to 02/05/03

CRIME and punishment novel returned undamaged to Burrow Library. Originally reported missing from library 24 days earlier.

DESTRUCTION of campus safety and career services buildings gets dust into eyes of many students.

FIRE made in Java City fireplace during record low temperature. Five campus safety officers on scene to monitor.

EXPLOSION of flavor found in new sandwich bar in Servery B of the Rat.

MURDER *She Wrote*, the hit TV show starring Angela Lansbury, found blaring in first floor Glassell social room. Campus safety officer Buzz Kyll killed mood by informing those students viewing the show that, "Angela Lansbury is DEAD!"

Questions and answers

Q: What would you say you have in common with John Sexton?

A: We've both been known to roll on the ground when it's absolutely unnecessary.

Q: Have you ever considered turning *The Rhode'ster* into an all-singing, all-dancing extravaganza?

A: Yes, but every time I bring it up, Scott always starts rambling about "budget constraints" and "the bounds of reality."

Q: Have you ever thought about the fact that we never see Clark Kent and Superman at the same time? Do you think that they're the same person?

A: I'll tell you—I've been asked that question many times, and each time the asker fails to take into account that we have seen them together; when Superman returned from the dead, he actually rescued Clark Kent from the rubble left in Doomsday's wake. Of course, many Kentist conspiracy theorists claim one or the other of them was the shape-changing Supergirl, but that seems like the stretching of a paranoid mind.

Q: For that matter, we never see Prof. David Sick and Superman together at the same time. And don't you feel a delicious amount of irony when you say "Dr. Sick"?



Ten Questions asked by Edith Sidebottom to Rhode'ster Editor Jamie Groover

A: I find it more interesting that we've never seen Michael Jackson and Dr. Sick together at the same time. And as a Greek and Roman Studies major, I have to say I don't understand the second part of the question.

Q: What's the deal with airplane peanuts?

A: They're honey roasted?

Q: Have you ever heard the greatest and best song in the world, or is this just a tribute?

A: No, I've heard it. It was awesome, but then Britney Spears covered it, and "Slave 4 U" was never the same again.

Q: Do you think this dress makes me look fat?

A: No, I think your fat makes you look fat.

Q: Are there ever any "artistic differences" between you and your associate editor, Jack Leslie?

A: Yes, of course. There would have to be. I'm an artist, and he's "different".

Q: Is John Van Way extreme enough?

A: I've seen sticks of deodorant more extreme than him.

Q: What, to you, would signify the coming of the Apocalypse?

A: I don't know, but if Tom O'Hara's pants and Dustin Diez's pants got married, the pants' offspring might be normal-sized pants.





Wednesday, February 5, 2003

JAMIE GROOVER RHODE'STER MANIMAL

Beard beard revolution: The facial hair will not be televised

I think every small child wants to be a revolutionary when they grow up, but very few become one. Not everyone can be a Thomas Jefferson, Che Guevara, or Don Knotts. Most people grow out of their desire to change the world once they discover that they can derive pleasure from touching themselves. They are then content to sit back and watch the revolution being televised.

But not me. No, sir. I stand firm in my yearning to be a rebel, and to change the status quo. However, I had to find a suitable field in which to create change.

We have had an industrial revolution, technological revolutions, too many political revolutions to count, revolution number nine, and yes, a Dance Dance Revolution. I'm no good at any of these things, and the last thing I want to be is a copy-

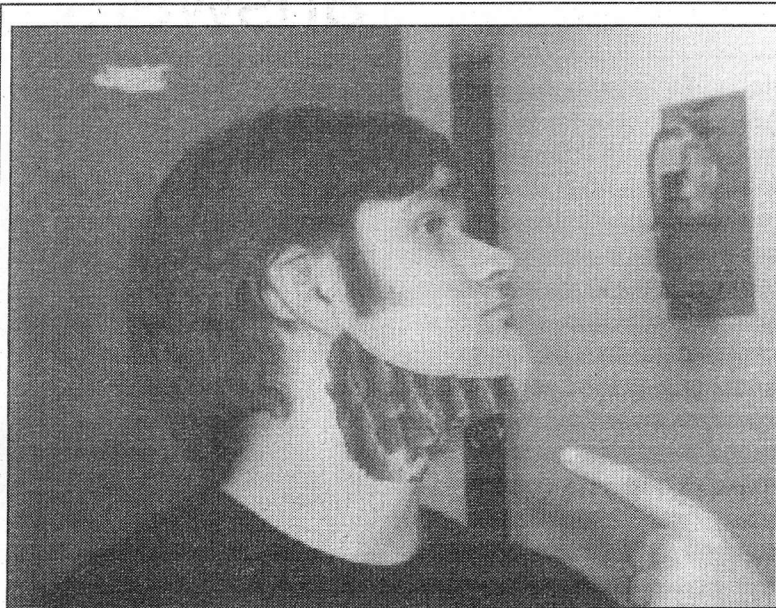


Photo by La Societe de Barbe

EXHIBIT "B"

Neck-bearded iconoclast editor Jamie Groover proudly indicates his willingness to take the forefront in avant-garde facial hair fashion. If this picture, as it should, riles in you the "spirit of '76" and inspires you to do the same, please send all neck beard photos to your illustrious leader at grobl@rhodes.edu. Select photos may appear in future editions of The Rhode'ster.



Photo by Boxcar Willie

EXHIBIT "A"

The "old school" style "hobo beard" as displayed by Senior ('03) Tom O'Hara. Not very revolutionary, is it?

facial hair. Sure, there are many types to choose from—mustaches, beards, goatees, sideburns, mut-ton chops, soul patches, molestaches, handlebars, Jack Leslie-style lumberjack beards, Backstreet Boy-style—but the variations have been subtle, and few and far between. All of those styles have one thing in common: they're on the face. Even the most recent trend—quite popular on the Rhodes campus, as evidenced on such students as Tom O'Hara ('03) and Zach Harris ('05)—the "hobo beard" conforms to this pattern, despite its unruly growth and unpredictable direction of motion.

I have decided to change the face of facial hair with an exciting new concept: the neck beard. That's right. I'm going to shave my face clean, but grow the hair long only on my neck from the chin down. The neck beard. This innovation in facial hair thinking will challenge all beliefs people

have heretofore held about facial hair and cause them to reconsider their standing. This beard will be very challenging and undoubtedly the subject of many folk songs.

My girlfriend has assured me that this is, in fact, a good idea, and the idea of a neck beard is very erotic to her. You heard me—neck beard is equivalent to eroticism. I expect the trend will begin to blossom, and before long you'll be seeing Brad Pitt and Jennifer Aniston with neck beards on the cover of *People* magazine sporting healthy grins.

So if you think you're hip, cutting edge, statement-making lads and ladies, I fully expect to see your cheeks and chins clean shaven with a healthy patch of stubble growing down there in the itchiest part of the beard, the neck. Stick your neck out for fashion! Viva la revolucion!

SUE D. NIMH RHODE'STER STALKEE

Bryant claims creepiest title should be his alone

The results are in. According to a poll taken more than a year ago in that forum of higher intellectual conversation, the Rhodes Bulletin Board, Jay Sulzmann is officially The Creepiest Guy at Rhodes. But there are many who contest Sulzmann's title, particularly Clifton Bryant.

"I wanted it bad," Bryant ('05) confessed. "I think if I had tried a little harder, it would've been mine. I mean, I dressed in all black, recited Satanic limericks, and all that, but there must have been something more, something more that I could have done."

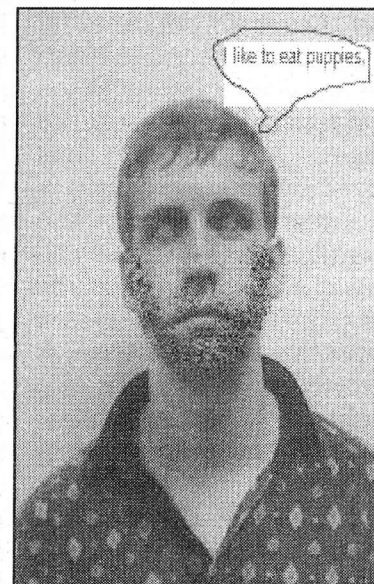
"He literally eats puppies," says Bryant's roommate, Jason Jenkins ('05), who was nominated himself. "I mean, really, what more could you look for in a candidate for The Creepiest Guy at Rhodes? I personally think the contest was rigged."

Suspicions of the contest having been fixed were only heightened when the thread's creator, Caroline Bishop ('05), in addition to writing an article about it, voted for Sulzmann personally and blatantly encouraged others to do so. "Communists are bad," Bishop commented. "And that's why Jay Sulzmann deserved this title even more than a freak visit to Crawford, Texas. I would say that he has, in fact, never deserved anything more in his life. Except maybe that puppy of his that Clifton ate."

Bryant was not the only one upset at the loss of the title. Tim Walsh ('03), alternately called "Creepy" or "Sketchy" Tim, was also saddened at his defeat. "I only received one vote," he complained. "People, that is just ridiculous. I stalk young high school girls. And that's no lie." How-

ever, Walsh seemed somewhat appeased when he received the "Hello There Little Girl, May I Help You Up" award at a Rhodes Singers Banquet last year. "Though the title 'Creepiest Guy at Rhodes' still remains elusively out of my grasp, I hope that this Rhodes Singers award will just be the first of many for me, including the prestigious 'Rhodes Stalker of the Year' award and the new 'Hello Little Girl, May I Ride Your Scooter' award.

Well, we didn't have anything else to run, so we ran this story from last year. People, please. Send submissions, so that no one has to read the editor's girlfriend's attempts at humor.



Nah, we don't need, nor do we even really want, your submissions. In fact, we at *The Rhode'ster* have plenty of submissions already and we just choose to run this many space-occupying images because it pleases us. So next time you consider emailing grobl@rhodes.edu to have your name added to the mailing list, don't even bother because frankly, we've passed kidney stones funnier than you.

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Chinese "old" year?

Year of the Sheep starts with a "baaaaaa"

By Jamie Eubanks
Rhode'ster Finger Cuffs

The Chinese New Year began last Saturday, but instead of being ushered in with the fanfare and pomp to which it is accustomed, it was roundly ignored by the students of Rhodes College. In past years the holiday has enjoyed intense popularity on campus, becoming almost synonymous with hard drinking, somber reflection, and throwing beans at the devil. This year barely over half of the student body reported celebrating the Year of the Sheep, and of those a quarter are suspected of having simply misappropriated early Groundhog Day festivities. Is the student body growing apathetic? According to junior Matt Lum, "The Chinese have had so many new years, it's just not new anymore."

But flippant explanations like that are not enough to satisfy Sheep, the slighted symbol of the new year. She has sent manifestos to the nation's larger newspapers, *The Rhodes'ter* among others, demanding recognition and retribution. Though Sheep has been known in the past as a passive, gentle creature, authorities fear her fiery rhetoric is only a scholarly prologue to the novel of terror she is preparing to write on the students of this college.

Some Campus Safety officials think that the Interfraternity Council will be one of Sheep's targets if indeed she attacks. The IFC, having scheduled a semi-formal

dance the night of Chinese New Year, is credited with dividing students' attentions between drinking to celebrate the change of a foreign calendar year and drinking in fancy dress to celebrate the wearing of fancy dress. Though it seems likely that the IFC function stole some of Sheep's celebratory thunder at Rhodes, national security officials fear Sheep may be looking at the bigger picture.

Punxsutawney Phil, the rodent god with control over the seasons, has been the victim of certain intimidation tactics which are almost certainly the work of Sheep. A sticker resembling Phil's shadow was placed outside of his hole Monday morning, effectively putting the antsy groundhog under house arrest until authorities could remove the object and soothe the victim's nerves. Rhodes' own Department of Homeland Security has issued a statement that the possibility of Sheep attack is very likely, though not really. A yellow warning is under effect, which indicates that students should be on the lookout for Sheep, but ought to be more concerned with the very real possibility of jaundice. Many students refuse to take the warning, which is really less of a warning and more of a guideline, seriously. Leslie Isaacman, unphased by the Sheep scare, asserted her loyalty to celebrations of the Western calendar. "I'm more excited about the next leap year, really. The whole year will be a like some sort of crazy celebration."

Dancing

"Hamster Dance" still
annoying

See 476



Music

Tim "Jesus" Sharp
named Dork du Tour
See 69



Local News

True name of God discovered to be "Schnucks."
See 47



Photo By Alex Hornaday

**DUDE, CHINAMAN IS NOT THE PREFERRED NOMENCLATURE.
ASIAN-AMERICAN, PLEASE.**

Watch how Rhodes students celebrate the Chinese New Year in style with a papier-mache dragon.

Bush to crack down on Iraq, send Hussein to time out

By John Sexton
Rhode'ster Weapon of Ass Destruction

In light of recent discoveries of Iraqi possession of weapons of mass destruction President Bush announced plans today to "secure the next step in securing our nation's security," by commissioning the U.N. Security Council to create a special group of "U.N. Weapons Taker-Awayers."

The announcement comes in response to events following Chief Weapons Inspector Hans Blix's January 27th report to the U.N. Security

Council. In his report, Blix stated, "While Iraq has been cooperative in granting weapons inspectors access to storage facilities, they have been big meanies about actually getting rid of their chemical, biological, and nuclear weapons." Calling for increasingly aggressive investigation techniques, Blix added, "It is not enough to open doors."

Ironically, it turns out that opening doors was exactly what led to the latest breakthrough in the inspection process.

Last week while inspecting a major weapons storage facility in Baghdad, the Iraqi escort mistakenly opened the door to a room full of clearly labeled anthrax and other chemical weapons. Fearing the wrath of Iraqi dictator Saddam Hussein, the escort promptly shot himself in the face. The abrupt suicide allowed the inspectors unattended and free access to the chemical weapons, which they have recommended "be taken away from Iraq before somebody gets hurt."

According to Bush, the specifics of the weapon taker-awayer team are classified, but it will consist of "a minimum of four or five big guys from Texas. Probably more like seven. Nobody messes with Texas." With regards to transportation, Bush requested "a boat and a wheelbarrow." When asked about the wheelbarrow, Bush replied, imitating an umpire, "So they can get those bombs OUTTA THERE!" Bush added with a grin, "I was hoping you would ask that."

Due to the gravity of the situation, it is likely that the U.N. will supply several fully-outfitted Special Forces helicopter teams in addition to Bush's requested Texan goons. Not wanting to hurt President Bush's feelings, U.N. Secretary General Kofi Annan promised that there would be at least one wheelbarrow involved and assured Bush the extra forces are "just to be sure we get everything."

When approached about the situation by the U.N. Security Council, Iraqi leader Saddam Hussein reportedly "acted all confused and vehemently denied the existence of the country Iraq."